

**PMSPL 2015 Spring AGM Minutes**  
**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION**  
**2015-04-15**

**In attendance** – Lee Keeso, Al Luce, .Wayne MacFarlane, James Unger, Dale Suitor, Rob MacKay, Tom Park, Alex Regan, Brian Sharples, Ted Thornes, Kaus Chandroga, Keith Robbins, 49 Teams from A,B,C,D,E and F Divisions.

**Absent** – Peter Whitfield, Mike McMahon, Jeff Martell, Team B8, Team C4, Team C9, Team D12, Team E10

**Meeting Called To Order by Lee Keeso at 7:26 pm.**

**Agenda Items**

**1) Introduce 2015 Executive – Lee Keeso:** Our league is comprised of 54 teams with over 1000 players. Our league helps support diamond upgrades by the City Of Pickering. Our league has donated \$4000 for a brush to be added onto the diamond grooming machine. Our league received a letter from the Pickering Softball Association requesting a \$1000 sponsorship. We donated \$1000 to Pickering Softball Association. The 2015 League Executive was introduced to the team representatives. Lee Keeso invited all team representatives to join the league executive at the next Fall Annual General Meeting.

**2) City & Parks Report – Al Luce:** Al Luce reported that the dangerous lip between the outfield and infield at Centennial Park repair was completed today. He also reported that the installation of the new Musko lights at Kinsman Park was complete with the exception of removing some old electrical cables scheduled to be completed before the 2015 season begins. City Of Pickering will not install an outfield fence at William Dunbar south diamond due to opposition from William Dunbar School Principal over children safety concerns. One A Division Team Representative complained that the Dunsmore North diamond lights do not come on when storm clouds darken sky prior to dusk. Al Luce reminded all team representatives using the new Musko lights at Kinsman North and Dunsmore North diamonds must report any lighting problems on their score sheet in order for action to be taken to resolve lighting issues.

**3)Umpire In Chief News – Brian Sharples:** Brian Sharples advised the team representatives of the new rule changes adopted at the Fall Annual General Meeting last November.

**a.) Courtesy Runner.** Those players who require a runner from the plate (backstop) because of their inability to run can have a “courtesy runner” from the backstop. The intent of utilizing a courtesy runner must be made known to the opposing team and the plate umpire prior to an at-bat. Once a player utilizes a “courtesy runner” then that player must use a “courtesy runner” every time they are at-bat thereafter in the game. The courtesy runner will be the last player recorded out, as marked on the score sheet and who is eligible to act as a courtesy runner, or the last batter in the batting order, who is eligible to act as a courtesy runner, should there be no outs in the first inning. If a “courtesy runner” is still on base when he is due up to bat, skip him in the batting order with no penalty, and go to the next batter in the batting order. If the last player declared out by the umpire was a “pinch runner” for a player who can run the bases, then the player who was recorded out, as marked on the score sheet, will act as the courtesy runner for the next batter requiring a courtesy runner. Not the pinch runner. If the last player in the batting order will require a courtesy runner when he is due up to bat then he is not eligible to be a courtesy runner in the first inning with no one out. Go to the first eligible player up from the bottom of the batting order to determine who will act as a courtesy runner should there be no one out in the first inning.

**b.) Scoring.** A maximum of ten (10) runs may be scored in any inning with the exception of any “open innings”, in which an unlimited number of runs may be scored. “Open innings” will be declared by the umpire when a full inning ends after 1 hr. of regular play. No new, “open inning” will begin after 1 hr. 15 minutes of play. For the finals of tournament play and the playoffs “open innings” will be declared

by the umpire when a full inning ends after 1 hr. 15 minutes of regular play and no new “open inning” will begin after 1 hr. 30 minutes of play. Umpires will not be required to “guess” at what time to declare “last inning” as stated in the existing rule.

