



INSTILLING IN OUR COMMUNITY YOUTH THE IDEA OF CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

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## December 2006 Commissioner's Meeting

A Commissioner's meeting of the Ft. Smith Church League was held on Monday, December 11, 2006 at Christ the King Church. (An attendee roster is attached).

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Wes Young offered the opening prayer.

The minutes for the November 2006 were unanimously approved, motioned by Doug Schwartz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brent Lewis.

Roll was taken to find out what Churches were represented and to document participation. (An attendee roster is attached).

### Treasurer's Report

Pat Mickle discussed the revenues and expenses for general operations during the recent month. In general, there was approximately \$10,000 in income from a donation from the Pendergraft family. Eddie Norman explained about talking to the family and their generosity. A detailed statement is available upon request.

### President's Report

Don Eveld reviewed the list of League Presidents and also announced that Shane Medford has resigned as league president of the Pony League and we are currently looking for a replacement for him.

Butterfield Assembly of God, Mark Haywood and Doug Faries representing, requested membership. Eddie Norman made a motion to accept, Brent Lewis seconded. Motion was approved by a vote of 17-0. Membership was granted effective immediately.

### Old Business

Rick Deramus proposed the following rule changes Donald Schwartz seconded both proposals. Both *passed* by a vote of **19-0**:

Article X Section I. Pony Rules, Rule 19

Fort Smith Church Baseball League, Inc., P.O. Box 3999, Ft. Smith, AR 72913

**From**

19. If a team has 10 players ready to play at the start of a game, the extra hitter (EH) must be used and will be considered a defensive position, and players can be substituted into that position. If a team begins the game using the EH position, they must complete the game with an EH position unless the 10th player has been injured and no additional players can be used. Then the subject team can bat with the remaining 9 players without the penalty of taking an out for the tenth position. A coach has the option to bat all players on the official roster that are present. If a team begins the game batting all players they must complete the game batting all players. If the extra batter(s) have been injured, then the subject team can bat the remaining batter(s) without penalty of taking an out for the extra batter position(s) unless their team is under nine players then the team must take an out. The opposing coach has the option to bat the standard nine or ten batters. It's not mandatory that both teams bat the same number of players. All pitching rules and defensive substitution rules stay in affect.

**To**

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Article X. Section J Midget League Rules, Rule 15

**From**

15. A coach has the option to bat all players on the official roster that are present. If a team begins the game batting all players they must complete the game batting all players. If the extra batter(s) have been injured, then the subject team can bat the remaining batter(s) without penalty of taking an out for the extra batter position(s) unless their team is under nine players then the team must take an out. The opposing coach has the option to bat the standard nine or ten batters. It's not mandatory that both teams bat the same number of players. All pitching rules and defensive substitution rules stay in affect.

Example: Team "A" has 12 players and Team "B" has 12 players, Team "A" may bat 12 players while Team "B" may bat 10 players and sub the remaining players into the game.

To

**15. If a team has 10 players ready to play at the start of a game, the extra hitter (EH) must be used and will be considered a defensive position, and players can be substituted into that position. If a team begins the game using the EH position, they must complete the game with an EH position unless the 10th player has been injured and no additional players can be used. Then the subject team can bat with the remaining 9 players without the penalty of taking an out for the tenth position. A coach has the option to bat all players on the official roster that are present. If a team begins the game batting all players they must complete the game batting all players. If the extra batter(s) have been injured, then the subject team can bat the remaining batter(s) without penalty of taking an out for the extra batter position(s) unless their team is under nine players then the team must take an out. It's not mandatory that both teams bat the same number of players. All pitching rules and defensive substitution rules stay in affect.**

The following rule change submitted by Bobby Aldridge was voted on and *passed* by a vote of **19-0**:

Article V. Managers and Coaches, Rule D

**From**

D. Any manager, coach, or representative from each team in each league shall attend at least one (1) work day at the ball fields. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of the second regularly scheduled season game.

