



Aug, 1992

Newsletter of the BEANTOWN SOFTBALL LEAGUE

A Special Pre-election Edition of *On Deck*

The Groundrules:

- The league by-laws require a special pre-election edition of *On Deck* for statements by candidates for league office.
- This is the list of Candidates, listed in alphabetical order by office:

Commissioner

Bill "Bucca" Hull
Bill Svetz

Assistant Commissioner

John Haas
Rick Harrington
Toby Pineau
Mike Salvi

Secretary

Donny Cranley
Wil Mello
Artie Oliver
Buddy Richardson

Treasurer

Mike DeNegriz
Warren Mitchell

- The statements are to appear in the order listed above.
- If no statement is printed here, the candidate did not present a statement to be included.
- These statements were re-typed from statements provided by the candidates. Only spelling errors were corrected (according to computer spell-check), no other changes in format or content were made.

Bill Hull
for Commissioner

September 3, 1992

I, William T. Hull, am throwing my experience, desire and reputation for your consideration for the office of Commissioner of the Beantown Softball League for 1993. Besides having the above qualifications, I want to not only retain the integrity of past Commissioners, but expand and streamline the rules of the Constitution, upgrade league communications between the Executive Board, Team Reps and the entire rank and file that will finally ensure no member feeling less informed than the next.

I have acquired a tenacity for making decisions that are derived by thought and answers given that express those decisions.

Finally, if elected, the Beantown Softball League will be in Place with final proposals concerning all matters directly affecting all members at an earlier date than in the past. Please remember that this is a non-profit organization dedicated to the premise of excellence in dealing with an ever-increasing membership, fair-minded decisions that appease the concerns of infrequent disputes, and the mindful answers that benefit all teams at all times.

Thank you for your consideration at looking forward to seeing one and all at the banquet on September 13, 1992.

Sincerely,
Bill Hull,

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Can't attend the banquet?

We still want your vote to count!

See the enclosed absentee ballot for details!!!

Aug, 1992

**John Haas
for Assistant Commissioner**

My name is John Haas and I am running for the office of Assistant Commissioner of the Beantown Softball League for the 1992-93 season. After hearing concerns that many of you expressed about last year's season, I feel that my prior experience as League Secretary, and in my professional field could benefit our league, should I be elected.

The primary responsibility of the Assistant Commissioner, is to see that all on field activities run smoothly, and safely. This includes the development of a proposed league schedule, which is then approved by the Executive Committee, and making sure that the field are groomed before each day's play.

I think that it is important that each league member be notified of the play schedule as early as possible before opening day. To this end, I would ask the commissioner to appoint at least one person from each of the past years divisions to aid me in developing a schedule. This would give the Executive Committee a base upon which to approve a final schedule that more truly represents the needs and wants of the league. Through the use of a computer scheduling package, I would be able to change the schedule at the actual league meeting, giving out copies immediately so that the executive committee could take them with them, review them with their teams, and be prepared at the subsequent meeting to make any needed adjustments there-by approving the schedule at least two weeks sooner than usual.

We are out-growing Daisey Field. We need a facility that has open outfields. I will meet with the Parks and Recreation Department to see if we can get an alternative playing site.

I would ask the Executive Committee to approve a plan whereby each team would be responsible to help me groom the fields for one weekend during the season. This would insure that each of you had the best and safest possible conditions under which to play ball.

Finally I think it may be time to reappraise the three division format we have been playing under. A two division format with a prior positional round would make each of the divisions more fairly proportioned. This format would also avoid penalizing a team that places in an upper division with marginal stats. The Executive Committee would decide how many teams would be in each division.

I hope that you will be able to vote for me at the September 13th general meeting and banquet. Congratulations on another great season in the B.S.L. Thank you.

**Rick Harrington
for Assistant Commissioner**

August 2, 1992

**Rick Harrington
For Assistant Commissioner**

Dear BSL Member:

Now that the softball season has ended, it is time for you, as a voting member of the BSL, to stop and think, where you want the league to go. Is it okay as is or is it time for a change?

With the dissatisfaction felt throughout the league this year, I believe it is time for a change and I would like to be a part of that change.

So, at this time I would like to ask you for your support in my campaign for Assistant Commissioner. I will now outline for you, the responsibilities of the Assistant Commissioner and enlighten you on ideas I have that will change the league.

To begin, the responsibilities, as outlined in our Constitution, under Article II, Section II states:

The Assistant Commissioner shall: (1) Assume the duties of the commissioner in the event of the commissioner's resignation, impeachment, or other absence or disability. (2) Be a voting member of the Executive Committee. (3) Be a chairperson of the Special Events Committee.

Included, in our By-Laws, under Section II Executive Committee, C. Officers: 2. Assistant Commissioner.

Is responsible for: (a) Obtaining field and light permits. (b) Field maintenance. (c) Opening day ceremonies. (d) End of the year banquet. (e) Drafting a potential league schedule for Executive Committee approval.

My past and present work experience have included administrative and managerial positions along with my affiliation with the Minuteman Classic Committee as the Assistant Chairman qualifies me for such an electable office.

