# leaguelogo (2008 Alternate, 100x50)

# 23rd Annual WFBL Winter Talks

## February 12th, 2017 ▪ Burlington, NC

1. Check Presentations

2016 League Fees: ($40 x 11) + ($20 x 1) = $460

2016 League Expenses: ($150 website) + ($10 engraving) + ($20 ball) = $180

2016 Prize Money: $460 - $180 = $280

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
| 3rd Runner Up | Fuquay Nine (Andrew Blue)  2015 Wild Card Winner (14-9) | $40 | $40 | $40 |
| 2nd Runner Up | Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls (Mike Rudd)  2015 Doeren Division Champions (16-7) | $52 | $52 | $52 |
| 1st Runner Up | Hickory Scorpions (Chris Burkett)  2015 Gottfried Division Champions (14-9) | $76 | $77 | $77 |
| League Champion | Raleigh Middle Fingers (Thomas Lipps)  2015 Avent Division Champions (15-8) | $112 | $115 | $115 |

1. Trophy Presentation

2016 Season in Review

* No team returned to the postseason in 2016.
* The Power Rangers and Spivey’s Corner Knockouts missed the playoffs for the first time since 2011.
* The Hickory Scorpions won 5 in a row heading into the playoffs (7 of their final 8). After a 0-3 start, Fuquay Nine won 11 of their next 12 to take over the Doeren Division lead. A lead which they ultimately lost to Pittsburgh, who won 9 of 11 heading into the playoffs. The Raleigh Middle Fingers won 11 of their final 12 games, including both playoff matches.
* ☝ Playoff teams Raleigh Middle Fingers and Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls tied as the most improved franchises in 2016, both winning 7 more games than they won in 2015.
* ☟ Hangover? The defending WFBL Champions Power Rangers had 5 more losses in 2016 than the previous year.
* Trends
  + 19 draft picks traded in 2016 (down from 21 in ‘15) – most active was Fostoria Screwballs (10), Spivey’s Corner (6), and Ellicott City Black Sox (5)
  + 75% (9/12) of the league either traded away or received a draft pick (down from 83% in ’15). The Power Rangers, West Raleigh Moundchargers and Fuquay Nine were the only franchises that were not involved a trade which included a 2017 draft pick.
  + 66% (8/12) participation in the 2016 Minor League Draft (down from 75% in ’15)
  + 83% (10/12) participation in the 2016 Winter Talks (down from 100% in ’15)
* A Summer Talks event was not held in 2016.
* All 2016 3rd-year protectees *except* Zack Greinke (FOS), Felix Hernandez (RMF), and the 2016 AL RBI Co-Leader Edwin Encarnacion (HIK) were traded away or dropped during 2016.
* Wow... this was the highest scoring WFBL season since 2012!
  + Avg per week up 7 pts per team, from 183.1 to 190.1
* Only one team, Fostoria, avg'd 200+ pts/wk in one season since 2012 (last year, 200.8).
  + This year, 5 teams avg'd over 200 pts/wk!
  + In 2012, still, only 4 teams avg'd 200+
    - 3 avg'd 200+ in 2011
    - 3 in 2010
    - 3 in 2009
    - 4 in 2008
  + You have to go back to 2007 to find as many as 5... 7 that year.
* 300+ was cracked 3 times, by two different teams. No one had done it since 2012 (SCK, 301.3)
* 2007, also, the last time anyone cracked 5000+ for the season.
* First time since 2010 someone missed the playoffs avg'ing 200+ pts/wk... 2 did this year.
* 2007, also the last time multiple teams missed the playoffs while avg'ing 200+ pts/wk
* 2007, also the last time someone finished LAST in their division while avg'ing 200+ pts/wk. Happened to Durham this year.
* This year's Doeren Division is the first division since 2007 to have 3 or more teams avg 200+ pts/wk in a season
  + 2007 O'Brien Division had 4 (of 5) teams do it (Only 10 teams in 2007, so only 2 divisions that year).
* Through 2010, every H2H WFBL Champ avg'd 200+ pts/wk.
* 2011 is the only season in history that multiple teams entered the playoffs avg'ing 200+ pts/wk, and none won the championship
  + If Hickory had won it all this year, that would have happened again (but did not).
* PWR's streak of 4 straight Doeren/O'Brien division championships snapped.
  + PWR had been the only football division champ Dave Doeren has ever known.
* SCK was 0-4 in games decided by 4 points or less. OUCH.
  + If they win ANY one of those, he's back in the playoffs.
* No repeat playoff teams - hasn't happened since 2011-2012.
* The Gottfried (Basketball) division champion has won at least one playoff game every year since 2006.
* This was the first time the Avent division has produced the league champion since 2011.
* Ball Hawks had a historic season (of sorts):
  + T5th All-Time Season Fewest Wins: 4 (Record: Apex Alleycats - 1 (2013))
  + T5th All-Time Season Most Losses: 19 (Record: Apex Alleycats - 22 (2013))
  + T5th All-Time Season Lowest Winning Percentage: 0.174 (Record: Apex Alleycats - 0.043 (2013))
  + 4th All-Time Season Fewest Total Points: 3681.8 (Record: Apex Alleycats - 2651.5 (2013))
  + 4th All-Time Season Lowest Avg Pts/Week: 160.1 (Record: Apex Alleycats - 115.3 (2013))
* Fuquay T5th All-Time Season Most Times High: 6 (Record: Power Rangers - 11 (1997))
* Worst to first: Raleigh's championship represents the 4th time in the last 6 seasons that a team won the championship the year after finishing last in their division!
* Raleigh joins an exclusive club of multi-champion winners. Only 6 teams have won the title more than once. One of those clubs is extinct, meaning only 5 current teams have won multiple times.

