# leaguelogo (2008 Alternate, 100x50)

# **26th Annual WFBL Winter Talks Meeting Minutes**

## January 26th, 2020 ▪ Burlington, NC

1. Attendance: All but Fuquay Nine represented.
2. Check Presentations

2019 League Fees: ($40 x 11) + ($20 x 1) = $460

2019 League Expenses: ($150 website) + ($10 engraving) + ($20 ball) = $180

2019 Prize Money: $460 - $180 = $280

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
| 3rd Runner Up | Spivey’s Corner Knockouts (Daniel Warren)  2019 Avent Division Champions (13-10) | $40 | $40 | $40 |
| 2nd Runner Up | Fuquay Nine (Andrew Blue)  2019 Wild Card Winner (16-7) | $52 | $52 | $52 |
| 1st Runner Up | Power Rangers (Adam Brake)  2019 Keatts Division Champions (17-6) | $76 | $76 | $74 |
| League Champion | Raleigh Middle Fingers (Thomas Lipps)  2019 Doeren Division Champions (14-9) | $112 | $112 | $109 |

1. Trophy Presentation

2019 Season in Review

* PWR/RMF played each other in the 2008 and 2010 WFBL Championships... PWR won in 08, RMF won in 10... this was the rubber match
* PWR/RMF's 3rd WFBL Championship matchup is the most all-time
* Other WFBL Championship rematches... PWR/SCK (2012, 2015) and RMF/FUQ (2013, 2017)
* PWR and SOX have never met in the WFBL Championship game, in spite of 9 H2H titles between the two
* Dating back to 2006 (14 seasons), PWR & RMF have COMBINED to miss the playoffs only 9 times
* Our point total as a league (193.8 avg per game) was the highest since 2007 (202.7)
* RMF have made the championship game 6x in the last 10 years... won 4, going 10-2 in the playoffs over that time
* Only one game separates the PWR and RMF in the regular season over the last 10 years... PWR have 138 wins to RMF's 137
* SOX extended their streak without a playoff win to 11 years... last playoff win came in 2008
* PWR became the first team since 2007 to score 5000 pts in a season!  PWR and PIT both did it that year.
* 5 teams avg'd more than 200 pts/game this season... most since 2016 (also 5)
* PIT has done it each of the last 4 seasons... only team to do that
* This was RMF's highest scoring season since 2006... for PWR, highest since 2007
* SOX's first time avg'ing 200+ pts/game since 2008
* SOX is the highest scoring team to not make the playoffs since WRM in 2007
* HAW set their team all-time record for pts in a week (against me, no less)
* Everyone but WRM and DUR have made the playoffs in the last 5 years
* Only them plus FUQ have not won a division in that time.
* In fact, same can be said over the last 4 seasons
* Yet, one team has won the league in 3 of those 4 years (RMF)
* PIT gave up 879.2 more pts this season than last... gave up the fewest last season, the most this season
* PIT's 4809.5 pts allowed this season was the most for any team since 2011 (SCK - 4875.0)
* PIT's pts allowed total has only been topped 3x since we went to a 23-game schedule (PIT was one of those, in 2007)
* PWR led the league in pts 7x this season... T4th most all-time in a season, most since 2007 (PWR, again)
* The Power Rangers were the only team to return to the postseason in 2019.
* With their win, the third in the last four seasons, the Raleigh Middle Fingers are now alone in 2nd in the number of WFBL championships with four.
* *Trending Up:* Wild Card Winner Fuquay Nine proved to be the most improved team in 2019, netting 7 more games in 2019 over the previous season. Both Spivey’s Corner Knockouts and Raleigh Middle Fingers each improved by 5 wins over their previous campaigns.
* *Trending Down:* Despite finishing with the fourth highest point total in the league, the Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls could only manage 8 wins in 2019, 12 fewer than in 2018. West Raleigh and Defending WFBL Champion Ball Hawks had 6 and 5 additional losses respectively than they had during the previous campaign.
* Other Trends
  + **19** draft picks traded in 2019 (up from 16 in ‘18) – most active was Spivey’s Corner (5 away), Power Rangers (4 away), Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls (4 to) and Ellicott City (3)
  + **91%** (11/12) of the league either traded away or received a draft pick in ‘19 (up from 66% in ’18). The Hickory Scorpions were the only team not involved in a trade involving a draft pick. Matter of fact, Hickory made only two transactions *of any kind* the entire season.
  + **66%** (8/12) participation in the 2019 Minor League Draft (up from 58% in ’18)
  + **66%** (8/12) participation in the 2019 Winter Talks (down from 75% in ’18)
* A Summer Talks event was not held in 2019.
* All 2019 3rd-year protectees except Giancarlo Stanton (FOS) and Gary Sanchez (RMF) were traded away or dropped during the 2019 season.

