



LITTLE LEAGUE CLUB DELEGATES MEETING – SEASON DE-BRIEF 2015  
DSR Vincent Street Leederville – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015 – 7.00pm

Club Attendees:

Willetton – Jes Fitzgerald, South Perth – Julian Rawlinson, Mandy Gozzi, Perth – Leigh Moyle, Morley – Denis Druzianich, Adrian Deal, Russell Barnes, Carine – Rob Goodin, Ted Dowling, Wanneroo – Adam Tilley, Matt Callaghan, Lenice Pilcher, North Coast – Karen Lewis, Sue Harring, Graeme Beer, Rockingham – Troy Flynn, Peel – Michelle Lewis, Petra Lee, Catherine DePedro, Secret Harbour – Matthew Brendon, Kardinya Redsox – Stuart Tyson, AK/Kelmscott – Peter Butler, Gosnells – Jim Ivester, Xavier Sequeira, Roleystone – Sandy Johnson, Lee Miles, Kelmscott – Kurt Russell, Kalamunda – Travis Wright, Brendon Clarke, Swans – Bianca Brown, Marina Brennan, Joe Hischar, Arnie Noel, Eastern Hills – Alistair Conn, Vic Park/Belmont – Brad Martin, Andy Cosgrove, Wembley – Libby Moss, Felicity Glendinning, Jill Walsh, Mark Beyer, Guillaume Duguey, West Stirling – Angela Bell

Apologies: Gary Robideau (VP), Kim Houston (GOS), Dave McKay (SP), Adam Lamont (Peel), Aaron Drew (WIL)

Staff: Lance MacKichan (LLCM), Caroline Adamson (OSM), Mitch Williams (BWA Dev., David Hayes (LLDA)

Meeting commenced: 7:05pm

- 1.0 Lance MacKichan welcomed the Club Attendees to the 2014/15 Season de-brief meeting and introduced the BWA/LLWA staff.
- 2.0 State of the game (D.Hayes) – More about moving towards the future
  - 2.1 Senior League baseball Pathway has been formally announced by Baseball Australia. Senior League is Under 17 and age group is 13-16 year olds who can be eligible for senior league, 13-14 year olds is Junior League as well. There will be a senior league state championship in conjunction with the Junior League State Championships. There will be a SL Nationals probably in conjunction with the JL Nationals most likely in April. There will be no impact on the Colts competition as Colts as it is currently structured meets the Criteria of the pathway. Colts Division 3 is essentially another name for SL. Colts Div 1 & 2 is simply another name for Big League. We're not into the Big League pathway as yet but when the jump is made Div 1 & 2 will be Big League. SL players of age can play in the Div 1 & 2 and still be eligible to play in the Senior League (U17) State Championships. Only requirement is they play 60% of the regular season of their season in one team, either Div 1, 2 or

3. Colts competition will now fall under Lance MacKichan and no longer under Lachlan Dale. The Rules for this game will now come under the LLI Green book, Div 1 & 2 will fall under Big League Rules and Div 3 under Senior League rules. This includes the pitching rules for all Division and will come out in the new Club By-Laws.

2.2 New Charter Committee Document (attached). Dave formally thank those who help with this new document. This document was presented to the Charter Presidents last month. There is now a separation of Charter Committee and Club operations. The JL & LL's is only one Charter Committee. Two clubs in a charter – each club to supply 4 person, three clubs – three persons and 4 or more clubs – 2 persons each club. These numbers should be enough to fill the committees or positions. There is a deliberate separation of club and charter. There is a clause in the document about conflict of interest. You can be a club delegate on the charter but do not have to be on the Charter committee. We want the Charter processes to be independent of the Club processes. The document is fluid and will be review every year. Feedback of this document will be valuable for next seasons de-brief.

2.3 2014-15 decreased in team and player numbers at LL level.

- The smallest we've been in 4 years. We have dropped about 120 players in the last 3 years.
- Clubs need to look at their recruitment & retention program, that you have development & strategic plans up to date.
- Clubs to please make yourself know to Mitch Development Manager. Mitch's roll is 100% retention and recruitment to your club. That is his only function. He reports directly to the CEO and is assessed upon his recruitment to the game. To help recruitment, Mitch has started the Pitch, hit and run program (currently advertised on the BWA website) and the primary school Machine Pitch program which was trialed at Darling Range last year. Essentially it is MP in schools, and once Mitch has assessed the program will introduce it to club level.
- If you want to know which schools are involved, please contact Mitch Williams.
- Recommend that Mitch have a generic flyer that go out to schools with a point of contact to help those trying to find clubs in their area.

