

Board of Director's Meeting SGVBUA

3/5/2025

Roll Call

Board Members:

Luis Ortiz –President – present

Steve Delgado – Vice President -absent

Tim Triplett — Secretary\Treasurer –present

Will Fortner – 2nd term – present

Jason Plourde– 2nd term- present

Johnny Villegas -2nd term – absent

Jack Johnson – 1st term –absent

Eddie Gaxiola - 1ST term -present

Instructional Chair – Dax Villalta –present

Assignor – Phil DiPrima -present

Louis called the meeting to order at **7:11pm**. Luis asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda for 3/5. Jason made a motion to approve the agenda. Will seconded the motion. No discussion. **Everyone voted and approved the agenda**. Luis said there were no minutes to approve because last meeting was an Executive Session.

Open Forum:

- Nothing to report.

President's report – Luis Ortiz:

- Luis said everything appears to be running smoothly and normal as far as the season goes. We had our first rain out of the season today.

VP's Report – Steve Delgado

- Steve isn't on the call yet. Nothing to report.

Secretary\Treasurer report - Tim Triplett

- Tim said there are still 5-6 people he is working with to get payment and insurance. He hopes to have it squared away by Friday or he will email them and let them know they are in jeopardy of having their schedules pulled.
- Tim said the bank balance is around \$6400. We still have about \$3500 worth of bills to pay. He hopes to be able to turn over \$3000 to Jeremy when he takes over Secretary/Treasurer. Luis asked how much we collected from the Super Bowl pool and Tim said \$500, that is what we always get each year.

Assignor – Phil DiPrima

- Nothing to report.

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IC - Dax Villalta

- Nothing to report

Committee Reports – nothing to report.

- Luis said Danny Savage is head of the Banquet Committee. We previously discussed getting the ball rolling for the Banquet in March. We need to reach out to him about that. We also need to discuss the costs with Tim.

Discussion Items:

1. Constitution and Bylaws

- a. Jeremy Hamlett was in attendance to discuss the changes and updates to the Constitution and Bylaws. He shared his screen so everyone could see the document. He gave everyone a copy of the red line. He will clean up all the grammar stuff. There are only a few comments/changes, and it should be done.
 - i. Cover page-who should go on the cover page as making the changes. Will said he was ok with Jeremy suggestion of Jeremy Hamlett and Board of Directors.
 - ii. Constitution Page 4 – Section 4 Right of Appeal - Jeremy will work with Eddie and Darren offline and get the football language.
 - iii. Bylaws -Page 6 – Article XIII – Harassment/Anti-Discrimination Policy – this was to be created by Phil and the Board of Directors. Phil said football has something. Jeremy will ask Darren and Eddie and send to the board for review. Phil said it is on their website San Gabriel Valley Football Association.

Luis said about a week or so ago, one of our members that is part of the La Unit, Gary Lugo, said he took the certification exam, but the one that the La Unit provides. He wanted to know if that qualifies in this unit. Everyone said no. Dax said that was information we should have known weeks ago before the test window closed. Luis said he didn't know if we could call him a dual member because they follow under different instruction. Will said Dax mentioned it in 2 or 3 different meetings that was not going to fit into our unit. Luis said it makes it complicated then to work with umpires from that unit and be a dual member here. Dax said it isn't complicated; it's a very simple statement that requires them to take the CBUA qualification certification exam. Will said he should have asked Dax before he took the LA City test. Luis said he thinks we need to be really sure as a group before we take on the Northern and Eastern Leagues that they can be dual members. Dax said it's not a problem. If they continue to work in the La City section, they have their own testing apparatus. If they're going to work with us. The line has always been that they must take the CBUA exam. It's pretty straightforward. Luis asked if Gary Lugo can't work for us since he didn't take the CBUA exam. Dax said if we are going to impose the letter of the law, then yes that is what this means. He said it would have been good to know this a while ago. We're short on bodies, and that would put Phil in a really compromising situation. Dax said he doesn't know what Gary's schedule may look like at this point, but that means that he

