Team Rep Meeting Agenda

Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7:30 pm

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| **Wombats** | AM, K | **Mood Swings** | J | **Heavy Hitters** | K |
| **Royals** | CW | **Oddballs** | K, C | **Peaches** | JK |
| **Sway** | Amy Adams, PE, C | **Fruit Forward** | Ashley Fehr, S | **Bunt Cakes** | CK |
| **Grizz** | MJ, Nat Gingerich, | **Bat Intentions** | J | **Catching Feels** | M |
| **Hummingbirds** | S | **Heartbreakers** | ARG | **Reckless** | T |
| **TBD** | M | **Swingers** | S | **McGlovin’** | LP, KP, AB, Grace Mathisen |
| **Rebels** | Malloreigh Hamilton, HW, Jaydeen Williams, RR | **Hit Happens** | Kate Peterson, HM |  |  |

**Chair:** Ashley

1. Land acknowledgement
2. LIL Tournament debrief: We sold a ton of merch we will order more soon. The tie dye merch sold quickly.

**Treasurer:** Jaydeen

1. Budget update
   * Grant Update: The city of Vancouver has changed its costs for fields. Our budgets next year will be higher because of this. We have some grant funds that we will spend in the next few weeks. If you have any ideas, especially regarding how to spend the grant money for the finals, please contact Jaydeen, [treasurer@mabelleague.com](mailto:treasurer@mabelleague.com).

**Schedule:** Malloreigh/Sid

1. Please submit scores! Only a few games are missing.

**Events**: Angel

1. Night at the Nat: Saturday July 15th, sales are closing this Wednesday at 4 pm. We are nearing the max ticket allotment. Team tickets will be sorted so they can sit together. Let Angel know about seating preferences if your team is worried about accessibility.

**Registrar:** Amy

1. Sub list update: A few more rec players will be added. Please be mindful of how to speak to Umpires. We have the ability to challenge calls and it’s getting aggravating for the new teams. You don’t all need to go up to the plate and talk to the ump. We can cover fees for umps if you commit to 5 or more games! We have gear we can loan to you for umping.

**Division A Discussion: Pitching and Rules**

The current rules that Mabel has for pitching do not reflect where pitching is going within the Competitive division. Mabel decided years ago to make pitching more accessible and had the distance changed from 43 feet to 40 feet to make it more inclusive and easier to learn. There are a lot positives that have come out of this change, but now in the competitive division we have more pitchers who can pitch at the 43 ft distance and use different styles. We also have players who don’t use different styles but have expressed interest in learning them. **We want to see the rules written to match whatever it is that we decide to do going forward.**

A Division Reps will talk to their teams about changing pitching rules.

There is a lot of great questions that have come out of the discussions regarding changing the rules for pitching (predominantly involving the distance of pitch and the inclusion of a pitching rubber). Some of the questions are:

* 1. Is this the direction of play that we’d like for our league to go in for the next few years?
  2. Do we get pitching rubbers?
  3. Where does the rubber go if we have two pitchers pitching in different styles?
  4. How would changing the rules effect pitchers currently in our league?
  5. Could we include rules about spray chalk for games with pitching different styles at different distances? Sway already uses spray chalk.
  6. Changing the rules would affect the style of game. Do we want the games to be high scoring or more defensive?
  7. How can we bring this to Softball Canada? (Slingshot is illegal in Softball Canada, but allowed in Mabel).
  8. Is there a place for pitchers and games with pitchers pitching from different distances?
  9. What rules would we like to keep?
  10. There are 2 pitchers in competitive who can do slingshot and take a leap. Is the 40 ft accommodation irrelevant for them?
  11. K on Wombats: pitching windmill and ortho-slingshot are two different mechanics. Ortho-slingshot is slower. Can we split the difference regarding 40 vs 43 ft? (40 ft is tight pitching for windmill)
  12. In terms of pitching rubber, a few things change. Without a rubber, feet are allowed to be far apart. How should the feet start?
  13. Would we have a rubber in front of a pitcher windmilling? Are we pushing for windmill in this division? Is this what we’re building towards? (Having a rubber would be great because pitchers have uneven ground for push off. This makes the actual mechanics harder for the pitchers to pitch in this style. As the pitcher moves back, the release point changes. C on Sway believes if this is the direction we’d like the league to go in, the standard distance should become 43 ft.)
  14. Leap vs stride. If a leap is introduced, is that when the distance would be moved back?
  15. Is it incentivising to move the line back?
  16. How would a hypothetical change to 43ft effect players who don’t currently pitch in the modified style currently?
  17. Could changing the rules for pitching to 43 ft and including rules around a pitching rubber could be a disadvantage for second line pitchers?
  18. With the different pitching styles and the current rules, do the umpires even know what they’re looking at?
  19. For people who grew up playing competitive, the windmill style feels seamless, but is there a barrier for those who would be interested in learning it who are part of the league but did not learn the windmill style outside of Mabel?
  20. 40” ortho. 42” modified windmill. 43” full windmill. There’s a huge spectrum of pitching styles within the league. Can we facilitate this?
  21. Do we do anything about the crow hop?

M on Grizz hopes to have this conversation more going into finals or at the AGM in September.

CW on Royals will have this conversation with their pitchers. With the change with the actual rule, our pitchers would generally prefer just to play windmill, but would we lose players in general? The pitching rubber would be helpful. Royals would be on board for the adjustment with ¾’s with a rubber and moving the line back.

*Action Item: Team reps in the A division to speak to their teams about updating our rules regarding pitching and bring their thoughts forward for this.*

Competitive teams have really strong hitters. At this point, for pitchers, the possibility of striking hitters out is low. Do we want high scoring games or not?

The distance does not have to change, but how the rule is written. **We need to write the rules in a way that makes it also accessible for players to learn this style and clearly so that everyone can adhere to the rules.**

We will have another conversation in a month of so with the competitive division teams. Team reps will talk to their players and gain feedback.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM.