

Awards & Elections

Randolph C.C. Hosts Year-end Banquet

By Paul Caruso

PLAYERS, SPONSORS and friends of the Beantown Softball League will gather at the Randolph Country Club on Saturday, September 29th for the annual banquet and membership meeting. Food, fun and fellowship (and the occasional cocktail) will be the backdrop for the end-of-season rights, namely, the presentation of awards and the election of next year's officers.

Awards for team standings, individual athletic achievement and sportsmanship will be the highlight of the event. The Executive Committee approved the slate of nominations (see page 6) from which the membership will be able to select the achievement award winners.

Members will also be asked to vote for the next four officers who will preside over the league during the 1997 Season. The offices of

Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, Secretary and Treasurer are all up for election at the banquet. Any member who cannot attend the banquet but wishes to cast a ballot can submit an "absentee ballot" (see page 6 for instructions).

Wrapping up the business portion of the event will be a proposal to improve organizational consistency by creating two-year terms. The proposed Constitutional Amendment would establish staggered elections whereby on even numbered years the Assistant Commissioner and Secretary would be elected, and in odd numbered years the Commissioner and Treasurer would be elected.

If the amendment passes at this meeting, it will go into effect immediately. Such an eventuality would result in the Assistant Commissioner and Secretary-elect serving for two years, with another election for Commissioner and Treasurer next Fall.

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LEAGUE NEWS

I write my first and last message as Commissioner of the Beantown Softball League with mixed emotions. I ran last year with expectation of bringing new and positive direction to the league. The other officers and I struggled with the fact that all of us were "new to the business". We worked hard to strike the right balance of ideas, personality, and at times, force of will. We were lucky to have an Executive Committee that was patient, responsive and for the most part supportive of our agenda.

We started 1996 with \$800 in the bank. Repairing our financial status was a primary focus of our initial efforts. Through the hard work of the officers and members of the Executive Committee, and most particularly Jon Swalboski, Jim Torres and Bill Svetz, the League will enter next season with over \$4,000 in the bank after all the bills are paid.

I'm disappointed that we didn't have a Snowflake Tournament this year. Our approach to this tournament brought too much attention from the Parks department, and I hope next year's officers learn from our mistakes.

The decision to replace the newsletter with the Weekly Updates produced by Jon Swalboski was driven solely by financial considerations. However, Jon's superb execution took this cost cutting move and turned into one of the great

successes of the season.

Our inexperience showed when it came to scheduling. Clearly there were some issues with the match-up and timing of some games. On a positive note, I'm proud and pleased with the cooperation of those Boston teams who went to Providence. I received much positive feedback from the teams that participated, and I know the Providence teams appreciated the support.

We brought some new ideas to the league this year. Peter O'Leary's execution of the "BSL Hotline" and our first WEB site brought new forms of communication for our league members, as well as giving another avenue to present ourselves to the community.

The proposal for moving to staggered terms for the officers is key to our ongoing success. This will ensure continuity in the running of the league, and I hope you will vote for this amendment.

On a final note, I would like to personally thank Peter O'Leary, Jon Swalboski, and Brian Abban for the ideas, support and genuine concern for doing what's right for the BSL. I would also like to thank those members of the Executive Committee who took the time each month, sometimes more than one evening, to work through the issues and make the tough decisions.

Thank you all for a wonderful year!

Wrap-Up Jon Swalboski

This season of the BSL featured some of the closest races in years. Fritz and Fenway finished the season tied with nearly perfect records, which forced a one game play-off to determine the upper division championship. Fritz won the game 16-7 to repeat as upper division champions. Luxor finished a strong 10-6 to take third place, and Napoleons, a new team, finished a respectable 9-7. Randolph Country Club made its debut in the upper division finishing 8-8, and Ramrod, after a slow start, won 6 of its last 10 to finish 6-10.

The lower division race was close all season long, with Five Star Travel eventually winning the championship by virtue of their two regular season victories over the Southenders. Club Cafe won third place, and the Silver Lake Knights took fourth. The Yukon Mounties, a brand new team, became a force to

be reckoned with late in the season. The Mounties pulled off one of the biggest upsets of the year, defeating upper division foe Napoleons. The Ramrod Spurs showed determination and grit, and were a much stronger team than their record indicated.

The Upper Division playoff results were:

(Fritz by virtue of their 1st place finish became "Champions" and were exempt from the play-offs)

- 1st: Fenway
- 2nd: Luxor
- 3rd: Ramrod
- 4th: Randolph

The lower division's "Cinderella Tournament" results were:

- 1st: Five Star Generals
- 2nd: Southenders
- 3rd: Club Cafe
- 4th: Yukon Mounties
- 5th: Ramrod Spurs

FINANCIAL REPORT

The following is an unaudited statement reflecting the net impact of all transactions in the categories listed below.

The starting balance reflects those assets minus liabilities unsatisfied from the previous season.

Outstanding liabilities have been accounted for in the "Accrued" column so as to not give an over inflated picture of held over assets.

	Budget	Actual	Accrued Liabilities	Variance (Actual + Accru - Budg)
Starting Balance		\$843.14	\$185.17	657.97
Income				
Team Fees	4200.00	4200.00	0.00	0.00
Member Fees	8680.00	8880.00	0.00	200.00
Corporate Sponsorship	2500.00	2500.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising	5934.00	5934.00	0.00	0.00
Interest	20.00	32.03	0.00	12.03
	21334.00	21546.03	0.00	212.03
Expense				
Softballs/bases/Fields	1200.00	1158.00	0.00	42.00
ASA Registration	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
Umpires (season)	2754.00	2781.00	0.00	-27.00
Umpires (play-offs)	486.00	486.00	0.00	0.00
Newsletter	700.00	369.77	300.00	30.23
NAGAAA Dues	1500.00	1500.00	0.00	0.00
NAGAAA Travel	2300.00	2195.98	0.00	104.02
Fundraising	3286.18	3286.18	0.00	0.00
Opening Ceremonies	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
Publicity	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
Telephone	360.00	305.02	30.00	24.98
Operating Expenses	450.00	334.00	0.00	115.60
Banquet	3500.00	200.00	2800.00	600.00
Trophies	1535.94	0.00	1974.00	-438.06
	\$18772.12	\$12916.35	\$5104.00	\$751.77
Ending Balance on 9/15/96		Cash	Liabilities	Adjusted Cash
		\$9,303.65	\$5,104.00	\$4,199.65

Note: Cash balance on 2/1/96 was \$855.34. Accrued liabilities at that time were \$1138.52 creating an adjusted cash abalance of -283.18 which resulted in delayed reimbursement until team fees were collected.