

EC Meeting Minutes.



Type of Meeting: Executive Committee

Location: Bowersox Insurance Agency - 3537 South Kingshighway

Date/Time: Saturday December 21, 2013 – 10:00AM

Organizational

1. Executive Council (EC) of St Louis Baseball Forever League (STLBFL) has been increased to 8 at the suggestion of the state of Missouri (state of incorporation).
2. EC agreed to have Rick Bergman, Mark Karpinski and Darryl Dickerhoff meet as a sub-committee to review the ByLaws and Rules and return to the EC with their recommendations. It is expected that some of these changes will require a vote of the managers.
3. It was agreed that the EC will operate in a mode of transparency where all meeting decisions and financial information will be fully disclosed to the managers and players.
4. EC agreed that material changes to the operation of the league, ByLaws and Rules would be submitted to the managers for their vote and ratification.
5. Discussed E&O insurance for EC. Assigned to Gene Mehrtens to investigate and report.
6. The STLBFL has been approached by the former MSBL/Johnny Mac league to consider merging the 45 divisions. The EC agreed to table all discussions for the 2014 season.
7. The election of EC was recognized as:

Mehrtens (President): 10-5-1

Dickerhoff (Treasurer): 15-0-1

Bergman (Coaches' Liason): 15-0-1

Paarlberg (Communications Chairman): 15-0-1

Ribaud (Chairman of Umpires and Rules): 15-0-1

Wood (Chairman of Fields, Scheduling and Tournaments): 14-1-1

Francis (At-Large member): 14-1-1

Karpinski (At-Large member): 15-0-1

Financial

1. While the financial transactions for the 2013 season are not finalized, we expect to finish 2013 with an \$8,000 surplus. The ByLaws require that we keep a carryover which is \$4,000 this year. The remaining \$4,000 will go to the 2013 participating teams as a credit against their 2014 fees or a refund check.
2. More complete financials are being prepared but a preliminary highlights of expenses would include:

Website	\$575
Roy Hobbs	\$5,000
Umpires	\$34,272
Awards	\$700
Baseballs	\$3,865

Fields	\$15,153
Misc	\$2,579

3. The EC approved spending \$700 for the championship jerseys.
4. EC voted to renew HTO (Home Team Online website) fees.
5. EC agreed that one signature was adequate but that Wood and Mehrtens be added to the signature card along with Dickerhoff.
6. EC agreed that managers need to deposit \$500 with the league by January 15 to secure a spot for the 2014 season.

Teams, Players and Umpires

1. Two teams have applied to STLBFL. The 45 Stallions will be moving to the 53+ Division as the Patriots. The Owls will form a new 53 team. No EC approval is needed for existing teams. This will bring the 53 Division to 11 teams.
2. The EC approved the number of games for 2014 – subject to managers approval.
 - a. 45 Division – 25 Games
 - b. 53 Division – 30 Games
3. There was a general discussion on quality of Umpires going into the last year of our agreement. Marty Ribaudo will meet with umpires organization and report back.
4. The EC agreed to support the new 60+ Division provided 3 teams could be organized and put in place. Further discussions included:
 - a. Playing 7 innings instead of 9.
 - b. Playing a 10 games schedule starting in June
 - c. All game scheduled for Sunday afternoon.
 - d. Allowing exception players – 59 – as non-pitchers.
 - e. Gene Mertens and Marty Ribaudo will spearhead and report back to EC.
5. The probation status was dropped for four teams; Game Face, Grays, Sharks, Colt 45s.
6. Player Pool. After much discussion, EC decided to investigate alternatives to ensure that all managers will be notified when a new player registers and procedures will be established to encourage parity. Article VII.F.a,b,c.

Scheduling

1. EC approved generic scheduling for 2013. A generic schedule (team 1, team 2, team 3) will be prepared. At the scheduling meeting managers will draw their schedule from a hat. We will then give everybody 30 minutes to consider trading their entire schedule with another team.
 - a. After this initial schedule day, we will have another schedule meeting where teams will be able to swap dates with other teams.
2. Rain Outs; teams will have 72 hours to reschedule a rainout from the rainout dates published on the website link. After that the Chairman of Fields, Scheduling and Tournaments will select a date that cannot be contested.
3. A number of playoff scenarios were discussed. The EC did agree that the playoff scheduling should be done at the start of the season.

Rule Changes

1. EC voted to table discussions on extending the game time limit until financial impact (umpires, fields) has been evaluated.

2. EC will put the age limit of the 53 Division to a Manager's vote. The current By-Laws state that the age limit of the 53 Division will go to 54 in 2014 and then 55 in 2015 where it will stay. The managers will vote on:
 - a. Keep age requirement at 53 and retain the two 52 year old exceptions.
 - b. Keep age requirement at 53 and grandfather last year's exceptions but do not allow new exceptions.
 - c. Change the age requirement to 54 and allow two 52 year old exceptions. (current rule)
3. EC approves the Shared Lineup rule used by Roy Hobbs World Series.
4. EC recommends that player attendance discrepancies be subject to 3 game suspensions for manager and player. This will be addressed in the rules modifications (Organizational #2).