



The First Winter Meeting of the Executive Board of the Central Maine Board of Approved Baseball Umpires for the 2022 season will be held on **Sunday February 20th, 2022, at 6:00 P.M.** at **Barry Fuller's house (142 Store Rd. Bowdoin, ME)** and available via **Zoom Link:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83834113714?pwd=T2x1RkZ3eGliOGFxUmhIWmFCd2ltUT09> for those that want to listen in.

In attendance (person): Dan Labrie, Barry Fuller and Shaun Herrick

In attendance (zoom): Jeff Benson, Doug Perry, Larry LaRochelle, Randy Estes and Dan Deshaies briefly

Absent: none

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to order: President (6:06 pm)

2. ~~Act on Minutes:~~

3. ~~Communications:~~

4. Reports:

4.1 Secretary/Treasurer - Dan Labrie

Went over the attached main account status and playoff account status, informed the board that with all fees for Scott Wing's funeral arrangements our new account status for playoff was \$1,571.62. Tax filing has already been paid for as have rules/case books. Motion to accept by Barry Fuller, second by Doug Perry. Unanimous vote.

4.2 Spring Assignor - Larry LaRochelle

Had 30 umpires last spring, held 11 clinics and 13 were cancelled. Open tournament format meant many more playoff games for us to cover with fewer umpires. Had a lot of repeat officials for playoffs with 1 new umpire getting a plate assignment. Previous years we had 44+ umpires, last year at 30. Motion to accept by Barry Fuller, second by Jeff Benson. Unanimous vote.

4.3 Summer Assignor - Barry Fuller

Looked at Barry's report, the willingness and availability to work games last summer by all made it tough to cover all games. Working behind the plate for nearly every game may have been a deterrent for some during the pandemic. Barry suggested that moving forward in some lower-level games we exercise the option to work behind the mound, so we don't wear so many foul balls. Motion to accept by Shaun Herrick, second by Dan Labrie. Unanimous vote.

4.4 Interpreter Clinic - Barry Fuller

4.5 Ratings Administrator - Randy Estes

Last year we used ratings from 2019 with some adjustments for some that asked. With only 30 working umps last year how will we use ratings/attendance? Will we allow them to use their 2020 ratings? A dual member (Dan Deshaies) is asking to become sole member of CMBABU but use their ratings from their other board last year. Randy asked that he gets the test scores from last year from Barry Fuller, attendance information from Dan Labrie

and then he can put together the new ratings in a day. Shaun reminded that we held clinic via zoom before all meetings last year. Back to Dan Deshaies, he was previously the President for the board and was likely rated in the top 5% of his other board last year, now no longer a dual member just a sole member of CMBABU. Barry then asked about new member transferring from another board and how he would be rated, and it was clarified that he would be on probation for a full year since he is a transfer member not a dual member becoming sole member. Shaun asked if we could look at Dan's ratings from the last time, he was a full member of our board, Larry looked that up and in 2014 he was easily in our top 25%. Dave Kilborn's name was brought up with how he was rated last year, and it was clarified that Dave transferred back last year from a CA board. Dave was probationary for the year and then his playoff status was determined by observations from other members and discussed with Larry before he assigned, same should be done with Dan Deshaies. Lastly Barry suggested that Randy give Duke Madsen a call to get any ratings they have on Dan Deshaies. Motion to accept by Larry LaRochelle, second by Barry Fuller. Unanimous vote.

5. —Old Business:

6. New Business:

6.1 Meeting dates for the 2023 season.

Suggested meeting dates are 1st – March 19th, 2nd – April 2nd, 3rd – April 16th, 4th – May 7th, 5th – May 21st and 6th (4-man clinic) – June 4th. To be presented at the 1st meeting this season to the board to vote on. Motion to accept by Jeff Benson, second by Larry LaRochelle. Unanimous vote

6.2 Stipend increases for both the Secretary/Treasurer and Interpreter/Apprentice Coordinator (Doug Perry). Doug said that he \$350 plus dues stipend goes all the way back to Joel Merry with no increases since then. A lot more goes into these positions than meets the eye. Spoke to Dan Labrie being tech savvy, handling the boards website along with setting up vendors and personal arrangements when necessary. Doug suggested that the secretary/treasurer stipend go up to \$400 and dues covered. Doug said Barry works way harder than he's had to in the past, he's kept our business afloat during these hard times when others have failed. New apprentices start every year and Barry adds more and more meetings for them in multiple locations to keep them coming back. Doug also suggested that we redefine interpreter/state rep position and make it so that Barry is the one going to the SMUA meeting and eliminating the need for someone else (Scott Wing in the past) going and having their dues covered for the time/travel to Bangor involved. Doug's suggestion is that Barry's stipend increase to \$450, and dues waived. Larry pointed out that Barry won't be doing this role forever and we should consider that before raising the stipend. Doug pointed out that if Barry cannot attend SMUA meeting that the President is the backup. SMUA bylaw states that President/rep are supposed to attend. Barry pointed out that the SMUA meeting was held via zoom now not requiring travel to Bangor. Motion to accept the pay increases by Jeff Benson, second by Doug Perry. Vote passed, Barry Fuller and Dan Labrie abstained from the vote.

