

# LYBSA Board Meeting – 09/25/2024

## 1. Age Division Additions

- a. We had 2 separate families attend our meeting to advocate and push why they felt we should add age divisions to each of our leagues
- b. Rebekah P. asked for us to consider adding a 16u age division to baseball
  - i. we would not need any additional field modifications as our Field 1 is already set for this level of play.
  - ii. Things we would need to overcome:
    1. ensuring we have the number of athletes (at least 20-22 would be the goal)
    2. reaching out to the head coaches of the high schools to encourage them to send players that a. may not make the team and b. ones that are on the fence and need extra work come play in our league for the extra. I'm confident fall would be good as it would be before high school starts, but spring may be a bigger challenge with this. It could turn into just a fall 16u division, then not have it in spring
    3. in the fall we could also play the high school freshman teams in the area—Lago Vista has already shown support of this as well.
  - iii. The goal is to implement this for next fall season—Fall 2025
- c. Kimberly H. asked for us to consider a 14u division for softball
  - i. only modification we would need is a mound at the correct distance
    1. Solution: investing in a portable pitching mat that can be nailed in for 14u games
  - ii. we would do similar: reach out to the high schools and eligible athletes to join
  - iii. This will be implemented into our spring season—Spring 2025

## 2. Rulebook Additions

- a. Pitch Counts
  - i. it was brought up that some athletes play in both our rec league and a select team—coached by a coach who is also in our rec league—and the question of pitch counts came up. In our rules now, it does not specify that the pitch counts apply to games played outside of our league. However, it should be
  - ii. We cannot police it strictly, however, if coaches are given that "warning" or encouragement to manage it themselves and stay on top of the parents to make sure they are advocating for their child is what we want to push toward.
  - iii. Adding something in our rules that reads: **"Coaches are expected to adhere to the pitch count rules in games within and outside of our league for safety of the player. If we as a board are informed or find out by a separate means that the player pitched over the maximum pitches, or did not exercise the proper amount of rest days, then repercussions**

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will be made. This includes, but is not limited to the athlete only being allowed to DH for 2+ games, or something similar."

1. This will be implemented in the spring 2025 season.

- iv. Something related to this was brought up about reversion back to pitch counts so players can get around the rest days.
  - 1. For example: a pitcher is at 17 pitches when he starts his last batter, pitches 6 pitches to get out of the inning, then is pulled from pitching. It has been told to some coaches that they can revert back to 20 so the player does not have to take the rest day.
  - 2. However, this rule is stated to only apply for the maximum number of pitches per day, NOT per breakdown of rest days. I will be speaking with the UIC to ensure we are on the same page.

## b. Hat Picks

- i. It will be adjusted that hat picks will no longer be tradeable during the draft.
- ii. Hat picks are players that do not attend the tryouts and names are placed in a hat to be placed on a team. Previously, the rule stated that hat picks were allowed to be traded as long as they were not traded to their previous team, but it will now be no trading with hat picks are allowed.
- iii. This is to deter players not attending the tryout so other coaches can't see how good they are, then the coaches who want them corner other coaches about allowing them to have them.

1. This will be implemented for spring 2025

## 3. All Star Selection Process (Coaches and Players)

- a. Changing it up: Having all head coaches be a part of the process—teams will be made BEFORE coaches are assigned in hopes to avoid biases, and giving every player a fair shot since there will be several coaches there to advocate for them
- b. Start with coaches sending in their nominations—no limitations for how many, but they have to list a reason WHY they are nominating them.
  - i. Can include things like stats, intangible traits, etc.
- c. The remaining coaches will be sent this extensive list so they can start watching the kids earlier in the season.
  - i. For kids who end up being on the bubble, or maybe coaches just need a little longer of a look at them (maybe they had a bad game against their team) we can host a small, private tryout, instead of a long, drawn out, messy tryout.
- d. Then, on the chosen date for that age group, the coaches come in with all the nominations and the list will be narrowed down to the top number of however many teams we plan to have. For example, if we plan to have 2 10u teams, then the coaches will vote and narrow down to the top 24 players.
- e. Once this is done, there is an anonymous ballot that we will be conducted to make the top 8 players for team 1

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- f. the coach will be announced, and they may select the remaining 4 slots based on the players that are left from the initial 24.
  - g. This process (letter e & f) will be repeated until there are the final 12 left to make the final team.
  - h. Meanwhile, prior to this date, coaches will have been nominated/voted on and will then be interviewed extensively by the board, or just myself, Ryan and Jonna (the VP's), and will only be announced once the roster of the initial 8 is established. Going into the meeting, no one but the board or us 3 will know who the coaches are.
  - i. This is hopeful to diminish bias, but still allow coaches to having a say of who can be on their team.
  - j. This process will be for softball as well, but they are unique as we often have much less numbers of interest in all stars so a slightly modified process may be conducted as well.
    - i. This All-Star selection process will be put into place for Spring 2025
  - k. \*\*We will not be sending a 6u all-star team this upcoming season. We will need to revamp/edit our 6u rules in order to give the athletes a better chance and a more prepared season to feel competitive in the all-star world
    - i. These adjustments for 6u will be made for fall 2025.
4. Select league
- a. An athlete had reached out to me requesting that we look to add a select league similar to CPYL.
  - b. Our biggest hurdles with this:
    - i. Field spacing/rentals
    - ii. Insurance (teams must be insured themselves for playing in outside tournaments)
    - iii. Tournament costs
    - iv. Uniforms
    - v. Qualified and knowledgeable coaches that are willing, able, and dedicated to a select team
  - c. All of these things are added expenses when it comes to select that would need to be figured out prior to starting an outside select league. What ultimately seems to be the biggest plus with CPYL's league is they have the field spacing to allow their teams to practice.
  - d. With our space, this is unfortunately not something that we can dedicate a lot of time to at this moment. Once we can expand, this can be put higher on our list of priorities.