WCUA General Membership Meeting-10/5/2020

* Meeting called to order at 7:08.
* Opening remarks by Steve Zsiga, thanked Russ Crumley for setting up the meeting and members for voting and coming to the meeting. Also introduced new board members.
* New umpire introductions: David Howell, Da’Shaun Johnson, and Jim Marshall.
* High School raises are coming, but none of it will be booking fees. Could be made up with higher membership dues, a “tax” of $2 to $5 per game, or both.
* WCUA Training School will be developed soon by Steve Zsiga, Jonathan Hagan, and Russ Crumley.
* WCUA networking-West Coast does not endorse any of the products or services that would be in it, but this would be an opportunity for umps to advertise what they make/do to fellow umpires.
* 2nd VP Russ Cromley-New/Youth Clinic will be held Oct. 24 from 8-11 AM at Palma Ceia. Russ is looking to have more formalized evaluation criteria and training programs. He’d also like to add governance to our current policies and procedures.
* Danny Garcia was introduced by Steve Zsiga. He talked about dehydration prevention-drink a bottle of water an hour before bed the night before and another bottle (along with a good meal) the morning of a game(s). Bought the former Hitting Academy and offered 20-30 minutes in the cages for any West Coast umpire and their families.
* Treasurer’s report from Dave Stone-$8349.50 in checking. $6.97 in savings. We are owed $3182.10 in outstanding balances from 5 organizations or schools. However, some schools paid in full during the spring before Covid. If they all asked for their money back right now we wouldn’t have enough to cover it. Berkeley Prep has been paid back. Most other schools are going to use what we owe them as a credit toward future invoices.
* Jonathan Hagan said that Laness indicated we would get the max allowable ($87) but that there would be no booking fees. Not sure if there will be 3 man games because of raises. Most of our youth parks will be getting raises in the spring. Annual clinic may be divided into a session for new/youth umpires and a separate session for high school umpires which may be held jointly with other associations. Do what coaches request as far as Covid prevention is concerned. Miguel at Jesuit is trying to get a tournament going for this fall to replace the UT tournament.
* Jim Barlow talked about getting ID cards and the process for getting started. Told members they will be getting an email soon if their badge is expiring before 6/1/2021.
* Miguel Gomez, the new EOC Chair talked next. He talked about his background, mainly his experience with EOC in the military and his umpiring experience. He wants to try and recruit more minorities into umpiring.
* Lamarr Simon talked about youth ball. Schedules are coming in, so get blocks updated. Bayshore wants the plate guy behind the mound.
* Steve Durrance talked about fall high school ball. Time limits are: Single 7-inning game is 2:15; 9-inning game is 2:45; Doubleheader is 2:00 each game. Fees: 2 man/7 inning is $55; 2 man/9 inning is $75; 1 man/7 inning is $82; no 1 man 9 inning or doubleheaders.
* Steve Zsiga reminded everyone that partners needed to be in contact at least 24 hours in advance of a game. Umpires need to put their pictures on arbiter, per Laness.
* Steve Durrance pointed out that not all booking fees got to commissioners. Some of the money goes toward insurance, paying for arbiter, etc.
* A Q & A session was held.
* Attendance will be done by screen shots by Steve Zsiga and Russ Crumley. Also, attendees should send an email too wcuatampa@gmail.com to make sure they get credit.
* Thomas Lugo announced he has used equipment to donate.
* The meeting was adjourned at 8:40.