



Babe Ruth League, Inc.

Southeast Region

Baseball & Softball



The Bahamas * Dominican Republic * Florida * Georgia * North Carolina * South Carolina * Tennessee * U.S. Virgin Islands * Virginia

Southeast Regional Meeting Grand Shores Ocean Resort Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Friday, November 9, 2018

Participants:

Henry Sermons	SER (NC)	Regional Commissioner
John Armentrout	SER (VA)	Assistant Regional Commissioner
Hal Brady	SER (FL)	Assistant Regional Commissioner
Cherrie Sanders	SER (NC)	Regional Secretary
Rob Connor	BRL HQ	VP/National Commissioner
Damon Messina	FL	Assistant to SER Softball Com.
Jimmy Sanders	NC	State Commissioner
Mickey Davis	NC	Assistant State Commissioner
Dennis Baucom	NC	Assistant State Commissioner
Pam Holder	NC	Assistant State Commissioner
Jimmy Davis	NC	Assistant State Commissioner
Wayne Harwell	NC	Assistant State Commissioner
Doug Strong	TN	State Commissioner
Paul Link	VA	State Commissioner
John DeYoung	VA	Assistant State Commissioner
Phillip Larcomb	VA (WV)	State Secretary-Treasurer
Don Gowen	VA	Assistant State Commissioner
Dave Cogar	VA	District 8 Commissioner
Curtis Moore	VA	District 3 Commissioner
Donny Rose	VA	UIC
Robert Dreistadt	VA	President, Stafford Babe Ruth

Call to order and Introductions:

Henry Sermons, Southeast Regional Commissioner

Recognition of Individuals:

Rob Connor, recently appointed Vice-President of BR, John DeYoung, John Armentrout, Paul Link, and Doug Strong, new Tennessee Commissioner

State Reports:

NC - Gained a few leagues, boundary issues caused some problems, good year

VA - One of best years in terms of recruiting, gaining as a result of birth date changes, enhanced awards to state champions, hosted 4 regionals, grant program, some issues, border war, difficulty recruiting umpires, some problems with pitch count

TN - Some growth and additional teams interested, umpire problems because of cost to individuals,

Rob addressed issues related to costs to umpires; i.e., shirts, etc. Create new program for 12-17 year olds to umpire.

SC - made contact with previous leagues, some will come back with work

GA - No commissioner at this time. Any suggestions will be appreciated. Still active leagues

Southeast Region administrative review:

John Armentrout presented an overview on web stats.

Babe Ruth Headquarters review:

Rob Connor gave overview on the Ripken invitational. The same format will be used again for 2019. The Babe Ruth Experience was implemented for participants at no charge for players, parents to participate.

Rules: Committee will meet next week. Background check change to every 2 years vs 3 years. A memo will be coming out in December concerning rule changes - emailed to leagues and posted on website. There will also be a section in Local League Guide with latest rules. Bat rule is not changing. Doug Strong-once bat list is out leave it alone. Doug also questioned about bat rules for 12/70. They are allowed to use -3 in school play but not in Ripken. Rule books won't be out until at least 2nd week in January. Safe Sports Act updated in March by Federal Government. Emails will be forthcoming for on-line training course. All volunteers will be required to take a certification online course concerning sexual harassment. This will eliminate host families. Expect a big push on all this information. Training is free, background is \$25. If using Sports Advantage, leagues will be able to see who has completed training.

BR is doing well business wise. Discussions need to start at grass roots level. Be a united front when asking for things you would like to see changed.

SI-Play issues:

Paul Link. Good suggestions for improving the process as well as suggestions for improving and clarifying BR website items.

Geographical Boundaries:

John DeYoung's presentation triggered much discussion and debate on the issue. Waivers cannot be issued but State Commissioners may have a little wiggle room depending on the individual circumstances.

District Meetings:

Henry Sermons presented guidelines for Commissioners to follow. There is a move to have District Commissioners appointed by the State Commissioner. This will be discussed at the rules committee meeting.

Regional Tournament Format:

John Armentrout led discussion on pool play vs. double elimination. Procedures for drawing brackets and pool play brackets were discussed.

Doug Strong made a motion to go to pool play in Southeast Regional tournaments. Seconded by Paul Link, motion carried.

Pool Play standings determination:

Henry Sermons went over tiebreaker rules and examples.

State submitted agenda items:

- Paul Link would like to see a rules committee established in the SE Region. Paul also asked about the penalty for the pitching violation.
- Mickey Davis reported on the softball meeting.

There will not be a 2019 Regional Softball tournament.

The committee discussed doing qualifiers; one in ENC and one in Virginia. Two regions would be formed. Dates suggested were in June and July. Host fee would be \$600 per age group. Top 2 teams qualify for World Series.

- Curtis Moore suggested 5 run minimum per inning in rookie baseball, with last inning being unlimited. A survey will be taken at the rookie tournament this year. This will also be discussed at the rules committee meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cherrie Sanders
Secretary