



INSTILLING IN OUR COMMUNITY YOUTH THE IDEA OF CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

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## **December 2010 Commissioner's Meeting**

A Commissioner's meeting of the Fort Smith Church Baseball League was held on Monday, December 12, 2010 at Christ the King Church.

Meeting was called to order at 5:37 PM by Don Eveld. Mark Nelson led opening prayer.

November meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Pat Mickle presented the finance report. Checking account has \$6,763.27. Capital improvement fund has \$16,267.39.

### **Presidents' Report**

FSCL has been informed those responsible for the damage to the concession stand last season are working with local law enforcement to make restitution.

### **Old Business**

Rule Addition Proposal :

*Article X (I) 23: In Pony American League only each at bat will begin with a count of 1-1 (one ball and one strike).*

Motion by Brent Lewis 2<sup>nd</sup> by Donald Schwartz

**FAILED 1-9**

Rule Change

Article X 1: 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.

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

**PASSED 11-0**

## **Starter ( 4yr old ) Tball rules:**

At the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting, FSCL president Don Eveld appointed Donald Schwartz, Brent Lewis and Bobby Aldridge to a committee to propose rules changes necessary for the formation of a 4 year old TBall league. At this time, the newly formed 4 year old league is being called the "Starter League" and is so referred to in the following rules proposals to be presented at the December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting.

### **Article VII, Section E, Number 2**

**OLD:** Concession Duty: A significant portion of the league income is derived from concession sales. Every team shall participate in the concession stand by paying a fee of \$125.00 which must be made prior to your team's first regular season scheduled game. Failure to pay the concession fee by the first regular season game will result in forfeiture of each game until paid, and the non-complying team will not be allowed to play until the fee is paid. This fee covers all workers for all the concession stand operations.

**PROPOSED:** Concession Duty: A significant portion of the league income is derived from concession sales. Every team shall participate in the concession stand by paying a fee of \$125.00 which must be made prior to your team's first regular season scheduled game. **For Starter league teams only, the concession stand fee will be \$100 per team.** Failure to pay the concession fee by the first regular season game will result in forfeiture of each game until paid, and the non-complying team will not be allowed to play until the fee is paid. This fee covers all workers for all the concession stand operations.

### **Article VII, Section F**

**OLD:** The entry fee for a new church to participate in the CHURCH LEAGUE shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Any church which drops out of the league for at least one year shall be required to pay a re-entry fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) if the church reenters the CHURCH LEAGUE within five years of the date they ceased to participate. If a church remains out of the CHURCH LEAGUE for more than five years that church must re-apply as if they were a new member.

**PROPOSED:** The entry fee for a new church to participate in the CHURCH LEAGUE shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Any church which drops out of the league for at least one year shall be required to pay a re-entry fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) if the church reenters the CHURCH LEAGUE within five years of the date they ceased to participate. If a church remains out of the CHURCH LEAGUE for more than five years that church must re-apply as if they were a new member. **If a non member church wishes to sponsor only a 4 year old Starter league team and has no other teams in the league, then the \$500 church membership fee and \$80 Senior Babe Ruth fee will be waived. If the church sponsors the same or other teams the following year, then the church membership and Senior Babe Ruth fees will be required.**

### **Article X, Section A, Number 1**

**OLD:** 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 six (6) years of age before August 1 of the current year. Players also CANNOT be on any AA/Minor, AAA/American, or Major/National Division travel/select team roster. 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 May 1 of the current year. ....  
If fewer than eight (8) teams declare for Jr. PeeWee, PeeWee, Super PeeWee or Bambino then the teams will be combined into PeeWee and/or Super PeeWee.

**PROPOSED:** All players shall be placed in the various leagues according to their age, as follows;

**Starter League: Players must be at least four (4) years of age on or before August 15 of the current year and may not be five (5) years of age on or before August 15 of the current year. Players also CANNOT be on any AA/Minor, AAA/American, or Major/National Division travel/select team roster. Players must satisfy membership requirements defined in Article VI section A.**

JR. PEE-WEE: Players must be at least five (5) years of age **on or before August 15** of the current year and may not be six (6) years of age **on or before August 15** of the current year. Players also CANNOT be on any AA/Minor, AAA/American, or Major/National Division travel/select team roster.

PEE-WEE: Must be at least five (5) years old **on or before August 15** of the current year and may not be seven (7) years old before May 1 of the current year.

.....

If fewer than eight (8) teams declare for Jr. PeeWee, PeeWee, Super PeeWee or Bambino then the teams **may** be combined into PeeWee and/or Super PeeWee.

### **Article 10, Section C, Number 10**

**OLD:** Tie games will be played off provided the tie is broken in not more than three (3) innings with an additional fifteen (15) minutes for the Pee-Wee League, fifteen (15) minutes for the Super Pee-Wee League, thirty (30) minutes for the Pony League, and thirty (30) minutes for the Midget League, in excess of the regular game time. In the Pony and Midget leagues ONLY, the game will continue using the "international Tie-Breaker Rule". Under this rule, each team starts the inning with the player who completed the last official at bat, as a base runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base. Each subsequent inning will start the same until a

winner has been determined or the 30 additional minutes have expired. In ALL leagues, games which still end in a tie will count as one-half (1/2) game won and lost for each team.

