

Board of Director's Meeting SGVBUA

8/12/2024

Roll Call

Board Members:

Luis Ortiz –President – present

Steve Delgado – Vice President -present

Tim Triplett — Secretary\Treasurer –present

Will Fortner – 2nd term – present

Jason Plourde– 2nd term- present

Johnny Villegas -2nd term – absent

Jack Johnson – 1st term –present

Eddie Gaxiola - 1ST term present

Instructional Chair – Dax Villalta – present

Assignor – Phil DiPrima -absent

Luis called the meeting to order at **6:32pm**. Luis asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda for 8/12. Will made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Delgado seconded the motion. No discussion. **Everyone voted and approved the agenda**. Luis asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes from 7/24. Jack motioned. Luis seconded the motion. **Everyone voted and the minutes were approved.**

Open Forum:

- Luis asked if there was anything to discuss. Dax said last time he didn't mention, he and Phil attended the Rio Honda League because they were voting to do away with 3 man. After discussions, they did approve to continue 3 man.

President's report – Luis Ortiz:

- Luis just gave some opening thoughts. He hopes we can do away with all the politics and bickering this season. He thinks it isn't healthy for the unit. He thinks it is a cause for people not wanting to be on the board. He also hopes we can stay on course with our meetings and shorten the meeting times. He would like us to have better communication. Luis said he wanted to address what happened at the last meeting. He asked Dax for an official response regarding what was asked of him last meeting, that he soften his tone and approach with the unit members. Dax said he works for the board and yes he will adhere to that. He does request the board be more active in making sure we stay on course as far as the extensions for compliance, and people not paying attention in meetings. He doesn't want to waste his time and others' time. Luis gave everyone a copy of the bylaws and constitution to review. He asked that everyone make notes on any changes or edits that need to be made. Luis says the bylaws mention various committees and chairs. He said there is a committee for making sure everyone is

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following the rules and report to the board. Luis is going to go through all the committees in the bylaws and see which ones we need and don't. He wants to establish some of the ones not currently being used. Dax just wants to be sure the board takes action when something is reported.

VP's Report – Steve Delgado

- Nothing to report.

Secretary\Treasurer report - Tim Triplett:

- Tim provided everyone with a projected budget for the season. He said we had the super bowl pool last year and he is not sure if Jeremy is planning to do it again this year. He hopes so because it will affect our budget. Also, everyone has to get a rule book this year so the price for kits will go up this year. If we can bring in more bodies, it would be good. Our prudent reserves could be low. If we don't have the super bowl pool, with the extra we have to pay for kits this year, we are looking at paying an additional \$1200 this year. Tim is looking into cheaper insurance. He is also looking into insurance as part of unit dues. If he can work that out, we would need to increase dues. He will have that information for next meeting. Dax suggested sending an email to see who is working another sport. Dax said we can get kits direct from referee magazine for cheaper. Tim said it is a good idea, he thinks CBUA is giving them to us at cost. He will check and provide the breakdown at the next meeting. Jack asked where we started last season. Tim said almost \$3200, he would need to confirm.

Assignor – Phil DiPrima

- Absent

IC - Dax Villalta

- Dax said there have been a lot of discussions at the CBUA level. There were some issues with a couple units that umpired in the Championship games. There are discussions of sanctions for the 2 units that worked those games.
- Dax said with the new incoming CBUA president, there could be a vacancy for the IC position in the 2025 season. There is a lot of uncertainty. There will be some changes.
- Dax said the LA City section has allocated the marine league has been portioned out that to the South Bay board. They know will be assigning all games for the league. The landscape of high school baseball is changing.
- Dax took on 2 people this summer that worked summer league and they succeeded. Jose Galvez and Aaron Parker. They will return to us improved.
- If the mission league approves to go back to 3 man, some of the umpires that came over with Dax to help out, may go back because it is closer to home. We could lose 3 man, so we need to be better to make sure we don't.

