

# MCAA

## Softball Meeting Notes

2/18/2009

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Attendees – Mike Carson, Chris Thompson, Mary Jo Phelps, Katy Kolasinski, Mike Nelson, Chris Mazzeo, Bill Schoolcraft, Lane Mabbet, Mark Harrington, Mike Tyrell, Angela Flaherty, Mark Mrozek, Andrew Labonte

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### General Notes:

- Clinics are in process and are being well received.
- Coaching certification is required for the 2009 spring season!!
- <http://www.baberuthcoaching.org> for all the details and certification information.

### Dates:

- Next signup date – Saturday 2/21 9-2 at MMS.
- Final signup date – Wednesday, 3/4. at MMS.
- Evaluations are scheduled for 3/14 at the MMS – Times TBD. We will plan to have a planning meeting to go over the details tentatively on Monday March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Middle School team tryouts are scheduled for the week of 3/21. Due to this, we will most likely not draft teams for MCAA softball until the end of this week or the following week.
- Season starts on 4/18 and the season runs through 6/12. Will be followed by playoffs, double elimination of time allows.
- Tentative field cleanup day is on 4/4.
- Picture day is on 5/16.
- Souhegan Valley All-Star tryouts are on 4/19.

### Evaluations:

- The group discussed at length the idea of identifying and evaluating pitchers/catchers at the Majors level. Extra time should be added to this evaluation session to accommodate this.

### Rules:

- Mike will post new rules on the MCAA web site for everyone to review once they are finalized after next Souhegan Valley meeting.

The group discussed the following:

- Changes in rules include safety items, 11" ball size in Minors.
- Babe Ruth rules indicate that sliding at home plate is not mandatory.
- The plan is to have a pre-season meeting with all SV coaches to review rules. It may also be good to include umpire coordinators and SV umpires to this meeting as well.
- The group then discussed the concept of umpire performance feedback. The group discussed having a form available (paper and online) for coaches to provide feedback on an umpires performance. Details would include: Control of game, Consistency of strike zone, Application of the rules. The forms should also indicate whether the umpire was a 'home' umpire or a 'visiting' umpire.

### Budget:

- Mike went over the budget numbers and talked about the possibility of once again hosting a Babe Ruth district or state tournament. A dedicated Tournament Director would be required.

### Coaches:

- Mike reviewed the current list of available coaches. It was determined that we should be all set at 14U and Majors. May need additional head coaches at Minors and Instructional. Angela Flaherty expressed interest in maybe coaching an Instructional level team.