

BARS Committee Meeting 20 March 2019

Attendance:

Board: Alex Yee, Andrew Vurlumis (phone), Brent Roach, Dalton Richardson, Dennis Trammell, Dom Pucella, Juni Mercado, Michael Wellbrock, Sal Scrimenti, Stephen Edwards, Tim Brown

Committee: Brian Ramirez, Jeff Gordon, Joel Penvose, Joshua Halpenny-Nguyen, Michael Mirpuri, Rich Vielmo, Zaid Tanvir

Mission Statement: Big Apple Recreational Sports is New York City's non-profit, community-minded co-ed sports league for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and LGBTQI-friendly New Yorkers who want to play competitive sports in an athletic environment free of harassment, discrimination and drama. Our leagues are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all participants.

1. Open Discussion from the Committee

- a. Want something discussed at the meeting? Think there is a problem? Have a good idea and want to get more involved? Toss it in the mix for discussion!
 - i. Nothing to present

2. Updates from the Executive Board

- a. Review of resignations
 - i. Three resignations: Social chair, plus commissioner and treasurer/bowling director
- b. Agreement to have Josh Wolfrum assist with corrective financial policies/+ pay him asking rate
 - i. Previous agreement to have someone handle taxes and treasury duties in the interim. It would be appropriate to pay the going rate for his services as he is a professional accountant
 - ii. Josh has worked with the board for several years and was previously the treasury.
 - iii. We need those details in order to motion a vote
- c. Executive Board Elections, General Board Elections - Eligibility and Timeline
 - i. Exec boards have pushed up to allow for more time for transitions
 - ii. Even earlier now as we are short handed with recent vacancies, possibly two to three weeks
 - iii. April 3, Exec board vote, Nominations will be open until April 2, 11:59pm.
 - iv. General elections will be held at the end of May, open to committee members as outlined in our bylaws and defined by chairs and directors, in addition to incumbent general board members
 - v. Any unfilled positions will be open to a special election, open to all BARS members
 - vi. For general board positions, in person interviews are being requested

3. Proposals + Sport Discussions

- a. The Game/Opening Rush (JD/AY/DP)

- i. Some other leagues allow one foot to cross the line in order to better pivot and position yourself. This may allow for additional strategies to take place
 - ii. This has been observed by a lot of newbies more than vets. This could potentially help those who are newer and less able to control their movement during the opening rush, and allow a more fun game for our newer players. Vets being able to abuse this would likely be a minor inconvenience that might be worth the comfort/ margin of error for newer players.
 - iii. All players who were called out in the most recent Monday game day were newbies.
 - iv. If this means eliminating more injuries, this could only be beneficial
 - v. This would go into effect immediately for the current season.
 - vi. Motioned by SE, seconded by MW
 - 1. Yea 10, Nay 1, Abstain 0; motion passes
 - vii. Information will be disseminated to captains and refs before the next day of game play
- b. Meeting with NYC P&R (AV)
- i. Meeting with Ken went well, Director of NYC Parks & Rec, locked in Tuesday, finally resolved lighting issues, got east side fields, and an additional hour for Tuesday for half of the spring season for just one of the two fields
- c. Expansion Possibilities/Idea Discussion (MW)
- i. Sunday East Side River Park, Field 7 and 8. 1-3pm; Only have through August. Flexibility with start dates. 3/31/19-8/4/19 (permit dates)
 - 1. Option: Create a Draft League for Competitive Kickball
 - 2. Expand Kickball Generally (Waitlist numbers/if folks don't get in to Tuesday or Sunday)
 - 3. Of note: This is a temporary permit while we are marked as displaced from our RIOC field and time. East River Park will be going under construction later this year, we can get it until it closes
 - 4. Other ideas?
 - a. Potentiality for dual time slot league for kickball
 - b. A draft league might be nice for a one off since we cannot guarantee (nor likely believe) that this will be replacatable, Community members would likely step up to help us
 - c. If you have a draft league announcement after two registrations for kickball, it wouldn't be an ideal time. People would likely not be thrilled about it; timing would be tough
 - d. Open Play/scrimmage format; perhaps open for registered amount of people. Similar case is in place for vball and a fee is charged. Registrations can be set up a few days prior each week
 - e. DR could possibly house equipment as he lives nearby
 - f. Possibly time for a draft tourney in between seasons.
 - g. Formal proposals forthcoming.
 - h. Need to capitalize quickly in order to express interest in the eyes of NYC P&R
 - ii. Tuesday Chelsea Field 02 Permit (AV/SE/JM) - 7:30p dates: 3/26/19-5/14/19 and 8/6/19-8/27/19 (5/21-7/30, regular 8:30pm start).
 - 1. Extra games? Open Plays? Mixed games? Traveling teams? Etc.
 - i. Open Play for players present
 - ii. Complete multiple games per day if rain date?
 - iii. Final tournament day with full length games?
 - iv. Warm up time for the first few games

