



INSTILLING IN OUR COMMUNITY YOUTH THE IDEA OF CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

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## November 2005 Commissioner's Meeting

A Commissioner's meeting of the Ft. Smith Church League was held on Monday, November 14, 2005 at Christ the King Church. (An attendee roster is available upon request).

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. Eddie Norman offered the opening prayer.

The October 2005 minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Pat Mickle discussed the revenues and expenses for general operations during the recent month. A detail report is available upon request. The tax return was filed in March 2005. The City Parks Department may provide labor for painting the light poles (FSCBL to buy paint – we have about \$1,500 of paint at the shed).

### **President's Report**

Don Eveld advised the status of Fall Ball installing a batting cage. Fall Ball has \$8,000 to \$9,000 available. They are currently obtaining price quotes from contractors.

### **Old Business**

Wes Young submitted a request for the Humbaby Tourney on Memorial Day Weekend. The agreement would be similar to the previous year with clarification on restroom maintenance requirements.

Wes Young also described the possibility of four other tournaments approved by the State USSSA office.

USSSA Recreational League – class A - May 19-21, Age group 5&6 (T-ball), \$125/team with \$75 sent to USSSA. Any team may participate.

Bring the Heat – April

USSSA State – Classes AAA and Major – 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of June, age groups 8 (kid pitch), 11, and 14.

Lucas Jackson

A discussion ensued pertaining to the benefits and concern in staying with USSSA. The primary benefit was considered the availability of insurance paid by the churches. The consensus was to stay one more year.

Don Eveld asked for any other nominations for the 2006 slate of executive officers. Those nominated were:

President – Don Eveld

1<sup>st</sup> VP – Eddie Norman

2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Darrell Stovall

Treasurer – Pat Mickle

Secretary – *Still Vacant* (Miller and Schwartz adamantly declined)

Rick Parrish and Gene Nelson also received nominations.

Pat Pinter submitted a motion for two rule additions in Article X, Section I, of the Pony League Rules and both were affirmed:

#### **Article X Section I, Pony League Rule**

##### **New Rule**

20. After four balls, the batter will advance to 1st base. If the catcher throws the ball back to the pitcher, the batter/runner must stop at 1st base until the next pitch. However, if the catcher throws the ball in an attempt to stop another runner from advancing, the batter/runner may advance past 1st base at their own risk.

VOTE: 10 in favor      1 against

21. A batter may not fake bunt and then swing away. If a batter shows a bunt and then pulls the bat back and swings, the batter will be called out and all runners shall return to their previous base(s).

VOTE: 12 in favor      0 against

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Don Eveld expressed concern about the budget deficit for FSCBL and discussed commissioner participation (or lack thereof). However, next month the board needs to decide how we should spend the \$41,000 grant. A list of the projects should be attached to the minutes for the commissioners to review and consider.

A motion was made to raise player fees from \$20 to \$25 to help cover the income shortfall. Bobby Aldridge motioned and seconded by Pat Mickle to increase the player fees from \$20.00 per player to \$25.00 per player. This is a change to Article VII, Section E, Paragraph 1 of the Fort Smith Church Baseball League Rules.

Old Rule Reads:                      Effective January 1, 2003, Churches must pay a \$20.00 per player fee for all leagues to meet the association's funding needs. The fees are payable to the Fort Smith Church Baseball League in one check per team in each league according to the player totals on the official team rosters. The fees are due on or before the first league game, accompanying the official team rosters. These payments are to be accurately collected by the league presidents and referred to the treasurer. Players added to

the roster after May 1<sup>st</sup> will be assessed player fees to be collected by the league president.

Proposed Rule Reads: Effective January 1, 2006, Churches must pay a \$25.00 per player fee for all leagues to meet the association's funding needs. The fees are payable to the Fort Smith Church Baseball League in one check per team in each league according to the player totals on the official team rosters. The fees are due on or before the first league game, accompanying the official team rosters. These payments are to be accurately collected by the league presidents and referred to the treasurer. Players added to the roster after May 1<sup>st</sup> will be assessed player fees to be collected by the league president.

Sean Miller submitted a written motion, seconded by Bobby Aldridge, to change the age eligibility to align with the new Babe Ruth rules. This is a change to Article X, Section A, Paragraph 1 & 2 of the Fort Smith Church Baseball League Rules.

### **Article X, Section A, Rules 1 & 2 of General Rules and Policies**

#### **Old Rules Read:**

1. All players shall be placed in the various leagues according to their age, as follows;

JR. PEE-WEE: Players must be at least five (5) years of age by October 1 of the current year and may not be seven (7) years of age before August 1 of the current year. The team roster cannot consist of more than 3 players who turn six (6) years of age before August 1 of the current year.

PEE-WEE: Must be at least five (5) years old by October 1 of the current year and may not be seven (7) years old before August 1 of the current year.

SUPER PEE-WEE: May not be nine (9) years old before August 1 of the current year. The team roster cannot consist of more than 4 players who turn eight (8) years of age before August 1 of the current year.

BAMBINO: May not be nine (9) years old before August 1 of the current year.

PONY: May not be eleven (11) years old before August 1 of the current year.

MIDGET: May not be thirteen (13) years old before August 1 of the current year.

PREP LEAGUE: Must be thirteen (13) years old by August 1 of the current year, may not be fourteen (14) years old before August 1 of the current year.

BABE RUTH: May not be sixteen (16) years old before August 1 of the current year.

If fewer than eight (8) teams declare for Jr. Pee Wee, Pee Wee, Super Pee Wee or Bambino then the teams will be combined into Pee Wee and/or Super Pee Wee.

2. Players may play in a league older than their own age group, but may not return to a younger league after participating in one game.

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2. Players may play in a league older than their own age group, but may not return to a younger league after participating in one game. The only exception to this rule is that a player must be (13) years old before May 1 of the current year to participate in the PREP LEAGUE.

Jeff Pitlick would like to work 18 to 24 hours per week during the off season from mid November to mid March. Doug Schwartz says he has enough work; rebuilding mounds, tilling, angela turf. A motion was submitted by Eddie Norman and seconded by Schwartz to hire Jeff through March. The motion passed unanimously.

Fall Ball submitted a written report which is available upon request.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm.

Signature:

Approved: (date)  
Or Corrected: (date)