

## **Department of New Hampshire legion Baseball Meeting**

### **Minutes Spring Meeting**

**Hudson Post #48**

**March 24, 2019**

In Attendance: Committee members - Rick Harvey, Jay Hunnewell, Ron Lemay, Pete St Pierre, Steve Hernandez, Gary Webster, Gary Wayman, Craig Walfield, Jim Blake and Wayne Perra.

Others: Franck Ulcickas, 2019 Senior Tournament Chairman, Post 63 Salem – John Ryan, Ed Keugel and Bryan Sylvester, Nashua Post 124 – Tim Lunn

Chairman Harvey Called the meeting to order at 9:36am and he led the committee in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the previous meeting of the baseball committee were accepted as presented.

Chairman Harvey introduced Frank Ulcickas to the committee for an update relative to the 2019 State Tournament. Frank provided copies of a prior year tournament program book as an example for future solicitation of sponsors and team page examples. Frank encouraged the committee to seek pledges for advertisements and to receive pictures and rosters early. Frank also informed the committee of the new scoreboard that has the ability to post pictures and player information. Provided that the information is received from teams entering the Tournament, the scoreboard will be used to help improve the baseball experience for players and families in attendance. We once again thank Frank for his dedication to NH Legion Baseball and hosting our senior tournament in 2019

Chairman Harvey introduced Ed Keugel to the committee for an update and discussion about the Junior Legion 2019 State Tournament. Ed has allowed the use of Michele Park in Salem for the use for the tournament. He discussed all the volunteers who will be there to help support the Department to run the tournament and other logistics for the tournament's success. We thank Ed and all his volunteers for their commitment to the junior tournament.

Chairman Harvey discussed the newly formed idea of a Legion "Prep" program. This idea is supported by national and will be strategized this summer by a committee. All aspects of this program will be set-up and formulated with a marketing strategy to be advertised before the Fall of 2019 with the implementation of the program for the 2020 season.

Chairman Harvey informed the Committee that the showcase location will be at St. Anselm College. The field cost is set at approximately \$700. Rick also stated that the games will be scheduled earlier in the day and that an announcer would be announcing players as they participate through the drill portion of the showcase. Showcase has been set for the first Monday in July with more information to be sent out at a later date.

Rick discussed the need for umpires to commit to the State Tournament to avoid scheduling conflicts. It was suggested that umpires do not book other games during the state tournament.

Chairman Harvey discussed idea of increasing our social media presence in an effort to improve the program. It was generally agreed upon that a Facebook page and or a twitter account could benefit the program. The committee is seeking volunteer/s to establish and manage the social media sites.

Rick discussed the 100-year anniversary patches that he received and has provided to all of the teams. Teams have flexibility on where to sew the patches on the uniforms.

John Ryan discussed the idea of forming an elite Legion Baseball team to represent NH. The elite team would travel and play in a tournament/showcase. The team would be funded through registration and team player fees. The thought was to gear the team towards the younger players. The elite team could play a tournament during the regular season during a shutdown or play games after the regular season is over. Forming a sub-committee to move this initiative forward was discussed. More information and a survey to gauge interest will follow.

Chairman Harvey presented the committee with a proposal to purchase a pitch counter to be used at the State Tournament at a cost of approximately \$1,200. This electronic pitch counter will replace the hand held counter and will also provide those in attendance with up to date pitch counts. A motion was made and second to approve the purchase. Motion passed unanimously.

Rick informed the committee that former Hudson Post 48 player Bobby Tewksbary has started a company called Pelotero. He would like to set up at Legion baseball games and tournaments. Pelotero builds portfolios for players using real time stats (data metrics) and information that a player may access to make adjustments to their game. This service also sets players up with an up to date resume for college recruiting purposes. There is no cost to the Department for this service. Individual players will contract Bobby for his services. A motion was made to allow Pelotero to attend the games and was second. Motion passed.

**Chairman Harvey stated that all teams shall have new players on the roster sign a form #77. This would include all players no matter if they come from a base school or an "Option C" school.** This practice has been used by many teams each year. Signature on the form #77 by the player establishes commitment and understanding that they are eligible to participate. This request will aide our District and Junior Chairman during the paperwork checking process. Rick also briefed the committee of the bat rule change and the courtesy runner rule changes that were adopted at the last committee meeting.

Rick polled the committee about having the scheduling meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in March instead of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in March. After discussion there was a motion to hold the annual Spring meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in March. Motion second and passed unanimously.

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:37am

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After the committee meeting was held, the annual scheduling meeting took place with attending Posts. A discussion took place if this process was still necessary. With the advent of technology, our schedules are sent to our chairman and entered onto the usual master schedule. As he enters the games, he also takes care of any issues. Our Chairman then enters the schedules onto our website. Since its inception this process has worked great. Therefore, with a vote of Posts in attendance, we will no longer have a scheduling meeting in March. But at their request, we will have a full program general meeting sometime in late September/early October with a date to be determined.

**With this change, our meeting dates and scheduling dates will be as follows.**

**Our annual March baseball committee meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Schedules shall be emailed to be entered into the master schedule each year by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in March.**

**Our annual program general meeting will be held each year late September/early October with a date to be determined.**

**Our annual November baseball committee will be held on the first or second Sunday in November depending on availability of scheduling.**

Respectfully, Jay Hunnewell - Vice Chairman. NHALBB