

05/04/2016

Newtown Parks & Rec Glander 3 Update

Carl Samuelson and Ed Marks spoke to “improve communication between Newtown Babe Ruth and Parks & Rec”. Carl is concerned about our field needs for hosting tournaments. He spoke to past and current waiver requests.

Carl requested documentation on Newtown’s tryout procedure to see how it can work with Parks & Rec policy.

Carl disputed the NBR minutes that mentioned speculation that Parks & Rec may work slowly on purpose.

Carl requested more communication about maintenance issues.

[Long discussion about budgetary issues that limit what can be done about field maintenance issues.]

[Long discussion about usage fees and what that money pays for.]

[Discussion about the logic of make a new field in Glander be a baseball field and converting Liberty to a softball field].

Ed Marks requested that NBR review the documents he passed out and give feedback.

Spring Registration Numbers

Only down about 1%.

Travel Uniform Fittings

May 5th. Deposits are required before uniforms can be ordered.

Bethel Al Leonard Tournament

Scheduled June 10 through 24. Consult the Bethel Baseball site for more information.

Cal Ripken Summer Xtreme Scheduling Meeting

Alexandria Room on May 19th. The 9’ & 10’s are from 6:30 to 7:45, other ages after.

Fan Fest Recap

Very well received.

Picture Day

May 14. Information will be on the web site.

Tournament Books & I.D. Cards

District team coaches should start working on their tournament books. Coaches should technically be certified already.

Playing Up

Andy led off with a recitation of an email he wrote to Frank Milano, the 9-year-old division director, explaining the NBR board position on allowing players who qualify for the 8-year-old division to play on a 9-year-old district team. (see attached)

[Andy explained how some teams such as the 11a team were arranged.]

[Discussion about what happened with 9U tryouts. Despite NBR policy, two players who are aged in the 8-year-old division were offered spots on the 9A team, one was offered a spot on the 9B team, and four 9-year-old players were cut.]

After the meeting, the NBR board convened to vote on whether to let the 9-year-old travel teams remain as is or to remove the 8-year-old players in accordance with the NBR board position. The board voted to keep the teams in place in order to spare the 8-year-old players the disappointment of having been told they made a team only to then be told that they couldn't be on the team.

Subject	8 Year-Old Players
From	Andy Via
To	Milano, Frank (US - Hartford)
Sent	Monday, April 25, 2016 8:16 AM

Frank, this past weekend the board discussed the three 8 year-old players playing with the 9s. We were unanimous. Rosen, Leyva, and Gerace may not play on the 9U District team. Depending on the numbers of kids trying out, they may be eligible to play on the 9B team. If the numbers are not in their favor, for example 27 kids tryout, then they will have to play with the 8s. I know how you feel and do understand that putting the best team on the field gives us the best chance to win but this is far more important than just winning baseball games. We mandate that children play with their own age group to facilitate friendships and harmony. Every year there are younger players that can easily play with the group above them. I do not want to face a parent of a 9 year-old and tell them their child got cut to make room for an 8 year-old. I just can not do that. Getting cut based on ability hurts enough. If you want to let Sordi and McMahon know today that is fine. If it changes what team Matt's son tries out for then so be it. I know how Matt feels as well but the board is looking at the larger picture and how letting younger players try out for District teams might unravel every division. I realize that two of the players are on your team. If the parents approach you about it feel free to tell them your hands are tied on this. Call me if you need to discuss it.

Andy