6.3 Game fee increase, particularly Babe Ruth single ump (Doug Perry/Shawn Herrick).

Shaun spoke about increased gas costs and the distances we travel to cover games growing each season so the fees for these games should also go up. Looked at the fees listed on the boards website from 2021 and made the following adjustments be made:

Legion; Jr. Legion; Senior Babe Ruth; Twilight League; MSBL:

\$80.00 (was \$70.00) each for two umpires 7 innings

\$95.00 (was \$85.00) each for two umpires 9 innings

One Umpire game and half fee for 7 innings (**\$120** was \$105) and (**\$142.50** was \$127.50) for nine innings

Babe Ruth League Games:

\$80.00 in 2022 and then \$90.00 in 2023 outright (was \$70.00) one umpire. **Also include a 2-hour time limit for 2022, if they decline the 2-hour time limit it will be \$90.00 per game in 2022.**

AAU 13U-14U (7 innings):

\$75.00 (was \$70.00) each two umpires

AAU 9 and under (6 innings):

\$65.00 (was \$60.00) one umpire

Cal. Ripken/Little League (6 innings):

\$65.00 (was \$60.00) one umpire

Cal Ripken Tournaments (6 innings):

\$65.00 (was \$55.00) each two umpires

Barry is already assigning 8–12-year-old AAU games at \$50 per 1.5-hour game, single umpire. Jeff said he hopes that we are not pricing ourselves out from officiating some of these games for some of the leagues that are struggling. Motion to accept the pay increases by Larry LaRochelle, second by Doug Perry. Vote passed; Jeff Benson abstained from the vote.

6.4 New committee or address present committee to update our constitution (Doug Perry/Shawn Herrick). *Shawn asked about breaking the current constitution down into sections and have several of us take a section to review/edit it. The uniform section is not current, and we also show nothing about zoom meetings now and how we obtain signatures via zoom. Larry has an email from 2019 with a revised constitution proposal that he will send to Shawn to then get out to us each to work on. Barry spoke about how basketball board has a constitution and a separate policies/procedures document that has lists that can be changed much easier than a constitution. He then asked that we look to do the same as a board when we are working on this constitution edit. Randy suggested adding in lines like we have about reviewing/acting on items yearly at the executive board's discretion.*

6.5 In person meetings this season? If so, where/time? Get together at Gippers/Gridiron this year after a meeting? (Dan Labrie).

Barry Fuller said that we have approval from Lewiston High School AD Jason Fuller to meet there again like we have in the past. Shawn brought up that we had great attendance via zoom last season and Doug suggested that we bring this topic to the full board for input. Randy suggested that this year's first meeting be a hybrid version and then Dan Labrie brought up the fact that rules/case books need to be distributed. Would cost nearly \$4.00 per person to mail the books to them instead. Shawn made the motion to have this year's 1st meeting held in person at Lewiston HS and then we can discuss the rest of this season's meeting after that whether we will hold them in person, via zoom or a hybrid of both. Shawn also said that we hold the banquet after the 4-man clinic (June 5th) again this year at Gridiron. Motion to accept by Barry Fuller, second by Jeff Benson. Unanimous vote.

6.6 "finder's fee" for members that get new recruits to complete the apprentice program? Waive dues for the following season? (Dan Labrie)

Barry suggested that we do this as a trial year, Doug said that in the past the apprentice would be required to become a full member at which point the "recruiter" would not have to pay their dues for that next season. Motion to accept by Barry Fuller, second by Doug Perry. Unanimous vote.

6.7 Retire uniform number 66 in memorial of Scott Wing and discussion of other tributes to him. (Doug Perry and Dan Labrie)

Dan Labrie spoke that Dan Deshaies suggested to him that we name the ratings system in Scott's honor, discussion of calling it "Wing's Rating System", we will also retire Scott's number 66 from the board. Randy also asked that at our first meeting after attendance is taken that we hold a 6.6 second moment of silence in his memory. Brief discussion about posthumously awarding Scott the Jim Taylor Award this year but we determined that would be up to the committee for that, also the fact that Scott was awarded this back in 2011 and he had not been an active umpire the past 2 seasons. Motion to accept by Barry Fuller, second by Doug Perry. Unanimous vote.

After the vote was taken Doug Perry spoke about his desire to retire from CMBABU as an umpire and board member effective immediately, he then signed off from the zoom call.

6.8 Approval to use \$325.47 from playoff account to pay for Scott Wing's funeral purchases (funeral arrangement and planting of tree)

Motion to accept by Barry Fuller, second by Doug Perry. Unanimous vote.

6.9 President to name Dan Deshaies to fill Scott Wings Vice President seat until board's first meeting on March 13th, 2022. At that time a special election will take place to fill the seat for the remainder of the 2022 term.

The abrupt retirement of Doug Perry was discussed at this time and the now need to have Shawn appoint someone to fill his seat until the 1st meeting. At that time, we will hold the special election to fill both vacant seats for Vice President (Scott Wing) and Executive Board (Doug Perry).

6.10 Approval of Dan Deshaies to fill Scott Wings spot as CMBABU's representative at the annual SMUA meeting/waiving his annual dues to cover his cost of travel/time to attend and report back to us.

Dan has declined the dues coverage this year as the call was held via zoom so no travel to Bangor needed.

7. Other Business

SMUA testing will be from March 28th thru April 11th this is for Federation test online. Randy Estes then brought up that a few years ago while he was President, dues were voted on to increase to \$90 a year but \$80 if paid early. Due to the pandemic Randy suggested that we do the same that we did for last year and have them as \$80 but only \$70 if paid early.

8. Adjournment (Time of 8:16pm)

Motion to accept by Larry LaRochelle in memory of Scott Wing, second by Jeff Benson. Unanimous vote.