

**Lakeland Minor Ball League
Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2023**

Attendance:

Karen Selte (Vermilion); Lindsey Stanton (Boyle); Real Bourbeau (Bonnyville); Kim Gauthier (Plamondon); Greg Laramie (St. Paul); Cory Robinson (St. Paul); Mandi Mahe (St. Paul); Darby Shapka (Plamondon); Mark Blyon (Kikino); Louis Genest (Kitscoty); Tyrel Turchyn (Pierceland); Drake Centazzo (Marwayne); Evan Assan (Cold Lake); Gwen Lapine (Elizabeth); Sharon Earl (Softball Alberta rep); Ali Fyith (by phone) (Lac La Biche); D'Arcy Evans (Elk Point); Doug Bassett (Zone 7 Director); Margaret Bayduza (Elk Point); Dennell Anderson (Elk Point)

1. Call to order

Dennell Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

2. Review of agenda

Motion to approve agenda. Moved by Real, seconded by Evan. Carried

3. Introductions around the table.

Old Business

1. Hosting tournament for extra games for teams May 27 weekend

MOTION to schedule a four game league weekend May 27-28 and change the practice/game ratio to 1 and 1 all season for all levels. Moved by Margaret, seconded by Karen S. Carried.

Clarification - first week of May will be practices only, and then we will start league play during the second week of May.

Host Sites

Baseball

9U - St. Paul

11U - Pierceland

13U - LLB

15U - Bonnyville

18U - Elk Point

Softball

U9 - Bonnyville

U11 - Cold Lake

U13 - Cold Lake

U15 - St Paul

U17 - TBD [per motion later in meeting, this is now U18]

There will be pitch count for baseball during the May 27/28 weekend.

2. **Lakeland League Website**

- a. The new website is up and running: LMBL.ca
- b. Associations are now responsible to enter the player rosters and team staff (coach/manager names and contact info) for every team. It is up to associations to decide if one person is entering the roster information or if this is being assigned to managers. Once this is updated, teams will be able to contact one another.
- c. Margaret Bayduza is the website administrator.
- d. Please forward your diamond allocations, coaches/manager contact information, and roster for each team to lakelandball@gmail.com.

3. **Reporting Game Scores:**

- a. The **manager of the home team** is required to enter the game score onto the website within 24 hours of the game being finished. The **manager of the away team** can then verify the score.

Treasurer's report

Expenses related to the new website are domain registration fees (5 year), website creation, and web hosting fees (1 year). Balance as of April 20 is \$12,879.39.

President's report

1. **Coaches** : As an association you are responsible for your coaches parents and fans so please remind them of the rules, and it is your responsibility to discipline them if there are issues.
2. **Multiple teams in a division:**
Lakeland league is a house league. To help promote competitive games, it is the responsibility of the home association to ensure teams are split

equally skill wise when there is more than 1 team in the same division. Our goal as a league is to promote the sport and try to keep it fun and competitive for all members of our league.

3. Communication chain:

- a. Please ensure all your coaches and managers know the rules for the division they are coaching. League specific rules are posted on our website, and the rest follow BBA or SBA.
- b. Communication is improving. Please remember the more we educate our association about rule changes and etiquette on and off the field, the better all games will be. We are all out there for the same reason: to play good competitive games with good sportsmanship etc. So we ask that all associations deal with any negative issues that arise between coaches, players, umpires, parents within your own association. If it cannot be resolved then the PRESIDENT of the association can contact the league president, and together they will try to find a solution. The league president will not deal directly with parents and coaches; this is the responsibility of the association president. Please observe the 24 hour cooling off period prior to contacting the league.

4. Practice/play ratio

- a. 9U: practice once a week/play once a week (May & June)
 - i. Coach pitched
- b. 11U: practice once a week/play once a week (May & June)
- c. 13U/15U/18U:
 - i. Practice once a week/play once a week (May & June). The May ball weekend will REPLACE the 2nd game per week that is usually played in June.

5. Rosters:

- a. League rosters due date April 30, 2023
- b. Each association president will be given a login for the LMBL for ramp and will be required to have the team rosters posted on there prior to the first game being played. If you have an over aged player on a team please state O/A beside their name on the roster.
- c. Please email a copy of rosters to lakelandball@gmail.com
 - i. Send all rosters for your association in one email, so it's easier to track and maintain.
- d. Rosters will be locked on the website on May 15.

6. Review consequences for late/inaccurate team registrations.

Teams are to communicate with one another prior to games to confirm that the game will be played, especially when weather is a factor.

