



LITTLE LEAGUE CLUB DELEGATES MEETING – SEASON LAUNCH 2015-16
DSR Vincent Street Leederville – Monday 3RD AUGUST 2015 – 7.00pm

- Club Attendees: Mary Ann O'Mara, Rikki Richmann, Glenn Sewell (Kenwick), David McKay, Julian Rawlinson (SP), Leigh Moyle, Brian Cornford (Perth), Adrian Deal, Denis Druzianich, Russell Barnes (Morley), Ian Davies, Ted Dowling, Mark Young (Carine), Lenicep Pilcher, Laura Reynolds, Darren Riley (Wan), Richard Abbott, Karen Lewis, sue Harring (NC), Troy Flynn (Roc), Catherine DePedro, Michelle Lewis (Peel), Matthew Brendan (Secret Harbour), Scott Parker (Braves), Stuart Tyson (Kardinya Redsox), Kurt Russell (Kelmscott), Travis Wright, Brendon Clarke (Kal), Gary Robideau (VP/B), Felicity Glendinning (Wembley), Ang Bell (West Stirling)
- Apologies: Amanda Gozzi (South Perth), Mitch Williams (BWA), Xavier Sequeira, Jim Ivester (Gosnells), Lee Miles (Roleystone), Steve Fish (BWA)
- Staff / Special Guest: Lachy Dale (BWA GM), David Hayes (LLDA), Lance MacKichan (LLCM), Caroline Adamson (OSM), Richard Daly (HP coordinator), John White (GMC), David Gripper, Lou Bonomi (Umpires Assoc.)

- 1.0 David Hayes welcomed all who attended to the 2015-16 Season Launch meeting.
- 2.0 Mitch Williams sent his apologies as he was running a Winter Development Academy tonight at Wanneroo. Outlined are his bullet points.

Development Department program updates:

- Week 1 of 7 week Development Academy has concluded.

Wanneroo - 18 LL participants,

- 40 JL Participants.
- Coaches - Chris House, Tom Bailey
- Venue has been great, Thank you to Morley baseball club for allowing BWA the use of the Fibreglass mound.
- Games on Saturday where great.

Baseball Park

- 40 LL participants, 50 Junior League participants
- Again, great numbers spread across the week with great coaching staff, including;
- Rod Drew, Jason Hewitt, Dan Schmidt, Chris House, Josh Kennelly, Clint Free, Peter Torpy, Phil Kendall.
- Thank you to Kardinya baseball Club for the use of their LL mound for games on Sundays.

Pitch Hit and Run

- School visits for November & Dec filling up fast.
- Please continue to forward on any contacts to Mitch at
- baseballopswa@gmail.com or through the BWA WEBSITE

*** Tiger Cubs – re-birth of WAJBL program**

- Opportunity for non-State 16 participants to travel to Geraldton for a 4 night 5 day camp in the back end of the April School holidays.
- The idea being 2- 4 development teams from Metro area, along with Regional Dev. Teams from Newman, Tom Price, Port Hedland, South West & Kal.
- Eat, Sleep and Breathe baseball for 5 days.
- Travel up in a bus or 2, Drills and skills in am, games in pm.
- Cost effective trip – Approx. \$500

3.0 High Performance, State Team & Talent ID Programs 2015-16 report (Lachlan Dale) Slide Show attachment will be sent out.

- Winter Diamond Academy 15-19 years old
- State teams and Championships – still to be decided regarding hosting and hopefully will be released by next Wednesday.
- The USA Trip, 40 of our players just returned. Fifteen players are heading off to the MLB Academy as a training program and also trying out for the Australian teams as well.
- Perth Heat Performance Institute is a new program to replace the old WAIS program and really targeting our top fifteen players and they will combine with our Perth Heat players as well.
- Will clarify the confusion of all the different programs.
- LD Introduced Rich Daly who is the High Performance coordinator for BWA. The HP program has been up and running for fourteen weeks. Target is to find an avenue for young players so they can make baseball a career, to help where we can. He ran through what the program will do to help these players. Also spoke about a career pathway, opportunity and the importance of education and how to create it. Selection criteria was also spoken about and mentioned that National players are automatically selected and looking at others who may be eligible. Signing professionally is also automatic entrance. Expansion of the program will be looked at as the player numbers grow. Program currently has 22 players which include Perth Heat players. Funding is another thing that needs to be looked at.
- LD introduced John White (GM PH). Initiative with PH – Like to be involved with grass root development for the kids and would be great to get as many of the kids to the games as we can. PH has some great packages for the kids/adults/sponsors/corporate available. PH has 28 games, a couple of Double headers at the start of the season. The season kick off is 23rd October and finishes 17th January and then Finals. Friday/Saturday and a few Sunday games are scheduled. Would love to see the support at the field. If you need any assistance/request you can contact John White at the office. We can also happy to have request for PH players to make club appearances when they are available.
- We are hoping to get some machine pitch games out on the field similar what has been done with tee ball in the past. Any clubs interested can contact John White as point of contact. They will be played on the Sunday games to showcase machine pitch so use it to promote the game.
- Have a Perth Heat game in Mandurah. For next year, see if we can also get a game series for the North corridor as well.

