

# May 5, 2016 Coastal Division Managers Meeting

All 8 teams were represented at the meeting. Chip Krieger opened the meeting at 11:00 AM and ended at 1:00 PM. The level of professionalism displayed by the attendees at this meeting was outstanding; everyone had an opportunity to discuss the following issues

## **Game start times through out the season**

Currently the start time of all games is posted on the website a 9:30 am, The managers were asked if they wanted to keep the same time slots for the season. Mike Abernathy provided an overview why the 9:30 Start time should remain. This included the school traffic, travel from Brunswick area, and field preparation before start of each game. The final consensus was to keep the start times to 9:30 unless the weather demands an earlier start due to an extended heat season.

## **Emergency Heat rule review**

The emergency heat rule was reviewed and discussed: the actual wording can be found on the web site in the Rules document under rule 5.4 Hot weather rule. All managers agreed to keep this rule active with no changes

## **Review Process to have scores transmitted to Web Master**

Gary Kohunsky the current web master reviewed the process to be used this year with regard to transmitting and posting the scores of every game. All managers agreed to follow the request.

## **Transfer of players between teams**

Before any transfer of players is allowed the majority of managers must agree to the request, this will help to keep the balance between teams as equal as possible. In some cases it may be necessary to move several player between teams to meet the needs of the division.

## **Loaning of players between teams**

Any team that cannot start the game with 9 position players from its roster will result in a forfeit; if the team has 9 players it may add additional player by borrowing for the other team (s) This rule does not apply to the Legacy teams. This rule is fully explained on the web site documents under rule 4.2 team players

## **Sourcing of player replacements**

It is clear that resources are limited and every division needs additional players. Currently any new player wishing to apply to play softball in the WSSA will be following the following process. : age is first criteria 67 and below will report to the Atlantic Division President for assessment. 68 and older will report to the Coastal Division president who will then send the applicant to the Legacy

division for assessment by playing on each of the Legacy teams. If the Legacy managers feel he is a Player that should be playing on the Coastal Teams they will contact the Coastal Division President who will assemble the managers for review and placement of the new player. If the Legacy managers feel he is a good fit within their ranks he will be placed on a team mutually agreed on by the Legacy managers, the managers will then notify the Coastal president of the final status.

It should be known that efforts are underway by the BOD to stimulate the local community regarding the need for additional players.

### **By Law Changes**

The managers were asked to review and consider any by-law changes they feel should be made next year since changes cannot be made until the annual meeting now would be the time to think about what may need to be improved.

One suggestion was offered to block any manager from becoming a BOD member to eliminate any conflict or appearance of conflict. If a manager is a BOD member now he would be Grandfathered until his team expired.

### **Rule changes and explanation**

There was considerable conversation regarding the handling of the rule changes presented by the head umpire Rod Walker e-mail message. This issue has developed due to the efforts of the new league president to address an issue that occurred during a recent game himself without following the approved process of forwarding all issues to the vice president for resolution between the WSSA and the umpires. All managers agreed the umpires should not force all overrun players to shift to the right only. The feeling is to use good judgment to avoid any contact and allow the runner to go to the left if a fielder is playing the right side of the bag.

Additional review; the need to go back to tag the base before advancing on an over through to first. Going to first the runner must tag the red bag on the right side of the base unless he is advancing to second, the runner may continue to run straight however, if he turns to the right he must return and tag up before advancing.

### **Umpire issue**

All umpire issues must be handled through the Vice President as outlined in the by-laws, It was suggested that at the start of every game the two managers and the umpire meet at home plate and discuss the rules and any issue that could effect the game

The managers also requested the head umpire be invite to our next managers meeting to participate in a general discussion to improve the level of play.

### **Legacy Needs**

The Legacy Division is requesting more players and teams; playing the same team every week needs improvement. Asking for suggestions;

### **Several Specific rules for Legacy division have been developed**

One hour playing time per game.

Courtesy runner may be used as often as needed

The use of the entire home plate may be used in a play at home plate

Forfeit rule will not apply

A suggestion was offered to have the Legacy division develop specific rules to help with limited numbers of players ie: no hitting to right field or use the pitching mound as the place the ball must be received at to complete a play at first base, thus eliminating the need for the first baseman..

### **Loaning of players to Legacy**

Every effort must be made by the Coastal Division teams that are playing at the Ogden field to move extra players over to the Legacy field to support the limited supply of players in that division.

All Coastal teams started with 14 players at the beginning of the year. With the need to only field 11 players any overage should be sent to the Legacy teams to support the need for extra players, currently they have 21 players when everyone shows up.

It was explained to all in attendance if the Legacy Division fails the players remaining would need to be distributed across the 6 Coastal teams which could lead to team size of 18 players per team. Since the 6 Coastal Teams clearly not want this it becomes extremely important that the surplus players during each game be sent to support the Legacy teams

### **Interview with Dwight Crainshaw**

Dwight was asked to explain why he should not be required to return the Patriots equipment to the new manager. Brad Van Amberg first discovered this issue while conducting an annual audit.. Dwight stated he gave several of the bats to Patriot teammates and provided two bats to the Legacy Team he is now playing on, plus he gave the new manager 3 used bats. This issue was resolve to everyone agreement when the new manager and Dwight agreed to provide the 3 used bats he received from Dwight and Dwight would provide the two bats he has to Ken Denne the manager of the Carolina Bay team, These bats will now become the property of the Carolina Bay Team