

# ISA February AGM Meeting 2019

**Welcome** from Steve Warmington, welcome to Dundalk, Chris Wright and Jeremy Henderson.

Note from the president: This is a travelling house league and the desire to win is starting to cloud over the vision with what we are doing for the kids. Couple teams last year went undefeated and would like to see this change. The couple of teams that did go undefeated went into the PWSA tournament instead of the of the ISA tournament, which was probably better for everyone. We are an organization that is here to develop our kids, our goal is to have a league here for all kids to play, not as a practice league for the better tiers to play in. This is a tiny concern that just needed to be addressed.

Agenda approval: All favor.

**Attendance:** Alma – Paul Rider, Arthur – Jeff Mckee, Brussels – James Hickley, Chepstow – Amy Eddyveen, D/M – Tim Beyer, Kincardine – Chris Pym, Listowel – Katrina Klemp, Mount Forest – Kim Kane Ponsonby – Steve Warmington, Port Elgin – Lynn Pope, Loranne, Puslinch – Lori Oldfield, Walkerton – Mike Merchant, Wingham – Steve Bourne, Dundalk – Chris Wright, Jeremy Henderson

Missing: Durham, Grand Valley, Hillsburgh, Mildmay, Minto, Priceville, Rockwood, Tara

**Election of Office:** President – Steve Warmington ; Treasurer – Shirley Obergan -> both to serve a 2 year term – all in favor.

**Minutes** was presented – 1<sup>st</sup> – Listowel 2<sup>nd</sup> – Arthur

**Treasurer** Report was present – 1<sup>st</sup> Puslinch 2<sup>nd</sup> –Walkerton

**UIC report:** none submitted

**Umpire Clinic:** April 27th at the High School in Fergus. Registration is from 8am to 9am with start at 9am. Three levels of clinics. Any questions or pre-registration, please get in touch with Shirley Obergan ([obergan3@gmail.com](mailto:obergan3@gmail.com); 226.820.3889)

Junior Clinic: Cost \$75 - Participants must be between 12-16 years of age at the time of the clinic to be eligible.

Intermediate: Cost \$75 - Designed for young officials who are between the ages of 15-18 at the time of the clinic or anyone younger who has previously taken the Junior clinic.

Level 1: Cost \$95 if already a member registered with Softball Ontario, in 2017 and/or 2018 they must provide proof by showing their Softball Ontario Umpire Card or Intermediate Clinic Certificate, \$130 if non-member

Level 2: Cost \$100 if already a member registered with Softball Ontario in 2017 and/or 2018 they must provide proof by showing their Softball Ontario Umpire Card or Intermediate Clinic Certificate, \$135 if non-member

All level 2 umpires must have previously attended the Level 1 clinic one year prior to be eligible. Participants must be a minimum of 16 years of age to attend. Also need to indicate if attending the Fast Pitch or Slow Pitch Clinic.

**Proposed Changes:**

**Bylaw 10.3.a.; CURRENT: Each inning will be 3 outs or maximum 5 runs, no opening innings.**

**Proposed change: Final inning to be open with no cap**

- Give the team that is losing a chance to catch up
- To open the final 2 innings with a 12 run cap
- The desire to win clouds the fact that we are a house league organization and that winning isn't everything
- It's an unpleasant environment when the coaches get into this idea and also when the score is run up to the extreme.
- They have a chance to play during the game, to have a bad inning you should be able to catch up during the others
- The kids are there to win, and in the spirit of fair play, this gives the kids a chance to play fairly.
- It could add another hour onto the game and drag out, but with a time restriction, this could end the game appropriately.

VOTE: 3 Favor, 11 opposed – rule will stay the same

**Bylaw 10.3.a.; CURRENT: Each inning will be 3 outs or maximum 5 runs, no opening innings.**

**Proposed: Open innings to occur in end of year tournament**

- Prefer to have it during the regular season, not year end
- Convenor would probably have a problem with that, and it will affect all clubs
- It could be a tournament nightmare due to the length of the game

Vote: 2 Favor, 12 opposed – rule will stay the same

**Bylaw 10.3.b.: CURRENT: Each team will have an adult coach pitch a maximum of 3 pitches to their own batters.**

**Proposed: If third pitch is foul, another pitch is offered**

- Change to say: multiple foul ball rule
- Keep the same as the Mixed Mites rules
- This does improve the fielding and hitting of the teams

Vote: 8 Favor, 4 opposed – rule will now state “If final pitch is foul, another pitch is offered.”

Vote for Mixed Mite Change (all in favor): Bylaw 9.11. Current: Foul Ball on third strike - batter is out.

New: “If final pitch is foul, another pitch is offered.”

**Bylaw 10.3.k.: CURRENT: ISA will provide a bigger plate for all the Atom girls teams....**

**Proposed: To replace the orange plate, chalk beside the home plate instead to increase the strike zone.**

- This is an oversized rubber base that lays over the current white plate on the diamond.
- The rubber plate has been a little dangerous to the kids running on it, by slipping
- The chalk will be destroyed as the game progresses
- Still something concrete for the umpires to see
- This is the same as the batter box.. white chalk
- We are passing this problem to others – the young umps need to open their strike zone and the kids need to swing at ‘close’ strikes.
- Older age groups are dying because there are no pitchers, we need to keep an idea open for the younger groups to strive towards
- To add a chalk line to either side of the plate, between the batters box and the white plate on diamond
- Once chalk line is gone, it will not be added again during the game.

