

**Augusta Softball Association**  
Meeting Minutes  
March 2, 2011

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Augusta Softball was called to order at 7:03pm on March 2, 2011 in Roebuck by Darlene Foley.

**Present:**

Steve Ferguson, Darlene Foley, Penny Bell, Vicky Kipke, Angela Workman, Nicole Kehoe, Bill Pakeman, Tom Burchill, Mike Limburg, Kevin Marshall, Justin Greatrix, Karen Greatrix, Matt Ferguson, Kevin Laming, Norm Racine, Derek Whitteker, Greg Beach, Hugh Hanna, Steve Polite, Richard Hanna, John Severson

**A. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

**B. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

**C. Open Issues**

**Nominations** took place at this meeting, Current executive for 2011 ball season is:

- President - Hugh Hanna (other nominations were Kevin Marshall, and Steve Ferguson)
- Scheduling - Steve Ferguson
- Umpire Representative - Karen Greatrix
- Rules & Discipline - Karen Greatrix
- Secretary - Penny Bell

**Financial Report** given by Steve Ferguson. Currently there is \$169.18 in the account. (Currently the funds are sitting in Athens account as we do not have one of our own.)

**Registration:** there were many concerns that were brought up. Example; recruiting of players, open registration, no consequences, concerns that players are being turned away  
Motion was to add the following:

- ❖ Associations must hold open, advertised registration, accepting all players that would like to play. Associations will make an attempt to place all registered players on the local team or with the nearest association.

Motion carried.

**Playing up a division** - currently it reads - no more than 2 levels below the division being played. Motion to leave it the way it is, by Greg Beach and seconded by Norm Racine. Motion carried. It was discussed about bringing in players, that are not registered and this is to be discussed at the next meeting.

**Time Limits:** Currently the rule stats: 1 hour 45 minutes for all 6:15 games. This can affect the 8pm start times when a 6:15 games does not start till 6:30. *Should the 6:15 games times be stated as a start time of 6:15, with no new innings to begin after 8pm.* Motion was carried to change the wording.

**8pm start times** - It was suggested to change this to all 8pm games start at 8:15 with a 2 hour time limit. Motion carried.

**8:15 start requirements** - game starts when 7 players are available (15 minutes grace given to obtain 7 players minimum). Darlene motioned to leave as is. Motion carried.

**Carded Umpire Requirements** - suggested changes are in italics:

- ❖ In the case of Peewee, Bantam and Midget levels, the Home Team must supply at least one *carded* Umpire with *an effort to have two umpires*. All Umpires must be familiar with the Augusta Minor Softball, Softball Ontario and Canada Softball Rules. Also, Umpires must be in an age grouping at least one higher than the game they are umpiring. Of course, any individual with a Level II Umpires Certificate can umpire any game played within the league. Registered, carded, Level 1 Umpires may umpire up to and including Bantam. Umpires must be in an age group at least one higher than the game they are umpiring, if not registered with Softball Ontario.
- ❖ Any new umpires in the Augusta League must attend a level 1 clinic to be eligible to umpire.
- ❖ *If a carded umpire is not available, the game will only be played if both coaches agree to the registered or local fastball umpire that is available. If both coaches do not agree, then the home team will forfeit the game.*

It was discussed about using volunteer's for umpiring the bases, it was decided that no volunteers are able to umpire.

**Addition of Rule Concerning Make Up Games** - If a game is postponed, the home team has one week to contact the visiting team to suggest two alternative dates. If the two teams have problems arranging a makeup game, the home team needs to submit an email to scores@augustasoftball.com and request assistance. Failure to play makeup games or to notify the league of problems arranging a makeup game will result in a home team forfeit. If the game remains un played but an effort has been made, the game result will be recorded as unplayed. All results will be final. Motion carried.

**7 player Rule** - changes in italic

- ❖ A minimum of seven players is required to start *"or finish"* a game. *Players arriving late can be added to the bottom of the line up at anytime.* There is no penalty for playing with less than nine players. Motion carried.

**Tournament Fees** - changes in italic.

- ❖ Tournament fees are to reimburse the Association for umpire fees, balls, lime and *awards* only.

- ❖ Tournaments are to be held on weekends only unless it is impossible due to the number of teams within the division.
- ❖ *Year End* tournament entry fees must be approved by the Executive 3 weeks before the tournament date. *This includes schedule, format and fees.*

Motion carried on above changes but the format is to be discussed at next meeting.

**Control of Games** - changes in italic

- ❖ Umpires will have complete control of the game during a *game* and can have anyone removed from the game, including spectators for reasonable cause.

Motion carried.

**Shirt Numbers** - changes in italic.

- ❖ Any shirts worn as part of a uniform *should have* a number on the back in accordance with C.S.A. rules.

Motion carried.

**Protests and Appeals** - changes in italic

- ❖ Only rule interpretation, *failure to apply the correct ruling to a given situation, or the eligibility of a team roster member will be considered a valid reason for protest. Judgment calls will not be considered for protest.* Motion carried.
- ❖ In the case of playoff tournaments, any executive attending the tournament will have the right to rule for the committee, *in absent of the executive. The convener is liable for any rule.*

**Rules and Discipline Committee** - This committee members are the executives listed. You must have 3 on an appeal.

It was discussed about the use of substance (gorilla grip) on ball when pitching. It was motioned to allow.

Also it was passed that bat warmers are aloud.

**Clinics** - It was mentioned that Athens will hold an umpire/JD clinic. It is to be sent out from the Athens association what date it is to be held.

It was brought to the attention of the committee that the umpire charge for a Midget game is now \$35.

It was passed to update the website on the cost of Midget boys umpire fees.

**D. Agenda for Next Meeting**

*This will be sent out a later time. Please be ready to submit your teams.*

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:03 by Steve Ferguson. The next general meeting will be at 7:00pm on April 18, 2011 in Roebuck.

Minutes submitted by: Penny Bell  
Approved by: