

2012 BOSL Annual General Meeting
October 25th, 2012
Location Tyandaga Golf Club

Attendees:

2012 Board Members : Mike Porkolab, Larry Gagnon, Dale Latendresse, Tom Clancy, Jason Gerrity , Scot Cameron, Jim Hindley, Peter Woodhouse (Umpire in Chief)

BOSL members – as there was no election requirement a headcount was made to ensure a quorum was in place. 29 non-board members were in attendance at the commencement of the meeting:

Meeting Notes: (captured by Jim Hindley)

1. Mike Gibbs was presented with his Willard Pilatske plaque
2. Mike Porkolab presented a motion to accept the 2011 AGM meeting minutes, seconded by Bob Grenier, motioned carried by a majority
3. Nine candidates were nominated for the nine BOSL board positions. Mike Porkolab put forward the motion to accept these name by acclamation, seconded by Joe Serafini, motion carried by a majority
4. Dale Latendresse provided an overview of the league financials (unaudited).
Discussion points:
 - Does BOSL to retain legal services? Has not been needed - unofficial advice is sought as needed from league members
 - Potential CRA changes required for Non-Profit organizations – Dale will monitor
 - What is the future financial plan? In general, BOSL would like to reduce its cash surplus - 2013 reduction in registration fees will contribute to this goal while giving back to the membership
 - What is the BOSL Fiscal year? September to October
5. Dale Latendresse presented a motion to accept Death & Company as the BOSL auditors for 2012, 2013 & 2014. Motion seconded by Bob Grenier. Motion carried by a majority.
6. Proposed Rule changes:
 - Rule Change Proposal #1 – That the following rule be eliminated,
“ALL BATTERS WILL BE PITCHED TO. If in the umpires' opinion the batter has been intentionally walked, the batter shall be awarded 2nd base.

[Decision - The majority in attendance voted no to this proposal. \(Only 1 vote in favour\) This rule remains in place for the 2013 season.](#)

Rule Change Proposal #2A – That the following rule be added,
“An outfielder will NOT be permitted to throw out the current batter at first base on a force play. Doing so will result in the batter automatically being awarded first base. Should the batter/runner already “own” first base (i.e. making the turn towards second base, tagging up, etc.), the outfielder is permitted to throw to first base if they so choose.” Rule Change Proposal #2B – That the following rule be added, “An outfielder will be permitted to throw out the current batter at first base on a force play. Exception: If the current batter was a declared singles hitter prior to his at bat, an outfielder will NOT be permitted to throw out the current batter at first base on a force play. Doing so will result in the batter automatically being awarded first base. Should the batter/runner already “own” first base (i.e. making the turn towards second base), the outfielder is permitted to throw to first base if they so choose.”

Rule Change Proposal #2C – That the following rule be added,
“An outfielder will be permitted to throw out the current batter at first base on a force play.”

[Decision - Prior to voting specifically on these specific rule additions, Larry Gagnon motioned to not add any of these proposals as rules, motion was seconded by Tom Clancy, motion was carried by the majority \(22 -7 in favour\). There will no BOSL rule addressing outfielders throwing to 1st base for the 2013 season.](#)

6. Proposed Rule changes: (continued)

Rule Change Proposal #3A – That the following rule be added,

“Peel Rule – When a base runner is on his way to second base or third base during a force play/double play situation, the runner is expected to peel off to allow the fielder to make an unencumbered throw to either first or second base (i.e. the second half of the double play). Failure to do so will result in both base runners being ruled out. Should the fielder drop the ball during the act of the force play and the umpire deems that the peeling runner would have been safe had he not peeled off, the runner will be awarded the base at the umpire’s discretion.” - Note, there are 2 versions of this rule proposal (3A, 3B) for the sole purpose of getting away from the gentlemen’s agreement and making it a hard rule one way or the other.

Rule Change Proposal #3B – That the following rule be added,

“Peel Rule – The BOSL does not implement a peel rule of any kind at either second or third base. Base runners run at their own risk.”

[Decision - An amendment to rule 3A was proposed by Joe Serafini to award the base automatically to the base runner if he has peeled and the baseman drops the ball. This was seconded by Lee DeDauw. The amendment was voted down by the majority \(only 2 votes for\). The initial vote for proposal 3A was a 16-16 tie. As a point of order, Mike Porkolab as president abstained from the second vote in the event he was required to cast the deciding vote. The second vote was 18 to 15 in favour of not adding this rule. The will be no “peel” rule in place for BOSL in 2013](#)

Rule Change Proposal #4 – That the wording of the following rule,

“The pitch must be delivered at a slow speed and have an arc between six and fifteen feet on its path to the home plate. Height of the arc is to be determined at the umpire’s discretion.” – Be changed to - “The pitch must be delivered at a slow speed and have an arc between six and twelve feet on its path to the home plate. Height of the arc is to be determined at the umpire’s discretion

[Decision – The majority voted against this proposal \(only 2 votes in favour\). The pitching height limits will remain unchanged for the BOSL 2013 season.](#)

Rule Change Proposal #5 – That the following rule be added,

“Should a game be tied after 9 innings and the time curfew has not been reached, the game shall go to extra innings until such a time that a winner has been decided or the time curfew has been reached.”

[Decision – The majority voted against this proposal \(only 10 votes in favour\). For the BOSL 2013 season, for games at Nelson Central and Sherwood A diamonds, games shall be limited to the current time limits or 9 innings, which ever occurs first.](#)

Rule Change Proposal #6A – That the wording of the following rule,

“A team may borrow one player from the opposing team for defensive purposes only when they are unable to field a team of 10 or more roster players. The borrowed player shall play at the catching position. In the interest of player safety, if the borrowing team has a roster player that is unable to play any other position besides catcher, the borrowed player may play another field position if agreed upon by both sets of captains. A borrowed player does not bat.