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has to go out of his way to proctor an exam with Gary Lugo, and that kind of ruffles his feathers, because that goes back to what we discussed at the beginning of the year, where we would have a more proactive board involved in stuff like this. Luis said whoever brought him in probably should explain that to him. He asked if anybody on the board brought him in. Dax said he doesn't think that falls on anybody's job to do that. Eddie said it has been covered in instruction. Will said it was mentioned at least 3 times that he remembers. Dax said if anybody on our leadership team had any knowledge of that conversation or that situation, then it falls on them for not bringing it up to me or to us for discussion, and we've had plenty of opportunities to discuss this type of information. Jeremy pointed out in the Constitution section 1 under Membership that covers this situation. Will asked why he is bringing it up 2 weeks into the season. Luis said he texted him about a week ago. Dax said we could have used that text message a week ago. Luis said he told him to contact Dax to see if he would be qualified. Dax said he did not contact him. Jason said this is for moving forward from this year on the changes that we made. It's not in the current Constitution and Bylaws. He asked what happens if this Lugo guy wasn't at one of the meetings that it was mentioned at. He said he knows Dax did mention it multiple times. But what happens if he wasn't at one of those meetings, or he was at a meeting where it didn't get mentioned. We are turning away a guy that might be a good umpire. Luis said Jason had a good point but that is why we have the Constitution and ByLaws. Will said this isn't new. We have talked about this previous years, they have to take our test. Dax said it wasn't anything he introduced, it was in place prior to his arrival. He said he hopes he never has to address this with this leadership group again. LA City is not a part of the CBUA. They may be in attendance at meetings, and that is as a gratuity, because they do the same thing that we do, but they do not operate under the same auspices that we do. They do not. They are not held accountable by the Southern Section Office, and that is obvious by their designation, CIF LACS, Los Angeles City section. This isn't anything new. Everybody on this board, had they been approached, should have very easily answered. It's not. It's not a matter of well, you need to contact our instructional chair or contact our assignor. Everybody on this board should have known the answer to that is no. You have to take the CBUA certification exam period. Jeremy showed the redline of the Constitution and Bylaws showing that it was in there prior to the recent changes that they must take the CBUA exam. Dax said we are put in a tough spot now because we are not in a position to pull schedules. He said this puts us in a real embarrassing situation, where something that is clearly stated in our bylaws, slipped through the cracks. It's embarrassing to have to call this umpire and say, Hey, Gary, you know you made the effort to come out to all of our training, to several different training components. You made the effort to come out to the meetings. But you know we're a 3 Ring circus. We failed to tell you that you needed to take the CBUA certification exam. Dax said he is not making that call, that falls on somebody else to take the bullet on that one. Jason said Dax did his due diligence, he mentioned it several times. Jason said he doesn't think it's an embarrassment, it's on Gary. Dax said we are good at deflecting blame to other people. Jason asked Dax if he couldn't just proxy him for a makeup exam. Dax said if Jason wants to volunteer to do it, he will capacitate him to do it. Jason said he would do it. Eddie

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asked if there was anyone else that falls under this. Luis said it is the only case he knows of. Will said DeGrazia is the only one he knows of in both units. Tim said DeGrazia is fine. Tim said that person will not work playoffs for us when it comes to playoffs. That is a requirement by the CBUA that they do take the classification exam. If they didn't take it, they're not eligible. Tim thinks we should probably consider not even having that person eligible for playoffs. But that's another discussion. Eddie asked if they could work games for us. Tim said if our instructional chair proxies an exam for him. Yes, that person can work games.

Tim said Page 7 Article 4 if we are amending the Constitution, we have to follow those instructions. Any proposed changes must be signed by 10 qualified members and presented to the Board of Directors in writing at a regular meeting. After approval, it must be presented to the general membership at a regular meeting for consideration. Then it must be voted on. It is approved if 2/3 of the qualified members voting pass it. Any changes to the Bylaws, are approved by the Board. Jeremy asked how many more meetings are left. Tim said 1 more meeting left. Tim said it needs to be a regular meeting and not a make up meeting. He said reading the rules for changing the Constitution, it will not happen until next year. Luis said since we don't have enough meetings left, this will have to be taken care of next season. Tim said we need to make sure we follow what is written because this is an area we don't want to screw up. Jeremy asked if 10 qualified members could sign and submit it to the board at the Banquet. Then it could be presented at the very 1st membership meeting and then you could have a new Constitution for the start of the season. Tim said he doesn't know if we can do that. We would have to find out. It is too late for this year. Jeremy said he and Tim could talk offline.