3.0 Registration & Match reporting (C.Adamson)

- Clearances will be done on-line by clubs this year. Information to be sent out by Caroline.
- Match reporting will be same as last year.
- Game Changer program is now used at National level and Charter will need to use this at State Championships. It is run on and iPad so teams need to supply their own equipment and program. If a Team uses it, they can send their link to Caroline who can then put it up on the website. Game Changer is just up for discussion and awareness, but scorebooks must still be used by each team.
- Fees for 2015/16 is currently under review and will be sent out by mid July.

4.0 Implementation of new national bat regulations (D.Hayes) – Attached.

- Supercharged bats are no longer to be used at State Championships. At Club level, it will be phased out. The club delegates voted in majority that the phase out period is 1 year across all grades. New regulation comes into effect for club ball in 2016/17.
  - Colts – Wood bats. Lance has not heard anything about this so will look at it and will advise.
- 5.0 Club-Ball by-Laws review (L.Mackichan). Lance is requesting feedback for each of the points below in writing. The decision will be made in the best interest of the game.
- 5.1 Restriction on the 4 innings for the catcher in Junior League club ball. Opinion from others is to remove the 4 innings restriction for the JL catchers.
- 5.2 Provision of home run fence/cones – Distance for home run fence is “recommended” in the rules and not mandatory. Common sense needs to take place. Eg.. LL should not have a 400ft (senior field) and cones should be used. Cones are mandatory at all games if you do not have a fence.
- 5.3 JLAS Awards – Do Clubs want this and what type of award should there be. Please keep in mind there are issues with Statistics.
- 5.4 LL Awards by Clubs – Be aware that there is no awards to be given out at club level that is performance based. Nonperformance base trophies is permissible.
- 5.5 B8.14 (i) – definition of “official” – Specific to protest – Club-Ball regulations need to be adjusted as to who can or can’t protest. It should just state that Coach/Managers are the only ones who can protest a game.
- 5.6 Review 8.12(f) to add something to the effect of the home team may score more than 6 runs in the bottom of the 4<sup>th</sup> to avoid the mercy rule.
- 5.7 Machine Pitch – No player may sit on the bench for 2 or more consecutive innings to replace “Players are to play at least every second inning).
- 5.8 Machine Pitch – No warm up pitches for the catchers allowed. Suggested perhaps that there are no Walks in machine pitch. To be advised.
- 5.9 Machine Pitch – Rule 8.2 (ii) 4 game rule exception for MP. There was no objections to remove the 4 game rule for MP.
- 6.0 2015/16 competitions formats (L.MacKichan) – Requesting written feedback for the below points
- 6.1 Fixtures sent in by the charters will have a dead-line which the charter must meet. Fixtures between JL and Colts need to match up better than last season. Colts will not necessarily follow Sunday fixtures. If fixtures not presented, than Lance may do them.
- 6.2 Finals for Junior League is mandatory. Structure for finals may change and needs to be more aligned with colts. Lance may consider that he does all the finals to co-ordinate with colts.
- 6.3 Finals game duration for Colts grades – please let Lance know via email of game duration for finals which differ from regular season games. Preference for 7 innings or 2 hours.
- 6.4 LLAS Format ground availability –
- Mirrabooka – Successful at this venue with no problems.

- Bentley – Unsuitable. Looking into other venues - Larkhill, Baseball Park. Dale Districts currently unavailable.
  - Any suggestions please contact Lance. Lights required.
- 6.5 JLAS Format – At a State League Presidents meeting, a few presidents did not want us to continue this competition on a Sunday Morning and pool play and would prefer to play each other once. The Club delegates attending, agreed that the Sunday Morning competition, pool play / Double headers to continue and is preferred. JLAS will have no change to the format. This format will always have issues with Umpires but it was a little better in 2014/15.
- 6.6 Mounds – Mounds are compulsory for all grades.
- 7.0 General Business
- 7.1 Dead Ball line – if have a fence on the dead ball line, the ball is live when it hits the fence.
- 7.2 Warm up Pitches
- Players coming off the field have no restrictions for warming up
  - Players coming off the bench is given 8 pitches to warm up.

Meeting ended at 9:20pm