

## State Meeting at Dickson Tennessee on February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The annual State meeting was held at the Dickson High School. In attendance were State Director Alan Reed; Assistant State Director Aaron Prince; National Directors Tony Brown, Don Rudolph, and Richard Clark. Dixie Youth Vice President David Jackson from North Carolina; District 1 Director Phillip Dorris and his Assistant Billy Draper with 3 leagues present; District 2 Director Mike Neisler with 2 leagues present; District 3 Director Janice Harris and Assistant Taylor Harris with 3 leagues present; District 4 Director Rory Osborne with 4 leagues present; District 5 Director James Tidwell and Assistant George Lankford with 7 leagues present; District 7 Director David Conrad and Assistant Nicki Nile; District 8 Director Megan French and Assistant Kimberly Newton with one league present.

Alan Reed opened the meeting and followed by a prayer by James Tidwell. Alan introduced the directors who introduced their leagues present. Don Rudolph gave a financial report. He let the leagues know that if they have changes that they would like to see made, submit them by June 1<sup>st</sup>. They will be taken to the rules committee meeting to be voted on. Don Rudolph and David Jackson are both members of the rules committee. Don told the leagues that the rules are found in the Tennessee website under Library.

Don explained the Class A rule changes:

1:02 Player-pitcher must wear a face guard with or without a batting helmet

1:05 Makes the face guard on the batting helmet a local league option

2:05 Sets the defensive time outs to two

2:06 Offensive time outs are limited to one per player

3:04 The six outfielders will be at least 20 feet behind the bases. A chalked line may be placed at 20 feet to define where the outfielders must play before the ball is hit.

3:06 Only the manager shall represent the team

6:02 After one warning per game, per player, for slinging the bat, the batter will be out, a dead ball called, and no runners advance.

7:01 Removes the chalk lines. The lead runner must still be stopped.

8:06 The coach pitcher cannot leave the mound and return to the mound during the same inning except for illness or injury.

8:07 Tournament pitching rules do not apply to the player pitching position.

8:08 The coach-pitcher may coach or position the batter only, prior to the delivery of a pitch. He/She cannot coach the runners. Penalty: A warning will be given for the first offense and he/she will be removed from the mound to the dugout for the remainder of the game on the second offense.

In the big rule book:

3.01(b) Has to do with rules for communication devices

Regulation II (A) Must submit boundary maps page 75

Regulation X (A) Page 81 Delete this rule

Tournament Rule III Division 2 has 11 players, Division 1 has 12. All players are subject to credentials eligibility page 87

Tournament Rule IV (G) Coach Eligibility National Board members are not permitted to coach a tournament team page 88

Tournament Rule IX (F)(2) page 94 Each player must play 6 outs (three consecutive outs in two separate innings.)

Tournament Rule X (D) page 98 Teams may purchase shirts for world series if not provided by their state

Tournament Rule XI (E) page 99 After one warning per game per player for slinging the bat, the batter will be called out, a dead ball called, and no runners advance.

AA Coach Pitch Tournament Rule XV (E) (2) page 104 The player pitcher is required to wear a face mask with or without a batting helmet

AA Coach Pitch Tournament Rule XV(F) (4) page 107 Requires a player to play 6 defensive outs (three consecutive outs in two separate innings)

Tournament Rule XV (J) (4) page 106 - A courtesy runner can be used for the catcher only and by the player who made the last out in a continuous batting order.

Tournament Rule XV (I) (8) page 106 Add note: This line pertains to the four outfielders only and not to the infielders.

Coaches please be sure to report line up changes and report your subs.

### **Scholarships:**

Tony Brown gave the scholarship report. There were 356 applications submitted for 11 states. Tennessee had 35 applications. Local scholarships are awarded after the national scholarships

are awarded. Tony told the leagues that forms will be issued for them to keep up with the attendance, so the correct amount of money is sent to the scholarship fund. Alan noted that the national funds are sent to the college the applicant will attend. The local funds are sent to the student before classes start to be used to purchase books, etc.

Alan Reed spoke about the split to Division 1 and Division 2. Your division is based on the number of teams that participated last year. If you had 9 teams total (AA, AAA, Ozone), your league will be Division 2. If you had 10 or more teams total (AA, AAA, Ozone), your league will be classed as Division 1. If your league has an American and National, you are automatically Division 1. 75% of Tennessee leagues fall in Division 2. If your leagues grow, you can move up to Division 1. If your league lost players, you could request to move down to Division 2. It must be submitted in a letter to Alan. It must be approved by Alan and National Directors.

Remember Franchise fees are due by April 1<sup>st</sup>. There is a late charge if they are submitted after April 1<sup>st</sup>. The late fee is donated to the scholarship fund.

Players must be rostered by May 1<sup>st</sup>. The online registration through SI play has been difficult. Adjustments have been requested but have not been done. Dixie Youth is looking for a new vendor to purchase software and may switch over. Please remember to add the middle name when you roster players. If you are not able to get into the roster program, contact Alan.

If you have players that are not residing in your boundaries, they must have a release to be all-star eligible. It is best to send the player back to the league for a release. If you submit a player release to Alan and do not have an explanation, the request will be returned for you to add a reason. The release should be signed by Alan before the first season game. If the player plays and is picked for tournament play without a release, it can cause issues (child pulled from tournament roster).

