

# NORTH DUFFERIN BASEBALL LEAGUE

## MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JULY 22, 2019, 7:00 P.M.

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Special Meeting of the Junior Division at The Ross Houston Memorial Park, Lisle, Ont.

Attendance:

Executive: President Rob Perkins, Vice President Ron Dipalma, Past President Jesse McIntyre, Secretary Scott Anderson, Treasurer Dan Gowan.

Officers: Statistician Peter Kinghan.

Senior Teams: Orangeville.

Junior Teams: Ivy, Mansfield, Orangeville, Orillia.

President Rob Perkins called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. WELCOME

2. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Treasurer's Report

(b) Playoff Pairings and Schedules

The first round is a best of three series starting July 23 and ending August 1.

The final round is a best of five series starting August 13 and ending August 25.

Series A: Ivy (1) vs. Mansfield (4)

Game 1: Tuesday, July 23, Ivy, 6:30 p.m.

Game 2: Thursday, July 25 at Mansfield in Lisle, 6:30 p.m.

Game 3: Tuesday, July 30 at Ivy, 6:15 p.m.

Game 4: Thursday, August 1 at Mansfield in Lisle, 6:15 p.m.  
(if required)

Convenor: Treasurer Gowan

Series B: Orangeville (2) vs. Orillia (3)

Game 1: Thursday, July 25, at Orillia, 8:30 p.m.

Game 2: Saturday, July 27, at Orangeville, 3:00 p.m.

Game 3: Sunday, July 28 at Orangeville, 3:00 p.m.

Game 4: Thursday, August 1 at Orillia, 8:00 p.m. (if required)

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Convenor: Past President McIntyre.

(c) Ineligible Players for Playoffs

Teams reviewed a list of ineligible players. No issues were noted.

(d) Ejections and Suspensions

There were no ejections of junior players in the regular season.

(e) Junior OBA Update

Nothing to report.

(f) Orangeville Rockies Jr. Appeal of Forfeit Fine

Orangeville asked for an appeal to reduce forfeit fine to \$100.00

It was MOVED by Past President McIntyre, THAT the appeal be denied AND THAT \$200 be paid in full as Orillia had costs, SECONDED by Treasurer Gowan, CARRIED.

Motion to postpone meeting:

It was MOVED by Past President McIntyre, THAT the meeting be postponed until 8 p.m., SECONDED by Lance Bryan (Mansfield), CARRIED.

(g) Orangeville Giants Suspension Appeal

The League Executive received and considered an appeal from the Orangeville Giants Baseball Club protesting the Orangeville at Clarksburg game on July 20, 2019, based on use of 80CC baseballs and the judgment of an umpire.

Written comments were received from the plate umpire Don Bartley and the Clarksburg Blues Baseball Club.

It was MOVED by Secretary Anderson, THAT the letter from Orangeville Giants Baseball Club dated July 22, 2019 be received, AND THAT no protest was given to the umpires for the use of 80CC baseballs at any point during the game, AND THAT judgment calls by an umpire cannot be protested, AND FURTHER THAT the Executive denies the protest and confirms the suspension of the Orangeville Giants, SECONDED by President Perkins, CARRIED.

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### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (a) Teams were asked to submit playoff game scores to Secretary Anderson for updates to the League website.
- (b) Team voting for awards is being conducted via an online form and teams were asked to submit their picks as soon as possible.

### 4. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting of the League shall be Wednesday, July 31, 2019

### 5. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED by Past President McIntyre, THAT the Meeting be adjourned at 9:24 p.m.,  
SECONDED by Treasurer Gowan, CARRIED.

July 22, 2019

NDBL executive,

I am protesting the game in Clarksburg on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 for the following 2 reasons: I don't feel the game ended appropriately and it was played with proper baseballs stated by the NDBL.

The first reason for protest is umpiring, not the quality of umpiring, but by the decision made for the ejection.

The umpire in Clarksburg was great behind the plate for calling the game but I feel was very influenced by the players on the Clarksburg team.

In the first inning I, Nathan Drury, was pitching and hit a player with a very slow knuckle ball around 50 MPH. It was the third batter and it was my first attempt at a knuckle ball that game. It hit a player on the Clarksburg team who instantly threw his bat and stared me down as he walked to first. I simply ignored it and nothing was said or done.

In the third inning a player hit a home run and overreacted – this was not the issue.

The issue was the constant vulgar language coming from the on deck batter. Nothing was said by the Ump and I didn't say a word as the player who hit the home run ran the bases.

When the next batter came to the plate, I threw an inside fastball. There was no attempt by the batter to get out of the way; he simply tried to wear it off his elbow guard – instead of stepping back (out) in the box as players would usually do. He stepped back towards the catcher and leaned inwards, taking the inside fastball off the elbow guard. In my opinion if he stepped away from the plate he would not have been hit.

The same guy who stared me down after being hit with the knuckle ball over reacted again as he demanded the Umpire give me a warning. Other team members joined in by yelling at the umpire from the bench to issue a warning.

It appeared at that time that the umpire had no intention of giving a warning to either team. But the Clarksburg team started getting louder about it and then the warning was issued.

It was the bottom of 3 with 1 or 0 outs and I feel this was way too early in the game to issue a warning. I have talked with other experienced umpires and the situation could have been handled differently. Even if a warning was issued that early in the game, there was no reason for an ejection in the bottom of the 7th inning during a tied game.

I then pitched outside and down the middle all game to avoid hitting a batter as the players chirped about me throwing beach balls. Meanwhile the Clarksburg's bench was constantly reminding the umpire that it would be a forfeit if we hit another player.

