



RCMSPL

March 28th, 2023

- 2023 Primary Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

- Roll Call for Attendance/Welcome the Coaches
 - Welcome to the first meeting of 2023
 - Team representation.
 - Any missing teams?
- Payment of League Fees Confirmation
 - As we discussed at the March meeting last year, all teams will pay their performance bond and \$1,200 at the March meeting with the balance of league fees being due and payable at the April meeting
 - Confirmed all 26 teams have paid their:
 - Performance Bond
 - Their initial \$1,200 deposit as of this meeting
- Financial Report
 - Review 2022 Final Budget
 - Review 2023 Proposed Budget
 - Note that fines were higher than normal last year due to forfeits
 - Note expenditures for Diamond Rental and Umpires have increased but league fees remained the same through other efficiencies
 - 2023 Budget Vote (Passed)
- Divisional Alignment
 - To keep consistency from last year, we are staying with the larger divisions in 2023:
 - 8 teams in Division 1
 - 9 in Division 2
 - 9 in Division 3
 - We have a total of 26 teams
 - All teams have 20 regular season games and make playoffs

Division I		
Team #	Team Name	2022 Regular Season Standing
1	Sharks	1
2	Barzotti	2
3	Vadala Cardinals	3
4	Trash Panda's	4
5	The Misfits	5
6	Veritable Wealth	6
7	Dad Bods	1
8	Spartans	2

Division II		
Team #	Team Name	2022 Regular Season Standing
1	Superior Steel Roofing Systems	3
2	Swamp Donkeys	4
3	The Unit	5
4	Black Sox	6
5	Royal City Iron Pigs	7
6	One Bad Fisher Cats Inning	8
7	Golden Retrievers (aka Bye Bye Baseball)	9
8	Dukes	10
9	Yankdeez	1

Division III		
Team #	Team Name	2022 Regular Season Standing
1	Long Shots	2
2	Boomsticks	3
3	Line Drive	4
4	Royal City Beavers	5
5	Wilder Concepts	6
6	The Isotopes	7
7	Diamond Ducks	8
8	Just Missed It	N/A
9	Benchwarmers	N/A

- UIC Update

- Terry's number is included in on the front page of the league website for you to call directly when there is a problem with umpires being delayed. Calling me is just adding a delay in the process as I just call Terry. Please remember to call Terry directly this year.
- Try and be patient with the umpires, it's been a long winter and we will be rusty.

- House-keeping Items

- Face masks are not mandatory but are encouraged
- Reminder that we implemented a couple changes in previous years that we are going to keep in place for the safety of our players:
 - Home team will be on the base bunker side of the diamond. This eliminates cross over of teams when setting out or putting away the bases
 - Defensive team will supply the UMPIRE APPROVED ball each inning and any replacements during the inning as required
- 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.
- As of 2019, we implemented a New Team fee of \$100. This charge allows new teams to come into the league and benefit from the strong financial status of the league that has been built over the preceding years.
- All games are scheduled to begin at either 6:30 pm or 8:15 pm with NO GRACE PERIOD. If the city deems the diamonds as open, the umpire will determine whether or not a game should be delayed or canceled because of weather or field conditions.
- **SPO Insurance. It is every player's responsibility to register themselves with SPO which includes full payment by each player. We need to do a better job of satisfying this requirement this year than we did last year. RCMSPL will monitor this throughout the year and enforce deadlines. I noticed when I went to log in to SPO that I couldn't until I paid by \$16. Make sure your players have paid the fee to SPO.**

- SPO Bat Rule and Bat Testing

- There was a new bat stamp released. The new stamp will have a higher compression rating than the current Thumbprint. We will be following SPO rules on these and existing Thumbprint bats.



- Make sure that your players are aware of this rule and aren't surprised when they get to the field and their bat isn't allowed to be used.
 - We are staying with our stance of not conducting bat testing and stickering bats. We feel that the rationale behind the testing and stickering was due to the altering of bats and being used as an unfair advantage in the game. This has not been an issue in the past few years and the new technology of the bats really discourages the altering of bats as they tend to break too easily.
 - There is a bat protest policy in place in our Constitution and we will follow it for all bats protested.
- Playoff Format
 - As decided in previous years, we will remain with a true double knockout style playoff, played during the week, which means that some teams could play 3 games in a week, and some double headers in the same night. It means that if there is a rainout, then the league, all divisions, must move nights to get the right games in first.
 - The plan is to start the Regular Season on May 1st and finish the Regular season the 4th week of August and start playoffs the last week of August. We should finish playoffs as early as September 21st if there are no delays, but, we can play as late as October 4th.
- RCMSPL web-site
 - As in previous years, all league news will be posted on the website 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 on the players to sign up for updates to be aware of league news or diamond closures and reschedules**
 - Tell all your players to sign up for the website
 - As discussed in previous meetings, **home** teams report the score, it is updated in real time on the website.
 - There are instructions on the website that shows you how to update your scores
 - The website has been updated with team names and schedules will be in place around the first week of April
 - I have given all coaches access to your team websites
- Future meeting dates
 - April 24, 2020 - balance of league fees due, hand out balls, scorebooks, keys – in person, location is the Legion on Watson Road
 - May 1st - regular season commences (weather dependent)
- Any new business that requires discussion or questions?