

Board of Director's Meeting SGVBUA

12/18/2023

Roll Call

Board Members:

Jeremy Hamlett – President – present

Luis Ortiz – Vice President - present

Tim Triplett — Secretary\Treasurer –present

Will Fortner – 1st term – present

Jason Plourde– 1st term- present

Johnny Villegas -1st term – absent

Jack Johnson – 2nd term –present

Steve Rose –2nd term – present

Instructional Chair – Dax Villalta – present

Assignor – Phil DiPrima -absent

Jeremy called the meeting to order at **6:36pm**. Jeremy asked if there was a motion for the agenda. **Jason made a motion to approve the agenda**. Luis seconded the motion. Jeremy asked if there was any discussion. There was none. **Everyone voted and the motion was approved.**

Jeremy asked if there was a motion for the minutes from 11/13. **Luis made a motion to approve the minutes**. Jason seconded the motion. No discussion. **Everyone voted and the motion was approved.**

Open Forum:

- Nothing.

President's report – Jeremy Hamlett:

- Nothing to report.

VP's Report – Luis Ortiz

- Luis asked the status of the roster we have. He asked if it is current. If what is on the website is current. Tim said our current roster is as of last year. Luis said he would wait for a more current roster to send out ratings. Tim said he could send it out according to last year. Tim said it should be in Arbiter and he could get that information for him. Luis said we can go with what we have for now and as the season progresses we can deal with it.

Secretary\Treasurer report - Tim Triplett:

- Tim said he will post who has paid, submitted insurance and attendance on the website. He doesn't know the exact number of people who have paid. We do have about \$5200 in our account. From the last meeting, Dax sent us some information about insurance. Tim said it sounds pretty good. It's a package for the DNO, directors and officers and the

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unit. He said the total was about \$900 for both combined which is pretty good. The insurance only covers umpires who only work for San Gabriel. For people who work any other sport, they would have to get their own insurance. It's still not bad, it's less than \$10. It is something we should consider for next year.

- Tim asked Dax if he has information regarding the instructional program because he needs to have records of that.

Assignor – Phil DiPrima

- Nothing - absent.

IC - Dax Villalta

- Dax said 2 weeks ago he participated in the first 2024 season instructional chair caucus leading up to that the executive Chair had circulated the Study Guide to proofread and edit. In the process of going through that several changes were made during the caucus and they received guidance and clarification from the State Office in Sacramento as well as Ken Allen. Dax has in his possession the Study Guide that has been finalized. He has all of the poes and new rule implementations. Dax asked Tim if that is the information he needs, and Tim said yes. Tim said he needs the information that will be going out to the unit. Dax said only a certain amount will go out. If Tim wants to keep the others for unit records officially that's fine but they were instructed not to circulate all the memos. Tim said he doesn't broadcast anything, he just saves it.
- Dax said as for the study guide the guidance they were given on the administration of the Study Guide was that everybody will administer and grade that locally. Meaning that we can do what we want when we want how we want that will not be done centralized online. We have to do that locally. Dax said he and Phil have talked about that. And, as he understands in the past, the Study Guide was uploaded as a Google document and distributed electronically to the Association. He is a proponent of that. Phil already has a copy of the Study Guide. He has started to upload the word document onto a Google document. When that's done, Dax will go through and proofread, edit it and finalize that, distribute it to our umpires. He will set a timeline for completion date on that by which it has to be in to him. He will verify that they all receive passing scores and completion. At that point he will notify the executive chair that the San Gabriel Valley is compliant with the Study guide. Jason asked if we are meeting next Monday to go over the Study Guide in person. Dax said we're not going to review the Study guide on Monday, a week from tonight. What he will be doing is presenting the new rules, rule changes and poes..The primary reason that he decided to change that is because a lot of poes and mechanical changes have come as a result of information that has been advised, misused over the years. For example, the summon the batter. We know how guidance from the Sacramento office and it is on paper where we need to stand. There are also some other mechanical changes as well. Dax said he thinks it is best to discuss those changes in person along with being able to discuss the changes. He doesn't think

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it is appropriate to distribute the Study Guide and have people attempt it without having this information. Dax said he was thinking of distributing the Study Guide in PDF version. He asked Tim if we are set up to have a dropbox attached to our arbiter account. He asked Phil about it, and he was unsure. Dax said he doesn't think we are. He does know that personally, you can attach a dropbox to your arbiter account that you can attach Pdf documents, so that information could be disseminated via arbiter. Tim said he could check into it. Dax said you link a dropbox account to the Arbiter account. Tim asked what size dropbox account. Dax said his account is a basic account. It is a free account. Tim said he can look into it. Dax said it would be good to be able to get the Study Guide out to the unit before the meeting. He said we may have to wait until it can be distributed. Jason asked if we could post it on our website. We did it last year. Tim said we can upload it to our website. Jason said it would probably be quickest. Dax said you're gonna ask people to go to the website, download, print a Pdf copy of the Study Guide. And then when he and Phil are done uploading the Study Guide to the Google Doc and set it up online, you're gonna ask them to take that and transcribe their answers from their hard copy to a Google Doc document and submit electronically. He doesn't how proficient or how acclimated to that system this umpire staff is. If the board thinks that we will be successful in that, then we'll go with it. Tim said he thinks they will have issues either way we go. Tim asked if we could get copies for the first meeting. He asked Dax to send it to him and he will print it and bring it to the first meeting.

