

DEPARTMENT BASEBALL COMMITTEE MEETING
September 26, 2008

The meeting of the Department Baseball Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Don Hudon in the Great Hall C of the Valley Plaza, Midland, Michigan. The following people were present:

MEMBERS: Don Hudon, Jeremy Bell, Wally Christenson, Nels Cronkright, Peter Hayes (excused)

GUESTS: 9

Minutes:

It was moved and supported that the minutes of the February 15, 2008, meeting of the Department Baseball Committee be approved. Motion carried.

Communication:

Addressed an article from the Eagle Herald the contained many false statements. A response was written by Dave Stanifer but was not published by paper.

Discussed briefly a fax received by State Headquarters regarding Menominee's team.

Rules:

Reviewed rules. Suggested changing 15 & 18. Committee decided against it.

Guest Larry Tuttle discussed the possible issue with submitting a team's papers and a new team is registered that his players may be closer to. Therefore they would require a release form to be an eligible player.

Dave Stanifer suggested a rule addition: Players recruited within a team's district are not required to secure releases from teams outside the district even though the outside team(s) may be closer to the players domicile. It was motioned by Nels Cronkright and seconded by Jeremy Bell to add the rule to our state rule book. Motion carried.

There were a few rules that were mailed into National to suggest rule changes in their rule book. One discussed giving the power to the coaches to allow a player in a showcase after tournaments have started. Another addressed the mercy rule.

Insurance:

In 2008 49 teams purchased insurance and only 40 teams registered. Committee stressed the need to have every team complete their paperwork. One: so they will count for our numbers and Two: their insurance can be canceled if they don't.

Roster:

Deadline Thursday June 25, 2009 5:00 pm est. Reminder that they must be typed and signed in order to file: district/zone/state.

Fees:

\$50.00 w/roster, \$10 for new players and \$200.00 per team room deposit for teams that play in the State tournament. Checks will no longer be returned until the final bill is paid on the Sunday (final day of the tournament).

The \$50 team registration goes on top of the state budget.

It took \$17,000 to run the 2008 state tournament.

Umpires:

We need 6 umpires, one for each zone plus an umpire and chief. Two will be in each room. Agreed.

It was motioned that 1 umpire from each zone plus an umpire and chief. Motion carried.

Question, if zone doesn't have umpire the hosting zone chairman pick an umpire. As per rule 9.

State Contract:

Status quo.

Trophies:

Discussion ensued about who should receive trophies. Nels does think 2nd place need trophies. Guest Larry Tuttle gave medallions for district and zone championship. He believes some teams would appreciate some recognition. Medallions cost around \$2 each.

Baseballs:

Department pays for zone tournaments. Nels suggests each team donate 2 balls for zone tournament.

Larry suggests having call company donate balls for zone and state tournaments. Department will continue to pay for zone and state tournaments.

Pairings (Brackets):

Will be decided in June.

District Tournaments:

July 16 – 19, 2009

Zone Tournaments:

July 23 – 26, 2009

Nels combined district & zone tournaments so you have an extra week of playing ball. Wally doesn't see system working for him because of size. Wants to keep the same system. The system remains as is.

Zone 1 Jeremy passes on hosting state tournament. 2nd zone will host state tournament.

State Tournaments:

July 29 – Aug 2, 2009 Zone 2

Don requests 60 days for state contracts to host state tournament.

Regional Tournament:

Aug 5 – 10, 2009 Appleton, WI

Decal:

Taking orders. \$20 per 150. Would like each zone to take 150.

Pete – 1, Don – 2, Wally – 4, Nels – 1, Jeremy -1

Chairman can do what they wish with them.

Scholarship:

Only 5 were turned in this year. Austin Clarey won a State and a Regional Scholarship. Teams need to each send in one application.

Chain of Command:

Team/Post/District/Zone/State Committee – needs to be followed.

Other Business:

Bracketing – 6 team bracket. Larry Tuttle spoke with Mr. Quinlan at national concerning byes in the first round. (See enclosed rule). Used in the past and has worked. Nels likes 6 team double elimination system. All zone chairmen took copies to their district for suggestions and get feedback. Tabled until spring conference.

State tournament – Nels motioned to keep same speaker as last state tournament. Didn't like the food that was prepared for the kids during last tournament.

Resolutions – Don stated same statements on both that American Legion Baseball is on the decline are false. John Mella post 50 – believes Michigan should go to tier system. Wisconsin has tier system with 200 teams. UP is having a meeting with all coaches in the UP discussing issues with Michigan Legion baseball.

Don suggests resolutions to be sent back for sentence to be taken out. Resolution will be sent back to maker for clarification on line stating we are on the decline.

Two Tier System – Dave Stanifer suggested a two-tier system, rule 31. Wally suggests using "B" league set out national. Conversation ensued.

Tier system need to be looked at more. Especially with finance and who will run it. Don sent letter to zone's for clarification. Hasn't had a reply. Resolutions – tabled.

Menominee transfer was rejected 3 – 2. Why is Bowers bad mouthing Don.

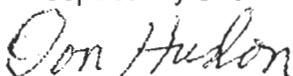
Ki Ki Cuyler: Matt Skirving (Midland) Regional MVP: Garrett Yatch (Midland)

Michigan Legion baseball supporter John Lynch passed away.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before this committee, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at 12:25 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:



Don Hudon

Baseball Chairman