

# 2020 Annual Spring Delegates Meeting Minutes

**Date: February 29, 2020**

**Call to Order by Michael Morrison: 9:46 AM**

**Roll Call by Brennan Wheatley:**

## **HSL Board**

Commissioner: Michael Morrison – present

Asst. Commissioner: Bleu Holden – present

Treasurer: Brian Dover – present

Secretary: Brennan Wheatley – present

Parliamentarian: Kyle Miller – absent

Competition Coordinator: Ron Leathers – present

Social Events Coordinator: Joe Capone (fill in till special election) – present

Business Development: Dan Torres – absent

ASANA Rep: Jen Bell – present

## **B Division**

Primetime Elite B – present

Wet Demons – present

Mass Destruction – present

## **C Division**

SheHawks – present

Pitch Plzzz – present

Primetime Elite C – present

EnuffSaid – present

Aces – present

Havoc – present

Menace – present

## **D Division**

Nighthawks – present

Chargers – present

Dropdead – present

Wild D – present

Titans D – present

Grey Wolves – present

Stingrays – present

Reign – present

Vengeance – present

### **E Division**

Wicked – present

Knights – present

Senoritas – present

Wackers – present

Moose Knuckles – present

Ohhh Riders – present

Primetime Elite E – present

### **1. Remembering those we lost – Michael Morrison**

- a. Michael Brodie – Grey Wolves
- b. Cue Denicki – Pitch Plzzz
- c. Tyrone Russell – Show Stoppers
- d. David Van Tassell – Wicked

### **2. 2020 “Better Together” – Michael Morrison**

- a. Opening Day Celebration – March 8<sup>th</sup>
  - i. Gay men’s chorus – national anthem, remembrance song for those lost
  - ii. HSL Family Day – April 5<sup>th</sup>
    1. Games for kids and adults
  - iii. Homecoming/Hall of Fame Game – April 5<sup>th</sup>
  - iv. Bats-N-Rouge/All-Star Game/Home Run Derby – TBD
    1. Still working on details
  - v. HSL Charity Extra Innings – June 7<sup>th</sup>
    1. Location TBD
  - vi. Commissioner’s Cup – May 31<sup>st</sup> or June 7<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>

### **3. USA Softball Rules – Bleu Holden**

- a. Introduction of UIC – AI
  - i. Has rule and scorebooks, take one after the meeting and if forget see AI at the fields.

- ii. Notify AI if there is any issue with an umpire at the field. Umpires should be calling the games not making comments about the players and their skill levels.
- b. 2020 Rule changes
  - i. Rule that affects HSL: per rule fences will be moved back 15ft to keep the ball in the field of play. Will be up to the ballparks if they move the fences.

#### **4. Introduction of Annual Charity – Michael Morrison**

- a. LGBTQ+ Therapist Resource – 50+ therapists to work with the community
  - i. Motion to approve by Michael Morrison
  - ii. Ron Leathers seconded
  - iii. Motion approved by delegates

#### **5. Assistant Commissioner Report – Bleu Holden**

- a. GSWS 2019 Kansas City World Series Review
  - i. HSL did well. HSL was prepared by using pick-a-stick and level of competition in the league.
  - ii. 2 teams finished first in their division and one team finished third in their division
    - 1. C – Wet Demons 1<sup>st</sup> place
    - 2. D – Vengeance 3<sup>rd</sup> place
    - 3. E – Chargers 1<sup>st</sup> place
- b. Upcoming GSWS 2020
  - i. will be held in Columbus
- c. Future GSWS
  - i. 2021 will be held in Dallas
  - ii. 2022 will be held in Minneapolis
  - iii. 2023 San Francisco, Las Vegas, and Orlando have put in bids
- d. NAGAAA Summer/Winter Meetings
  - i. Changes for 2020
    - 1. New rule for question 3. Any player who displays ability to hit with high velocity or 250 feet unimpeded cannot play in E division. Bleu will confirm if this rule goes into effect 2020 or 2021.
    - 2. Question 5: place hitting. For 2021 changed from 60 percent to 40 percent of time.
  - ii. Denver has second association and applied to NAGAAA again. Application denied.
  - iii. GSWS team deposit is \$500. Require deposit for any teams wanting to go to GSWS 2020 by April 26<sup>th</sup>. If don't qualify, it will be returned.
- e. Play and Competition
  - i. 2020 Divisions
    - 1. There are 26 teams. Had 4 women's teams but 3 dropped out. HSL can still send max number of teams in the divisions as 25 teams are required. Possibility of 14 bids.
      - a. B division – have 3 teams
      - b. C division – have 7 teams
      - c. D division – have 10 teams
      - d. E division – have 6 teams
    - ii. Roster changes – please read instructions thoroughly.
    - iii. Have players in E and D who need teams. Get with Bleu if have space.
    - iv. NAGAAA Cup Bid information
      - 1. Removed bid for 2021. Having trouble getting parks that allow alcohol sales which is required. Plan to resubmit for 2022.
    - v. Sign in at the fields identification
      - 1. Will not do like previous years. Will have rosters printed and each coach will be responsible for getting signatures. Once completed return to the board.
    - vi. Rosters are needed a week before play. The roster for opening week is Thursday, March 5 2020.