- The Perth Heat new Manager is Kevin Bowles. He is also the managers AAA Redsox and will be going up to be the Assistant manager for the MLB team so he won't be able to get to Perth till end of August.

5.0 Baseball WA update – budget /infrastructure etc (L.Dale)

- Fees has been set and sent out. Already touched on the HP program with 15 players at the MLB Academy, at the moment 6 college offers to some players on the USA trip and expecting more to come which is exciting. We have had our Junior League team who went off to Saipan after winning the Nationals, Little League runners up (Swan Aces) went off to the Kal Ripken Series and 3 kids are off to the world championships as well.
- Ballpark Facility update – Currently has no naming rights at the moment as Barbagallo has now expired and looking for a new sponsor.
- We are waiting for approval for government funding to build the new toilet block.
- Currently applying for a funding grant from the Federal Government for a multimillion dollar upgrade for lights/power etc. We have received a commitment from DSR for part of that funding as well. The support has been recognised by State Government.
- State under 16 is still going to continue. Baseball Australia is still determining whether sixteen year olds signing age is appropriate or it should be moved to an eighteen year old similar to the College/High school system in the U.S. No change at the moment and should stay the same for the next year or two.

6.0 Review of draft by-laws

- 6.1 Draft Junior League Lightning Champions was sent out. No comments from the delegates.
- 6.2 Level 0 green shirt Umpire pool – As part of nomination for JL 70/80, the nomination will also include your nomination for a green shirt umpire. For every JL team you nominate, you will need to nominate a green shirt umpire who will be called on to umpire the game. They will get paid. Each team whether home or away will be charged 50% of the Plate umpires fee. This year, there won't be blues appointed to JL games. If a blue is on the field at a JL game, they will be most likely be a roving inspector to help the green shirts at their game. Each Charter will need to do a green shirt course and need to make those umpires active. Green shirt umpires would umpire at their own home ground. Umpires can be any age and appropriately place according to their knowledge. If you don't have a green shirt to supply then parents/someone will have to umpire the games.
- 6.3 JL Club Championship teams (previously called All-Stars) will have blues where available.
- 6.4 Lance will manage and set final fixtures for JL & Colts.
- 6.5 Complaints about umpire abuse to be address to Dave Gripper at the umpires Association.
- 6.6 Colts – with the role out of Senior League and Big League, it has no impact on colts and it will run same as last season with the age eligible as per green book.
- 6.7 Senior League will have a Club Championship competition which 13-16 year olds are eligible. This competition will be played Thursday nights at Baseball Park. As a start for this season, the competition will be single elimination, random draw, win carry on, lose you go home and an 8 game season and have the opportunity to have the March long weekend as the Grand Final day at Baseball Park. Cost around \$50.00 a team Nomination Fee and \$150.00 per team per game to play at Baseball Park. This would cover umpires and match balls. Combined teams are acceptable but need to put a proposal forward to LLWA. We will call for nomination on Team nomination night.

6.8 Proposed by-laws –

- Rain outs – as per rules of baseball. Score never reverts back. If home team is in front when the game has minimum required innings played, then the game stands as is. It is not required to finish the bottom of the inning if the home team is ahead.
- Colts 1 will have a designated hitter rule.
- Colts 17-18 year olds who play in seniors, the rules of Big League applies to them.
- Wood bats – requested by HP and State coaches, these players to be using a wood bat. Optional for non HP and State players.
- Colts 2 & 3 will bat through the whole line up. If you have 10 or more players on your team, then all of the players are on the batting line-up.
- Terminology for competitions – We are no longer using the words All-stars for club teams. The All-Stars is now known as LL/JL/SL Club Championship. Please use this terminology to stop confusion between competitions and laws in the green book. The Green book refers to All Stars which is the Charter teams. Same as Colts 1, 2 or 3. Colts is not Under 19's. Clubs need to push this so people understand how colts is run.

