

The 2017 NCBL Annual Winter Meeting Minutes

Sunday, February 5, 2017
Nepean Sportsplex – Hall F

Teams Absent (3): Cardinals, Mavericks, and River Hawks

1. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 11:05am.

2. Confirmation of Teams Added in 2016 from Probationary to Full Status – The South-End Strykers and Beckwith Bandits were both promoted to full status members of the NCBL.
(moved by Red Sox, seconded by Mudd, **carried**)

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting – The minutes of the NCBL Kick-Off Meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 were approved without change.
(moved by NCBL Secretary Bond, seconded by Red Sox, **carried**)

4. Commissioner's Report on 2016 – The official 2016 Commissioner's Report was attached in the handout package. Bill Beelen read some of the highlights:

- The foul line painting program was a success, and will continue in 2017.
- Umpire coverage in 2016 was perfect; with additional praise to Head Umpire Jean Lazure for being the top rated plate + base umpire in Tier 1.
- Predicts an increase in league fees based on a number of variables.

5. Report from Umpires – Chief Umpire Jean Lazure talked about the perfect umpire coverage in 2017, being able to have exit interviews after the season with most of the umpires, and announced that there would be an umpire's clinic before the upcoming season.

6. Financial Overviews for 2016 and 2017 – NCBL Treasurer Craig Cornell described a very slight surplus from 2016, but new City of Ottawa allocation policies will cause a significant increase in 2017 league fees. Teams should expect and prepare for an increase of a couple hundred dollars compared to last year.

7. Team Intentions for 2017 – Although not official until the next meeting, teams were asked for planning purposes what they intend to do when called upon:

- The Acadiens have folded.
- The Orioles are back from their 1-year hiatus, and will play in Tier 3.
- The SweatSox will not fight the automatic move down to Tier 2.
- The Outlaws will make a pitch to move down to Tier 2.
- The Winchester Sox are still undecided on where they'd prefer to play in 2017.
- The Misfits are still undecided on where they'd prefer to play in 2017.
- The Metcalfe Mudd will make a pitch to move up to Tier 1.
- The Mavericks will make a pitch to stay in Tier 3.
- The Knights will make a pitch to stay in Tier 4.
- No other teams indicated they were going to merge or fold.

8. “New Team” Application Process and Timetable – Based on the number of umpires and field availability, the league can still carry a maximum of 37 teams, which means at most we can accept 1 new team this year. 8 new teams were sent information packages, with a deadline of February 15th to complete & submit them back to the league. Applying teams will make their pitch to join the league in person at the next meeting (if applicable).

9. Election of Officers for 2016 – 5 positions were up for election:

- Bill Beelen acclaimed as Commissioner.
- Jean Lazure acclaimed as Head Umpire.
- Neal Phadnis acclaimed as Deputy Umpire.
- Joe Beelen acclaimed as Registrar.
- Brett Stott acclaimed as Operations Committee Member

10. Other Business –

- Bill Beelen presented the Sponsorship Proposal from Baseball Town to the league as part of the handout package.
- The idea of building a NCBL field on Carleton University property was discussed, leading to the resurrection of the Build-our-own-Field Committee.
- By-law proposals for ‘substitutions on ejections’ and ‘fines for late ejection reports’ will be discussed at the next meeting.
- The Tier 3 Pitcher of the Year Award has been renamed the Paul Robert Pitcher of the Year Award, in honor of the retiring hurler.

(moved by Misfits, seconded by Red Sox, **carried**)

11. Next Meeting – The 2017 Spring Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, March 5th.

12. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 11:37am.