As for my ideas, my main concern is to see the league unite through better communication and make it more friendly, like it was intended for at the time of its creation. To try and eliminate the political escalations, after all, we are only a softball league and not an independent government.

All this can be accomplished if we would consider changing from the A-B-C format back to the two division format (A&B) that we used two years ago. Based on 14 teams, we will have 6 teams in the A division with the respective 8 teams in the B division. This would be accomplished by a positional round, all included, at the start of regular season.

I also have an idea that would keep every team, regardless of their record, involved through the last weekend of play. That is to send the winner of the A division, regular season, to the World Series as the A representative. We will hold a random draw, comprised of those teams positioned in the B division after the positional round, to determine who goes to the Worlds Series as the C division representative. The remaining teams in both divisions will play a double elimination tournament over one weekend and the winner will be the B division representative in the Worlds Series.

In addition, the scheduling of the league buffets and fundraisers proved to be disastrous. I would suggest that

league buffets and team fundraisers be assigned. To explain, during preseason we will hold a random draw to determine who will hold the buffets and on what weekend. In retrospect, we will do the same for fundraisers. Each team will be given an assigned week to hold their respective fundraisers.

Hence, I have no control over whether or not these ideas will be initiated, but I will work closely with the newly elected commissioner to see that what can be done is done. Also, if any league member has any ideas or concerns regarding the league confront me with either and I will see that all are considered and answered.

Alas, I am determined, if elected, to work for you, the General Committee, to see that what the committee wants the committee gets. After all, it is your league and you are who I work for. I shall close for now and may the best and most qualified candidate be elected. Thanks for your support.

Cordially yours,
Rick Harrington
Candidate

Toby Pineau (Mutha)
for Assistant Commissioner

54 William Street
Medford, Mass

My association with softball, goes back to the Esplanade League, and then with our existing Beantown League. During those 16 years, I have been Secretary of the Beantown League under Commissioners Jim Vierra and Gary Staples.

I have worked on many committees during these 16 years. On my own accord, I have attended many N.A.G.A.A. meetings all over the United States.

I have been Director for 2 of the Minuteman Classics.

My work with concessions has helped the athletes by providing a service and in turn the monies raised have gone to help other gay organizations.

I have helped out with fundraisers both in team benefits as well as for the World Series.

I have helped out with all three Gay Games and hope to help out with '94 in New York.

I also belong to other gay organizations. I helped start our Bowling League, which will be 6 years old.

I feel I can be a great asset with the Officers of the B.S.L. and a very good Assistant Commissioner.

Mike Salvi
for Assistant Commissioner

Hi, my name is Mike Salvi and I'm running for Assistant Commissioner. B.S.L.

Why I'm running: I believe in good causes, I think the Beantown Softball League is a great opportunity for people to meet and to get to know each other. I believe I could be

a major factor, by letting people know that we are out there. Helping the league expand by getting more people involved. I know I would be a great asset to the B.S.L. I care about the league, and I want to get more people involved.

As Assistant Commissioner I will act out all the responsibilities it holds. With scheduling being properly done, fields being maintained properly, getting all members of B.S.L. involved. Involvement would include, special events: the All Star Game, getting involved with community events, more participation in Gay Pride. As Assistant Commissioner I will act out, to the best of my ability, the responsibilities it holds.

All I ask is a chance to prove myself, and your support.

Thank you,
Michael C. Salvi

Donny Cranley
for Secretary

I have been a part of the Beantown Softball League for 7 years now, I've seen the league grow, strengthen, and flourish. But the league has come to an impasse, the league needs new people, with fresh ideas, to come forward and GET INVOLVED. The league needs to recapture that energetic spirit it once had.

I am running for secretary because I believe that the league is suffering, due to lack of communication.

Unless you happen to be part of that inner circle of people that lives and breathes softball, it is hard to find out what's going on in the league or when a particular benefit or event is scheduled for. This results in players feeling uninvolved, out of touch, and eventually slipping away.

Everyone knows someone who dropped out of softball for no particular reason, it happens. We need to reach out, to welcome everyone within our community and make them feel a part of it.

As secretary, I want to improve communications, producing a monthly newsletter that does keep everyone informed. One that actually encourages people to attend league events, to attend team benefits and TO GET INVOLVED.

This is a GREAT league but we need to strengthen and continue to grow for the future. I urge you to come to the banquet and vote DONNY CRANLEY for secretary, your vote makes a difference.

Artie Oliver
for Secretary

My name is Artie Oliver and I am running for the position of Secretary of the Beantown Softball League. I've been involved in the league for 8 years mostly involved in various work such as various Minuteman committees in the past 7 years, Co-Chairman along with Mike McCabe in

the 1990 Minuteman, and chairman of special events for the 1992 Worlds Series.

I felt this year it was very disappointing that not enough people were involved with the league, such as the Minuteman, fundraisers, and other league activities.

