

## MABL Board Meeting

### Meeting Minutes

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

#### Present

Mike Abercrombie, Commissioner  
Rich Doster, Umpire Liaison  
Matthew Reidy, Secretary  
Ryan Swindle, Awards Chairman

#### Absent

Elias Steadman, Treasurer

#### Business Addressed

- Finalize baseballs for next season.
- Championship trophy update.
- Umpire updates.
- Oahu Baseball League correspondence.
- Proposed league golf tournament in July.
- Player suspension.
- Proposed rule change.

#### Next Season Baseballs

The board briefly reviewed baseball options for next season considering brands and flat seam vs. raised seam balls. No objections were made and all members present are fine with flat seamed balls in the future. Treasurer to make final purchase.

#### Championship Trophy Update

Awards Chairman has begun drafting a digital model of the new trophy to be sent off to a metal 3D printing company. The original idea to hire a local metal sculptor was scrapped after not being able to find one on the islands. The upside to using a metal 3D printing company is the quick turnaround – Awards Chairman hopes to have one by the end of the championship series. Awards Chairman will consult Commissioner and Treasurer upon receiving a quote from the metal printing service. Purchasing another common trophy is an alternative to using our current trophy in the championship series. This will be visited again by the board before the championship series concludes.

## Umpire Updates

1. Umpire positioning
2. New Umpires

### Section 1. Umpire positioning

Umpire Liaison Doster umpired a game on Sunday, 5/2. He reported back that the umpire at home is currently standing on the wrong side of the batter. He suggested the umpire be moved to the pull side of the batter and use an umpire shield. This move benefits the umpire by giving them a more accurate view of the pull side foul line. While this move improves the current umpire positioning situation, the board recognizes the best position for the umpire is behind home plate. Each manager is currently gathering voluntary information from each player on whether or not they are currently vaccinated to present to the umpire crew in hopes of moving them back behind home plate.

### Section 2. New Umpires

Two new umpires join the rotation this season, and Umpire Liaison is also available in a short staffed situation.

## Oahu Baseball League correspondence

Commissioner Abercrombie has been in touch with the new Commissioner of an Oahu adult baseball league. MABL hopes for inter league play in coming seasons.

## Proposed league golf tournament in July

MABL looks to hold a golf tournament in the offseason to raise funds for the league and give the players a chance to hang out in the offseason. A golf tournament may allow the league to pair up with a local charity to raise money for the community. As the league has a history of canned food drives, the Maui Food Bank was suggested. Mike Gillian of the Warriors has offered his assistance in arranging the details as he is employed at the Kaanapali Golf Course. The board unanimously agreed to move forward with the idea, details to follow via email.

## Player Suspension

The board voted to suspend a player on the Brewers for vulgarities directed at the officials during gameplay. Elia Naipo told one umpire he “was fucking blind!” and when the second umpire approached, Elia told him “go fuck yourself”. The player was not ejected during the game but the second umpire thought a vote should be proposed to the board in review of the incident. The vote for a one game suspension stood 3 yes and 1 no.

### Proposed rule change

The board proposed a rule to address player threats of violence during game play. The board proposed a one season (14 game) suspension to any player that threatens violence during a game. This includes any suggestions of fighting, “see you in the parking lot”, “lets scrap”. The league hopes to continue to emphasize fun, enjoyment, camaraderie and sportsmanship and ensure mature attitudes prevail in league games by showing there will be severe repercussions for threatening violence. The board voted unanimously in favor to present this rule change to the MABL managers. The proposal was brought to the attention of the board after a playoff deciding game between the Centipedes and the Hurricanes almost turned violent, with a player on the Hurricanes shouting at the dugout to scrap after a brief altercation with Centipedes baserunner.

Meeting minutes submitted by : Matthew Reidy