1. Draft Location & Date

Location

* Kernersville
* Chip’s house? Other ideas or suggestions?

Date

* Saturday April 1st? Sunday, April 2nd? 10am? 11am? If Sunday, do we include Sunday’s 3 games?
* Will Doodle – Night?

1. Important Dates

The official WFBL Player Price Guide must be released no later than 2 weeks prior to the draft. Ideally, it should be released 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). (*Dates depend on Draft date selected.*)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Player Price Guide Released | *Saturday, March 11, 2017* |
| Protected Lists Due | *Saturday, March 25, 2017* |
| Schedule Released | *Friday, March 31, 2017* |
| 24th Annual WFBL Draft | *Saturday, April 1, 2017* |
| MLB Opening Day | Sunday, April 2, 2017 |
| Initial Roster Transaction Requests Due | Friday, April 14, 2017 (email in by 10pm) |
| Minor League Draft | Sunday, April 23, 2017 (online at 9pm) |
| Expanded Rosters | Monday, August 21, 2017 |
| Trade/Transaction Deadline | Monday, August 28, 2017 |
| Playoffs Begin | Monday, September 11, 2017 |

1. League Software

Cost for CBSSports.com remains $149.99 as the “Early Bird Special” (deadline Feb 9th) **PAID**

1. Draft

* Online draft board: expect only minor improvements in the 14th installment of our home-grown online draft software.
* Projector?

1. Minor League Draft

The last 7 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. Two years ago, we lowered the salary cap from $300 to $280. How is that working? Should we go down again to $260?
   1. No change
3. Last year we decided to use CBS’s new lineup option where lineups lock for each individual player 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start time for that player’s team. How did that work out?
   1. Great!
4. Tyler Austin (NYY, MPK) was listed by CBS as “OF”, but had played 76 games at 1B over his 2 minor league seasons, versus only 12 at OF. Clearly, his “established position” was 1B.
   1. Move to clarify
   2. Proposed: a promoted player played 2/3 or more of their games at a position in their career, they are eligible only at that position. If less than 2/3, then whatever CBS picks in their position. Until they gain eligible.
   3. Vote: 8 in favor, 1 don’t care
5. Limit the number of draft picks that can be traded away. It's not completely out of control right now, but in 2016, Spivey's Corner traded away 6 of their first 8 picks (including rounds 1-5). Mauer Patch traded away rounds 1-5. I'm not trying to limit trading by any means, but currently there is nothing in the constitution that says you cannot trade away 18 rounds worth of picks if you wanted to... Even if the limit is high (like 7 or 8), I think there should at least be a limit....
   1. No second
6. Maybe also cap the number of picks that can be included in a single trade (i.e. 3).
   1. No second
7. Other?
   1. Can we charge Adam?
      1. No second
   2. DL or IR spot? What does CBS support? Investigate and bring up again next year. Possibly a season IR list.
      1. Proposal: One irrevocable IR spot where salary goes to 0. Can trade, but still on IR for new team. If picking up someone to put on IR, still need room in salary cap for that person. Must be on DL at time of moving to IR. Cannot drop but can trade… too complicated. Motion withdrawn.
   3. Raise entry fee to $50
      1. Prize money continues to decrease. Would everyone do this? What about the 3 that aren’t here.
      2. Vote = 9-0 Find out from other 3.
         1. Fuquay voted “no” by proxy. Should this be unanimous, since there is no real driver to do this?
8. Constitution Review
9. Rules Committee Nominations and Elections

Andrew was elected to serve a 2-year term beginning in 2015. Dennis Close and Jeremy Moore were elected to serve a 2-year term beginning in 2016. So, we need 1 new guy to replace Andrew to serve a 2-year term beginning in 2017.

Noms: Nolan. Vote = 8 for, 1 don’t give a shit

1. Draft Lottery

2 “chances” – Raleigh Middle Fingers, Hickory Scorpions, Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls, Fuquay Nine

4 “chances” – All other teams

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

Defending Division Champs:Hickory Scorpions (Gottfried), Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls (Doeren), Raleigh Middle Fingers (Avent)

Doeren Division

Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls\*

Ellicott City Black Sox

Fostoria Screwballs

Fuquay Nine

Gottfried Division

Hickory Scorpions\*

West Raleigh Moundchargers

Mauer Patch Kids

Spivey’s Corner Knockouts

Avent Division

Raleigh Middle Fingers\*

Durham Indians

Ball Hawks

Power Rangers