

**Annual Regional Meeting
October 15, 2011
Crown Reef Resort
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina**

MINUTES

Southeast Regional Commissioner Henry Sermons called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He also announced that the Hall of Fame dinner would be held tonight (Saturday) at 6:00 p.m.

Rob Connor, National Commissioner, gave a report from Babe Ruth League Headquarters.

Online roster participation has increased over the 2010 figures. The National average is 80% of leagues participating. The Southeast Region is at 89% participation.

2012 changes:

no major technology changes – some upgrades will take place but should not be inconvenient (clean up add drop, cannot roster more teams than chartered, etc.)

changes in insurance – legally required. Charter process remains basically the same (some bells and whistles have been added to help do corrections). When leagues are chartered, the invoice will print two pages. The first one shows charter fees and balances/credits. A check should be written to BRL for that amount. The second page specifically lists insurance charges. A separate check will have to be written to K&K for insurance. Both checks can be put in one envelope and mailed to HQ. The process will be the same if adding additional teams. Both pages will automatically print out.

2011 numbers will show up when starting charter process. Any modifications can be made without starting from scratch. Information for board members will be displayed and will have to be confirmed before continuing. Data do not need to be re-entered.

If there is any delay in 2012 chartering, it will be because of insurance changes. Chartering period will open January 2. Email blasts and letters will be sent to league presidents to remind them, with follow-up mail again at the end of January. 2011 insurance expires January 31.

Bats – Ripken: 33” bpf 1.15, wood 2 1/8” barrel

13-15: 34” 2 5/8” diameter, BBCOR .50

16-18: 34” 2 5/8” diameter, BBCOR .50

If an illegal bat is discovered before the at bat is official, the penalty is removal of bat – after the at bat is official, no advancement, any outs will stand. The ruling is appealable. If the illegal bat is discovered prior to game, the team shall be directed that the bat is to be removed immediately and not be allowed for use during game.

Training materials for Commissioners – A new manual will be available on data center accounts. The manual will be broken down according to topics. Any specific topic can be directly emailed to leagues with questions.

Logo center will be added to data center accounts – those with access will have capability to access different formats of logo for printing. State and Regional logos are being created and will be available through Regional and State Commissioners.

Certifications and financial statements need to be in to Headquarters by the end of October.

Tim Orvin, Director of St. Andrews SC Parks and Playgrounds, gave a presentation on how to make sports fun again.

Mickey Davis spoke about the baseball museum in Wilson, NC. He then introduced Kent Montgomery, member of the board for NC Baseball Museum, who gave a presentation on the museum located at Fleming Stadium in Wilson, NC. The Babe Ruth Hall of Fame plaque will be on display at the museum. Regional champion pictures will also be displayed. Henry asked each State in the Region to donate \$100 to the museum. A Hall of Fame invitational tournament will be announced at a later date. Wilson County will get proceeds from the concession stand and souvenirs and the museum will get gate proceeds.

Henry distributed census statistics on the teams in the Southeast Region. The decrease is unusually high (132), but seems to not be a Regional issue. Cal Ripken Minor had the biggest decrease in teams. Travel ball seems to be a big factor in the decrease. Much discussion on what Babe Ruth can do to compete with travel ball.

The 2012 tournament trail dates were distributed. Email Henry by November 5 advising him of the name (with contact information) for the Regional tournaments. The 10-Year-olds Regional will retain 20 teams. There will be no mandatory ice-breaker or banquet. If the host cannot send a person to the workshop in March, the tournament will be pulled.

Henry briefed the group on 2011 Regional tournaments. There were several problems throughout the Region. Tournament hosts and managers were late getting information out. Hosts were changing team report-in times. States flags were not being displayed at the tournaments. Credentials books were not being checked at District and State tournaments.

There will be a change in the way that tournament books are handled beginning with the 2012 season. Once the books are checked and the form signed, the book will be given back to manager rather than having the tournament director keep it until after tournament. There was a problem with games starting too early. Schedules need to be adhered to. Times for games will be evaluated.

Some hosts were not playing the National Anthem. Players should be introduced. Babe Ruth procedures for format of tournament will be adhered to. Brackets were not posted at the field. There were complaints about the way umpires were taken care of. Umpires are not to be involved in settling a protest. Tournament packages should include gate fees regardless of how they are collected. Games will be started with new baseballs. Some leagues sold t-shirts by order and have not delivered the shirts. Teams cannot leave

before pool play is completed. PA systems and scoreboards are a must. Henry thanked those who have submitted their financial statements.

Respectfully submitted,

Cherrie Sanders, Secretary