

Augusta Minor Softball – Minutes – March 10, 2009

Attendance – Steve Polite, Kevin Marshall, Emily Miller, Bill Pakeman, Sandy Burchill, Sue Morrison, Mike Limburg, Hugh Hanna, Debbie Shea, Steve Ferguson, Darlene Foley

Acceptance of Feb 3 Minutes - Motioned by Darlene Foley, Seconded by Emily Miller, passed.

Election of Executive / Approval of Format as discussed at last meeting -
Chair - Emily Miller
Secretary – rotating as selected by Emily at each meeting
Scheduler/Website/Statistician – Steve Ferguson
Rules and Discipline – Kevin Marshall
Umpire Rep – Karen Greatrix

Fees / Bank Account – Emily will arrange the account with Steve Ferguson as the cosigner. All reimbursements to be done at end of season. \$10 per team to go into the account and monies will be carried over if un-spent. The fee will be looked at every spring.

Registration Information for Associations – Dates, Fees, Downloadable Forms, Advertising
Fees were discussed and most agreed that registration fees were up to each association. There is a fear of kids playing in a neighbouring association that charges a lower fee, but in the end it was agreed that each association would set fees to meet the needs of their own association.
Dates will be determined by each association.
Advertising will be the responsibility of each association.

Tournaments / Playoffs – suggest we hold off until after team submissions
Agreed – to be discussed when teams submitted

Unreported Scores – suggest we hold off until after team submissions to talk about penalties
Agreed – to be discussed when teams submitted

Website – submit information concerning your association to Steve for publication on Augusta Ball Website

New Items presented for discussion –
Rep Teams – how to handle rep teams?

- should we have rules or suggested requirements
- open discussion

Steve read an email from a concerned parent on whether the league would have rep teams and how these teams would be formed. A good discussion ensued and it was felt that a rep team that plays in the Augusta league tends to pull players from surrounding associations, hurting house league ball. It was agreed that a better structure to follow is to have rep teams pull from players from teams within the league, but, to play rep ball outside of Augusta Ball. All players should play house league ball in the nearest community. This would keep ball active in more communities. Reps teams would play in weekend tournaments and for provincial playdowns or tournaments. Hugh mentioned that Lyn is following the guidelines from Orleans and that he would bring the information to the next meeting. Links to Orleans website will be sent out to all associations for reference

Iroquois Midget Girls – Teresa Veltkamp would like to have a Midget Girls team playing out of Iroquios – open discussion - 44km from Brockville - 93km from Smiths Falls

Most were concerned that the team would dominate the Midget Girls division and that the team is basically a rep team. Emily agreed to speak to Teresa to express the concerns and to get more information. It was felt that it may be better to invite the team to play exhibition games and that any team in the league could play them at anytime.

Other Items – open discussion

Debbie Shea expressed that an early season showcase weekend is a great way to generate community interest and to help get a couple of scheduled games played, freeing up later dates.

Hugh brought forward a concern about players not being able to play more than 4 games in a higher division. After some discussion, it was decided that a motion for a rule change will be presented at the next meeting. Currently the rule for playing up is as follows.

Players must register in their own age classification but may try out for an older age group at the discretion of the local Recreation. To play up a level, the player must be deemed skilled enough and a signed parental release must be provided to the Association Representative and the Augusta Minor Softball Executive. Playing down will not be accepted unless permission is granted at an Executive meeting

- In the case of affiliates; Teams may call up players from a classification no more than 2 below the level they are playing (a release is required). These players must come from their own recreation if possible. If not, they must come from the nearest association. i.e. Domville would draw from Maynard, then Roebuck, etc.

A player may only affiliate to one team

- A player shall not revert to a lower class after she/he has played 5 games in a higher division. The player after 5 games will be required to complete the system at the higher level

Emily expressed a concern about associations that do not require a police check of coaches and volunteers. After much discussion, it was decided that all associations should be encouraged to require a police check and that this information be posted on the Augusta Website.

Umpire Clinic. Lyn will host a Jr. Development clinic and Steve will speak to Karen Greatrix about arranging a Level One Clinic. Kevin offered to host the Level One clinic in North Augusta. Details will be circulated via email.

NEXT MEETING – April 28th 7 pm Roebuck Hall.
Teams are to be submitted at this meeting,
Tournaments will be assigned.

Send other Agenda Items to Emily or Steve