

MCAA

Softball Meeting Notes

2/21/2008

Attendees – Mike Carson, Chris Thompson, Mary Jo Phelps, Susan Recks, Mike Nelson, Chris Mazzeo, Chris Hoffman, Mark Harrington, Matt White, Mark Mrozek

Winter Clinics:

There is only one more clinic session left on Sunday March 9. The public memorial service for Jaiden Tlapa will be held this day at 1:00. Mike will investigate whether we want to change the clinic hours to work around the service.

Mike is working final details on Dick Albert hosting a coach's clinic before the season begins.

Evaluations:

Evaluations are scheduled for Saturday, March 15th at the Middle School Gymnasium. The group talked about the different evaluation stations. The group agreed to look at integrating the skill of catching a softball (not the position) into the popups station. The group also talked about and agreed to try to keep evaluators in the same stations as long as possible for more consistent scoring. All agreed that we needed to do a more thorough job of evaluating and placing pitchers this year. The group agreed to set the final ½ hour of the evaluations aside strictly for pitching evaluation. Like last year, there are no evaluations for instructional league.

Tentative times that were discussed for the evaluation were:

8/9/10 year olds (Minor/Major) – 8:30 to 10:00 (10:30 for pitchers)

11/12 year olds (Minor/Major) – 11:00 to 12:30 (1:00 for pitchers)

Juniors – TBD

Rules:

The group agreed to start having the minor league use an 11" softball rather than the 12" softball that they have been using in the past. One of the primary reasons for this is the fact that the Babe Ruth 10U all-star team continues to use an 11" ball according to the Babe Ruth rules. Most of the 10U team is made up from girls in the minor league. MCAA softball rules and bylaws:

The following was also finalized regarding the use of protective equipment:

Faceguards – Mandatory for pitchers at Juniors only.

Mouthguards – Mandatory for 3rd base in Majors and Juniors.

Mouthguards – Mandatory for pitchers in minors and suggested for all level infielders except for Instructional.

Registrations:

We have 55 signups to date. There is one more scheduled in-person signup session on March 6th from 5:30 to 8:00pm at the middle school gym lobby.

Volunteers:

Mary-Joe volunteered to have her name attached to the Majors Coordinator job.

Tournament Director – Because state tournament are fixed for the weekend after 4th of July, we will have to host the districts the last weekend in June.

Volunteer Coordinator – Mikaela White has volunteered to take on this position. Each team will have to have a team parent to coordinate team volunteer opportunities and funnel the team information on to Mikaela for collection.

Coaches:

Mike briefly went over the current status of coaches. It looks like we may need to have 1 additional head coach.

Fields and Dugouts:

Keyes field has been reserved for the season. Working final details on Jacques diamond. The group reviewed the plans for the dugouts at Keyes field. We should try to start working on the excavation and concrete slabs no later than the middle of March.

Other items:

The Souhegan Valley schedule should be available by April 7th. The season should start by April 19th if not sooner depending on the weather. SV All-Star tryouts are scheduled for April 12th and 13th and will be in a gym.

Coaching Certification:

3 coaches have been certified to date. Babe Ruth League coaching certification is not mandatory for recreational coaches for 2008. It will be required for all tournament coaches. Recreational coaches will be required in 2009. MCAA will reimburse coaches the \$20 fee for the course. Details and further information on the course can be found at <http://www.baberuthcoaching.org/>

Next Meeting: March 13, 2008, Location TBD.