**To**

D. Any manager, coach, or representative from each team in each league shall attend at least one (1) work day at the ball fields. Failures to do so will result in the forfeiture **of first regular season win.**

The following rule changes proposed by Wes Young were voted on and both *passed* by a vote of **18-1**:

Article X, Section A General Rules, Rule 15

**From**

15. In all tournaments sponsored by the CHURCH LEAGUE all participating teams shall be composed of the same players, and only the same ones that made up the team of the regular season. There will be no all-star teams allowed. This rule will apply to all participating teams whether they are CHURCH LEAGUE teams or not, and the age limits of the CHURCH LEAGUE will apply to all participating teams. This does not apply to sanctioned Babe Ruth tournament teams.

**To**

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Article X, Section A General Rules, Rule 24

**From**

24. The following method will be used to determine teams eligible to represent the Ft. Smith Church Baseball League in the USSSA "A" Division State Tournament.

Jr. Pee Wee and Pee Wee Divisions

American / National Division

6U Teams – Top three (3) teams in each Division based on season standings.

Central Division

5U Teams – Top three (3) teams based on best overall record.

If there is no Central Division then three (3) 5U Teams will be selected from both the American and National

Division based on best overall record.

Super Pee Wee and Bambino Divisions

Super Pee Wee Division

American / National Division

7U Teams – Top three (3) teams in each Division based on best overall record.

Bambino Division

American / National Division

8U Teams – Top three (3) teams in each Division based on best overall record.

If there are not enough teams to have separate age leagues then the top three (3) 7U and 8U teams will be selected based on best record will be selected from both divisions.

Pony Division

American / National Division

9U Teams – Top three (3) teams in each Division based on best overall record.

10U Teams – Top three (3) teams in each Division based on best overall record. 2-way Tie Breaker: 1. Head-to-head, 2.

Flip a coin 3-way Tie Breaker: 1. Worst overall record determines 3rd Place, 2. Revert to 2-way tie breaker.

**To**

24. All FSCBL league teams are eligible to compete in the USSSA A Division State Tournament. Any fee's or sanctions are the responsibility of each team.

The following rule change was voted on and *failed* by a vote of **2-14**.

Article X Section I.

Split the Pony League into Pony and Super Pony according to ages. The Pony League will play FSCBL rules as they exist. The Super Pony will play Midget Rules with the exception of pitching distance and base length, which will remain the same as the original Pony distances.

The following rule change proposed by Darrell Stovall was voted on and *passed* by a vote of **18-0** Article X, Section A. General Rules and Policies, Rule 26 (addendum).

26. For all age groups through Midget, only **one coach from each team** can discuss and/or question a call during a game with an umpire or league official. For the Pony and Midget Leagues, there will be ZERO TOLERANCE for questioning umpires on balls and strikes.

Wes Young withdrew his request to enter the Arkansas Muckdogs in the Prep/Babe Ruth league for the 2007 season.

### **New Business**

Brent Lewis submitted the following rule change, seconded by Bobby Aldridge:  
Article X, Section H Super Pee Wee and Bambino League Rules, Rule 15

**From**

15. Play is dead when:

SUPER PEE WEE ONLY - Play is dead when a player enters the pitching circle with both feet and the game ball. 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 half way 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.

BAMBINO ONLY - Play is dead once the lead runner is stopped and the umpire has declared the ball dead and called for time (as in Pony League).

**To**

15. Play is dead when:

SUPER PEE WEE ONLY - Play is dead when a player enters the pitching circle with both feet and the game ball. 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 half way 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, **OR Play is dead once the lead runner is stopped and the umpire has declared the ball dead and called for time (as in Pony League).**

BAMBINO ONLY - Play is dead once the lead runner is stopped and the umpire has declared the ball dead and called for time (as in Pony League).