#### **PROPOSED**

**There will be no extra innings in the Starter league to break tie games.** Tie games **in other leagues** will be played off provided the tie is broken in not more than three (3) innings with an additional fifteen (15) minutes for the Pee-Wee League, fifteen (15) minutes for the Super Pee-Wee League, thirty (30) minutes for the Pony League, and thirty (30) minutes for the Midget League, in excess of the regular game time. In the Pony and Midget leagues ONLY, the game will continue using the "international Tie-Breaker Rule". Under this rule, each team starts the inning with the player who completed the last official at bat, as a base runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base. Each subsequent inning will start the same until a winner has been determined or the 30 additional minutes have expired. In ALL leagues, games which still end in a tie will count as one-half (1/2) game won and lost for each team.

#### **Article 10, Section C, Number 15**

**OLD:** All leagues (PeeWee, Super PeeWee, and Pony) will start on the same date. Jr. PeeWee will not play any 7:40 PM games on Monday through Thursday and Pee Wee will not play any 8:45 PM games on Monday through Thursday until school is dismissed for summer vacation.

**PROPOSED:** All leagues (PeeWee, Super PeeWee, and Pony) will start on the same date. Jr. PeeWee will not play any 7:40 PM games on Monday through Thursday and Pee Wee will not play any 8:45 PM games on Monday through Thursday until school is dismissed for summer vacation. **Starter league games will be 5:30 PM and 6:35 PM games only. There will be no pre or post season tournaments for the Starter league.**

#### **Article 10, Section G, Title**

**OLD:** PEE-WEE & JR. PEE-WEE LEAGUE (TEE BALL)

**PROPOSED:** **STARTER**, PEE-WEE & JR. PEE-WEE LEAGUE (TEE BALL)

#### **Article 10, Section G, Number 4**

**OLD:** The catcher must stay behind the plate and wear a protective helmet. Shin guards and chest protector are optional. Use of a catcher is required.

**PROPOSED:** The catcher must stay behind the plate and wear a protective helmet. Shin guards and chest protector are optional. Use of a catcher is required **except in the Starter league. Starter league teams choosing to play without a catcher can play 5 outfielders.**

#### **Article 10, Section G, Number 7**

**OLD:** If the batter knocks the ball to the infield grass inside the baselines, it is a fair ball, even though the batter may have hit the rubber on the pitching tee, unless the tee falls to the ground. If the tee falls to the ground, the umpire will call a strike. If this is the third strike the batter will be out. The strike/foul line will extend all the way to the fence.

**PROPOSED:** If the batter knocks the ball to the infield grass inside the baselines, it is a fair ball, even though the batter may have hit the rubber on the pitching tee, unless the tee falls to the ground. If the tee falls to the ground, the umpire will call a strike. If this is the third strike the batter will be out. The strike/foul line will extend all the way to the fence. **In the Starter league only, the tee falling to the ground does not indicate a foul ball. If the tee falls to the ground and the ball lands in fair territory, it shall be considered a fair ball and play continues.**

#### **Article 10, Section G, Number 24**

**OLD:** Play is dead when a player enters the pitching circle with both feet and the game ball OR play is dead once the lead runner is stopped and the umpire has declared the ball dead and called time. At that time any player less than half way to the next base must return to the base from which he came unless forced. If the player is over halfway to the next base he may advance to said base. The pitcher will be given a chance to make a play on any base when fielding a batted ball within the circle.

**PROPOSED:** Play is dead when a player enters the pitching circle with both feet and the game ball OR play is dead once the lead runner is stopped and the umpire has declared the ball dead and called time. At that time any player less than half way to the next base must return to the base from which he came unless forced. If the player is over halfway to the next base he may advance to said base. The pitcher will be given a chance to make a play on any base when fielding a batted ball within the circle. **In the Starter league only, time can be called at any time at the discretion of the game officials**

**ALL of the rules pertaining to the STARTER (4 yr old t-ball league), and all adjustments to ages for t-ball, listed above were voted on individually, and all passed by unanimous vote.**

## **New Business**

The members held discussion of how to speed up play to allow more at bats per game, and more opportunity for players to play. Coaches will be encouraged to have teams ready for play at game time, minimize time between innings to get their team on the field, and have players prepared to play. Umpires will be enforcing the time between innings rules( see complete rules for your league ), and enforce penalties where needed.

Speeding up play is NOT an attempt to get games over faster, but to allow for more game play in the time limits allotted.

Mark Nelson was named Machine League President for the 2011 season.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30. Please see the attendance list below.

Don Eveld - FSCL President  
Donald Schwartz – CTK – FSCL Officer  
Bobby Aldridge – FSCL League Pres  
Doug Schwartz – CTK  
Pat Mickle – CP – FSCL Officer  
Brent Lewis – ESBC – FSCL Officer  
Robert Burris – FM – League President  
Mark Nelson – CBC – League President  
Tom Caldarera – IC  
Philip Doss – IC  
Trey Jackson - IC  
Doug Faries – BC – League President  
Matt Passmore – FBFS