2. **Ratings** – Steve mentioned in the last general membership meeting that he wanted the umpires to start submitting those evaluations. But we had discussed that it can't happen until we have some kind of formal instruction or some instructional document that explains exactly how that needs to be filled out. Steve is not on the call, but Luis thinks that is a great idea. We need to have something in writing. He said Ideas were thrown out of maybe just a certain group of umpires that in the past have shown that they do a good job of evaluating. We don't know if that's the best idea. Luis asked the group if they thought we needed a written document. Phil said from his opinion, the peer evaluation system sucks, and it just doesn't need to exist. Phil said he thinks any type of evaluations our IC should come up with a plan on how to do it. What are we looking for. A lot of our members don't know. If there's a desire to have an evaluation process, Phil said he would really like to lean on Dax, or if we do it next year whoever the IC will be, to come up with something of substance, a real evaluation form. Dax said he supports what Phil has said about we do not have qualified people to do this. We have people who cannot lead a pregame mechanics discussion yet. We're expecting those people to write a peer level evaluation. He said if they don't know mechanics what possibly qualifies them to write an evaluation. If someone is going to be responsible for writing an evaluation. They should know rules and mechanics. They should know protocols. Dax said this peer evaluation business is absolute nonsense. Evaluations in

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San Fernando were done by a group of people that the instructional chair and the assignor got together and agreed upon. That's the people that filled out evaluations. Eddie said maybe we do go through a platform where we select a certain number of individuals that will do those. He said that the downside is, everyone doesn't get to evaluate unless we can make sure that we put all the new guys at least with one of those people selected to evaluate. Dax said that does become a part of the problem. But a part of the solution is having these people work off season, fall, or winter games, where we can evaluate them over a 7-inning game. That's not much different, with the exception of the CIF Protocols. Mechanically we can make assortations, and evaluations on their performance in the fall. Eddie agreed. Dax said if we combine a certain number of evaluations in the fall with a certain number of evaluations in the spring, we should be good to go. Dax asked if we needed to make a motion or are we just talking about it. Luis said we can go ahead and set a motion if we want to abandon the peer evaluation system. Dax said if we don't this is just going to keep going. He said Steve fully intends on wanting to implement this right now. Dax said he reached out to him when he started to get several different test versions of the software. He said he started getting these ridiculous evaluations. Tim said Steve is supposed to be running this and he is not even on the call. He said he feels we need to put closure to a lot of stuff, but this is one of Steve's primary responsibilities and he feels he needs to be on the call if we are going to discuss it and vote on it. Luis said we will table it until the next board meeting. Dax said we should just table this to the off season and implement it next year because it is too late this year. Tim said we can determine that next meeting as well.

3. **LA UNIT** – Luis said La City, Northern Eastern leagues, the Commissioner has not gotten back to him yet and he hasn't bugged her. His thoughts are we really don't know how this is going to impact the whole scenario here. It looks like per our Constitution and Bylaws, if umpires are going to work games for us, and they're also going to work games for the Northern and Eastern Leagues. They have to be, in his opinion, be a member of our unit only because of that issue we discussed earlier. We just brought up that if they're going to take a certification exam, it has to be with us if they're going to work games here. And if that's not what they're willing to do, these other umpires that are working may still want to be working those leagues. That's gonna be an issue so he is leaning towards, he doesn't think this is going to work. Also, we don't know if any of these umpires are loyal to Al Walters. They may not participate as far as joining our unit, and if we work any of those games in that section, how is that gonna affect us. Does that mean if we want to work games in their leagues, that we have to be a member of the La City section. Phil said it's a moot point. There's no reason to continue to discuss it, they said not this season. It's something they may bring up for next year, 2026. He doesn't even think we need to waste any more time discussing it. If they approach us in the off season, then we figure out how to how to make it work the certification process. We certify them. There might be some nuances and differences that our guys have to know for La City section, which he said he is sure Dax can elaborate on, because he's familiar with those and as far as the umpires go, if there's a member of the LA Unit that wants to do be a member of our unit, they're more than welcome to. We can't tell them they can't work for Al.

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Luis will talk to Danny Savage about the Banquet. Eddie and Darren will work with Jeremy to finish up some verbiage.

Next board meeting is Tuesday, 3/17th at 6:30pm via Zoom.

Luis adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm.