# leaguelogo (2008 Alternate, 100x50)

# 22nd Annual WFBL Winter Talks Meeting Minutes

## January 31st, 2016 ▪ Burlington, NC

1. Member Attendees:

Ellicott City Black Sox (Chip Kiel)

Fostoria Screwballs (Dennis Welly)

Spivey’s Corner Knockouts (Daniel Warren)

Power Rangers (Adam Brake)

Ball Hawks (Matt Burkett)

Raleigh Middle Fingers (Thomas Lipps)

Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls (Mike Rudd)

West Raleigh Moundchargers (Jeremy Moore)

Hickory Scorpions (Chris Burkett)

Fuquay Nine (Andew Blue)

Unable to attend:

Mauer Patch Kids (Nolan Parker)

Durham Indians (Dennis Close)

1. Check Presentations

2015 League Fees: ($40 x 11) + ($20 x 1) = $460

2015 League Expenses: ($150 website) + ($10 engraving) + ($16 ball) = $176

2015 Prize Money: $460 - $174 = $284

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|  |  |  |  |  |
| 3rd Runner Up | Ellicott City Black Sox (Chip Kiel)  2015 Avent Division Champions (15-8) | $40 |  |  |
| 2nd Runner Up | Fostoria Screwballs (Dennis Welly)  2015 Gottfried Division Champions (15-8) | $52 |  |  |
| 1st Runner Up | Spivey’s Corner Knockouts (Daniel Warren)  2015 Wild Card Winner (16-7) | $77 |  |  |
| League Champion | Power Rangers (Adam Brake)  2015 Doeren Division Champions (16-7) | $115 |  |  |

1. Trophy Presentation

2015 Season in Review

* The Power Rangers and Spivey’s Corner Knockouts both returned to the postseason in 2014.
* The Power Rangers and Spivey’s Corner Knockouts have made the playoffs each of the past 4 seasons.✓
* After losing to division rival Spivey’s Corner in Week 19, the Power Rangers won their final 6 games of 2015 to win their 7th WFBL Championship. The only hotter team in the league heading into the final was Spivey’s Corner, who had won 7 in a row.
* ☝ Playoff teams Fostoria Screwballs and Ellicott City Black Sox tied as the most improved franchises in 2015, both winning 5 more games than they won in 2014.
* ☟ Hangover? The defending WFBL Champions Fuquay Nine had 8 more losses in 2015 than the previous year.
* Trends
  + 21 draft picks traded (up from 19 in ‘14) – most active was Spivey’s Corner (5), Power Rangers (4)
  + 83% (10/12) of the league either traded away or received a draft pick (down from 92% in ’14). The Ball Hawks and Hickory Scorpions were the only two franchises that were not involved a trade which included a 2016 draft pick.
  + 75% (9/12) participation in the 2015 Minor League Draft (up from 66% in ’14)
  + 100% (11/11) participation in the 2015 Winter Talks (same as in ’14)
* A Summer Talks event was not held in 2015.
* All 2015 3rd-year protectees *except* Aroldis Chapman (HAW), Evan Longoria (FOS), Brian McCann (FOS), and Prince Fielder (SOX) were traded away or dropped during 2015.

1. Draft Location & Date

Location

* Last 3 draft sites:
  + Cary
  + Clemmons
  + Cary
* Hickory’s turn? – yes - PASSED
* Matt’s house? Chris’s house? Other ideas or suggestions?
  + Chris’s house - PASSED

Date

* Sunday, April 3nd? Saturday April 2st? 10am? 11am?
  + Use Doodle to find time good for everyone? - PASSED
  + Friday nights are OK
  + Possible Friday before Easter
  + If the draft is held Sunday, April 3, there are three games that day, one starting at 1pm. Probably will not include the Sunday games.

1. Important Dates

The official WFBL Player Price Guide must be released no later than 2 weeks prior to the draft, ideally, 2 weeks prior to when protection lists are due (which would be 3 weeks prior to the draft, since protection lists are due 1 week before the draft).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Player Price Guide Released | TBD |
| Protected Lists Due | TBD |
| Schedule Released | TBD |
| 22nd Annual WFBL Draft | TBD |
| MLB Opening Day | Monday, April 4, 2016 (officially)  (3 games on Sunday, April 3, 2016) |
| Initial Roster Transaction Requests Due | Friday, April 15, 2016 (10pm) |
| Minor League Draft | Sunday, April 24, 2016 (online, 9pm) |
| Expanded Rosters | Monday, August 22, 2016 |
| Trade/Transaction Deadline | Monday, August 29, 2016 |
| Playoffs Begin | Monday, September 12, 2016 |

1. League Software

Cost for CBSSports.com remains $149.99 as the “Early Bird Special” (deadline Feb 11th).