- vii. Reach out to Bleu is interested in playing in B & C Division tournament in another city.
- f. League Fines/Play Times/Location
  - i. Mandatory Meeting Absence - \$100 per meeting.
  - ii. Game Forfeits – Advance notice \$75 per game / Day of game \$100.
- g. Going to add skills clinics at the fields (pitching, hitting, fielding, book keeping, etc.)

**6. Competition Coordinator Report – Ron Leathers**

- a. Pick-a-Stick
  - i. NAGAAA changed to Monsta bats. Same rules apply as past years to pick-a-stick. Only have 2-piece bats for the season. Weights are 25, 26, and 27.
  - ii. Can only play with .52 core ball.
  - iii. Do not use bats below 50 degrees.
    - 1. Monsta website is currently out of 26 and 27 ounce bats. Waiting on word of when they will be back in stock.
- b. Players are still looking for teams. Please let Ron or Bleu know if you have space.
- c. Face masks & pitching strips
  - i. We provide face mask. Please encourage your players to use.
  - ii. Al will continue to place pitching strips.
- d. Line-up Cards Acceptable Examples
  - i. Ron reviewed how to fill out.
- e. Johnson Park Updates
  - i. Bleachers are now covered.
  - ii. Scoreboards still not working. Have ordered flip scoreboards to hang on the fence.
- f. Coach/Team/League Housekeeping at Fields
  - i. Everyone is asked to help with keeping facilities clean.

**7. Secretary Report – Brennan Wheatley**

- a. Player Registration Dues deadline
  - i. Player registration will remain open. Player must be registered and fee paid before stepping on field.
  - ii. Communication
    - 1. Working on improving communication with the league. If you have items you would like posted to the website or Facebook please send an email to me at [secretary@hotlantasoftball.org](mailto:secretary@hotlantasoftball.org).
  - iii. HSL Website Redesign
    - 1. In progress. Looking to update pics and colors as well as the logo. If you have any action pics please submit to [secretary@hotlantasoftball.org](mailto:secretary@hotlantasoftball.org).
  - iv. Advertisements for website, Facebook, and publications
    - 1. Please submit to [secretary@hotlantasoftball.org](mailto:secretary@hotlantasoftball.org).

**8. 10:47 AM adjourned for ten minute break**

**9. 11:02 AM call to meeting. Roll taken all present**

**10. Business Development/Corporate Sponsorship Report – Dan Torres**

- a. 2020 Sponsors
  - i. Sharpe Mortgage and The Hideaway
  - ii. In communications with Avita and State Farm – Cleo Myers to sponsor
  - iii. Goal set by Dan was \$10,000 but has not been met.
- b. 2020 Sponsorship Guide
- c. Sponsorship Packets
  - i. Michael Morrison will send out to coaches this week.
- d. Charity Matching Donations
  - i. If HSL members donate some employers will match donations.

## **11. Social Events Coordinator Report – Joe Capone**

- a. Events/GSWS and ASANA Fundraiser participation requirements
  - i. Jersey Party: March 7<sup>th</sup> from 3 – 7. 7 people from each team.
  - ii. Mr. HSL: April 25<sup>th</sup> from 5-9. 50 percent of each team's roster or buyout
  - iii. Miss HSL: May 16<sup>th</sup> from 5-9. 50 percent of each team's roster or buyout
  - iv. Buyout is \$250
- b. SEC – Team Participation Directive for 2020
  - i. Would like to have one person from each team as part of the SEC Committee.

## **12. Parliamentarian Report – Kyle Miller/Michael Morrison**

- a. Rules and Regulations
  - i. Michael asking for volunteers to work on going through thoroughly to get fully updated. Trying to set a meeting for 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March.
- b. Constitution
  - i. Michael asking for volunteers to work on going through thoroughly to get fully updated. Trying to set a meeting for 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March.

## **13. ASANA – Jen Bell**

- a. 2020 ASANA World Series
  - i. Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> at Virginia Beach.
  - ii. Will pay for their own hotel deposits this year (\$275). Fees will be collected from coaches.
- b. Future ASANA World Series
  - i. 2021 is in Washington DC
  - ii. Goal is to get ASANA World Series in Atlanta in the next four years.
- c. ASANA Recruitment
  - i. Starting in May.
    1. Table at My Sister's Room and Oscar's
    2. Bigger presence at Pride
- d. Women's Division
  - i. Cannot do this year. 3 teams backed out.
  - ii. When division is started they will have their own committee with the head being the ASANA rep.

