

The 2026 All Hands meeting took place on March 7 at 8:30 pm via MS Teams

This meeting served as the annual kickoff for the adult baseball league, focusing on operational updates, rule changes, and preparations for the upcoming season. Leaders reviewed league structure, scheduling, equipment, player eligibility, and field logistics, while also addressing administrative requirements and conduct expectations. The session aimed to ensure all team managers are aligned on new policies, deadlines, and resources, fostering a consistent and organized start to the season. The discussion emphasized accountability, communication, and maintaining league standards to support a successful year.

Key updates

- **League Recap and Team Changes:** Mike welcomed new and returning teams, highlighted last season's champions, and announced team name changes and additions, confirming a stable core and incremental league growth.
- **Equipment and Scorebooks:** Mike detailed the switch to MLB-spec baseballs, distribution of five dozen balls per team, and inclusion of league rules and manager contacts in scorebooks, with April 4th set for equipment pickup.
- **Scheduling and Deadlines:** The season will start earlier than usual, with opening day targeted for April 19th, final balances due April 1st, and the add/drop deadline set for June 30th; late payments may result in schedule exclusion.
- **Championship Awards:** The league will provide championship rings and t-shirts for division winners, enhancing recognition beyond traditional trophies.
- **Holiday and Playoff Scheduling:** No games will be scheduled on Mother's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th-5th, or Labor Day, with limited options for Father's Day and a playoff structure that avoids ties and clarifies advancement criteria.
- **Rule and Eligibility Updates:** Mike and Patrick explained changes to player age eligibility, playoff formats, and clarified that players over 35 may play in both A and B divisions, with new rules on courtesy runners and tiebreakers.
- **Forfeit Policy Enforcement:** The allowable number of forfeits was reduced from four to three, with strict enforcement, loss of draft position for repeat offenders, and restrictions on player movement after team withdrawal.
- **Field Assignments and Maintenance:** Updates were given on field availability, including new lighting at Glen Burnie and ongoing renovations at Annapolis, with a strong emphasis on following field maintenance protocols to maintain access.
- **Tryouts and Player Registration:** Tryouts are scheduled for March 15th, with low turnout in the 45+ division, and all players must complete both Sports Engine registration and smart waivers before being rostered.
- **Conduct and Sportsmanship:** Managers were reminded to enforce good sportsmanship, use clean music, and maintain positive league reputation, with clear procedures for addressing issues and points of contact for questions.
- **Draft and Player Pool Process:** The draft order will mix A and B division teams based on reverse standings, with managers allowed to discuss division placement with prospective draftees but required to honor draft outcomes.

- **Field Rentals and Scrimmages:** Field rental policies were clarified, with Best Gate unavailable for private rental and Canon available upon request, and managers encouraged to coordinate scrimmages independently.
- **Season Structure and Rainouts:** The regular season is scheduled to end in July, with several weeks reserved for makeup games due to rainouts, and the playoff schedule will adjust as needed based on weather.

Summary prepared by AI Transcript of the meeting and submitted by Patrick Miller on March 7.

Approved by Mike Largent, March 8