1. Draft

* Online draft board: expect only minor improvements in the 13th installment of our home-grown online draft software.
* Projector?

1. Minor League Draft

The last six years, we’ve held the minor league draft online all in one night. This alleviates issues where a player lost minor league draft eligibility during the course of the draft. Owners who cannot be available have the opportunity to submit a list.

1. Open Forum
2. Salary Cap

Last year we lowered the salary cap from $300 to $280. How did that work for everyone? Should we go down again to $260?

* + No motion to change

1. Ineligible Player found in Active Lineup

A-Rod ended up playing a lot at 3B last year, when in reality, he was only eligible at DH (after he played 20 games at DH). I realized it the morning before a period started, so I moved him to the bench (from 3rd). I emailed Daniel, but he had recently changed his email address on the website and due to a typo, wasn’t getting emails. By 3pm, he realized he had no 3rd baseman in his lineup and inquired as to why. I explained the reason and that I had emailed him about it over the previous couple days before finally taking the ineligible player out of his lineup. Because it was an honest mistake (“clerical error”) and not an attempt to circumvent the rules, I permitted him to pick up (and start) an eligible 3rd baseman that had not yet played that week (by now it was 3pm and the 1pm Cubs/Indians was already well into the 7th inning). It turned out not to have affected the outcome of that week’s game, but concerns were voiced over that action.

* + Motion – Can go back only 4 weeks and change, if mistake found
    - No 2nd
  + Motion – Can go back any time during the regular season
    - Forget CBS, current eligibility rules apply
    - Once post-season starts, teams are locked, regardless if a lineup issue is found during the regular season that may have affected the outcome of the standings
    - Post-season issues found can be corrected at any time, even if results change (until site is locked?)
    - Vote = 8 for, 2 against
    - PASSED
  + What happens if an ineligible player found during the week after lineup lock?
    - Move player to the bench, no replacing the player (note: “lineup lock” definition is changed in the next motion)
    - Includes playoffs
    - Vote = 9 for, 1 watching TV
    - PASSED

1. Lineup Locks

Use new CBS option to change lineups per player team times, versus first game played that week.

* + Allows solution used to solve scenario that happened last year with A-Roid.
  + Vote = 9 for, 1 pissing
  + PASSED

1. Other - None
2. Constitution Review
3. Rules Committee Nominations and Elections

Matt and Chip were elected to a 2-year term beginning in 2014. Andrew was elected to serve a 2-year term beginning in 2015. So, we need 2 new guys to replace Matt and Chip to serve a 2-year term beginning in 2016.

Noms: Dennis Close and Jeremy Moore

* Vote: 9 for, 1 watching TV
* PASSED

1. Draft Lottery

2 “chances” – Power Rangers, Spivey’s Corner Knockouts, Fostoria Screwballs, Ellicott City Black Sox

4 “chances” – All other teams

1. Mauer Patch Kids (Avent)
2. Power Rangers\* (Doeren)
3. Ball Hawks (Gottfried)
4. Raleigh Middle Fingers (Avent)
5. Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls (Doeren)
6. Fostoria Screwballs\* (Gottfried)
7. West Raleigh Moundchargers (Avent)
8. Durham Indians (Doeren)
9. Hickory Scorpions (Gottfried)
10. Fuquay Nine (Doeren)
11. Ellicott City Black Sox\* (Avent)
12. Spivey’s Corner Knockouts (Gottfried)
13. 2016 Division Alignment

\*Defending Division Champs:Fostoria Screwballs (Gottfried), Power Rangers (Doeren), Ellicott City Black Sox (Avent)

Gottfried Division

Fostoria Screwballs\*

Spivey’s Corner Knockouts

Hickory Scorpions

Ball Hawks

Doeren Division

Power Rangers\*

Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls

Durham Indians

Fuquay Nine

Avent Division

Ellicott City Black Sox\*

Mauer Patch Kids

Raleigh Middle Fingers

West Raleigh Moundchargers