- Dax said he had a conversation with Ken Allen last night. I don't know when the last time, or if he has ever been a guest speaker at the San Gabriel Valley meeting. Ken has decided to accept Dax invitation to speak. He left it open ended but he might ask him to defer to a January February meeting. Dax is still putting together the Powerpoint that he will use to instruct on Monday, and it's quite a bit of information. He'd like to get through all that. Ken asked him what in particular we would like him to address. Ken does a phenomenal job with the game management Powerpoint, that he can spit out like the back of his hand, and he's got a great presentation. He's got a great approach. He does it at a really good clip. He goes through it, fires off information that is very, very, very useful. Dax and Ken are going to get together. They are going to reconnect in a couple of days and figure out if Monday night works for him, or not. Dax asked Tim if we could as a gratuity, as an honorarium, pick up maybe a \$25 Starbucks card or a gas card that that we could present to Ken. Tim said yes, and we can probably do better than that once the board approves it.
- Dax said the Study Guide window will close the 3rd week of January. The certification test window will open up and only be open for approximately 5 days. We have been instructed not to request extensions of the deadline. We have been asked to be very adamant and proactive to letting our umpire staffs know that they must be compliant with the test. While they have unlimited amounts of opportunities to go in until they receive a passing grade, we were informed that it becomes incredibly difficult for the executive chair to go through a person who has submitted 17 tests. When people know

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that they have 4 or 5 days. They wait until day 5 to do it, and then it crashes the system which has happened on several occasions. It's also been requested that we are very adamant on the process, that they'll have to take online, and to be sure that they register under San Gabriel Valley. Tim asked if the certification test is going to be online. Dax said yes on the CBUA website. Tim said he needs Dax or Phil to communicate to him who has passed.

Committee Reports – none

Discussion Items:

- **December 1st Due Date for Season Schedule from Schools** –Jeremy said this was for Phil but he isn't on. We will wait to hear from him next meeting. Tim said he thinks Jeremy or someone on the board should send an email asking for an update. Jeremy said he could do it tomorrow.
- **CBUA – Executive Council Winter Meeting** – Jeremy said the CBUA Executive Council winter meeting is coming up in January. He asked if there is anything that the board would want to have our leadership take to that meeting. At this point he is unable to attend. Tim's attending and maybe Luis. Luis said Phil said he wanted to go to the meeting. Jeremy said it is 2 max. He said Phil knows someone so might be able to go. Dax said whoever attends needs to take attentive notes. He said he will pursue the instructional information. He did have one request that the color rules pamphlet that will be distributed, he thinks they said that they're gonna hand out a couple per unit. Whoever our representatives are, Dax would like to ask them to secure one and hold on to it for him. He will then scan it and pass it on to Tim so that we can distribute that to all of our association as a Pdf. Dax said second, he would like our representatives to enquire how long we are going to continue to use patches. Will said he was at a training camp on Saturday and heard some people mention that this coming year patches would no longer be part of the uniform. We only have to wear the CIF hat. Tim said they are still selling patches. Will said he was the only one at the MLB training on Saturday from San Gabriel unit.
- **Instructional Materials Update** –Dax covered this earlier.
- **Study Guide Update** – Dax covered this earlier.

Action Items:

- **Committee Chair Nominations** – Jeremy said he wanted to have Steven Delgado be the Banquet committee chair. He already confirmed with Steven. He asked if there was a motion for this, **Steve made a motion. Tim and Jack seconded.** Opened for discussion. Members started making recommendations. Jeremy asked if everyone was cool with Stephen taking the lead on the banquet. He said let's vote on that, and then we can work on giving him we've got. We've got time and give him some suggestions for him to look at. He asked if the board felt comfortable with Steven taking that role. **Everyone voted and approved Steven being Banquet Chair.** Jeremy said the other conformation he has is the ethics and grievance, and that would be Eddie Geaxiola. He asked if there would there be a motion on the floor for Eddie Geaxiola to be the ethics and grievance

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chair. **Jason made the motion.** Went into discussion. Jeremy said that this is the one committee that is only called upon if it needs to happen. He thinks Eddie, with his role in football and with him being around baseball for a while, he thinks Eddie would be well positioned to do that if any ethics or grievance issues came up. Tim said he thinks a board member should chair that committee. Dax said in San Fernando they had a grievance committee, and the chair was not a member of the board. It was somebody entirely separate from the board, and while he understands where Tim's coming from, when there were times where the grievance committee had to convene, the grievance chair had to convene the grievance committee, and if they found that there that the grievance was upheld then they would come to the board. It worked quite well. Jeremy said he agreed. **Everyone voted and it passed that Eddie would be the chair for the ethics and grievance committee.** Jeremy said he reached out to a couple people for the IC review and Assignor review, but those people declined. He will work to find someone for those committees. Luis is automatically the chair for the Ratings and Evaluation committee. Tim asked about the Audit committee. Jeremy said Mike Martinez is on the floor for that. **Will motioned and Steve seconded.** No discussion. **Everyone voted and approved Mike Martinez as Audit Committee chair.** Jeremy said if anyone has recommendations for the other committee chairs please let him now.

Dax said he thought it was inappropriate that last meeting people were streaming Monday night football on their laptops and mobile devices during the instructional meeting. He asked if the board could either send out an email making a statement or taking a stand on excusing people from the room when that happens. He asked the board to help him take action. Jack said he thinks Dax handled it properly, and he thinks we move on from there. If it happens again, he would be shocked. And if we have to deal with somebody that's dealing with it with that type of stuff, you're not gonna change him or who he is, and he's gonna be a lower level umpire, and that's what it is. Anybody that didn't get the message in that meeting, they're never gonna get it. Dax said thanks. He still thinks that it's important that our organization as a unified front take a stand on this. He is one aspect of our association's leadership. He thinks the board should take a unified front. Tim said we can say if you have electronic devices at the meeting they must be used geared towards the meeting. Tim asked Jeremy if he wants to work with him on a statement.

Next board meeting is Wednesday, 1/10 at 5:00pm in person.

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 7:36 pm.