7.0 Registration, dispensations and Match reporting (Caroline Adamson)

- 7.1 Registration – IMG database has not currently rolled over, so you can't use it until this happens. Will notify clubs when ready.
- 7.2 Dispensations – contact Caroline with any queries, forms etc... As per last year, charters can do the dispensations to play down, and Charter presidents to send me the paperwork after it is completed so it can be noted on the Database system. Clubs may register the players on the database. Any other type of dispensation, just contact me and I can direct you. Direct all paperwork to Caroline, and will be passed on for assessment.
- 7.3 Match reporting – same as JL and LL last year. Colts will be going on-line with added stats. On Thursday the Stats will be downloaded and percentages added and loaded up onto the Fixture portal on the side bar.

8.0 Tournament pathways overview

- 8.1 Charters need to send in their Charter committee form so we can contact the Charter Presidents for the meeting at the end of the month.
- 8.2 The new Senior League State Championship will be around the same time as the JLSC. Possibly the last week of January either run them together or make them back to back tournament. Charters will need to work their fixtures around this. Need to put this down by early November. Clubs can apply to host these tournaments, and applications will be coming out shortly.
- 8.3 Singapore – The Hit factory will always ask for teams to play in their tournament. If clubs want to play at this tournament, you can negotiate with the organisers of the tournament directly. It is no longer our pathway. Tiger Cubs will replace Singapore at a Junior League level. When Singapore sends the information, LLWA will send it to clubs to choose if they wish to attend. If you are dealing with Singapore direct, you can do whatever you want.
- 8.4 Dingo – Coastal Bay, South and Southern Hills are going away to Dingo this year. Dingo has changed their age group and our kids will be younger. Dingo has broken the tournament into two division into stronger and weaker groups. State championships was the qualifier for Dingo and is no longer practical as it means our teams will be twelve months younger than everyone else. This make this

competition JL of age and we are not sure if there is a place for Dingos. We also have our State Championships to consider. Not sure how this will fit in, but is under consideration.

9.0 General Business

- 9.1 Clarification: LL / JL / Colts – are now under the green book and the LLWA Club by-laws. There will not be mentioned in the senior regulations except for the pitching regulations (green book).
- 9.2 All players to be using double eared helmets.
- 9.3 Throat guards, dangly ones are required in all LL / JL / SL grades and when they attend State and National Championships on any type of catcher's masks.
- 9.4 Goodwill – it will run from Christmas to New Year break. This is run by a separate organization. Information will be sent out.
- 9.5 Planning dates (subject to change) – Start of season 10th October, break is 19th December to Christmas break and come back after the senior League state championships (TBA). End of season is 20th February, semi 27th, prelims 5th, GF the 12th and could change with Easter and go down to a two week final.
- 9.6 Metro Qualifier tournament for LL, dates TBA and will made by the charter presidents at the charter presidents meeting.
- 9.7 Little League Club Champions:
 - Mirrabooka for the Northern clubs on a Thursday nights.
 - Lark Hill on a Wednesday night.
 - Dale Districts on a Wednesday night.
 - No dates planned till after team nomination night.

9.10 Mandatory Grades for a State League Club

- 4 Senior teams – State League, Triple A and two lower grades (includes Women's), 1 Colts team, 2 junior League teams, 3 in LL majors, LL Machine Pitch teams is included in this number. A minimum of 6 teams in total for juniors.

(a) Mandatory Grades (updated regulation)

(1) Senior: All clubs must have a minimum of Four (4) senior teams playing at the mandatory State League grades.

(2) Junior: minimum of six (6) with

- One (1) in Colts,
 - Two (2) in Junior Leagues of which there must be a minimum of one Club Championship team and
 - Three (3) Little League Major Teams OR Five (5) Little League Teams in total.
- Clubs not able to fill the Mandatory grades need to submit their participation and Development plan for growth to the BWA board. Clubs can be looked at a case by case base, contributing factors etc. and will look into each situation.

Meeting closed 8:35pm