

Wednesday, November 11, 2009 Competition Committee Meeting

**Members in attendance:** Frankhi Carrasquel, Mark Gaff, Keith Evans, Richard Binney, Mike Martin, Joe Sullivan, Davis Winters, Mike Ryan, Ray Solari

### ***I. Call to Order***

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Keith Evans (Competition Committee Facilitator) at 6:05pm.

### ***II. Ground Rules***

#### ***A. Respect Ideas & Opinions***

All suggestions and opinions should be regarded with respect. There may possibly be differences of opinion. Debating your standpoint in a civil and productive approach is allowed. There is no tolerance for irrationality or abrupt behavior. Pres. Keith Evans stated that he will definitely intervene if this occurs.

#### ***B. Priority***

The committee was reminded that the league prioritizes in this manner:

- 1) The Players-The ultimate priority is to develop the players' skills mentally as well as physically.
- 2) Delta Little League-Base official decisions that would be in the best interest of the organization as a whole.
- 3) Personal Intention-Your objective will always be considered, but needs to be beneficial to the players and league as well.

#### ***C. Competition Committee Reports to the Board***

### ***III. Vision***

"We want to raise the bar of playing ability, baseball knowledge, and competition at Delta Little League within the framework and boundaries of good sportsmanship and not at the expense of the kids." Never embarrass a player verbally. Place them where they are best utilized. Respect the game and its fundamentals.

### ***IV. New Business***

#### ***A. Major Division Rules***

- 1) Green Handbook

The Major Division follows the rules of the Green Handbook. It is self-explanatory, and the majority of the rules do not allow for revisions to accommodate each individual league.

- 2) Evaluation of Age Groups

The age range for the Major Division was evaluated and discussed. The Competition Committee evaluated last year's decision to disallow 9 year-olds from playing in the Major Division without formal Board approval. The Competition Committee decided this rule should remain for the 2010 season and beyond.

3) 12 year-olds to Junior Division?

The committee discuss should 12 year-olds be allowed to move up and play in the Junior Division. The committee decided that 12 year-olds should remain in the Major Division of Little League; therefore, the committee will recommend to the Board that 12 year-olds not be allowed to play up in the Junior Division.

4) Disband Major Division and Re-draft:

The committee discuss should Delta Little League disband the Major Division by releasing all property players. In doing so, in 2010 the returning Major Division players would be required to try-out and re-enter the draft for the Major Division. There is a real possibility that there will be no returning managers at the Major Division for 2010 and Little League International is pushing local leagues to release players from their teams every year. By a unanimous vote, the Competition Committee will recommend to the Board to disband the Major Division in 2010.

5) Interleague with Sunrise:

The committee felt that last year's interleague play at the Major Division with Sunrise Little League was a huge success. The committee recommends once again that in 2010 that Delta LL and Sunrise LL conduct interleague play at the Major Division.

### ***B. Minor "A" Division Rules***

1) Player Development Regular Season

The Competition Committee discussed at length making the Minor "A" regular season a time for player development. The committee will recommend to the Board the following:

- a) Official standings will not be kept in the Minor "A" Division
- b) There will be no 1<sup>st</sup> half or 2<sup>nd</sup> half champions
- c) Score will be kept and there will be a winner and loser each game
- d) Pitch counts and continuous batting order will be followed per Green Rule Book
- e) 3-4 Run Rule will apply the first half of the season
- f) 5 Run Rule will apply the second half of the season
- g) Coaches are encouraged to develop as many pitchers & catchers as possible
- h) Coaches are encouraged to rotate positions both in the field and batting order

2) Minor "A" Division Champion / Tournament of Champions (T.O.C.):

Starting in 2010, Delta Little League's Minor "A" Division champion will be decided by a double elimination tournament at the end of the regular season. There will not be a first half or second half champion. Team seeding will be conducted by blind draw. The team that wins this season ending tournament will be crowned Delta Little League Minor "A" champion and will represent Delta Little League at the District 8 Tournament of Champions held after the regular season.

### ***C. Minor "B" Division Rules***

#### 1) Pitching Machine vs. Coach Pitch

The Competition Committee discussed using a Pitching Machine in the Minor "B" Division for 2010. The committee will recommend to the Board to use the pitching machine for the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the season and evaluate at that time whether to continue using the pitching machine or go to coach pitch.

### ***D. Upcoming Events***

Next committee meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 6pm at the Round Table Pizza in Spanos West.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.