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Committee Reports – none. Steve suggested that Luis fill these committees before the next meeting. He suggested having some of the members of the unit fill in these spots. Luis will get with Tim to send an email out. Tim said he recommends giving the chair spots to board members and they can get unit members to help them. The board can show them what they need to do. He doesn't think we have enough members that are capable and would feel comfortable doing some of these committees on their own. Members discussed the purpose of some of the committees, and explained they are just to help make sure things are smooth and nothing is missed. They are to help make sure the unit runs smoothly. Jason suggested asking past board members to head the committees. He said we need to determine how many committees we need. Tim said he feels we should just assign committee chairs instead of emailing for volunteers. Tim said Jeremy wanted to go through the bylaws and constitution. Dax suggested he be the committee chair for that. Tim said changes to the constitution have to go through the membership. We should be prepared to present this at our first meeting.

Action Items:

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Discussion Items:

- **Umpire Documentary** -Dax said his friend Josh who is a filmmaker, with NFL productions, MLB, WWA and WWE, and wants to shoot a documentary on the journey of a first-year umpire and his progression through his first year. This project was started in another unit and the subject decided not to officiate. All the footage they had ready for editing had to be scrapped. They are looking to start over. Dax said he has someone, Jason Bumgardner, he is a 1st year umpire. Fell through the contacts and no one hired him. Jason said he would like to come over and work for us. He will come to work for us and be filmed. Dax asked the board if it would be ok to do this. It would mean having a camera crew at games and instructional seasons and clinical seasons. There will be interviews, game and training footage as well. It will be put together as a documentary project. Jason asked if the students at the school would need to give permission. Dax said yes probably because they are minors. He said they can blur backgrounds. Jason asked if there is an advantage to us doing this, like monetary. He said if this umpire messes up, it will then be on this documentary. Steve asked if the CBUA would allow it. Dax said this isn't something governed by them, as this is local. Orange County has done something like this before. Dax thinks we could use part of the video as a recruiting video. Jason said he thinks we need to create a contract with the film maker, stating he agrees to splice it up after so that we can use it as a recruiting tool. Luis asked if we have to get permission from the school. Dax said he doesn't know. He said the filmmaker is professional and knows what to do. Luis said we shouldn't need a contract because we aren't paying him. Dax said this is an opportunity to get exposure for our unit. Luis said if there are not liability issues, we should do it. Dax said if the board is ok with it, he will have Josh come in and talk with them. Tim said he will reach out to our insurance company to make sure it covers us. Dax said he is sure Josh is bonded. He said Josh and Jason will be paid members. Dax will speak to Josh and see if he can come to the next meeting on 9/9.

