



The Secretariat
Brindlee Mountain Rotisserie Baseball Association
P.O. Box 602, Arab, Alabama 35016
www.bmrba.com



February 1, 2005

Winter Meeting

We had a very good turnout for our annual Winter Meeting which was held on Sunday, January 30, at the Golden Rule Restaurant in Arab. A quorum of 14 franchises was represented by the following Owners: Steve Parker, Keith Poole, Larry Holder, Ron Jordan, Chris Leak, Keith Smith, Olen McClendon, Dave Miller, Chris Ponder, Phil Laney, and Yours Truly. Zane Laney's AL franchise was represented by Phil Laney.

Much like the meeting a year ago, there was a good deal of brisk and savvy discussion of the issues, both new and old. The meeting agenda and a summary of the issues discussed follow.

1. Election of Officers

Commissioner Steve Parker, Secretary Rhett Leak, and Treasurer Olen McClendon were re-elected – without opposition – for yet another year.

2. Schedule for 2005 Season

In accordance with our Bylaws, the Owners reviewed the schedule for Roster Freeze and Auction Day as indicated below. It should be noted that Easter falls on March 27. Phil Laney has again scheduled our big days to be at the Arab Recreation Center.

MLB Opening Day:	Sunday, April 10
Roster Freeze (both leagues):	Sunday, March 27, 12:00 Noon
American League Auction:	Saturday, April 9, 9:00 AM
First Auction Bid:	<i>Dittoheads</i>
First Reserve Pick:	<i>Slim Chance</i>
National League Auction:	Sunday, April 10, 10:00 AM
First Auction Bid:	<i>Boys of Summer</i>
First Reserve Pick:	<i>Music Men</i>

Since we will be drafting players the weekend following opening day, we should be able to gather our rosters from USA Today/Sports Weekly as we have done many times before.

3. League Expenses

- A. **Stat Software for 2004:** It was agreed that GrandSlam[®] software will again be used for our weekly stats. The cost is still \$225 to cover both leagues. Rhett Leak has already for this item and will be reimbursed by the Treasurer from the prize pool after Auction Days.

- B. **Register Domain Name:** Rhett Leak renewed the registration of website's domain name at a cost of \$35 for the year ending 12/18/2005. He will be reimbursed from the prize pool after the Auctions.
 - C. **Website Hosting:** Rhett paid for a year of web hosting service through Hostway at a cost \$215.40. This service is paid through 12/8/2005 and Rhett will be reimbursed from the prize pool after the Auctions.
 - D. **Web Transactions Project:** It was agreed that we should proceed to develop web-based transaction processing. Rhett updated the Owners as to the status of the project and explained that it should be available for testing around the middle of March.
 - 1) The Owners agreed that an additional \$500 would be paid to Jack Hamilton (the software developer) upon delivery of the product, but not before Auction Day. This \$500 is to be paid in the following manner: \$250 from the treasury's "capital fund" which presently has a balance of about \$505; the other \$250 to be paid by a surcharge of \$10 on each of the 25 franchises for this year only.
 - 2) It was also agreed that the league should pay an annual fee of \$250 to Jack for maintenance of the software beginning in 2006. How to fund this cost is to be determined at next winter's meeting.
4. **Rules Change Proposals Adopted** (Voting format = Aye-Nay-Abstain)
- A. Modify **Article 5.0**, regarding the **Change Procedure**, to clarify intent of the Article to mirror that of Robert's Rules of Order in determining the outcome of voting. Approved by a 14-0 vote, the change is such that, if a quorum is present, the Bylaws may be changed by a 2/3 vote of the votes cast.
 - B. Further modify **Article 5.0**, regarding the **Change Procedure**, to place restrictions on the use of "proxies" to attain a quorum and for voting rights. This change also requires a change to **Article 1.1.2**, regarding **Voting Rights**. Specifically, the change regarding proxies is two-fold:
 - 1) (Approved by a 12-1-1 vote.) The proxy must be identified to an officer prior to the meeting; and
 - 2) (Approved by a 10-3-1 vote.) No individual can carry the proxy for more than one owner with 2 franchises.
 - C. Modify **Article 8.1**, regarding Minimum Times At Bat, to increase the minimum requirement from 4250 to 4750. This change was approved 12-2.
 - D. Modify **Article 12.1**, regarding the limited number of "keepers" from the previous season. By a vote of 10-4, the limit – now 15 active players plus 3 "rookies" – is reduced to a total of 15 players. The 15 player limit is thereby restricted to a maximum of 12 active players and 3 "rookies," *effective next year* (Roster Freeze, 2006). Note that this change, by implication, requires a minor change to Article 12.2.1.
5. **Rules Change Proposals Rejected, Tabled, and Withdrawn** (Voting format = Aye-Nay-Abstain)
- A. (**Defeated** 3-10-1) Modify **Articles 8.1** and **8.2**, regarding Minimum Times At Bat and Innings Pitched. It was proposed to increase the minimum at bats requirement from 4250

to 4750 and modify penalties for teams falling short of these minimum at bats and innings pitched requirements.

- B. (**Defeated** 8-6-0) Modify **Article 9.4.8**, regarding **Special Restriction(s) on Certain Free Agents**, to prohibit the trade, waive, or release of a free agent acquired during the season at a salary greater than \$24.
- C. (**Tabled** for further study) Add **Article 9.4.9**, providing for a means by which a team's FAAB account may be reimbursed when a player is lost to the other ML via trade.
- D. (**Defeated** 4-5-5) Modify **Article 10.0**, regarding National League Awards, to eliminate the cash award for the fifth place team.
- E. (**Defeated** 1-11-2) Modify **Article 12.2.1.3**, regarding the status of "rookies" retained at Roster Freeze, such that an "R" type player may be kept on an Active roster with a Contract Status of "A" rather than "B." Such an "A" player would count against the team's \$260 budget on Auction Day. The proposal also requested changing **12.1.1** so that such a player, if not on a Major League roster on Auction Day, must be returned to the player pool and thus cannot be kept as a "reserve."
- F. (**Withdrawn**, for failure of "E" above) If the above change ("E") had been adopted (modifying 12.2.1.3 as described), it was recommended that **Article 12.1.1** be revised such that *all* players retained on an Active roster at Roster Freeze who are not on a MLB roster on Auction Day also be returned to the player pool and thus cannot be kept as "reserves."
- G. (**Defeated** 5-9-0) Modify **Article 12.1**, regarding the limited number of "keepers" from the previous season as described in item 4.C above, but effectively this year.
- H. (**Defeated** 4-6-4) Reduce maximum roster size from 40 to 35 players.

See y'all on Auction Day – both of them....

Rhett Leak
Secretary, BMRBA