

Marco Island Senior Softball Board of Directors Meeting 11/6/21

Following the 2022 Island Division Draft Commissioner Bill Shurina called the meeting to order in the Community Room of the Marco Courtyard Towers Condominium.

Present: Ed Caster, Gary Grefer, Dan Marinelli, Bill Moors, Tom Polston, Bill Shurina, Bill Thompson, Randy Wesolowski, Tom Whitlock.

Absent: Grady Fuller

The following sponsors were approved for the 2022 season

Island Division

DaVinci
Dolphin Tiki
Nacho Mama
Salty Dog
Speakeasy
Verdi's

Marco Division

Joey's Pizza
Mango's
Sami's
Sand Bar
Snook Inn
Stonewall's

Gulf Coast Division

American Legion
Crazy Flamingo
Doreen's
Oyster Society

Marco Division Managers

Motion - Tom Whitlock, Seconded, Randy Wesolowski: Accept the following Player Personnel Committee recommendation.

Joey's Pizza – Ron Irwin
Mango's – Paul Sullivan
Sami's – Dave Coward
Sand Bar – Mike Puskar
Snook Inn – Mike Arnold
Stonewall's – Peter Karl

Passed Unanimously

Gulf Coast Division managers will be approved following the Marco Division Draft.

Field B Preparation

New home plates, batter's mats, safety bases, and softballs have been delivered.

Options for scoreboard, announcer and scorer table, megaphone and parking are being followed up. This also involves the need for a plan for moving equipment to and from field B.

Rules Committee

The Rules Committee then presented the following rules in the Gulf Coast Division for the pitcher protection screen, decreasing the number of walks allowed per inning, allowing for 5 outfielders if rosters permit and the fact that outfielders must position themselves on the grass rather than the infield clay.

Rule changes and revisions for the Gulf Coast Division

Pitching Screen: The screen will be approximately 3 ft wide and 6 feet in height.

Set up

1. Portable screen is set up, removed and stored by the home team.

2. The screen will be set up 15 feet from the front of the pitching rubber, centered and lined up with second base and the home plate.

Pitching

1. The pitched ball must travel over the screen. The pitcher must pitch from behind the screen and must remain behind the screen until after the ball is hit.
2. A ball pitched from outside the left or right side of the screen is an illegal pitch and will be called a ball.
3. A pitched ball striking the screen is a ball.

Fielding

1. The pitcher will remain behind the screen until the ball is hit. Once the ball is hit, the pitcher may move from behind the screen to field the ball.
2. If the pitcher fails to remain behind the screen before the ball is hit, he is not eligible to field the ball. If the pitcher moves from behind the screen before the ball is hit and then fields the batted ball, the batter and any runners forced, will be safe. Staying behind the screen is the home plate umpire's call.
3. Once a ball is in play, a defensive player may not intentionally move, run into or knockdown the screen. A first occurrence will result in a warning to the team. A second occurrence will result in the forfeiture of the game by the offending team.
4. A thrown ball striking the screen is a "live" ball.

Hitting.

1. Any batted ball that strikes the net, frame or base of the screen before being touched by a fielder is a dead ball.
2. A batter who hits the screen three times in one at bat will be called "out."

Walks/inning

1. There will be a limit of one walk per inning, with the following exception: with the bases loaded and 4 runs having been scored, the defensive team has the option of giving the next batter an intentional walk, forcing in the 5th run, ending the inning.
2. After the walk, summer hitting rules, 4th ball begins a new count, will apply.

Defensive players

1. If both teams have 12 or more players, a fifth outfielder may be added to the defense. This fifth outfielder must play on the outfield grass. If this player makes a play on a batted ball on the infield dirt, the batter will be awarded first base or the base to which he was headed and any base runner(s) will be awarded one base.
2. If, for any reason, one team can only field 11 defensive players, the other team can only field 11 defensive players.

Motion – Randy Wesolowski, Seconded, Ed Caster: Accept the above Rules Committee recommendation
Passed unanimously

Priority draft position for Gulf Coast Division pitchers.

Motion – Bill Thompson, Seconded Tom Polston: In the Gulf Coast Draft pitchers will be selected in the first round after which the draft will proceed in the usual serpentine fashion with the next pick being #5
Passed unanimously

Covid policy modification

Bill Thompson presented the revised league covid policy below.

Motion – Bill Thompson, Seconded, Tom Whitlock: If one of our League Members, vaccinated or unvaccinated, contracts COVID-19 or comes in close contact with someone who tests positive we expect that the individual will follow the current CDC Guidelines in terms of isolation, quarantine, and recommended testing.

Summary of Current Guidelines:

*Quarantine if you have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, unless you have been fully vaccinated. People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine unless they have symptoms. (Runny nose, fever, persistent cough, loss of taste or smell). However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 5-7 days after their exposure, even if they do not have symptoms to ensure that they are negative.

*If you are fully vaccinated and are exposed to someone with COVID-19 and you test positive, you should quarantine for 10 days. You may shorten the 10 day quarantine by taking another COVID test after day 7 and receiving a negative result.

*If are not vaccinated and you have COVID-19 symptoms and you test positive, immediately isolate for 14 days and stay away from others.

*If you have had COVID-19 within the past 90 days and are exposed, in close contact, to a person who is COVID positive then no quarantine or further action is recommended.

*If you have had COVID-19 longer than 90 days ago and are exposed, in close contact, to a person who is COVID positive you should follow the guidelines noted for those that have been fully vaccinated.

Please do not come to the Field if you have COVID-19 symptoms, (Runny nose, fever, persistent cough, loss of taste or smell), until you are tested to insure you are negative. In all cases of potential COVID symptoms or close contact with someone who is COVID positive the player should inform their Manager who will contact the PPC

At home rapid COVID Test Kits are readily available at all pharmacies here in the area.

Passed unanimously

Other Items

The ability for valid questioning of certain umpire calls by managers was discussed. The Player Personnel Committee and Rules Committee will further follow up.

Due to the limited venue availability and prohibitive cost involved, the Annual Dinner-Dance (Prom) will not be held this season.

The Annual Meeting will again be held at the ballpark. Date to be announced.

The Marco Division draft will be held on Saturday, November 20 at 8 AM at the Marco Courtyard Towers Condominium

The Gulf Coast draft will be held on Tuesday November 30 at 8:30 AM at the Marco Courtyard Towers Condominium.

The Board meeting to discuss potential League Charter Changes will be held Saturday, January 15 at 9 AM at the Marco Courtyard Towers Condominium.

Meeting Adjourned 11:20 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Moors
Tom Whitlock