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- **Fall instructional program** – Dax said his area of concern is more on field training. He passed out a hard copy of the calendar. The problems he has encountered in the unit are poor play mechanics, outdated mechanics in the 2-man system, and insufficient training in 3-man system. To fix this, he thinks we should take 10-12 fall and winter games and use them for clinical and evaluation purposes. Training would include 2–3-man mechanics. We could send out an email and have people sign up. Cage clinics were very successful last year. He would like to get general staff involved with field games and cage work. This is the only way for us to improve because we need hands-on work. Dax would like to implement the above plan with his staff. He said he would like to adjust the fees, so they go to the training staff the day of. Jason said he likes it, but everyone pays differently. Dax said he has no problem uploading the schedules into Arbiter and assigning them himself. We can let the schools know who needs to be compensated for being there on that day. Dax said he has staff that would be willing to come instruct, but they don't live close by. Dax said the first game is scheduled for Sat 9/21. Jack asked if that would be around \$2000. Dax said he doesn't know; the board would need to approve and then he would look at the numbers. The funds collected offset the time and gas expenses. **Jason made a motion that we use 10-12 fall and winter games for clinical and evaluation purposes, where there is 5-6 umpires with 2 and 3 man mechanics instructed by Dax and his staff. The money for those games will be divided evenly between the staff. Steve seconded the motion. Everyone voted and it was approved.**
- **Vice Chair position** - Dax said the last board meeting he asked that Alex Sanchez be added as the Vice Chair. If this is approved, he will stay with the unit. If not, he has other offers for IC in other units, and he will look at taking one of those. Steve said he thought we already approved this; we just didn't approve the amount. Dax said he asked for \$400 for this position. Jason said he thinks half the IC payment. Jack said he doesn't think \$50 is important, we can get another person in the unit. Dax said he already has insurance with basketball. Jason said we need to make sure he is a full-time member with us. Dax said he will go back to Alex and let him know the one condition is that he be a full-time member of our unit, and he can be an associate in the LA unit. Steve said we should not make a move on the money without Tim. Dax said he will talk to Alex and this will move to an Action item. Dax said he would like to officially inform the board that he is appointing Alex Sanchez as the Vice Chair of IC per the bylaws and he would like the board to approve a salary. **Steve made a motion to approve Dax's choice of Alex Sanchez as Vice Chair and that he be compensated up to \$400 but the board votes on the amount at a late date with our Secretary/ Treasurer present. Will seconded the motion.** Luis asked for discussion. Jason said to add one stipulation that he be a full-time member of the unit. Dax said he didn't think it was necessary. Steve amended his motion to include everything mentioned before and adding **"within the workings of our bylaws"**. **Everyone voted and it was approved.**
- **Instructional Calendar** - Dax passed out his proposed instructional calendar for this year. He tried to keep the dates as close to last year's dates as possible. He did make a change; he has 8 in person meetings and 2 Zoom meetings. Jason said 11/11 is Veterans Day so we should move to 11/4. Jason asked about the board meetings, Luis said he thinks we should just meet the day of at 5:30. **Steve made a motion to approve Dax's**

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2025 instructional calendar with the change of 11/11 to 11/4. Eddie seconded the motion. Luis asked if discussion. Jason asked if 4/21 is same as 3-man playoff clinic. Dax said no, the other side is the clinicals. The front page is in classroom instruction. Dax said 4/21 is the classroom playoff meeting not the **clinical. Everyone voted and it was approved.** Dax the back of the sheet is the clinicals and on field training. We need to talk this up and get people to attend. Steve said we should put the dates out in front of the unit as soon as possible. Dax said we can add this to Arbiter as well. He is going to send out an instructional email at the end of this week. The 3-man clinic will be in April. Eddie asked if cage clinics are mandatory, Dax said no. They are opportunities. **Will made a motion to approve the clinical dates. Steve seconded the motion. Everyone voted and it was approved.**

- **Marine League and Western league** –Marine League was awarded to Scott Tomlinson. Dax spoke to Scott, and South bay is considering taking on the Western League. Calvin Wells resigned from LA City group, he could be helpful to us. Dax thinks we can be proactive, and we can use this to recruit umpires to our unit and pick up those revenue generating opportunities. Jack said he thinks we need to run it by Phil. Eddie said part of our issues last year is we got schedules and assignments out late. We lost opportunities to other units. Jack asked if we would pick up any umpires and Dax said yes. We will have those games they worked last year and can use that to get them. LA City and South section, if you are certified in one you are in the other. Eddie said what does it hurt to ask. Jason asked if these other programs run multiple levels, Dax said yes. Dax said we logistically should go after the eastern league. **Steve motioned to give Luis as the president authorization to show interest in the eastern or western league.** Dax said he and Luis can talk to Calvin. **Jason seconded the motion. Everyone voted and it was approved.**
- **Website** - Dax said our website needs to be updated. There is out of date information on there. We can discuss it next time.
- **Uniforms** – Dax wants the board to consider changing our shirts, so we don't look dated. The wide panel is the old shirt. We have too many 1 shirt umpires. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

**Next board meeting is Monday, 9/9 at 6:30pm in person.
Luis adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.**