By the 7<sup>th</sup> inning I had already tried to warm up 2 different pitchers – both who were having arm issues. We did not have any other pitchers available for the game and that was the only reason I was still pitching after 6 innings and 2 HBP.

I would also like to mention that the umpire went into the home team dugout after every inning and socialized with the players. Often times we had to wait for him to get off their bench to start the inning.

I understand it happens all the time as we know most umpires in the NDBL. However, maybe the home umpire should be grabbing water, if needed, from the visitor's side when possible to defer any thoughts of prejudices.

I personally think the umpire was influenced by the Clarksburg players all game and the warning issued was not the right call at all.

I would like to add that the base umpire and a Clarksburg player, talked to me after the game letting me know I did a great job pitching and they didn't agree with the decision.

The second reason is the baseballs used; they are not allowed by the league and were banned 5 years ago.

**Baseballs-** Baseballs were definitely a big issue in the game.

The North Dufferin Baseball League banned the use of 80cc baseballs 5 years ago due to the quality of the ball. They do not stay round for an entire game, the stitches come loose and the skin around the ball gets loose. A teammate who currently coaches an 11U Select team says their team currently use this quality baseball.

In article 32 it states that proper balls will be used and have the approval from the home plate ump. As a league we agreed that the only balls we will use are ROML or better and the all star balls Aurora used to have.

I noticed the balls were 80cc but we drove over an hour drive from Orangeville and did not want to waste anyone's time. We did not want to make a big deal about baseballs because Clarksburg is a new team in the league

In conclusion I do not believe I should have been warned in the third inning, let alone ejected 4 innings later in the bottom of 7 in a tied game. It does not seem very professional from an umpire I personally have never seen in North Dufferin.

We believe it is fair to start the game from the beginning of the first inning with the use of real baseballs allowed by the league. We would also like an umpire behind the plate who knows the bylaws of the NDBL, including the rules on baseballs. The game should have never been played with kid's baseballs. It's like allowing aluminum bats for a game; it's not a real game.

As stated in Article 48: the bylaws are intended as a general guideline. For our first forfeit there wasn't much I could do. It was the day after the All-Star game that I had over 10 players from the Giants volunteer for. It was a rescheduled rain out and was not an original date on our schedule. We had 9 players attending until one player was called into work which left us short for players and messed up rides.

As for our second forfeit, it should not have been a forfeit. It was just an ump influenced by the paying home team.

I would also like to say this is my 10th year in NDBL and I have missed 1 game in the 10 years I've been in the league for my mother's 50th birthday party. I have dedicated my last 10 summers to this league and have done nothing but support the league and give people a place to play baseball.

Thank you for your time,

Nathan Drury

Orangeville Giants

**Subject** Comments on Orangeville Forfeit  
**From** Tristan Hill [REDACTED] >  
**To** Scott W. Anderson <secretary@ndbl.ca>  
**Date** 2019-07-21 22:54



To the North Dufferin Baseball League Executive,

As per your previous email, the Clarksburg Blues are submitting the following statement regarding the July 20th meeting between the Blues and Orangeville Giants.

In the first inning Clarksburg's N. Lennox is hit by pitch on a ball thrown between the shoulder blades by Orangeville pitcher N. Drury.

In the third inning N. Lennox is hit by another pitch by pitcher N. Drury. Drury then approached the first base line to confront Lennox. Words were exchanged. Umpire Don Bartley quickly stopped the altercation and immediately issued a warning to both teams.

The game continued through to the seventh inning when Clarksburg's S. Postma is hit by yet another pitch by N. Drury after much deliberation and a time out on the mound that made it quite evidently intentional.

N. Drury was then ejected as per the third inning warning. Orangeville was no longer able to field a team of 9 players.

Following the game Orangeville's M. Drury (appearing to be in an altered state of mind) and fans rushed towards the Clarksburg bench (allegedly trying to talk to the umpire) putting Clarksburg players and fans at risk when trying to protect themselves.

That is all the comments we have on the matter but if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact myself by email or phone at (705) 994-4164. We look forward to hearing the outcome of the appeal.

Thank you,  
Tristan Hill

July 22, 2019

Hi Scott,

Here is my report:

Bottom 3, Pitcher Drury drills Lennox on 1st pitch after big HR by Blues. No doubt in my mind, it was intentional. Drury and Lennox exchange glares and comments. I walked, got Drury back to mound. Warned Drury and Clarksburg officially.

Top of 5th or 6th, Lennox complained that Drury spiked him deliberately on a pickoff play. I told Lennox I didn't see it and base ump didn't either. Lennox and Drury exchanged pleasantries again.

Bottom 7, leadoff hitter has 3-0 count (after Drury almost hits him twice). Drury then stands on rubber, spinning ball in hand until batter finally asks for time. After time, batter returns to box, Drury again starts spinning ball in hand, no signals, shake offs, nothing. Batter moves to call time again. Drury winds up and drills batter in back. I call time, eject Drury, game is over for forfeit.

I leave diamond. A couple minutes later, Drury brother (SS?), loses his cool, calls me every name imaginable, including a [REDACTED] I ignore him, leave diamond to change. SS then tries to come after me behind backstop, near stands but is stopped by Ron Lennox and Josh Hill (baseump). Both teams end up in scuffle near stands. Scott had a bird's eye view of it. I was nowhere near, changing. Pitcher, Nathan? stopped to talk with me on his way to his car. He was calm. We disagreed on his take of the first beaming in the 3rd, when the warning was given to both teams. My interpretation of the 2nd beaming in the bottom of the 7th is that, after his bizarre delay on the mound, he decided to drill the batter, period.

Bart