

NCBL Annual Winter Meeting Minutes

Sunday, February 14, 2016
Nepean Sportsplex – Hall F

Teams Absent (4): Ottawa-Nepean Cardinals, Expos, Kingston Ponies, and Metcalfe Mudd

1. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 11:04am.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting – The minutes of the NCBL Kick-Off Meeting on Sunday, April 26, 2015 were approved without change.

(moved by Brewers, seconded by Cubs, carried)

3. Commissioner's Report on 2015 – The official 2015 Commissioner's Report was attached in the handout package. Bill Beelen read some of the highlights:

- Announced Fred Malo will be retiring from the assignor role.
- Having a Tier President oversee the playoff scheduling from a different tier was a success.
- In an effort to cut costs by avoiding a new \$500 hall fee from the Hellenic Centre, there will be a change in location for the 2016 banquet. Rob Lay has a contact at a venue on Colonnade Road that can potentially take over hosting duties. John Mendonca also indicated he had a contact with "Pinecrest" that may be worth looking into.
- Very early estimates on league fees have them increasing by \$100-\$200/team; in part because of an increase in field costs.

4. Report from Umpires – Deputy Umpire Neal Phadnis followed up on the succession plan for the umpire assignor role. There are currently 4 candidates to fill this position, each of whom will be interviewed by the Chief and Deputy umpires before the next NCBL meeting, where the election is scheduled to take place.

5. Financial Overviews for 2015 and 2016 – Pushed until the next meeting, when the league treasurer will be in attendance. The Commissioner did ask for feedback regarding the "foul line painting" endeavor last season. This was done every two weeks, although by week 2 it was hard to see so this could be increased to weekly.

6. Team Intentions for 2016 – Although not official until the next meeting, teams were asked for planning purposes what they intend to do when called upon:

- The Outlaws will make a pitch to stay in Tier 1.
- The SweatSox will not fight the automatic move up to Tier 1.
- The Orioles will not fight the automatic move down to Tier 3.
- The Sharks will make a pitch to stay in Tier 3.
- The Bombers will make a pitch to stay in Tier 3.
- The Capitals will not fight the automatic move up to Tier 3.
- The Misfits will make a pitch to move up to Tier 2.
- No teams indicated they were going to merge or fold.

7. “New Team” Application Process and Timetable – Based on the number of umpires and field availability, the league can still carry a maximum of 36 teams, which means at most we can accept 1 new team this year. 14 new teams were sent information packages, but with 1 day left for those 14 to respond with their application, none have. Applying teams will make their pitch to join the league in person at the next meeting (if applicable).

8. Election of Officers for 2016 – 8 positions were up for election:

- Umpire Assignor to be elected at the next meeting.
- Craig Cornell acclaimed as Treasurer.
- Rob Lay acclaimed as Tier 1 President.
- Brian Samuel acclaimed as Tier 2 President.
- John Drummond acclaimed as Tier 3 President.
- Stuart Hayes acclaimed as Tier 4 President.
- Gary Duke acclaimed to the Operations Committee.
- Cory Bond acclaimed as League Secretary
 - In response to Article 4.3 of the NCBL Constitution that says no team shall have more than 1 elected officer position, the league voted to approve 2 elected SweatSox (Craig Cornell and Cory Bond) to serve indefinitely on the Executive.
(moved by Brewers, seconded by Red Sox, carried)

9. Other Business – Joe Beelen announced that the daily NCBL website and Twitter duties may be outsourced to an enthusiastic intern who has reached out, and who is willing and able to do it for free. Bill Beelen also announced that due to the advance in technology, namely Twitter, the league answering machine will be retired; a move that will help cut league costs.

10. Next Meeting – No official announcement, but “early March” is the estimate.

11. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 11:25am.