

Barlow Junior Baseball Board Meeting Minutes: Sunday, November 8, 2015, 6:00 pm, Nuts on Sports

Call to Order: 6:00 pm

Roll Call: Present – Nick Kemper, Tracey Toy, Chris Staats, Roger Budge, Jesse O’Hara, Lynette Fay.

Absent: Dwayne Bates, Darren Toy

Report of Secretary – No report.

Report of District Representative – Review of JBO Rule Changes:

1. The proposed Pitch Count Rule passed. Very specific regulations will now regulate how many pitches a pitcher can throw during any given game during the regular season. During the JBO Championship Tournament, for this year the rule based on innings pitched will be used as in previous years.
2. The proposed rule to prevent a pitcher removed as a pitcher during a game returning as a pitcher failed.
3. A new Matrix proposal passed – the Matrix for determining team level will now be based on high school affiliation. In the case of BJBA, since we are affiliated with a 6A high school, if we have only one team at a particular age level, it will be a Federal level team. If we have two teams at a particular age level, they will be Federal and National. From that point forward, the new Matrix matches the old Matrix.
4. A different Matrix proposal failed.
5. A proposal to change baserunning rules for Midget National failed.
6. A proposal to define who must pass a background check and what the background check must check passed. New language for the rule book: “Prior to participating in any ‘JBO Inc.’ sanctioned event, all adults, those persons in any way assisting/volunteering, including but not limited to coaches, assistant coaches, scorekeepers, umpires or similar positions, must pass a comprehensive criminal background screening. This screening will determine any previous convictions involving the use, possession, or sale of a controlled substance within the last 10 years; a crime involving the use, or threatened use, of violence, or a crime involving a minor child at any time. The cost of the screening will be paid by the association. Comprehensive Criminal Background Checks will be annual. The records will be maintained by the local Association. JBO Inc. retains the right to inspect the records for any team or umpire at any time, including those qualifying for post-season championship play.”
7. A proposal to clarify language in the rule book about Certificates of Insurance passed.
8. A proposal to clarify terminology for the Championship Tournament passed.
9. A proposal requiring players to wear assigned uniform numbers passed.
10. A proposal to add e-cigarettes to list of banned substances passed.
11. A proposal to establish and enforce fines and penalties for late team paperwork to JBO passed.
12. A proposal to change age division eligibility from birth date to school grade passed. Midget is now 3rd/4th grade; Junior is now 5th/6th grade; Senior is now 7th/8th grade; Cubs is now 9th/10th grade.
13. A proposal to allow a player to go to any bordering association, rather than the nearest bordering association, if there is no place or team for them to play on in their district, without a waiver, passed.

14. A proposal to add language to the Waiver Policy passed. The rule also added a statement that “if an Association cuts players from a certain division and skill level, then that Association cannot have any waived-in players at that same division and skill level.”
15. A proposal to allow National teams to play a game with 8 players passed. Each time the ninth spot in the batting order comes up, an out will be given to that team.
16. A proposal passed to rule that a carelessly thrown bat in Midget National will result in a warning to the coach for the first violation, and then any other violations for that team will result in the offending batter being called out. No ejection for a carelessly thrown page.
17. A proposal to change what constitutes a completed game and what constitutes a continuation passed.
18. A proposal to clarify what paperwork and materials a coach must bring to the pre-championship tournament meeting passed.
19. A proposal to define when a protest must be made in post-season play passed.
20. A proposal to define how the home team is determined in a championship tournament game passed.
21. A proposal to require JBO approval, rather than District approval, for moving a team up or down a level failed. The proposal also required 20% of the team’s games to be completed before any move would have been made.
22. A proposal to change the number of waived players allowed failed.
23. A proposal to change allowed waiver percentages for Federal teams failed.
24. A proposal to remove language from the rule governing when players can play out-of-district without a waiver passed. Now if a program doesn’t have enough players to field a team and must turn away a player, the player may go to the next association without a waiver.

