

Baltimore Beltway Senior Softball League  
Post Season Meeting  
Tuesday, October 11, 2016  
Cedar Lane Park  
Ellicott City, Maryland  
Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting was called to order at **9:05 am**.
2. All teams were represented. A call was made to recruit someone to take over as web master vice Joe Valonis , who is retiring. Also needed is a replacement for Rich Costa who puts together the matrix of game results and standings. All teams were asked to query their players to see if anybody can take on these jobs.
3. The Commissioner gave kudos to the following:
  - a. Bowie Gold for enjoying a very successful season and for winning both the regular season championship and the tournament in the “C” Division.
  - b. Howard Shockers for winning the regular season championship and the tournament in the “B” division.
  - c. Howard County for winning the regular season championship and the tournament in the “A” division.
4. The budget for 2017 was distributed to all teams. A motion was made by Barry VanDemark and seconded by George Harrison to approve the budget and the motion carried. Changes to the budget included eliminating one line of projected income, leaving just one remaining line for the Franchise Fee. The fee represents an increase in 2017 of \$30 to cover the expense of the post season tournament. The new Franchise Fee will be \$135 per team.
5. There was discussion about the large number of forfeits that occurred this year. People sign up to play softball, not to forfeit games. League rules say a team can play with nine players. However, among steps to improve this situation was a plan to allow the team that is short of players to accept help from their opponents in the form of a “Retriever” who would act like a catcher and throw the pitched ball back to the pitcher. The retriever would not participate in defensive plays at the plate and his position would require an “out” in the batting order of the subscribing team. A right fielder could also be provided at the same cost. This rules change will be further spelled in an email message devoted to that topic.
6. Other items that were discussed were as follows and requires implementation by all managers and will be discussed again at the Spring Meeting:
  - a. Initial rosters are to be submitted to the Commissioner not later than **April 15**. Rosters must be typewritten and be clear and legible. Rosters must also be exchanged between managers at the first meeting of the year between teams.
  - b. Regarding rosters, **any time a change is made to a team’s roster, an email message will be sent to all the BBSSL addressees by the team making the change.**
  - c. Final rosters are to be in place by **July 1** in order for a player to be eligible to play in the post-season tournament.

- d. Teams agreed to continue to allow players from adjacent states, with a limit of two players per team.
  - e. A suggestion to raise the number of player from adjacent states from 2 to 3 was denied by voice vote.
  - f. The teams also decided to start games for first two weeks of the season at 11:00 a.m. to avoid the cold mornings. Variations of this item can be adjusted by mutual agreement between the two managers involved.
  - g. The regular season will begin on Monday, April 24, 2017.
  - h. There was discussion about the starting point for a courtesy runner from Home Plate. The correct starting point is an imaginary line from home plate through the catcher and umpire to the center post on the back screen.
  - i. Another item concerned the situation where the runner on third base advances toward home and crosses the commit line, but the ball is caught by the defensive team, the runner may not return to third base and will be called out.
7. League Alignment – There is a possibility that the Parkville team may be reconstructed for this season. They have until December 1, 2016 to give a firm commitment to do so. If they are able to form a team, they would go to the “C” division. Ed McNamara made an impassioned plea to not move Bowie Gold to the “B” division. A motion was made by Ed Pugh seconded by George Harrison and a roll call vote was made, the motion carried to allow them to remain in the “C” division. This would then affect the “C” division in this way: There would be 8 teams in that division and they would play games against themselves only. On the other hand, the “As” and “Bs” would still have inter-division play. As a result of their respective performances during the season, team movements will be as follows: Howard Shockers will move from the “B” to the “A” Division and Carroll Blue will move from the “A” Division to the “B” Division. If the Parkville team fails to get together, that means that the configuration will be same as this year of **6-5-7 teams** in the respective divisions
8. Twenty eight dozen softballs were ordered: 2 dozen each for Bronze, Blue, Gray, Glenelg, Glen Burnie, Gold, Greenbelt, Harford, Oldliners, and Silver. 3 dozen for Howard County. 1 dozen for Bel Air, Catonsville, Dundalk, Shockers and Shoremen. None were ordered for Hitters and Reiserstown.
9. To contact the Commissioner use the following methods:  
Home 301-236-9130 (Preferred)      Cell 301-787-3894      [jimganz@verizon.net](mailto:jimganz@verizon.net)
10. Trophies and Plaques were presented to the winning teams.
11. The spring meeting will be held sometime in March of 2017.
12. Meeting adjourned at **10:10**.

Respectively submitted:

Jim Ganz

Commissioner