We need more people to get involved if we are going to continue to be a strong league. There are a lot of new members joining that are more than willing to help and those are the ones that will be the future of this league. My goals are to get these people involved along with everybody else and get some new ideas going. I will make sure that everybody is kept up to date with league meeting updates, fundraisers, Minuteman updates, upcoming events, and maybe even a little gossip. Let's have some fun this year, get some more people involved and keep this league going as strong as ever.

I've worked very hard for the past 7 years and I plan on continuing hopefully as your new Secretary.

Thank you.

**Mike DeNegris
for Treasurer**

Members of the Beantown Softball League

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to serve you as treasurer these past three years. I hope you have been pleased and satisfied by the job I have done for you.

The job of treasurer is not just one of check writing and financial reporting but to be an intricate part of the stability, growth, and prosperity of our league. Three years ago I began this task and I feel we have all benefited from it.

For the past three years as treasurer, I was involved with securing corporate sponsorship of over \$17,000 (not including addition funds for the 1991 Worlds Series). This has assisted in preventing increases in player and sponsor fees and helped us enjoy two Minuteman Classic tournaments. I intend to continue soliciting more corporate and alternative funding outside of our league to keep our fees as low as possible.

In the past three years, we have had the opportunity to give back some financial assistance to our community. Three years ago we were able to make a donation to the Thanksgiving dinner for the homeless at Buddies. Last year the proceeds from the Worlds Series were donated to the Fenway Community Health Centers "Our Names" project where the name of our organization is recognized. I intend to pursue our commitment to citizenship within our Gay community.

Some of the most important parts of the job of treasurer are organizational and communications skills. I have, for the past three years, kept accurate and detailed records of the leagues accounts. Although only required every other month, I have provided a monthly accounting of our leagues balances. Unlike past treasurers though, I also provide a monthly accounting of all the leagues trans-

actions and periodic budget analysis of our status to keep everyone completely informed. I have always felt this is one of my most important duties.

I also intend to continue to keep the scheduling of team benefits as up to date and conflict free as possible. Also as a league officer, I intend to continue to attend as many team events as possible and to support our entire league.

Again, I wish to thank all of you for allowing me the privilege of serving you these past three years. I hope to continue being a positive and nurturing force in our league and help it to show all communities the diversity of interests and activities of gays and lesbians.

Thank you again.....

Michael A. DeNegris, Jr.

**Warren Mitchell
for Treasurer**

1992 was my 11th year in the BSL—eleven great years of making friends, playing softball, traveling on tournaments, performing in drag—well, let's just say I've had a lot of fun.

Many of you are aware of my BSL involvement, but for those of you who aren't, here's a partial list of the things I've done in or helped with:

- >BSL Treasurer 1985,'86,'87
- >Minuteman Classic Treasurer-1984,'85,'87
- >Co-founder of *On Deck*-1983, co-editor 1983-5,'92
- >first BSL/Minuteman corporate sponsorship-1987
- >filed for and received IRS & state non-profit designation, saving thousand of dollars in potential taxes
- >used investment vehicles to generate over \$1,400 interest income for the league
- >Donated over \$1,000 to various community groups
- >pushed for absentee ballots for BSL elections

While I'm proud of the items listed above and our solid financial standing during my tenure, I'm most proud that these achievements reflect the work of committees or groups of people. Frankly, the treasurer can do very little him/herself. But working with the other officers and team members, I was able to coordinate fundraisers and get new people involved in running the league. I look forward to doing that again.

Finally, there are two other issues you should consider as well when you vote: 1. We're faced with the potential that **all four officers and up to 8 Executive Committee votes could come from teams with one sponsor.**

2. Prior to my opponent's candidacy this year, no other BSL officer has ever run for a fourth consecutive term.

Four officers is too much for any one sponsor—and eight votes should be out of the question. Likewise, four terms is too much, it's good to shake things up now and then—I said that in 1988 when I could have run again and I say it now.

After six years I'm rested and ready to be a vigilant treasurer again—I look forward to serving you again. Please vote for Warren Mitchell for Treasurer.

ABSENTEE BALLOT

Instructions:

- Circle the name of one (1) and only one candidate per office.
- Place in an envelope with your name and 1992 team printed on the outside.
- Write the words "ABSENTEE BALLOT" and sign your name also on the outside of the envelope.
- Give to a teammate or someone else attending the banquet
or
➤ place in another envelope and mail to BSL, P.O. Box 428, Kenmore Station, Boston, MA 02215 (See note below)
- If you change your mind or need another ballot, just write the position and whom you're voting for on a plain piece of paper and submit as instructed above.

Commissioner

**Bill "Bucca" Hull
Bill Svetz**

Assistant Commissioner

**John Haas
Rick Harrington
Toby Pineau
Mike Salvi**

Secretary

**Donny Cranley
Wil Mello
Artie Oliver
Buddy Richardson**

Treasurer

**Mike DeNegrìs
Warren Mitchell**

***Note: If you mail your ballot, it MUST BE RECEIVED by Saturday, September 12th to be counted. Giving the ballot to someone else may be a more certain approach.