

Lakeland League Spring Meeting
April 19, 2022
Horizon Room, AG Ross Arena, Elk Point

Attendance: Mike Deabreu (Bonnyville), Ryan Pruden (LLB), Michelle Rossi (LLB), Melvina Thompson (Kikino), Gwen Lepine (Elizabeth), Karen Selte (Vermilion), Jason Higgins (Kitscoty), Kim Gauthier (Plamondon), Darby Shapka (Plamondon), D'Arcy Evans (Elk Point), Brad Sparklingeyes (Goodfish), Sarah Hattebuhr (Pierceland), Orry Gelowitz (Pierceland), Tanya Dechaine (St. Paul), Cory Robinson (St. Paul), Ron Wirsta (St. Paul), Drake Centazzo (Marwayne), Doug Bassett (Elk Point, Zone 7 rep), Margaret Bayduza (Elk Point), Dennell Anderson (Elk Point)

Called to order

Dennell called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Approval of minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2022 meeting. Moved by D'arcy, seconded by Tanya. Carried.

Additions to Agenda

Add overage players

Financial Report

We haven't had any transactions in the last two years since league hasn't run. A bank account has been opened with Servus Credit Union. Recommend choosing a bank and sticking with it regardless of which association is running league.

General Account: 12944.34

Common Shares: 1.04

(common shares = mandatory \$1 contribution from general account plus 4 cents in dividends)

TOTAL: 12945.38

Old Business

1. Proposed changes to the U9 divisions

Some modifications were suggested for the proposed rules:

- a) Rotate field after every inning.
- b) Do not reset bases after a base hit, but start the inning with bases loaded.

- c) Coach pitches overhand for baseball and underhand for softball or use a pitching machine. Remember maximum 5 pitches so have a parent close with the tee.
- d) No scorekeeping

Motion to accept the proposed U9/9U rules with the noted changes. Moved by Orrie, seconded by Karen. Carried.

Reminder to drop the batting order after every inning (so player 1 leads off inning 1, player 2 leads off inning 2, etc).

2. Baseball Pitch Count for league finals

Thorough discussion of pitch count versus innings. Tabled motion from last month was not taken up as some changes were made to the original motion.

MOTION to remove pitch count from the year end tournaments and limit pitchers to a maximum of:

11U: 1 inning per game, 2 innings per day, and 4 innings per weekend

13U+: 2 innings per game, 4 innings per day, and 6 innings per weekend.

Moved by D'arcy (Elk Point), seconded by Margaret (Elk Point). Motion failed.

Pitch count remains in place.

Points - pitch count is Baseball Alberta's rule to protect pitchers.

- Develop all pitchers throughout the season. Might lose some games but standings just give you your seed in the finals.

- Pitch count rules are found in the Baseball Alberta handbook

(<https://www.baseballalberta.com/2022bahandbook/> - p 51-54)

- Because this is for our year end tournaments, we use the Provincial Championship Play Pitch Count limits (p. 53)

- consider running finals Friday-Sunday to use pitch count to the fullest

- Question re pitcher/catcher rule - answer we will not enforce because our teams are small.

- Concern about the number of volunteers needed per diamond per game with pitch count.

Motion for all playoff games in the Lakeland League finals, home team will provide pitch counters, host will provide pitch count paperwork, and visiting team will provide a scorekeeper. Moved by Mike, seconded by Orrie. Carried.

Question re who is home and away at finals - answer it will be indicated in the draw

3. Overage players

Overage players cannot pitch or catch, except for O/A females in baseball.

Max 3 O/A players on the field at once.

Everyone gets to bat in order (regardless of how many O/A players in the lineup).

Make sure O/A players are clearly marked on your league roster AND on every game sheet (O/A beside player name).

When combining teams across age divisions and deciding whether to go up or down, consider that if you move down, you will have O/A players with limits on how many on the field at once, but if you go up, you have younger kids facing pitchers who are up to 4 years older.