Rule application:

10 or more roster players - (no borrowing permitted)

9 roster players - (borrowed player is catcher)

8 roster players - (borrowed player is catcher, 3 outfielders)

7 roster players - (borrowed player is catcher, 3 outfielders, 3 infielders)”

– Be changed to –

“If a team is short a player(s), they will be permitted to request to borrow a player(s) from any team in the league to field a full team of 10 players. If the shortage is known before the game, the affected captains will contact the opposing team captains to discuss the shortage and agree on the borrowed player(s). If it is due to a last minute no-show of a player(s), then the discussion with the opposing captains should take place at

home plate before the game and be agreed to at that time. A team may NOT borrow a player(s) to take them past 10 players. Should a late player(s) arrive during the course of the game, the opposing captains will have the right to have the borrowed player(s) removed from play. The borrowed player(s) will bat in the last position, but may be used to fill any defensive position without restriction. The borrowed players should be of "like" rating where possible."

Rule Change Proposal #6B – That the wording of the following rule,

A team may borrow one player from the opposing team for defensive purposes only when they are unable to field a team of 10 or more roster players. The borrowed player shall play at the catching position. In the interest of player safety, if the borrowing team has a roster player that is unable to play any other position besides catcher, the borrowed player may play another field position if agreed upon by both sets of captains. A borrowed player does not bat.

Rule application:

10 or more roster players - (no borrowing permitted)

9 roster players - (borrowed player is catcher)

8 roster players - (borrowed player is catcher, 3 outfielders)

7 roster players - (borrowed player is catcher, 3 outfielders, 3 infielders)"

– Be changed to –

"A team may borrow one player or two players from the opposing team for defensive purposes only when they are unable to field a team of 10 or more roster players. The first borrowed player shall play at the catching position. The second borrowed player shall play at the first base position. In the interest of player safety, if the borrowing team has a roster player that is physically unable to play any other position besides catcher, the borrowed player may play another field position if agreed upon by both sets of captains. Borrowed players do not bat.

Rule application:

10 or more roster players - (no borrowing permitted)

9 roster players - (borrowed player is catcher)

8 roster players - (borrowed players are catcher and first basemen)"

[Decision - Larry Gagnon made a motion to not change the current rule rather than voting on the specifics of proposals 6a and 6b. Motion was seconded by Roy Jones. This motion was carried by the majority \(only 2 votes opposing\). For the BOSL 2013 season, the "borrowed or replacement" rule remains unchanged – Teams are limited to borrowing a back catcher from their opponent](#)

Rule Change Proposal #7 – That the following rule be added,

"Modified Anticipation Rule: A player will NOT be called out should they lose contact with the base on a swing and miss by the batter. The runner will, however, be deemed out under any other circumstance (i.e. ball, hit, foul, etc.)"

[Decision – The majority voted against this proposal \(only 4 votes in favour\). For the BOSL 2013 season the rule will remain unchanged – the runner must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit.](#)

Rule Change Proposal #8A_– That the following rule be added,

"A batter's box is chalked prior to each BOSL game according to existing rules/measurements." – Note, the batter's box is not accorded to subjective interpretation.

[Decision – The majority voted against this proposal \(only 4 votes for\). For the BOSL 2013 season the batter's box will not be chalked prior to each game](#)

6. Proposed Rule changes: (continued)

Rule Change Proposal #8B – That the following rule be added,

“Elimination of Batter’s Box: With the exception of stepping in front of the plate (an automatic out while making contact with the ball) the batter’s box will be deemed non-existent.”

Decision – The majority voted against this proposal (0 votes in favour). For the BOSL 2013 season, there are no changes to the current rule.

Rule Change Proposal #9 – That the following rule be added,

“For BOSL Tournament Games, the home team will NOT bat in the bottom of the last inning if the game has already been decided. This will apply regardless of the margin of victory (i.e. even if it is less than +8).”

Decision – The Majority voted against this proposal (0 votes in favour). For the BOSL 2013 season, there are no changes to the current tournament rule.

AGM note: at the conclusion of the review of the proposed rule change review a motion was put forward by Bob Grenier that the individual who proposed the rule change or his representative be present at the AGM to assist with any questions or clarifications in order to have a rule change tabled. This was seconded by David L. Smith. The majority voted in favour of this motion (14 yes, 7 no)

7. 2013 and beyond presented by Larry Gagnon

Membership

The board’s focus will be to increase the BOSL membership through a more aggressive recruitment schedule.

Game Times and Park Locations

Look for opportunities to consolidate league play at Sherwood Park and eliminate 9:30 games

Partnership on a Capital Project with the City

City funding is being directed to some improvements at Sherwood

Closer alignment to Slo-Pitch Ontario Rules

Adopt the standards of SPO/SPN why customize?

Item: Raised by Jeff Chapman – possibility of Millcroft Park converting to a Hard Ball diamond and a new quad facility to be built in Alton – Board to follow-up with the city of Burlington.

8. New Business

Discussion on captain’s rating review. There was low attendance at the September meeting. Ratings are reviewed by the Draft committee and it is felt that there has been significant improvement in the consistency of the ratings

Discussion on new player evaluations. Draft committee members in attendance confirmed the evaluation process. The intent for 2013 is to continue to have new players evaluated prior to being eligible for the draft or assignment to a team from the player pool.

Question on timing of selection of captains for 2013 – This is the responsibility of the 2013 board and will be reviewed at the upcoming board meeting(s)

9. Motion to adjourn made by Mike Porkolab, seconded by Larry Gagnon.