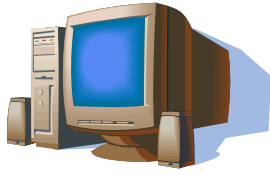


Brindlee Mountain Rotisserie Baseball Association

BMRBA



PO Box 602
Arab, Alabama 35016
www.bmrba.com



February 11, 2011

WINTER MEETING

Our annual Winter Meeting was held on Sunday, January 30, at the Los Arcos restaurant in the heart of Arab in the heart of Dixie and deep in the hearts of the Very Best. The accommodations were fine, though unexceptional, and the food? Well, the food was plentiful. And Mexican. In keeping with our recent trend, however, only a few Owners were present: Keith Poole, Larry Holder, Steve Parker, Olen McClendon, and Your Secretary, as well as Mark Avery, by proxy.

Auction Day(s) – Those present confirmed that Auction Day(s) would fall on Saturday, April 2, and Sunday, April 3. This and other related data has been placed on our website's home page.

Ownership Change – Josh Phillips has requested his Ownership of the Punch & Judy franchise be terminated. Thus Steve Flack's long-standing desire to own an AL team is satisfied. An online poll drew no dissenting votes for the new Ownership. We'll miss Josh's competitive spirit, but the Flackster is a worthy successor. Sources say Steve's yet renamed team is loaded.

League Expenses – Our expenses have been declining since we moved our website hosting to godaddy.com. The cost is now about \$100 a year, including domain name registration, instead of the former \$250. Our stat software, GrandSlam, from Centerfield Software, will still hit us for \$275 for the two leagues.

Rules Change Proposals – The Owners present at the meeting represented only nine (9) franchises, thus a quorum (13) was not present. In keeping with our Bylaws, those present formed a Rules Committee to review a number of proposed changes and to formulate recommendations to the Committee-of-the-Whole. A summary of the voting results on each proposal appears in **Appendix A**.

Changes Adopted – The Rules Committee voted to propose 11 changes to the Bylaws, of which nine (9) were adopted by the required 2/3 majority of the Owners in a subsequent online poll. Those nine are described below, followed descriptions of those that did pass muster.

1. Modify **Article 9.2.3.4 (Other Trade Restrictions)**, regarding the trading of a player back to the team he was traded from, such that, beginning with the end of the 2010 BMRBA season, any player traded in the off season cannot be traded back to the same team by the original trading team until the next off season (i.e., end of the current season year.)

ADOPTED 16-8

Rationale: Teams shouldn't be able to trade a player in the off season and then trade him back to the same team during the BMRBA season.

2. Modify **Article 3.4**, regarding **Payment Requirements**, such that, beginning with BMRBA draft day 2011, all dues and fees/penalties due on draft day must be paid in full by June

1st of the season or no transactions for that team will be allowed until all such amounts owed are paid in full. It is further required that the Commissioner send a reminder to that effect about 10-14 days prior to this June 1 due date. **ADOPTED, 21-3**

Rationale: Seeking more timely payment

3. Modify **Article 9.4.8.2 (Special Restriction on Certain Free Agents)**, regarding payment of fees for acquisition of free agents, such that, beginning with the 2011 BMRBA season, for any free agent of \$25 or more, the penalty, which is the amount bid for the free agent, is due and payable by September 1 or within seven (7) days of the reported acquisition. Failure of timely payment by the purchasing team will result in no transactions being processed from August 15th and loss of all stats by the player purchased from the date of purchase. **ADOPTED, 22-2**

Rationale: "Don't play if you are not going to pay."

4. Modify **Articles 8.3 (Tie-Breaking Procedure)** and **9.2.1.2 (Contiguous Team Trading Period)** such that the procedure in 8.3 is no longer used to determine whether teams are contiguous for legitimizing trades during the Contiguous Team Trading Period (for the most part, during the month of August). The rule will reduce confusion over teams can trade with when there is a tie in the standings.

Specifically, modify Article 8.3 by *deleting* item 4) "determining which teams are "contiguous" as defined in Article 9.2.1.2." Also modify the second paragraph of Article 9.2.1.2 to read, "If, as a result of a tie in the most recent (i.e., previously reported) standings, there appear to be multiple contiguous teams, trades may be transacted between or among any of the contiguous teams." **ADOPTED, 24-0**

Rationale: The existing rule is difficult to administer. During the 2010 season a trade was conducted by two "non-contiguous" teams in violation of this rule because the previous week's standings did not reflect the "true" standings determined by the tie-breaker rules. This change would simplify the rule and its administration.

5. Modify **Article 9.4.5.1 (Maintaining Roster Integrity)**, such that players can be replaced via the free agent process if they go to the "other" league for *any* reason, rather than only when "traded." Specifically, the second paragraph in 9.4.5.1 should be changed to read, "A franchise may acquire a free agent without waiving an "active" Major League player by "releasing" a player from his Active roster if the player so released *has been acquired by a team in the other Major League*, at any time thereafter, provided the player in question is still on his BMRBA team's active roster. **ADOPTED, 19-5**

Rationale: The current rule affects situations *only* when a player is *traded* to the other league. More often a player is either released or waived by a team in one league and signed by a team in another league, rather than being traded from one league to another. This simply seems fairer.