Mark Burgess proposed the following rule changes with all of them seconded by Wes Young:  
Article X. Section K Prep League (Jr. Babe Ruth) Rules, Rule 10

**From**

Fort Smith Church Baseball League, Inc., P.O. Box 3999, Ft. Smith, AR 72913

10. A two (2) hour time limit will apply as long as a regulation five (5) inning game has been completed. In the event of a tie game, Babe Ruth International rules shall apply.

**To**

10. **A one hour and fifty minute (1:50) time limit** will apply as long as a regulation five (5) inning game has been completed. In the event of a tie game, Babe Ruth International rules shall apply.

Article X. Section K Prep League (Jr. Babe Ruth) Rules, Rule 11

**From**

11. A game will be called when one of the teams has a ten (10) run lead after four innings or an eight (8) run lead after five (five) innings. The score at that point will be the official score of the game.

**To**

11. **RUN RULE – The game shall be called when one of the teams has a fifteen (15) run lead after 3 innings**, a ten (10) run lead after four innings or an eight (8) run lead after five (five) innings. The score at that point will be the official score of the game. **In the event of a run rule, if both teams want to continue play, the umpires must remain on the field for one hour and thirty minutes (1:30) minimum from the game start time.**

Article X. Section L Babe Ruth League Rules, Rule 2

**From**

2. A mandatory two (2) hour time limit will apply as long as a regulation five (5) inning game has been completed. Tie games will be handled in accordance with Babe Ruth International Rules.

**To**

2. **A mandatory one hour and fifty minute (1:50) time limit** will apply as long as a regulation five (5) inning game has been completed. Tie games will be handled in accordance with Babe Ruth International Rules.

Article X. Section L Babe Ruth League Rules, Rule 4

**From**

4. RUN RULE - The game shall be called if and when one of the teams has a ten (10) run lead after four (4) innings of play, or an eight (8) lead after five (5) innings of play. The score at that point shall be the official score of the game.

**To**

4. **RUN RULE - The game shall be called if and when one of the teams has a fifteen (15) run lead after three (3) innings of play**, ten (10) run lead after four (4) innings of play, or an eight (8) lead after five (5) innings of play. The score at that point shall be the official score of the game. **In the event of a run rule, if both teams want to continue play, the umpires must remain on the field for one hour and thirty minutes (1:30) minimum from the game start time.**

Dale Seiter asked that everyone consider ideas for Umpire scorecards. Discussion ensued about usage and discretion.

Bobby Aldridge brought up the issue of USSSA teams and their World Series conflicting with the post season tournament. Eddie Norman suggest that we ask what teams are going to participate before scheduling the brackets in order to eliminate forfeitures.

Eddie Norman discussed possible uses of the \$10,000 donation from the Pendergraft family. The intended use at this time is to construct more sidewalks and a bleacher pad. He also discussed the additions of more bumpers for the parking lot and a new 6ft fence at Hernreich Field.

Eddie also mentioned the availability of a used 4 wheeler and would like us to consider purchasing one in the near future.

Mark Burgess motioned to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Schwartz. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Signature:

Approved: (date)

Or Corrected: (date)

## Attendee Roster

1) Don Eveld	Christ the King
2) Eddie Norman	Central Pres.
3) Jason Brasher	Eastside Baptist
4) Brent Lewis	Eastside Baptist
5) Bobby Aldridge	St. Boniface
6) Darrell Stovall	St. Paul
7) Jerry Chastain	Community Bible
8) Rick Deramus	Central Pres.
9) Wes Young	Grand Ave Baptist
10) Jeff Schwartz	Christ the King
11) Dale Seiter	IC
12) Jason Vrazel	IC
13) Donald Schwartz	Christ the King
14) Pat Mickle	Central Pres.
15) Doug Schwartz	Christ the King
16) Mark Burgess	
17) Chris Honaker	Harvest Time
18) Steve Brooks	Harvest Time
19) Doug Faries	Butterfield Asmbly
20) Mark Haywood	Butterfield Asmbly