



RCMSPL 2019

February 11th, 2019
League Meeting Minutes

- Sign in and Bond top up
 - **Missing – Master Batters, Money Ballers, Sandlot, Bullet Proof Tigers**
- Proposed Budget
 - **Approved, no questions**
- Team intentions for 2019
 - We have had 2 teams drop out after the last meeting,
 - Each Hit
 - Balls Deep
 - We currently have 37 teams for the 2019 season.
- Diamond Improvement Fund
 - We only received 1 written suggestion for a diamond improvement
 - This was to spin diamond 7 so that home plate matched up with diamonds 5 and 6. After further review, the cost benefit of doing this was not worth it
 - Please forward all suggestions to Jon a/o Brad and we will record them and present them to the other 2 leagues and see what we can afford to do, or help the city pay for, to improve the diamonds.
- Diamond Lining
 - We have entered into negotiations with the City in regards to the cost of lining the diamonds for us. I will provide an update on this once negotiations conclude. We have budgeted for \$100 per lining, once per week.

- Divisional Alignment
 - Starting in 2019, we will have capacity for 5 divisions of 8 teams. This will put us at the maximum number of teams (40) that we can accommodate given the existing diamond availability
 - As you can see from the Sign-in page, the Executive has completed their review of the divisional alignment placing all teams in the appropriate division to allow for equal playing calibre per division.

- Constitutional proposals
 - Deferred from AGM
 1. 6'-12' pitching height
 - Current Rule 15(6) states:
 - Pitching Rule: Minimum 6 ft. – Unlimited Maximum Height
 - Proposed Rule
 - Minimum 6 feet – Maximum 12 feet
 - Rationale (of the presenter)
 - With a restricted pitching (6 to 12) height, it:
 - Doesn't allow a good pitcher to control the game and puts the game in the hands of the defense
 - Batters will be less likely to take the pitch count to the maximum
 - The hitters have more control resulting in fewer balls unintentionally hit up the middle, reducing the risk of injury to the pitcher
 - Short coming of this suggesting is that with teams being pushed up and/or down in any given year, it could/would fundamentally change the game for those teams should they leave an unlimited division and land in a restricted pitching division or vice versa.
 - This item was deferred to the February meeting to allow team reps to take the topic back to their team for greater discussion
 - A Vote will take place tonight to decide the issue.

- Vote on changing pitching from 6-unlimited to 6-12feet. Vote per division
 - **Div 1 = of 7 teams represented 4 are in favor (6-12 Passed)**
 - **Div 2 = of 8 teams represented vote split 4/4 (remains 6-unlimited)**
 - **Div 3 = of 8 teams represented 6 votes against (remains 6-unlimited)**
 - **Div 4 = of 6 teams represented 8 votes against (remains 6-unlimited)**
 - **Div 5 = of 6 teams represented 4 votes against (remains 6-unlimited)**

- Opening Tournament Discussion
 - Question posed to the team reps. “Do we even want an opening tournament?”
 - If we choose not to have the opening tourney, we would provide a team credit of \$100 team.
 - The last vote concluded with approximately:
 - 5 Team Reps were in favor of the tourney
 - 5 Team Reps were opposed to the tourney
 - Leaving 21 Team Reps uninterested (did not vote either way)
 - The league requested time to take this item back to their teams for further discussion.

- Conduct a vote to have the opening tournament or not.
 - **Vote on whether to have an opening tournament.**
 - **Of 34 teams represented only 13 voted in favor. The rest voted against an opening tournament. As such we will not have an opening tournament in 2019 and rather, returning teams will have a \$100 credit applied to their league fees.**

- Constitutional updates
 - Helmets – while these are not mandatory, SPO and the league encourages players to wear helmets while on offense, while pitching, or when they are on the field in general. Pitchers are also encouraged to wear a pitching mask.
 - **Home team is now to report the score, not the winning team. This makes every team accountable for reporting 10 games throughout the year, plus playoffs.**

- New web-site
 - The league has obtained their own domain name being www.rcmspl.ca
 - The web-site is powered by MBSportsWeb
 - It is part of an umbrella web-site that will host both the RCMSPL and the GTCSP as links contained with it, similar to our old web-site, www.slopitchcentral.ca
 - We will see how it works this year and then open it up to other leagues in the future to be a one-stop-shop for slo-pitch in Guelph
 - This is the same web master and platform that Guelph minor hockey uses
 - If anyone is familiar with the web-site, it has many cool features including ingesting team calendars directly into your phone, sign up options for scheduling changes or league news via e-mail and text
 - All league news will be posted on the web-site and it will push an update to all users that have signed up for them
 - **This will be the main source of contact for the league. It is now on the players to sign up for updates to be aware of league news or diamond closures and reschedules**
 - It has a mobile feature that allows you to view and update scores from your phone in real time
 - As I mentioned earlier, home teams now report the score and it is updated in real time on the web-site. No more e-mailing the league and waiting for the statistician to update the scores
 - The only concern I have with this is guys reporting false scores, but since only the team representative can report the scores, we can narrow it down really quickly to who is reporting false scores and will deal with that issue if it arises
 - We just ask that you be respectful when you report the score and report the accurate score
 - Following the next meeting on March 25th, the schedule will be posted with team names
 - Coaches have full control of their own page and can design it however they like complete with their own team updates and news pages

- Statistician Role
 - We received 2 tenders for the Statistician Role
 - The RCMSPL and GCTSPL executives have met and determined who to award the contract to based on experience, longevity of filling the position, how well the individual works with both leagues and cost structure.
 - I am pleased to announce that the contract was awarded to Bruce Collett
 - I would like to thank Bob for his services in the past and for his continued support of the RCMSPL. Our league would not be in the position it is currently without your dedication.

- Future meeting dates
 - March 25th - 50% of league fees due \$900 (+\$100 for new teams) (**no Bat Testing**)
 - April 29th - balance of league fees due \$900 – Bat Testing to follow this meeting
 - May 5th - regular season commences

- Any new business that requires discussion