6. Modify **Article 1.1.4** (and other applicable sections), regarding **Meetings of the Committee-of-the-Whole**, such that the existing Awards and All-star meetings be eliminated. The purpose of the annual Winter Meeting should continue to include rules change discussions and voting as well as planning for the coming season. Any cash prizes will be awarded in the fall as always. **ADOPTED, 24-0**

Rationale: As a practical matter, we no longer need an Awards Meeting or an All-star Meeting, since no one comes to these anymore. This is no doubt due, at least in part, to the advancing technology in communications.

7. Modify **Article 10.0**, regarding **Awards**, to replace the traditional Yoo-Hoo Shampoo with an inexpensive fantasy baseball-appropriate trophy that will also display a bottle (or can) of that most cherished of chocolate drinks. The trophy will include the team and Owner names as applicable. Furthermore, these awards for the respective league champions should be made in a brief ceremony before commencing that league's next Auction, thus eliminating any need for the Awards Meeting. **ADOPTED, 20-4**

Rationale: Due to our advancing ages and corresponding dangers of the fabled tradition of the Yoo-Hoo Shampoo, the trophy will be a personalized touch and cost very little.

8. Modify **Article 6.1.1**, regarding **Player Eligibility** for the Auction, such that only players on a 40-man roster and those who are official non-rosters invitees, per MLB.com as of March 1 preceding the annual Auction date, shall be eligible for a team's Active (23-man) roster and therefore subject to the bid process. The Secretary will publish such list of players on the BMRBA website. This change takes effect immediately (i.e., for the 2011 Auction and season) and could change the very nature of our Auctions. **ADOPTED, 18-6**

Rationale: It is as often as not difficult to obtain the so-called "Opening Day" rosters due to the quirks in the calendar for Opening Day, Easter, etc. Using the 40-man rosters that are readily available in early March would minimize that problem while adding a new and possibly interesting twist to the annual Auction. Note that this change would affect only the "Auction," not the Reserve draft that follows.

9. Modify **Article 1.1.4.3**, regarding **Auction Days**, to include a requirement such that the AL and NL Auctions are alternated each season between the Saturday and Sunday dates. *This change would not take effect until the 2012 Auctions.* **ADOPTED, 18-6**

Rationale: The rotation will provide single-team Owners a break on their Saturday or Sunday routine every other year.

Changes Rejected – Of the 11 changes proposed by the Rules Committee, two failed to receive the necessary 2/3 majority vote in favor and thus rejected by the Owners. These are described below.

1. Modify **Articles 12.0 (Roster Protection)**, **12.3 (Post-Season Rosters)**, and **6.1 (Auction Day)** such that, when an Owner fails to meet certain specified deadlines, to wit, Roster Freeze and submission of Winter Rosters, the Commissioner or his Designee shall do so without question or recourse. Furthermore, for each such occurrence, the Commissioner shall assess a penalty of \$10 against the Auction fund available to said franchise at the next applicable Auction. This means that team will have that much deducted from its normal \$260 Auction fund. **REJECTED, 8-16**
2. Modify **Article 6.2**, regarding the **Reserve Draft** and **Article 11.1.2**, regarding **Players Acquired via the Reserve Draft** such that only ten (10) players are drafted instead of the current seventeen (17). Salaries of such players will be as shown in the table below. **REJECTED, 10-14**

<u>Draft Rounds</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Round 1	\$15
Round 2	10
Rounds 3-6	5
Rounds 7-10	2

As always, I look forward to seeing you on Auction Day,

Rhett Leak,
Secretary

Appendix A
Voting Results for Changes to Bylaws
February, 2011

Proposal #	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#12	#13
AC Power	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Corduroy Frog	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dittoheads	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Human Growth Hormone	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES
Jazzmen	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
Mule Skinners	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES
Phil of Dreams	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES
Punch & Judy	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Rhett Butlers	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Riverboat Gamblers	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Scant City Ballers	Votes cast late										
Sons of Levi	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO
Ballpark Stars	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Boys of Summer	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
House of David	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO
Music Men	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
Phat Chance	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES
Rhett's Ramblers	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Rock & Roll Express	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Rockford Flies	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Run DMC	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Skinner's Revenge	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES
Smitty's Smackers	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Stevie's Wonders	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
Yankees Suck!	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Proposal #	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#12	#13
YES	16	21	22	8	24	19	24	20	18	10	18
NO	8	3	2	16	0	5	0	4	6	14	6
Needed to Pass	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
	APPROVED	APPROVED	APPROVED	REJECTED	APPROVED	APPROVED	APPROVED	APPROVED	APPROVED	REJECTED	APPROVED