1. Draft Location & Date

Location

* Kernersville? Cary? – Cary/Apex
* Chip’s house? Mike’s house? Thomas’s house? – Mike’s house? (Thomas can only host on a Saturday)

Date

* MLB Opening Day is Thursday, March 26th.
* Friday, March 20th; Saturday, March 21st; Sunday, March 22nd; Friday, March 27th; Saturday, March 28th, or Sunday March 29th? – Proposed Friday 20th – Mike checking on Regan’s softball schedule
* Second choice – Sunday March 22nd, morning
* If day draft, 10am or 11am? - Night draft at 7pm, Day draft 11am
* If we pick March 27th, 28th, or 29th, do we include the games already played, or just start the season on Monday March 30th? – Not needed

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 typically due one week before the draft).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Player Price Guide Released | **Friday, March 6, 2019** |
| Protected Lists Due | **Friday, March 13, 2020** |
| Schedule Released | **Monday, March 23, 2020** |
| 27th Annual WFBL Draft | **Friday March 20, 2020 or Sunday, March 22, 2020** |
| MLB Opening Day | Thursday, March 26, 2020 |
| Initial Roster Transaction Requests Due | Friday, April 10, 2020 (email in by 10pm) |
| Minor League Draft\* | Sunday, April 19, 2020 (online at 9pm) |
| Expanded Rosters | Monday, August 17, 2020 |
| Trade/Transaction Deadline | Monday, August 24, 2020 |
| Playoffs Begin | Monday, September 7, 2020 |

\* Update constitution to say “end of 3rd period”

1. League Software

Cost for CBSSports.com remains $149.99 as the “Early Bird Special” (deadline is Jan 28th)

* Where’s this year’s bobblehead???

1. Draft

* Online draft board: expect only minor improvements in the 17th installment of our home-grown online draft software. URL for WFBL is <http://wfbl.acbrake.org>
  + Feature Request: a bell goes off when a pick is made
* Projector?

1. Minor League Draft

For the past 10 years now, 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. – No discussion

1. Open Forum
2. Last year, the owners requested a clarified re-wording of Article 13.7 of the WFBL Constitution. The wording now says “Constitutional amendments proposed during the offseason are passed when approved by a majority of all owners. A majority is defined as the number of owners divided by 2 rounded down to the nearest integer plus one (floor(count(owners)) + 1). Amendments to the constitution proposed during a season are passed when approved by all owners.” Vote: 11-0 for: APPROVED
3. Five years ago, we lowered the salary cap from $300 to $280. A couple years we approved pricing adjustments for the top tier and increased the granularity of the tiers by half. How is that still working? – No change required
4. Two years ago we tabled a vote on opening waivers immediately after the draft. Last year Jeremy motioned it, and it was seconded by Dennis Close, but the 5-3 vote in favor did not meet the league majority requirement. Any more discussion on this?
   1. Proposal: JM: Can add but not drop after the draft, first-come, first-serve. Must have cap room. Must still have full team after the draft. 2nd – DC
   2. Vote: 8-3 for: APPROVED
5. Two years ago we tabled a vote on cap enforcement and penalty for violating the cap. Last year, Jeremy presented his proposal, but agreed it required more work. Any update or discussion?
   1. No discussion
6. Last year we tabled a discussion regarding “openers” and their impact on our positional requirements. Are there any new thoughts or discussion required on this topic?
   1. Fad, will go away – no discussion.
7. Others?
8. Constitution Review
   * See above
9. Rules Committee Nominations and Elections

Chip and Dennis W. were elected to serve a 2-year term beginning in 2018. Jeremy was elected to serve a 2-year term beginning in 2019. So, we need 2 new guys to replace Chip and Dennis W. to serve a 2-year term beginning in 2020.

Noms: Mike & Matt: 11-0 for: APPROVED

1. Draft Lottery

2 “chances” – Raleigh Middle Fingers, Power Rangers, Fuquay Nine, Spivey’s Corner Knockouts

4 “chances” – All other teams

Order:

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

\* Defending Division Champs:Spivey’s Corner Knockouts (Avent), Raleigh Middle Fingers (Doeren), Power Rangers (Keatts)

Doeren Division:

1. Raleigh Middle Fingers\*
2. Ellicott City Black Sox
3. Mauer Patch Kids
4. Ball Hawks

Avent Division

1. Pittsburgh Bramha Bulls
2. West Raleigh Moundchargers
3. Spivey’s Corner Knockouts\*
4. Fuquay Nine

Keatts Division:

1. Durham Indians
2. Hickory Scorpions
3. Fostoria Screwballs
4. \*Power Rangers