**c.) Jewellery.** Player is solely responsible for any injury/damage that may be caused by his wearing of jewellery. An umpire may have any player remove any jewellery or equipment he/she may deem dangerous. Refusal to comply is an immediate removal from the game. Any time a removed player is due up to bat will result in an out, except if there are 2 out. Knee braces must be covered. This rule proposal brings the league rule in line with the current rule on ejections and adds the same penalty as an ejected player.

**d.) Home Run.** After you exceed your home run limit of 3 more than the other team (over the fence) the next home run will be considered an out.

#### **4) Presidents Report – Lee Keeso:**

**a.) Yearly Divisional Alignment Process:** Going into each season, and depending on circumstances such as new and/or exiting teams, the League will review Divisional alignments, and where appropriate, move existing teams up or down a division (except for age restricted divisions) These re-alignments will generally reflect prior season performance, including regular season, tournaments and playoffs, but may also consider other factors as the League sees fit. At annual registration, teams in the following categories, that believe they should not be promoted or demoted, must provide their rationale in writing. (This does not imply that all teams in these categories would actually move) - Finished 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> in their Division the previous year, and/or - Finished 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Playoffs the previous year and/or - Won one of the League tournaments - Finished in the bottom 2 in their Division the previous year If no such representation is made by a team in these categories, it will be assumed they are OK with promotion/demotion, though it does not necessarily mean that will occur. The league will make decisions based on League/Divisional needs, prior year performance and any input provided by teams. Such decisions will be final. Teams affected will be advised as soon as possible thereafter.

**b.) Player Waiting Lists:** Our Registrar Jeff Martell maintains a waiting list of individual players for each division. Any team in need of players should contact Jeff Martell.

**c.) Team Rosters:** League Executive would like teams to submit their electronic version of their team roster when they submit payment in February each year. The deadline for submission of the electronic version is May 1 of each year. There is no roster changes allowed after June 15 each year unless approved by league executive.

**d.) Disciplinary Issues:** Lee Keeso reminded team representatives that it is their responsibility to ensure all players on their team respect the game, the umpires and the other players at all times.

**e.) Dugout Litter:** The City Of Pickering and the Pickering Men’s Slow-pitch League have a zero tolerance policy for litter in and around the baseball diamonds. The league advised team representatives that fines between \$50 and \$100 will be imposed for any violations of this policy.

**f.) Drinking and Drugs.** Team representatives are responsible for reminding their players that drinking and smoking in or around the City Of Pickering diamonds is strictly prohibited. The new smoking law states no smoking within 20 meters of the diamonds or playgrounds at the parks. Violations can result in player suspensions for remainder of season and fines from City Of Pickering By Law Enforcement Officers.

**g.) Reminders.** Teams reminded that they must advise their convenor 3 weeks prior to tournament dates if they want to opt in. Failure to report score by 23:59 hours Monday night will result in forfeit of game and loss of 2 points. Home team at first game of the day at diamonds are responsible to set up bases. Home team at last game of the day at diamonds are responsible to put bases away. Teams must have a minimum of 8 players to play a game. Teams reminded that score sheets must be properly filled out to

include date, time, park, team name and number. Also a batting order that included players last name, initial and jersey number if available. Umpires to review prior to game start.

**5) NSA Report – Rick Shanahan:** Absent. No Report.

**6) New Business – Lee Keeso:**

**Motion 1:** To have two umpires for each playoff game. One behind the plate and one behind the bases for all of playoffs game in all divisions? Made by Constantine Paggos. Seconded by Justin Knox. **Defeated.**

**Motion 2:** For league executive to investigate feasibility, cost and umpire availability for two umpires in all playoff games in all divisions and report back to team representatives at next Fall AGM. Made by Dan Murphy. Seconded by Justin Knox. **Carried.**

**Motion 3:** For league to investigate feasibility and cost of having foul lines at each diamond every Sunday we play and report back to team representatives at next Fall AGM. Made by Adam Gardner. Seconded by Peter Joncos. **Carried.**

**Motion made to adjourn meeting at 8:30 pm. Motioned by Reynold Retz and seconded by Justin Knox. Carried.**