

Freetown – Lakeville Babe Ruth Meeting
Monday, March 3, 2008 - Meeting Minutes

(Pres LPA)

Attendance: Ken Lalli, Steve Rocha, Dave Austin, Steve Hermenau, Jim Cabucio, Jim Schell, Dave Brouillette, Jay Roberge & Al Gauthier

Agenda

Re-confirm the interest from the Lakeville Playground Association (LPA) & the Freetown Youth Athletic Association (FYAA) to combine its 2008 13 – 15 Babe Ruth programs.

Purpose of combining both organizations is to assist each league to have enough players to fill a team(s) for the 13 year old and 15 – 14 year old leagues; the ability to have players from both leagues to play together on a team as they currently do with soccer, football, lacrosse and basketball; increase camaraderie between players as they enter high school.

Establish common ground for the following:

- 1. Joining leagues – is this a short term fix or a long term goal?** Both the LPA & FYAA agreed that pending each board approval that we operate one 15/14 year old Babe Ruth division and a 13 year old Babe Ruth division. The 2008 season would be a trial run as to operate in the future.
- 2. Team composition – how teams are selected?** Each team would have a pro-rated number of players from each town on a team pending the number of players available from each town and the total number of teams. The goal is to have a balance number of players from each town on each team. A registration deadline of March 21st was established. Players would be selected in an organized manner overseen by each town's BR Director.
- 3. Fields for practice/games – What fields are available to each team and how are they distributed?** Games are scheduled by the Inter-town Babe Ruth Director. Practice fields date & times would be coordinated in advance to each age group manager by the Babe Ruth Director from the LPA (Ken Lalli) & FYAA (Al Gauthier).
- 4. Selection of team managers - How are team coaches selected and what is the process?** Each league (LPA & FYAA) will be responsible to obtain managers that meet each leagues guideline for each division. Each league will have the same number of team manager from each league when there are an equal number of teams. In the event that the 13U Division has an odd number, FYAA will fill that slot. For the 15U Division, LPA will fill the odd slot. It is encourage that the team manager obtain a coach from the other league to assist.

5. **Team managers – Managers from LPA or FYAA, how do they each gain access to field equipment to prep ball fields?** Team managers will receive a key from the LPA & FYAA so that they will have access to the equipment needed to prep ball fields.
6. **Baseball equipment – Who has what, how much of what and how much more, is required?** Both the LPA & FYAA has enough equipment to sponsor teams for the 2008 season. It is the responsibility of each league to supply the baseball equipment to its team manager.
7. **Costs – How are costs identified, shared equally between each league?** Each league has already conducted registration. The only cost to be shared is the cost of umpires. This cost will be prorated based on the total number of registered players that each organization has in each of the 13U Division & 15U Division. Umpire costs will be prorated for the regular and playoff seasons.
8. **Concession Stand – FYAA operates one on a yearly basis where participation is mandatory. How does this affect the parents of players with the LPA?** Currently, the LPA operates its own concession stand every other year, how would that impact players with the FYAA? Each organization will independently operate its own concession stand and each is bound to their own guidelines.
9. **Communication – How will LPA & FYAA communicate changes of 2008 to players who have already registered?** Both the LPA & FYAA will independently present merger to its own board for approval on Wednesday, March 5, 2008. Upon approval from each, then it would be the responsibility of each to communicate information to players/parents.
10. **Expectation for 2009 – How would registration, registration fees, communication and finances operate?** Several options are available as to how to proceed based upon a successful 2008 season. This was tabled till the completion of the season.