NO SHOW (team is not able to field a team at the scheduled time)

Games start at 6:30 pm, with a grace period of 15 minutes. If a team no shows with no contact with the other coach/manager within a reasonable timeframe with respect to travel, the consequence will be:

1st offense - team is fined \$200, payable to Lakeland League Minor Ball and due prior to their next scheduled game. That association will receive a strike.

Lakeland League will cover the umpire cost from the fine.

2nd offense - team is removed from league for the remainder of the season. The association will receive another strike and will be under review by the League.

LATE ENTRY/WITHDRAWAL OF TEAMS

Due to the difficulties it causes the schedulers when teams are entered or withdrawn after the schedule has been drawn up, the league will impose consequences for failure to accurately register teams on time.

The league can levy a \$500 fine for late withdrawal of a team and \$250 for late entry of a team.

New Business

1. New associations joining league

- a. Boyle - would like to bring a U13 softball team.

Motion to accept Boyle into the league. Moved by Kim, seconded Cory. Carried.

- b. Saddle lake - joined at the previous meeting. They are working on their diamonds, so some games will be in Ashmont and Two Hills.

2. League fees:

- a. Year end gifts will be medals (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
- b. 9U/U9 \$50/team
- c. 11U/U11 and up \$150/team
- d. Game start date - aiming for May 8 (first week of May will be practice only)

3. Baseball finals starting on the Friday of the tournament

- a. Will be held at respective towns instead of host site (ie: EP vs PL @ EP)

Motion to start Baseball finals on Friday Night. Moved by Riel, seconded by Drake. Carried.

- b. Saddle Lake is going to opt out of finals.

4. U17 finals on the weekend or during the week

With the new age divisions, there are issues with having softball U17 finals on a weekend (e.g. grad, provincials).

Motion to change the Lakeland League soft ball divisions to remove U17 and U19 and to replace them with U18. Moved by Drake, seconded by Karen. Carried.

So U18 softball finals will be during the week starting June 21. Teams can reschedule as necessary to accommodate provincials.

5. Final Tournament

- a. Tournament format will be the same since 2019 with divisions being split top and bottom
- b. It will be the responsibility of the host team to do the schedule based on agreed league format and league results. Host associations can modify the tournament format if required should weather or other unforeseen issues prevent the original format from happening. Please do your best to stick to the original format whenever possible. All complaints regarding the tournament are to be directed to the tournament host association. We will discuss the tournament complaints at the fall meeting and discuss ways to improve going forward.
- c. Pitch count will be used as per BBA rules for final and all tournament so introduce it to your parents early during league play so they get familiar with it
- d. Host team is to supply 2 new game balls/game during tournament play
- e. Lakeland league will cover umpire cost of \$40.00 per game
 - i. If you have a concession running I would suggest to let your umpires eat for free
- f. Each host **MUST** have a tournament organizer and contact distributed to visiting teams
- g. Final tournament will take place the weekend of June 25-28, 2022
- h. **18U boys playoffs will start June 22.**
- i. **U18 girls playoffs will start June 21.**
- j.

Motion to increase the amount reimbursed for umpire fees for the year end tournament to \$50 per game. Moved by Ali, seconded by Drake. Carried.

Softball Alberta Update - Sharon Earl

- Register teams with Softball Alberta. Make sure team is entered in the correct category. If there is no bid for a division, they will check with teams entered to see if they will host. Have to put in documentation of why you think you belong in that division.
- D is the lowest tier.
- Make sure your player transfer order is done before rosters are set (registration deadline).
- Regional qualifiers before provincials are set for June 23-25.
- June 1 is the deadline to register for provincials.
- Register your umpires
- There are 4 spots on the coaching roster. Fill all 4. At least 1 must be female.
- Go to tournaments to find out where you fit (D,C, etc). Go to at least 2, and not just in Edmonton (e.g. Camrose has lots).

Nominations

Sharon Earl is nominated as Zone 7 Softball Director.

D'Arcy Evans is nominated as Zone 7 ADO.

Cory Robinson is nominated as Zone 7 Minor Director.

Nominated by Dennell (Elk Point), seconded by Drake (Marwayne). No further nominations. All positions filled by acclamation.

Adjournment

Dennell Anderson adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

Call to action:

1. All associations to have rosters up, team contacts, association contacts up on the website by april 30, 2023
2. Send a copy of all rosters for your association in one email to lakelandball@gmail.com
 - a. All rosters to be in by april 30 2023
3. Keep improving communication between your association and your coaches/managers