

MABL Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

August 16th 2021

Present

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

Absent

Elias Steadman, Treasurer

Business Addressed

- Maehara Stadium Updates
- Oahu Tournament
- Mississippi Mud
- Budget Updates
- Player Suspension 8/8
- Plate Meetings

Maehara Stadium Updates

Commissioner has been in regular contact with the county over Stadium permits to no conclusive decision on if we can play there this season or not. The ball is currently in the court of Maui County to allow the MABL access to play. Further updates pending as Covid concerns are dominating decision making

Oahu Tournament

The tournament on Oahu Labor Day Weekend will continue as planned with a round robin tournament consisting of 4 teams. 2 teams from each island- Maui will be represented by the Pirates and an All-Star team. Each team will play 3 games over 2 days.

Mississippi Mud

As the new flat seamed baseballs are a bit more “slippery” in the hand of a pitcher, the league has seen a rise in HBP and is proposing the use of Mississippi mud to rub the balls down with. This will allow the pitchers an improved grip on the ball. 4 lb of this mud sells for \$100 online. Mississippi Mud is used by all MLB teams to rub their baseballs. The Centipedes have purchased a small container to try out in upcoming games.

Summer 2021 Budget

As there is a chance the MABL will not be able to play in the stadium this season, there are some options for the allocation of the funds that would have been used for permits. After reviewing a list of potential uses the board decided to use them on

- Mississippi Mud
- Non- Profit Costs (pending further investigation by Secretary)
- New Trophy
- An inventory of field supplies (clay, ect)

Player Suspension 8/8

On August 8th at Eddie Tam there was an on-field altercation and post-game altercation on the staircase between Player Peter Higa of the Warriors and Umpire Larry Alexander. There was vulgarity, name calling, and tempers flared. Peter approached Larry after the game on the staircase in an inappropriate manner and left Umpire Larry feeling threatened and offended. Peter was heard to have been calling Larry an “old man” and saying “you don’t know who I am.” For the offense of inappropriately speaking to and approaching an official after the game, Peter Higa received a 3-game suspension from the MABL. The board members in attendance voted unanimously. This will also be viewed as Manager Gillian’s first strike in the managerial ejection rule.

Plate Meeting

While the player suspension was being discussed the managers present discussed how often they have been having “plate meetings” before each game with both managers and umpires. Seeing as this has not been happening regularly, Commissioner proposed that the umpires be paid at the plate meeting before the start of the game.

