



LITTLE LEAGUE CHARTER DELEGATES MEETING

Monday June 11th 2012, 7:30pm

Department of Sports and Recreation

246 Vincent Street Leederville

CLUBS IN ATTENDANCE:

Little League:	David Hayes (District Administrator), Rod Bacon (Competitions Administrator), Sharon MacDonald (Tournament Administrator), Caroline Adamson (Registrar) David Gripper (Umpires Association)
Southern Hills	Dave Denver (Gosnells), Lance MacKichan (Gosnells), Dave Halton (Forest Lakes),
Central	-
East	Russell Barnes (Morley)
North	Tanya Takayama (Carine), Amanda Wilson (Wanneroo)
Peel	Lindsay Anderson, Brett Isle, Adam Lamont (Peel), Paul Gould (Rockingham)
South	Athena Fraser (Melville Districts),
Swan Hills	Marina Brennan (Swans), Annaliese Arndt (Kalamunda), Bill Goddard (Eastern Hills)
West Coast	Tina Erdman, David Payne (West Stirling), Phil Evers (Wembley)
Apologies:	Julie Scaramella (Willetton), Mark Stephenson (Balcatta), Dave (Cockburn), Bo Olesen (Roleystone)

Meeting opened: 7:08pm

David Hayes Welcomed everyone attending the LL delegates meeting. Congratulations to Perth Metro North for winning the LL National Championship in Queensland and will now be traveling to Taiwan to compete in the Asian-Pacific regional tournament.

1.0 Growth

Overview

- a) David explained the LL team numbers chart. The objective being the need to maintain a ten per cent growth rate to achieve our goals in WA.
- b) Nationally, we have approximately 320 teams and if we can achieve 500 teams we can have direct qualifications to LL Williamsport.
- c) The Nationals has grown from twelve to sixteen teams and plans to increase to twenty teams. It will be based on the size of each state and its number of teams.
- d) LLWA needs to maintain to be in the top three memberships nationally to get an extra team at the LL National Championships.

2.0 Competitions

2.1 All-Star league

- a) Previous emails were sent out by the LLCA Rod Bacon regarding interest from clubs to extend the competition to play on a third field. At the moment not much interest has been shown by clubs.

- b) To alleviate traveling a lot, the possibility of creating double headers and run the competition every second week instead of weekly.
- c) Clubs agreed last season that the All-Star competition finished by Christmas as post-Christmas was a time for Charters to ready teams for the State Championships.

Question: Could LLWA consider small Satellite clubs to have combined teams in the competition.

Answer: Combining clubs to make a team is allowed as long as the maximum number of teams being drawn from is three. West Stirling and Balcatta already have a combined team for the All-Star Championships. Standard of the All-Star competition must be maintained and compete at a higher level than Club competition.

2.2 Proposed Regulation changes

KEY PROPOSED CLUB-BALL REGULATION CHANGES – To be sent for approval at the end of July to the BWA Board.

- 4.2 (c) (iv) The team winning a game by forfeit must still submit a match report to the LLR and each player credited with a game played. - No objections made.
- 4.8 (vii) Heat Rule – Any game scheduled to be played between 9.00am and 5.00pm on a given day, where the forecast temperature (the day before) is greater than 39 degrees Celsius shall be cancelled. – After discussion the rule will be entered into the regulation book with adjustment to wording and time frame.
- 4.13 Alcoholic products shall not be sold and / or consumed within the confines of the complex within which any Little League game is being played. – This is part of the LLWA policy / Health policy and will apply to all Baseball Members at the venue.
- 5. Coaching Accreditations
 - (i) All head coaches of teams competing in All-Star League competition must have Level 2 ABF / NCAS coaching accreditation;
 - (ii) Club coaches are encouraged to have Level 2 ABF / NCAS coaching accreditation;
 - (iii) Clubs shall ensure that club coaches without Level 2 ABF / NCAS coaching accreditation are mentored by a designated Little League Coaching Coordinator within the club who has a minimum of Level 2 accreditation.

All Charter Coaches must be Level 2 accredited to coach in the WA State Championships Final 8 or to travel to National Championships. The above Coaching Accreditation regulations will be effective this coming season.

2.3 Little League Girls Competition (New)

Email was sent out to all delegates regarding this new competition. Some feedback has been received by David Hayes. This will be a girls only competition and be aged as Under 14 using LL rules for the reason that most girls drop out after little league. This competition can be run as charter based / combined club – whatever it takes to form teams. More information cannot be given until charter formation night. It will be on the agenda and Little League Team Nomination form. You can contact Rod Bacon if your club is interested in this competition.

2.4 Winter competition / Clinics

Email was sent to all club delegates regarding running a winter competition. Most clubs like their off-season and not much interest have been shown. If any clubs are interested, please contact Rod Bacon by email or phone.

