

Brindlee Mountain Rotisserie Baseball Association

BMRBA



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January 30, 2020

Winter Meeting

Our annual Winter Meeting was held on Sunday, January 26, at Los Arcos in Arab. The meeting was attended by eleven (12) Owners representing seventeen (17) franchises. Attending Owners included the following: Chris Leak, Roxy Wiley, Mark Gentle, Zane Laney, Keith Smith, Phil Laney, Steve Parker, Jake Minnix, Chris Johnson, Greg Faulkner, Olen McClendon, and Yours Truly.

As anticipated, with many issues discuss and with 12 people involved, the meeting was pretty long and boisterous. But it was productive. The BMRBA business conducted is summarized below as best I can within the fading limits of my memory and note-taking ability.

Please review this report carefully and pass along any comments or questions you have.

1. **Call for Quorum** – There being 17 franchises in attendance, a quorum was available. Thus decisions are binding on the Whole.
2. **Officers** – Steve Parker and Rhett Leak were selected to continue as Commissioner and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively. It was also agreed that stats would be generated again by Rhett Leak and Mark Avery.
3. **Financial Report** – The final report for 2019 was circulated for review. It reflected an account balance of \$471.01. Checking and savings account are held at Citizens Bank & Trust in Arab.
4. **Ownership Changes** – None were reported and none are anticipated.
5. **Review of Key Dates** – Key dates as scheduled were confirmed:
 - A. **Roster Freeze** – Noon, March 11
 - B. **National League Auction** – 9:00 AM, March 21
 - C. **American League Auction** – 9:00 AM, March 22

Note that Phil Laney has reserved a room at the Arab Recreation Center for the two Auction Days.

6. **Auctioneers** – Nothing has been finalized, but Henry Matuszak has volunteered to do the job.
7. **Rules Changes** – With 23 different rules change proposals to consider, many of them on identical or very similar issues, it was decided to give each franchise an opportunity to present one change nearest and dearest to his heart. Most of these prompted considerable debate, but only a few were adopted.

A. **Proposals Adopted** (12 votes required to adopt). It will take some time, but I will soon begin updating our Bylaws with the approved changes.

- 1) **Active Roster Requirements.** It was proposed and adopted that Roster Freeze keeper limits should be returned to the former 15 Active and 3 Reserve players with R Contract Status. In addition, it was agreed that the Utility position should be changed to a hitter-only position and that rosters should now require 11 pitchers. Note that this effectively increases Active rosters from 23 players to 25, including 14 hitters and 11 pitchers. It also eliminates the so-called 10th pitcher option since the UT position is now defined as hitter-only.

Adopted by Vote: **12 yes** to 5 no.

- 2) **Replace WHIP.** There being a strong consensus that WHIP is essentially a duplication of effectiveness as measured by ERA, it was agreed that WHIP (a calculated stat) should be replaced by a “cumulative” stat. Thus it was proposed and adopted that such a stat would replace WHIP with the specific replacement category to be named later.

Adopted by Vote: **12 yes** to 5 no.

- 3) **Replace WHIP with SOs.** After being voted down once, it was proposed a second time and adopted that the WHIP pitching category be replaced by pitching Strikeouts. It was confirmed that Rotowire can track SOs as necessary.

Adopted by Vote: **12 yes** to 5 no.

- 4) **Trade Restrictions.** After much discussion of various trade restrictions, it was proposed and adopted that *all* trades should be limited to no more than 2 players from and to the trading teams (2-for-2). This change affects trades during any period of time, including the off-season. No other trade rules were changed.

Adopted by Vote: **12 yes** to 5 no.

- 5) **Reserve Roster Requirements.** In light of the expansion of Active rosters to 25 players, it was proposed and adopted that Reserve rosters be reduced from 17 players to 15 and further that this be accomplished by eliminating one \$10 Reserve and one \$5 Reserve. This will be implemented by dropping the current \$10 R6 position and the \$5 R12 position, effectively leaving 4 \$10 positions (instead of 5) and 5 \$5 positions (instead of 6).

Adopted by Vote: **12 yes** to 5 no.

B. **Proposals Rejected**

- 1) **Disposition of Players Not on Active Roster.** It was proposed that players not on an Active MLB roster in the appropriate league on Auction Day should provide Owners with the option to Release such players into the free agent pool or keep them on the teams' Active roster. Currently, such players *must* be reserved and their salaries paid into the prize pool.

Rejected by Vote: 8 yes to **9 no**.

- 2) **Innings Pitched Minimum.** It was proposed and rejected that the minimum Innings Pitched requirement be eliminated. The current requirement of 1100 innings thus will be retained.

Rejected by Vote: 5 yes to **12 no.**

- 3) **Trade Restrictions.** Although there was much support to reduce the number of trades allowable, there was little or no agreement on what those numbers should be. It was proposed that trades be limited to 6 in season, 6 in the off-season, and that no more than 2-for-2 be allowed.

Rejected by Vote: 7 yes to **10 no.**

- 4) **Free Agent Bidding.** It was proposed that Free Agent bids be allowed on players not on Rotowire's free agent list if there is sound Rotowire evidence that a player has been added to an MLB roster and has played in games.

Rejected by Vote: 6 yes to **11 no.**

- 5) **Stat Categories.** It was proposed that the Saves category be replaced by the category Holds+Saves.

Rejected by Vote: 10 yes to **7 no.**

- 6) **Position Eligibility.** It was proposed that Rotowire's default position be used to determine position eligibility. Currently, games-played-by-position is the primary position eligibility determination.

Rejected by Vote: 4 yes to **13 no.**

As surely as the morning sun rises, I will see you in March and look forward to the coming season.

Rhett Leak,
Secretary