

## WHYBA Monthly Meeting

7/27/2014

Attendees: Chris Fournier, Time Henderson, Karri Reyes, Scott Reyes, Ray Kunzman, Tom Iadevaia

Mike Brady, RJ Sherman, Michael Miller, Jon, McDonough, Krystle Thomas, Darryl Wright, Tom Kachala, Kevin Altmann, Danny Dunn, Bill Lynes, Mike Ward, Dave Hackney

Meeting Called to Order 6:26pm

### Secretary's Report

- Donation check received in the amount of \$1000 from Susan Broscious to maintain the dedication of Mansfield C as Broscious Field, to be used as upkeep
- Monthly Minutes posted

### Treasurer's Report

- Balances Read

### Safety Report

- Only 2 reported incidents
  - o Both, were ok
- Good safe season

### Information Office

- Registrations for Fall Ball posted online (One user needing additional assistance)
- Fall Ball registrations low;
  - o 10U, 12U, 14U levels
  - o **AI Secretary**- send another email about registrations; follow up with Rookie levels in Borough/TWP (Completed 7/29)

### Fields

- Need to maintain Port-a-Jon (1) at Broscious for Fall Ball
- Need help resolving the account
- Mansfield still being cut twice a week; need to assess needs for Fall

Questions from Public- none

## Ralph Errico from Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth to speak about alternate program

- Similar Program to LLI
  - o 4-12 ages Cal Ripken
  - o Buddy Ball (Special Needs)
  - o 13-18 ages Babe Ruth levels
  - o 'World Series' played in Aberdeen, MD
- Boundaries
  - o Regional Schools can be boundaries
- LLI has ESPN contract
- Not as large as LLI
  - o Tournament trail is smaller to advance to World Series (1 less round: Sectionals)
- Size
  - o ~80 leagues in Northern New Jersey
  - o Getting ~3-4 leagues each year
  - o North Hunterdon switched to Cal Ripken in 2013
- Rules
  - o LLI was very stringent
- 50'x70' Program up at 12 yr old
  - o Under 12 is on 60' diamond
  - o 11yr and 12yr are diminishing at 60'; most are playing 50'/70'
    - Can enter 2 teams in tournament (1@60', 2<sup>nd</sup>@90')
  - o @13 yrs, playing on 90' diamond
  - o Many Urban schools are building 50/70 fields
- Tournament Teams
  - o Most are decided ~Dec/Jan
  - o Practicing as a group
- Home Rule
  - o No rules specified at organizational level
  - o Rule Book goes into effect in tournament play
  - o During 'Regular Season', local league can decide on rules
  - o How to pick tournament teams determined by local boards
- Questions
  - o Pitching
    - Local League can make own rules
    - Cal Ripken:
      - Pitching is per Inning
        - o Above 16 no restriction
      - 8-12yr
        - o 6 innings in 2 consecutive games
      - 13-15yr
        - o 7innings in 2 consecutive games

- Bats
  - Similar to LLI
- Birth Date qualifications may change to January cutoff, instead of April 30.
- Coach Certificates
  - Rutgers
  - NYSCA
  - Or Cal Ripken
- Can Slash (fake bunting- present a bunt, then take full swing)
- Comments about not using pitch count, why?
  - Because the league can't control the kids that are playing on multiple teams, it's an imperfect solution as well
  - Still, this is being reviewed yearly
- No restrictions on catcher moving to pitcher
- Stealing on 11/12 year old 50/70
- Players must meet 50% participation to be eligible for tournament
  - (Difficult at HS level)
- Question about holding multiple charters
  - Manalapan and Edison
  - Plays multiple charter
  - Only known organizations
- Charters
  - Basking Ridge
  - Bridgewater
  - Readington
  - Amwell Valley
  - Branchburg
  - Hillsborough
  - Flemmington
  - N. Hunterdon
  - P'burg Stateliners
  - Del Valley
- Can play interleague
  - Still covered under insurance
    - Cal Ripken offers insurance
  - Interleague still counts towards tournament participation
  - Tournament Trail
    - Starts last week of June (post school)
    - Districts, States, Regionals, World Series
      - 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 go to World Series
- Are Districts are set
- Tournament Hosting- by request
- Others

- Long Valley playing Babe Ruth (District 7)
  - Denville
  - Long Valley
  - Roxbury
  - Chester
  - Morristown
  - Randolph
  - Montville
  - Jefferson (Babe Ruth, 7 teams 13-15 yr olds)
  - Mount Olive
  - Warren County- Doug Beatty (2014)
    - Harmony
    - White Township
    - H'town- Babe Ruth only
- Fees
  - \$18-\$25 pending age group (per team)
  - State fee for tournament (\$7/team)
  - Any specific coverage requirements?
    - LLI requires molestation coverage
    - Minimum liability
- Background checks started (2014)
  - Can use any
  - Edison uses police department (no fee)
- Crime Convictions coaching
  - Any set laws that disqualify coaches? Convictions (DUI)
    - Local League sets standards
- How long to convert?
  - A few weeks
  - January 15<sup>th</sup>, enter teams online, then invoice is sent
- Tournament Player verification forms?
  - 12-15 max
  - Manager, plus 2 coaches
  - Coaches must be in full uniform during tournament
  - Babe Ruth ID cards printed
  - Rosters created from Regular Season
  - Must present Coach Cert
    - No need for original birth certificate
  - No requirement for team size during regular seasons
- Local Rule
  - Regular Season Can play by age or grade
  - Can group levels per local league

- Tournament is strictly by age
  - No minimum age exclusion
  - 10 year old can try out for 12U team, if doesn't make it, plays for 10U.
  - Can only play on 1 tournament team
- "Extra Player" rule
  - Roster 10; if only bring 10 and 1 kid gets hurt or tossed, forfeit
  - Not to encourage telling kids not to show up; no minimum playing time
  - Can add 2, but must drop 2 to maintain rostered number
- No Minimum Playing Time in Tournament
- Any further Questions
  - Send email thru WHYBA!!
- Substitutions
  - If pitcher is removed on first visit, even to the bench, can re-enter as a pitcher so long as he started.
- Overall Numbers
  - Coming Down:
  - Edison losing out to Cricket
  - High School biggest demographic losing
- Presentation Concluded @ 7:31 pm

## Discussion

- Rep was very honest
- Biggest Issue probably pitch count rules
- Concerns about Local Charters changing rules each year
- Local League
  - Have structure and background surrounding LLI play
  - Structured Rules Exonerates Coaches behaving properly
- Structure Today
  - Local Town structures abolished
  - Pooling kids where needed worked very well in 2014
- Suggest talking to N.Hunterdon on how their transition went
- Ripken having organized 50/70 program at 12yr olds is what is likely attracting Leagues from LLI
- Suggestion: Keep LLI Charter for majority Regular Season program, then take 1 team at each age level and charter Cal Ripken, can include a 50/70 at 12U level
- Suggestion: WHYBA getting own Insurance Policy
- President: sent By-Laws updates to be reviewed; vote on next year's charter in October; discussion until then
- Question for Cal Ripken: Is there an Umpire Coordinator? (Never took advantage of Vinny- LLI NJ20- Umpire Training)
  - The board to consider paying for umpire training moving forward.
- Oxford Community Day: August 24<sup>th</sup> 11-6pm Georgette Miller, at Wilkinson Field

Next Meeting 8/17

**For any additional questions regarding Cal Ripken, please send them through WHYBA Secretary or President.**