Discussion: Questions and concerns raised about the Background Check rule. Does it apply to ALL volunteers, including Jamboree volunteers and the like? Association payment will increase league expenses. Tracey will make sure that our screening covers the required violations, and will do some price comparisons between different providers.

Discussion about whether our plan to register players in 12-player blocks might result in a “cut” player. Consensus was that it would not, but Dwayne feels that it would, if there were more players signed up than could fit on the teams after put together.

Treasurer’s Report: Tracey distributed a current copy of the league spreadsheet. We have \$168.39 in checking and \$908.86 in savings, currently.

Resolution of Outstanding Business

Open Board Positions – Nick reported that an individual expressed interest in the President position, and indicated that he would be at the meeting to put himself forward for the position, but he did not show up. Tracy Fleshman contacted the league and expressed an interest in the Communications Coordinator position. The Board Members present voted unanimously to accept Tracy for that position. Nick will work with her to take over those duties.

Lewis and Clark Montessori School team – Nick reported that BDLL agrees to share use of school field for after-school time slot for practices. They will not be able to use it for games, because it is not set for Junior-level play.

Alternate Senior field (Robertson Park in Wood Village) – Nick reported that the facility permit acquired – Senior Fed/Amer/Nat. Some field work required – mound, batter’s boxes, weed removal. Might need to move field box from Powell Valley.

Pre-Season Clinics – Nick reported that facility approval for the Hoodview Park facility is pending approval – changed to weeknights to accommodate facility availability. Sponsor acquisition ongoing – commitment for \$700, with additional \$200 probable.

General Communications – None.

New Business

Registration Fees – 2016?

Estimated 2015 expenses, per player, by division:

T-Ball	\$93.00	(2015 fee - \$60.00)
Maverick	\$107.00	(2015 fee - \$75.00)
Midget	\$262.00	(2015 fee - \$180.00)
Junior	\$315.00	(2015 fee - \$210.00)
Senior	\$326.00	(2015 fee - \$225.00)

Nick proposed that each Board Member submit recommendations, that an average for each level is calculated, and the figures are rounded up to the nearest \$5 increment, and that will be our fee schedule for 2016. He will solicit figures from each Board Member to reach a decision before the end of the month. Ideas to reduce expenses or increase income:

- Reduced field materials purchases.
- Lower-cost uniforms.
- Single portable restroom at GRMS.
- Single umpire at Midget Amer/Nat and Junior Nat.
- Increased sponsorship requirement for teams.

Scholarship Fund Status?

It could not be determined what is left from the \$1000.00 we started with last year.

Registration Banners

Estimated cost of updating banners with new registration info - \$20 each. We have 10 banners. Vote to approval expenditure of up to \$200.00 to update banners passed. Nick will take banners to Hollywood Sign for updating.

Fields

Preparing to apply for usage permits for West Orient (Senior Fed/Amer), Gordon (Junior, Midget, T-Ball/Maverick), Powell Valley (alternate), East Orient (alternate).

Field work required – West Orient (mound, batter's boxes); Gordon Russell (batter's boxes – Junior and Midget; weed growth – T-Ball/Maverick); Powell Valley/East Orient – significant work needed to get those fields into use.

Umpires

Recommendation to use only one umpire for Midget Amer/Nat and Junior National games? Roger will schedule accordingly for 2016.

Questions and Answers

Discussion of players playing on both a JBO team and a tournament team. Prior to the start of the 2016 season, we will remind families that most JBO teams elect to play in weekend tournaments – that might keep a few from trying to do both. During parent meetings we will ask families to communicate with their coach at the earliest possible date if their player will be on another team, to help coaches plan accordingly. We may ask families during pre-season clinics if their players is going to play on two teams, to use the data as a factor in team formation, to prevent overloading one team with too many players who also play on a tournament team.

Next Meeting Date: to be determined – sometime in January.

Adjournment: 7:30 pm.