If you have issues, the District Director should be called first. If he is unable to resolve the issue, he/she can contact the State Director.

We had two photographers at the state meeting this year. One was Andy Vance photography. The other was Legends Photography.

Alan spoke to everyone about the Federal Safe Sport Act. Background checks are required. He had handouts for a link to JDP who does nationwide background checks for \$3.95. He also had a handout for things that disqualify a volunteer. Each league is responsible for enforcing and educating the people in their leagues. If something is reported to you, you are bound by law report it to the authorities (DCS / Law enforcement) within 24 hours of the time you are notified.

Alan told the leagues that the board had voted to send a Class A team to the Regional tournament (World Series) in Texarkana, Texas this year.

He also asked each league to roster at no charge their Wee-ball players (Ages 3-4). Dixie Youth baseball receives grant money from Major League Baseball based on the number of players.

### **Tournaments**

**Class A – Sweetwater** - The coaches' credential meeting will begin on July 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 (EST) at the Brown Intermediate School. Opening ceremonies will be at 8:30 on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Games will start at 10:00 a.m.

**Class AA – Harriman – July 9<sup>th</sup>**. The coaches' credential meeting will begin at 8:00 a.m. (EST) at the new City office building or the Princess theater. Opening ceremonies will be at 10:00.

**Class AA- Kingston – July 16<sup>th</sup>**. The coaches' credential meeting will begin at 8:00 a.m. (EST) at the Roane County High School. Opening ceremonies will be at 10:00 at the Fort Southwest Point Amphitheater.

**AAA – Division 2 – Fairview – July 9<sup>th</sup>**. The coaches' credential meeting will begin at 8:30 (CST) at the Fairview High School cafeteria. The opening ceremonies will be on the football field at 11:00 with games beginning at 1:00.

**AAA – Division 1- Greenbrier- July 16<sup>th</sup>**. The coaches' credential meeting will begin at 8:00 a.m. (CST) at the American Legion Post. Opening ceremonies will be at the Louise Martin Ballfield at 1:00 with games beginning at 3:00.

**Ozone- Division 2 – Summertown – July 9<sup>th</sup>**. The coaches' credential meeting will begin at 9:30 (CST) at the Summertown Elementary School. Opening ceremonies will also be at the school at 11:00.

Richard Clark put the motion on the floor to award the Ozone Division 1 tournament to Savannah. Aaron Prince seconded the motion. The motion carried with 1 no, Janice Harris.

**Ozone – Division 1 – Savannah – July 16<sup>th</sup>**. Information not available currently.

### **By-Law Changes- Don Rudolph**

Don put the motion on the floor - The State Director can appoint the Assistant State Director to be tournament director as needed each year. David Conrad seconded the motion. The leagues voted 23 yes 0 no.

Article II – Don put the motion on the floor to change the wording to align with the national rule. No official of the national board may coach a tournament team and be a tournament director in the same tournament. Richard Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried, all aye.

**Brackets**

In the past we have sent 2 teams per district to the tournaments. We have some districts that may not have a team due to the split. We will draw the brackets as if there are 2 teams. Alan, Aaron, and the national directors will fill any openings.

**Class A - Pool Play**

TEAM	POOL 1	POOL 2	POOL 3	POOL 4
A	4C	6C	3C	2C
B	1R	8R	7R (HOST)	4R
C	8C	1C	5C	7C
D	2R	5R	6R	3R

**DIVISION 1 CLASS AA 12 TEAM**

TEAM	POOL 1	POOL 2	POOL 3	POOL 4
A	7C	8C	4C	1C
B				
C	6C	5C	3C	2C

**DIVISION 2- CLASS AA 16 TEAM**

TEAM	POOL 1	POOL 2	POOL 3	POOL 4
A	5C	7C	1C	6C
B	3R	8R	5R	4R
C	8C	4C	2C	3C
D	2R	1R	6R	7R

<b>DIVISION II - AAA TOURNAMENT - FAIRVIEW</b>				
TEAMS			TEAMS	
A	3C		I	5C
B	8R		J	6R
C	7C		K	4C
D	3R		L	5R (HOST)
E	2C		M	6C
F	1R		N	4R
G	8C		O	1C
H	2R		P	7R

<b>DIVISION II - OZONE TOURNAMENT - SUMMERTOWN</b>				
TEAMS			TEAMS	
A	5C		I	6C
B	4R		J	3R
C	2C		K	1C
D	1R		L	5R
E	8C		M	4C
F	2R		N	7R
G	7C		O	3C
H	8R		P	6R

The Ozone tournament will have two teams going to the World Series in each division. The runner up will play in the Traditional World Series.

Alan Reed brought the motion to the floor to defer the AAA and Ozone brackets for Division 1 due to the uncertainty of the number of teams until after the Franchises are received. Alan, two district directors, Aaron and the national directors will meet to draw the brackets. Aaron Prince seconded the motion. The motion carried, all aye. Most of the teams appear to be in districts 2, 4, 5 and 8.

A dismissal prayer was led by James Tidwell. The meeting adjourned.