

Independent Church League

Agenda for March 9, 2009 Meeting

OPEN IN PRAYER by Steve Carlsberg, President

ICL President's Comments:

1. Teams will be scheduled based upon their last year's record.
2. Night of play will be secondary consideration.
3. Rescheduled games are not open for negotiation if your registration form does not exempt the date.

A. OLD BUSINESS - Softball 2008:

1. **Season:** Steve recapped the 2008 season.
2. **Final Standings:** Posted the web site at ICLsports.org. If a team won their division, the team will move up for the 2009 season. Conflicts in scheduling need to be brought to the board for resolution.
3. **Schedule:** Team pulled out of Coed E causing refunds to teams. PLEASE have the appropriate representative as the team contact. One team complained about moving more than one division - never have notified team.
4. **Fields:** Field 6 changes made by Scheduler 2 weeks before season. Removed batters boxes – one coach complained calling it nonsense.
5. **Umpires:** The league received one complaint regarding a young/inexperienced umpire.
6. **Conduct:** Conduct issues in Coed D. Complaint was addressed by the league.
7. **Roster Updates:** No violations.
8. **Parity:** See Presidents Comments above.
9. **Reported Injuries:** None officially reported.
10. **Treasurers Report for 2008:** Posted on web site.
11. **Umpire Conduct & Association Update:** The "mercy" rule was questioned. Quentin McGuire stated that the league does have a 10/5 rule in place. Which would end a game if a team is ahead by 10 runs at the end of 5 innings.
12. **ICL Web Site Information & Update:** Tom Sloan stated that all game scores/standings are exclusively on the web site.

B. NEW BUSINESS – Softball 2009

RAC Discussion: The ICL Board has determined unanimously that the league would benefit by moving to the Regional Athletic Complex on Marvin Road, in Lacey. Last month an email was sent to our Softball 2008 email distribution list announcing the pending change. Coaches were given an opportunity to bring to the Board their concerns. The issues were **1) Late start times, 2) Nights of play, 3) Synthetic turf and 4) Team fees.** The league received 35 responses of which 28 were positive for the move. We believe that to-date we have addressed the concerns.

Reasons for moving to RAC:

LBA Field Conditions:

1. In the past we have received complaints every year about the field conditions at LBA.
2. LBA Field #6: Sun facing home plate was such an issue last year to some coaches that the schedule was changed.
3. LBA Field #2 with a short left field and the hill.
4. LBA Field #3 short field, soft outfield, no fence.
5. LBA Field #1 inconsistent calls in the outfield (no fence).
6. We receive complaints every year about inconsistent calls by umpires due to no fences, hills, cart paths, etc.

In January the ICL Board submitted a field request to LP&R to see if we qualified as a user group. We were contacted in late February, met with the RAC Director, and were given everything on our request.

COACHES Issues:

Nights of Play Schedule & Late start times:

1. We need to schedule up to 400 games. Lighted fields allow for more games per night on fewer fields saving us money at the RAC.
2. Lighted fields allows for late games; however, we are confident that we can keep 6, 7:10 and 8:20 start times for Coed and 6, 7:10, 8:20 and 9:30 start times for Men's.
3. Eldon has generated a draft schedule that allows for 70 teams in 13 Divisions to play comfortably. Play will be for 10 weeks on three nights with only Men's Friday divisions playing 2 games at 9:30.
4. We have reviewed last year's final standings and feel that we can accommodate SDA not playing on Friday's, making room for others who WANT to play on Friday.

RAC Field Conditions and synthetic turf:

1. Play on two fields Tuesdays, and all four fields on Thursday and Friday nights.
2. Synthetic fields aid play and should reduce the potential for injury compared to LBA.
3. Synthetic fields limit the amount of rainouts which reduces rescheduling issues.
4. Players assume risk of injury when they participate in any sport – including the ICL.

Team Fees:

1. At the OP&R January meeting we were informed that they were raising the team fee this year and hinted that their field rates will go up again next year due to budget issues.
2. OP&R youth programs are subsidized and the adult program is not. Our price per team rose to \$390 per team. We were already poised to raise the team fee to \$400.
3. RAC guarantees the same rate for 2 seasons. Future rates may be increased by 2% or 3%. The RAC must be able to cover costs of complex in 5 years (I.e. Other softball leagues and tournaments, soccer leagues, soccer tournaments, etc.).

ICL Board Issues

Continuity:

Contractually, ICL has first right of refusal. We have fields and nights as long as we want them.

Umpires:

1. Clear field rules with fences, foul lines, and batters boxes.
2. Possibility that umpires could keep score and use a game timer.
3. Quentin stated that the League did a great job of leaving LBA a better facility than when we started.

Complex's Benefits

1. Covered (netted) play toy area centrally located.
2. Lighted, remote controlled scoreboards (scores kept by participating teams or Umpires).
3. Plenty of parking.
4. Concessions available each night.
5. LP&R staff person on-site during game times.
6. Emergency personnel/Fire station 2 minutes from complex.
7. One coach mentioned close to freeway and stores.

RAC 2009 Season Details:

1. June 1 through August 28, \$425 team fee
2. Teams will be scheduled based upon 2008's win/loss record.
3. Top 2 up to next division, if a church service day of the week will move up one division.
4. Will not remain in last year's division or move down.
5. Possible tour of facilities; Steve will follow up on details.

FORMS TO GET ONLINE: 2009 Registration Form
Roster Form
State Patrol Background Check Form

2009 Officer Election

President: Steve Carlsberg
Scheduler: Eldon Wiltsey
Treasurer: Larry Hettick
Web Manager: Tom Sloan
Secretary: Rhonda Tevis

It was moved by Kate Delozier to have the above officers stay in office for another term. A second was motioned by Ed Kunkel. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 27th 7:00 p.m., Paramount Christian Church
Registration forms, team fees, WSP background checks and waiver forms are all due at this time.