Vote: 6 Favor, 5 opposed – Rule will state “A chalk like will be added to either side of the plate between the batter box”

**New Bylaw Proposed: To have a safety line from the plate to the fence line for the kids to cross instead of touch home plate. If runner passes line before back catcher has control of ball, runner is safe.**

- When a play at home, this could stop a collision from happening
- If this passes, then we imply in Mixed Mites
- The game is meant to be played like baseball, this contradicts what we were saying earlier, about playing the game.

Vote: 2 favor, 8 opposed – no new rule.

**Bylaw 2.O.2.: Current: Base runner may leave his/her bas only when the pitched ball has crossed the plate.**

**Proposed: No stealing of the home plate during the innings player pitching.**

- OSSTA/PWSA don’t allow stealing of home plate
- Depending on the diamond and the fence layout behind the catcher.
- Mix signals when no stealing of home, but stealing all the other bases
- The batter is not getting out the way, and injuries could happen
- It increases the skills/rules of the baseball, for the catchers to get the ball, and for the pitchers to cover.
- It’s frustrating when you can’t get out of the inning because you can’t steal the last run in to score.

Vote: 4 favor, 8 opposed – rule will stay the same – you can steal all bases

**New Proposal: Change the names to coincide with some other local leagues:**

New – Now

U8.... – ISA Mixed Mites

U10 Mites– ISA Atom

U12 Squirt – ISA Squirt

U14 Novice – ISA PeeWee

U16 Bantam – ISA Bantam

- The names from other organizations are different and we could imply half
- The names on the trophies would be a challenge to change, we could add just the U8/U10/U12/etc.
- Would be easier for all parents to understand and it would coincide with the soccer association names.
- The U stands for Under – the divisions would be U8 – 8 yrs old and under; U10 – 10 yrs old and under; U12 – 12 yrs old and under, etc.

Vote: All in Favor – to adding U8/U10/U12/etc to all age groups.

New Names: U8 Mixed Mites, U10 Atom, U12 Squirt, U14 PeeWee, U16 Bantam, U19 Midget, U21 Jr's.

**New Proposal: ISA tournaments to be held on dates that do not conflict with PWSA/OASA/OSSTA tournament weekends.**

- Convenor has to look for the conflict and it could be a challenge to do
- The priority would go to ISA for this organization.
- This will be a challenge because all weekends in August are pretty much booked with these other organizations.

Vote: All Favor – new rule will state “ISA Tournament Convenor will attempt to avoid conflict with PWSA/OASA/OSSTA leagues of that division to the best of their ability.”

NEW BUSINESS:

1. May 11<sup>th</sup> – Coaches Clinic – there will be no charge to any ISA member coaches, ISA will pay this bill. At the ELORA COMMUNITY CENTRE FROM 9am – 1 pm. Call Shirley Obergan to register ([obergan3@gmail.com](mailto:obergan3@gmail.com); 226.820.3889) prior to May 1<sup>st</sup>. All in Favor to go forward.
2. Purchase 2019/2020 rule books for all coaches in ISA organization – it would be approximately \$1000 to buy. It might be available on line, but it's a big book and it would be difficult to download, google a specific rule works better. All in favor to buying all the coaches a book this year.
3. Convnors
  - a. U8 Mixed Mites – Teena – Arthur Aug 8 – 11 Year end tournament
  - b. U10 Atom Girls – Lorraine – Port Elgin August 16– 18 year end tournament
  - c. U12 Squirt Girls – Open
  - d. U14 PeeWee girls – Open
  - e. U16 Bantam Girls – Steve Schwippl ?
  - f. U18 Midget Girls – Steve Schwippl ?
  - g. U10 Atom Boys – Paul – Alma
  - h. U12 Squirt Boys – Shirley – August 16– 18 year end tournament
  - i. U14 PeeWee Boys – Open
4. If centres could come with some open weekend dates, so the convenor could possibly use them as a 'centre location' to do games when centres are so far apart.
5. Dundalk – all in favor for a new centre to join – they will be bringing U12 Squirt Girls, U12 Squirt Boys, U14 PeeWee Boys, U16 Bantam Boys
6. Please bring to the meeting in April:
  - a. Overage - First and Last Name, Year of Birth, and moving to what team?
  - b. Separate piece of paper: Coaches/Team Info to give to convenor
  - c. Coaches info
    - i. Full Name
    - ii. Phone Number (cell and home)
    - iii. Email Address
  - d. Team Info
    - i. Division
    - ii. Home Night
    - iii. Time
    - iv. Diamond Name
  - e. Cheque - \$45 per team to register in ISA
7. Next Meeting: April 14<sup>th</sup>, 130 pm at the Elora Legion

Adjournment: Walkerton, Listowel. –all approved.