1. Brief Sports Updates From Directors

- a. Bowling (SS) - Spring reg has 230ish players, so in between one full session and two. We pay for what we use, not obligated to keep all. Will keep open until 3/25 to coincide with post sunday kickball reg
 - i. Ladies section open. Outreach is needed; the subleague won't be worth it with less than 2 teams. Possibly having Frames reach out to players interested as well.
 - ii. Worth leveraging our internal networks for outreach.
 - iii. Possibility for Focus groups to work on our diversity strategies as our numbers in gender minorities has been dwindling
- b. Dodgeball
 - i. Opening was two days prior, Monday
 - ii. Post play was very jammed and Lisa, owner of Henrietta's, was very excited, exciting start to the season. New clocks, too!
- c. Kickball
 - i. Vet emails sent out for both Tuesday/weekend. Note about secure website update scheduled for 3/21. Promos slated.
 - ii. Opening party combined for 3/30
 - iii. New player orientation for 3/31

2. Philanthropy

- a. Summary of updates on philanthropic efforts to date (JM/BR)
 - i. Last year we had 8 fundraisers, raffling off free seasons and donated fitness passes, turkey tournament, flip cup tournament, dodgeball mini tourney,
 - ii. Raised well over funds required for scholarship, just over 8300
- b. GHMC AIDS Walk fundraiser (BR)
 - i. A BARS player asked if we can raise funds for GMHC aids walk. Is there interest among board members? Seems to be no opposition
 - ii. Committee would raffle off 2 or 3 MFF passes to hopefully hit \$200ish for GMHC Aids walk
 - iii. Could publicise walk to community to activate playership networks to join fund, possibly as a BARS team (would be additional)
- c. Point Gala volunteering (BR)
 - i. Request for volunteers and invitation to broader BARS Community
- d. BARS Drag show (BR/DT)
 - i. COuld be a great promotion, strong favoring of separate locations from typical post plays

3. Web

- a. Web security message warnings
 - i. Will go away over time now that things are cleared up between internet services and anti-phishing platforms
- b. MailChimp Issues, Website Red Security Warning Screen (JM/TB)
 - i. Problem solved
- c. Recommendations regarding transitioning to LeagueApps for league registrations and management. -- Increase cost not currently worth the benefit given features
 - i. Cost: 7% of registration fees, \$500 set-up fee, \$5000 for mobile app (optional)
 - ii. Benefits: single place for registration and management. Customer support.
 - iii. Updates: Agreed to have bigapplerecsports.com as domain.
- d. Future: Can still update main site of entry for external visitors. Squarespace unable to handle database of results.

4. Press/Marketing

- a. Jockothon, 50 or so people joined lists

3.a. The Game/Opening Rush

Currently reads:

- a. Dodgeball game begins by placing the 4 dodgeballs along the center midcourt line.
- b. On the west court (the back court), prior to the first game of each match, a coin toss will determine which team plays on which side.
- c. Players then take a position behind their end line. Following a whistle by the head ref, two players from each team “rush” the centerline to retrieve only the 2 balls to their right of the center of court.
- d. ***Players cannot cross the center line to grab a ball. Doing so will immediately result in that player being OUT.***
- e. Once a ball is retrieved, the ball must be taken behind the back line (this is called “clearing” of the ball) before it can be legally thrown as a LIVE ball.
- f. “Clearing” must be done by a player; the player cannot bounce the ball against the back wall back to him/herself to count as “clearing.”
- g. Once the balls have been “cleared,” all players must be inside the boundaries and gameplay can begin.

Proposed modification:

During the “rush”, the center line will not be a hard line boundary. If a ball-retrieving player crosses the center line they will not be called OUT. Once the balls have been “cleared” the center line cannot be crossed, doing so will immediately result in that player being OUT.