2.5 Pitching Mounds

- Mounds will be introduced to the All-Star league.
- There are used at International, National and State Championships.

- Mounds are not compulsory for clubs. Any club interested in a LL mound can contact Fielder's Choice.
- LL Mounds are not suitable for older age groups and can only be used for Little League.
- Rod Bacon will email the dimensions of the mounds if clubs wish to manufacture their own.

3.0 Budget

The Little league WA budget was approved by the BWA Board last month.

3.1 Metro Competition Levy

The existing team fees are essentially covering the cost of running the LL department but as costs increase so too will the need to collect more fees. Increasing costs are well covered at the current team fee rate if team numbers continue to increase however if we do not grow or get smaller then fees per team will increase. As such, a levy of \$100 per team on top of the current fee will be introduced this season, however clubs will be exempt from paying this fee if:

- They register at least 10 Little League teams (Major / Minor / Girls), or;
- They register more teams this season than last season.

As an introduction for this first season, clubs will also be exempt if they have the same number of LL teams registered as last season (one-off exception for 2012-13).

3.2 Development rebate

Invitations are given to Charters to enter a Development Shield team into the State championships with the criteria that clubs in that charter are running Machine Pitch competitions. Development Shield teams are charged \$1600.00 including GST per team. As an incentive rebate, the cost will decrease by a \$100.00 discount per Machine Pitch team in the charter.

4.0 Tournaments

- 4.1 Introduction of Dropped Third Strike rule (LL International requirement) into the State Championships and All-Star Championships competitions.
- 4.2 Future of LL rules in Australia / ABF to use LLI rulebook from now on (exceptions being pitch count and curve balls)
- 4.3 To enter a State / National Championship, Charters must run a competition with 12 rounds as a minimum. Player qualification is 60% of Scheduled games (includes exhibition season). No exceptions.
- 4.4 Senior LL / Junior LL State championship tournament will be available this coming season. The qualifying age will be thirteen to sixteen year olds as of 1st may 2013. The championships will be run at the end of January. When the LL operations manual is approved, it will have the senior League requirements in it.

5.0 Umpires

- The Little League umpire co-ordinator position will be within the umpires Association in the future and they will have a targeted program in place.
- Approximately 80 umpires were accredited their Level 0 last season by Alex Ironside, but when they were asked to help in a tournament, only a handful participated. The tournaments need decent umpires and the some senior umpires may be able to help out at times. There are not enough umpires to fill in for all games at the moment. The umpires who did the job at the championships did their best and did a good job.
- A budget of \$20.00 an umpire for Finals and LL State Championship games has been approved.
- Umpires at Finals / Championships need to be attired in uniform shirts to look more professional.
- There will be clinics held on the 3rd, 4th and 5th August at Balcatta in the pre-season. All are welcomed. Please see David Gripper. Click on this link for more information

<http://www.umpireswa.baseball.com.au/?Page=85794> Please give this information to your members. Pre-season training is Free. Level 0 Accreditation is \$20.00 which clubs will be invoiced for.

6.0 Programs

- 6.1 Dubai / Hong Kong trip 2012 was successful. It had some teething problems but overall a good mix of baseball with some being chosen to play in the All-Star game. Timing for this championship will be at the same time each year.
- 6.2 Delay implementation of 2nd trip to USA. We may have an international tournament here after Easter in 2013.
- 6.3 The Scouting program will be improved and better at recruiting players for these international competitions.
- 6.4 Currently our timetable for Tournament is on the LLWA website as they become available to us.

7.0 Charter Formation

- 7.1 Our three-year moratorium has expired. LL is trying to avoid splitting charters. It is preferred that charters consider a division 2 to ensure division 1 does not exceed 10 teams.
- 7.2 Submissions for changes can be made to LLDC prior to charter formation night. It must include detailed proposal for change including impact on other charters and LL International charter formation rules. Dave Hayes is more than welcome to discuss your charter with you.
- 7.3 The first Monday of September is charter night.

8.0 Development

Annual development plan review meetings (schedule to be made). See David Hayes for Development Plan. This needs to be completed by the end of July. The next meeting will be on the 1st Monday in August.

9.0 General Business

- 9.1 Funding available – KidSport, you can either apply through your council or through DSR. <http://clubsonline.dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport>
- 9.2 Charters may fundraise for their Championship teams. They may apply for sponsorships. Signage is allowed. What charters cannot do is hold a bank account, have signing writes to a charter team or advertise on the uniform. It is best to confer with the LLDA if you are not sure.
- 9.3 Rod Bacon LLCA - Charters to make sure that their coaches are given a copy of the rules for the season. LLI rule book and Little League Club Ball Rules. The plan this season is to have no excuses of rule or regulation breaches.
- 9.4 Drop third strike does not apply to Machine pitch

Meeting closed at 9:40pm