Push your rally cap and timbit programs because you need those feeder programs in order to have enough players to field teams at older levels.

Question re pitching distance for softball underage pitchers. Answer: underage softball pitcher must pitch from the team distance (e.g. a U15 age pitcher playing underage on a U17 team would have to pitch from the U17 distance).

Issue - league only has 2 U19 teams.

Motion U19 will play in the U17 division this season. Players born in 2003 can catch in all games, but they can only pitch when playing another U19 team. Moved by Mike, seconded by Ryan. Carried.

New Business

1. Teams/Diamonds.

Softball Teams registrations

Association	U9	U11	U13	U15	U17	U19
Plamondon	1			1		
Lac la Biche			1	1		
Marwayne				1		1
Kikino						
St. Paul	2	1	1	1		
Elk Point				1	1	
Vermillion					1	
Bonnyville	2	3	1	2	1	
Cold Lake	1	1	1	1	1	

Pierceland	1		1		1	
St. Lina						
Goodfish				1		
Lloydminster				2	1	1
EMS						
Kitscoty				2		
Glendon						

Softball diamonds per association

Association	U9	U11	U13	U15	U17	U19
Plamondon	1			1		
Lac la Biche			1	1		
Marwayne				½ (mon)		½
Kikino						
St. Paul	1	1	1	1		
Elk Point				1	1	
Vermillion					1	
Bonnyville	1	1	1	1	1	
Cold Lake	1	1	1	1	1	
Pierceland	1	1			1	
St. Lina						
Goodfish				1		
Lloydminster				½	½	½
EMS						
Kitscoty				1		
Glendon						

Baseball Teams registrations:

Association	9U	11U	13U	15U	18U
Plamondon		1		1	
Lac la Biche	2	1	1	1	
Marwayne				1	1
Kikino	1		1		1
St. Paul	3	3	1		2
Elk Point	1	1		1	

Vermillion					
Bonnyville	4	1	3	2	1
Cold Lake	4	2	1	1	1
Pierceland	1	1	1		1
St. Lina					
Goodfish	1	1	1	1	
Lloydminster					
EMS		1	1		1
Kitscoty					
Glendon					

Baseball diamonds per association

Association	9U	11U	13U	15U	18U
Plamondon		1		1	
Lac la Biche	½	1	1	1	
Marwayne				1	1
Kikino	2 diamonds for	all three teams			
St. Paul	2	1			
Elk Point	1	1		1	
Vermillion					
Bonnyville	2	1	2	2	1
Cold Lake	2	1	1	1	1
Pierceland	½	½	1		1
St. Lina					
Goodfish	1	1	1	1	
Lloydminster				2d avail	
EMS		½	½		1
Kitscoty					
Glendon					

2. Host sites for finals

Finals weekend - June 25/26

U19/18U - quarter finals, semi finals, finals - host team will be responsible to cover umpire fees. Games will be scheduled on weeknights (no finals weekend).

Note - not all finals were filled at the meeting. This is the finalized list of hosts.

Baseball 9U - Pierceland
Baseball 11U - Elk Point
Baseball 13U - Lac La Biche
Baseball 15U - Cold Lake

Softball U9 - St. Paul
Softball U11 - Bonnyville (will try for one day)
Softball U13 - Cold Lake
Softball U15 - St. Paul
Softball U17 - Vermilion

3. Other items

North/south, east/west divisions - currently difficult with team numbers and distribution.

Suggestion to change to 1 game 1 practice all season because 2 games/week means no practices. Response - associations can host tournaments. Teams are permitted to reschedule games for weekends to free up practice nights. Could even bring together three teams so everyone plays twice.

Suggestion to designate crossover weekends. Response - Crossover tournaments have been tried in the past and are a nightmare for league to schedule.

There is already a rule to limit travel for U9/9U.

Prize for year end finals will be medals.

Adjournment

Dennell adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.