## **14. Committees – Michael Morrison**

- a. Hall of Fame Committee
  - i. Introduction of Chair – Bleu Holden
    1. Bleu reached out to update contact info and try to get current members more involved.
    2. Monies from Coaches Meeting Beer Bust will go to Hall of Fame fund.
    3. Requirements for election
      - a. Have to be member of NAGAAA league for 10 years to be eligible for Hall of Fame.
    4. Elections have been held for new Hall of Fame induction. Winners will be announced and awarded at the Opening Ceremony.
  - ii. Bleu held a quick trivia with coaches on knowledge of HSL.
    1. Winner: Kyle Erickson
- b. Judiciary Ratings Committee (JRC)
  - i. Introduction of Chair – Kyle Erickson
    1. 3 years straight of no protests lost at GSWS.
    2. Be sure to have ratings form in by due date.
    3. Talk to team members to get more involved. Not many nominations for this season. Reach out to Kyle if anyone else is interested.
    4. Proposed dates of JRC meetings.
      - a. March 21<sup>st</sup>

- b. April 7<sup>th</sup> Mid-season review
    - c. June 10 End of season review
  - 5. Presentation of JRC Committee nominees
    - a. B – Terry McGee and Aaron Sones
    - b. C – Jeff Ledford and Myron McCrary
    - c. D – Brad Bernstein, Chris Gilmore, Bill McDaniel, and Tim Parker
    - d. E – none nominated
  - 6. JRC Committee election winners
    - a. B – Aaron Sones
    - b. C – Jeff Ledford and Myron McCrary
    - c. D – Brad Bernstein, Chris Gilmore, and Bill McDaniel
    - d. E – none nominated
  - 7. Best Practices for JRC reviews
    - a. Requests: in by due date assigned, not the day of review
    - b. Timing of observation
    - c. Evidence to be provided
      - i. Accurate books
      - ii. Video if it is a running question
- c. Medical and Safety Critical Action Response Awareness (MASCARA) – Michael Morrison
  - i. Gathering Volunteers
    - 1. Michael is asking if teams have any medical professionals to ask if they will be on this committee.
    - 2. Medical supplies will be restocked prior to the season.
- d. Big Peach Tournament Committee
  - i. Introduction of Tournament Director – Kyle Erickson
  - ii. Tournament details
    - 1. Registration is open
    - 2. Women will have a division
    - 3. 35 year anniversary
    - 4. Host hotel will be the Moxy
  - iii. Volunteers
    - 1. Multiple volunteer positions open. Please reach out to Kyle. Especially if can assist with design and social media.
  - iv. B Team Presence
    - 1. Was brought up that not enough attention is being given to attract B teams. Will look at possible solutions to increase B team attendance.

## **15. Extra Innings – Brennan Wheatley**

- a. Announcements
- b. Rules
- c. Use of HSL name/Logo
  - i. Team is responsible for putting together their flyer. Please contact me at [secretary@hotlantasoftball.org](mailto:secretary@hotlantasoftball.org) for HSL logo
- d. Slot Pulls
  - i. March 8<sup>th</sup> – Wild D The Hideaway
  - ii. March 15<sup>th</sup> – Mass Destruction The Hideaway
  - iii. March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Ohhh Riders Oscar’s
  - iv. March 29<sup>th</sup> – Knights The Hideaway
  - v. April 5<sup>th</sup> – Wackers Woofs
  - vi. April 19<sup>th</sup> – Vengeance Woofs

- vii. May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Chargers Midtown Moon
- viii. May 17<sup>th</sup> – Wet Demons MSR
- ix. Alternate – Moose Knuckles No Mas Cantina
- e. Advertising
  - i. Flyers will be posted to HSL website, HSL calendar, Facebook, and Peach Magazine
    - 1. Peach Magazine cost is \$100. Team is responsible for \$50 and HSL will pay the other \$50

**16. Treasurer Report – Brian Dover**

- a. 2019 Budget Actuals
  - i. Please refer to the HSL website under the League Documents -> Spring Delegates
- b. 2020 Proposed Budget
  - i. Please refer to the HSL website under the League Documents -> Spring Delegates
  - ii. Ron Leathers motioned to approve
  - iii. Seconded by Bleu Holden
  - iv. Motion approved by delegates
- c. 2020 Big Peach Budget
  - i. Please refer to the HSL website under the League Documents tab – Spring Delegates
  - ii. Brian Dover motioned to approve
  - iii. Seconded by Jerard Jones
  - iv. Motion approved by delegates

**17. New Business – Michael Morrison**

- a. Delegates were asked if there was any new business. No responses.

**18. Meeting adjourned by Michael Morrison at 1:00 PM**