**MBA Report**

**2019 Affiliation Fees**

As noted previously, there will be a player fee increase of $7 per player, except for Rally Cap.

***Age Group 2019 Player Fees***

Challenger $ 5.00 per player

Rally Cap $ 12.00 per player

Grand Slam $ 22.00 per player

11U (Mosquito) $ 32.00 per player

13U (Pee Wee) $ 32.00 per player

15U (Bantam) $ 32.00 per player

18U (Midget) $ 32.00 per player

21U (Junior) $ 37.00 per player

Senior “AA” $ 37.00 per player

Senior “AAA” $ 37.00 per player

**NOTE: There are no roster or coach fees for 2019**

**Registration and Team Rosters**

To provide members and associations with an intuitive online registration platform, while improving Baseball Manitoba’s efficiency in accepting registrations and communication, we have partnered with RAMP Interactive and introduced a Province wide online Registration System. Many associations have opened registrations for 2019 in the all new RAMP system.

• Associations were sent a log in and prompted to finish the set-up of their individual system.

• Accepting Online payments into the system is optional and can be set up for a fee.

• Players will be able to register into the system, using the link provided by the association.

• Registrars can use the system to create their teams (make rosters) and communicate with members, parents and coaches.

• Coaches (or Team Managers) will be directed to verify their roster information in the system. **Please make sure the team verifies each roster, not the central registrar**.

• The roster, once verified will be saved in the system no later than May 15 AND NO UPDATES WILL BE ALLOWED BY ASSOCIATIONS AFTER THAT DATE.

• Leagues must finalize “AA” and “A” rosters by May 15. Junior, Senior and “AAA” rosters can still be finalized up to June 15.

• Doing this would provide Baseball Manitoba with an accurate list of names, addresses, phone number and emails for insurance, communication and eligibility (age/region, etc.) and an indication of registration numbers earlier in the year, instead of waiting until June or July.

• Coaches will be directed to contact their league for a roster to verify.

**Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Commission (MLLC) Funding Applications**

For the second year in a row we will be using the MLLC Funds from Sport Manitoba to allot two (2) $10,000 grants to associations with specific plans in place for grounds and facilities improvements. An on-line form is created to be completed by your organization and to be submitted to Baseball Manitoba by Aug 15, 2019. A committee will be established to review all submissions. Preference will be given to projects to enhance existing baseball grounds or facilities, with the expectation that volunteer labour will be used where possible. All submissions will be considered on their relative merit and on the funds available. The review committee reserves the right to allocate the funding to those submissions deemed most deserving. All decisions by the committee will be final.

Application Form - http://www.baseballmanitoba.ca/administration/policy/mllc-funding-and-5050s

**Coaching Certification**

Free Initiation and Rally Cap On-field clinics in 2019!

**Note: there have been slight adjustments made to the coach requirements, by the Coaches Committee, these will be posted online and advertised soon. For example, 13U teams will now need 1 coach with My First Pitch and assistant coaches at all levels (except AAA) will need online training only. Also, a $75 fine will be imposed to associations for rosters submitted without properly trained coaches. More information will be discussed at the AGM.**

**Baseball Manitoba Coaches Convention**

Baseball Manitoba Coaches Convention - The 2019 Baseball Manitoba Coaches Convention to take place the weekend of March 22-24 at the Canada Games Sport 4 Life Centre. We have secured an expert in the field of Long-Term Athlete Development and director of development at the University of Michigan, Joe Eisenman, PhD. There will also be an NCCP component on Sunday. Cost is $50 for a weekend pass. More details can be found at http://www.baseballmanitoba.ca/coaches-convention

**Sport Manitoba - Respect in Sport Program**

Sport Manitoba and Baseball Manitoba believe in being proactive to ensure sport in our province is safe and welcoming for all participants. As a mandatory Sport Manitoba requirement, all coaches from all sports (that means every Rally Cap, Grand Slam, “A”, “AA” and “AAA” baseball coach) must have the “Respect in Sport” course completed before coaching. The course is 3 hours in length but can be completed at the coach's leisure, in its entirety or in segments at their own pace. The program is available in English and French and is provided free of charge to all coaches. Visit http://www.baseballmanitoba.ca/respect-sport

Once coaches have completed the RIS-Activity Leaders course, they will have 5 years until they are required to recertify. At that time, they will receive an automated email from the Respect Group letting them know it is time to recertify to stay active.

***Sport Manitoba also wants to ensure you are aware of the Support Line available to anyone needing consultation regarding any issues related to coaches. The number is 1-877-737-9875.***

**Grand Slam Baseball, the Grand Slam Jamboree and Tim Hortons**

Tim Horton’s will once again serve as the Grand Slam Sponsor and will be providing all Grand Slam teams with jerseys for all the players. Clubs are to order their own shirts this year, through an online system created by Tim Horton’s. Ordering instructions were sent to Grand Slam Contacts via email in February. Please check with your reps to ensure they have received these instructions.

This summer will mark the 22nd year for the 9U Grand Slam Jamboree, a non-competitive tournament focusing on fun and participation. This event will feature 2,200 children participating in an enjoyable environment held in several locations across the province. The Jamboree is designed to recruit and retain members in this important age category while promoting the virtues of Grand Slam. This year It is asked that the various leagues across the province hold their Regional Grand Slam Jamborees on a Saturday in mid-June. All participants receive a Jamboree medallion. Teams will also be randomly selected to participate in a Provincial Grand Slam Jamboree held on **Saturday, July 6 at Shaw Park, in conjunction with Baseball Manitoba’s Winnipeg Goldeyes Game Sponsorship Night.**

**Umpire Clinics**

On the Baseball Manitoba website, under “Umpires” is the online clinic application form for umpire clinics, which will start in March. Try to get as many umpires as you can and ensure that they are certified by attending a clinic. Note: registration and payment for clinics is now required online.

• Level 3 clinics have been scheduled for 2019, event details and registration are posted online.

• New Level 1 umpires will just be taught the basics (balls/strikes; safes/outs; fair/foul; catch/no catch). There will also be some instruction on positioning. This way they are not being overwhelmed with all the rules. New Level 1 umpires will not be introduced to such calls as appeals, balks, obstructions, and offensive interference. So, let your coaches know this, so they do not approach new umpires looking for calls they cannot make.

• Level 1 and 2 clinics must be done separately. They can be the same day but require separate rooms.

* 1. • There has been a fee increase, the new fees are:
  2. o LEVEL 1 - $60
  3. o LEVEL 2 - $70 (must be level 1 for 2 years)
  4. o LEVEL 3 - $100 (must be level 2 for 3 years)

**Bat Rules**

Wood bats are to be used for all Senior “AA” and “AAA”, 18U “AA” and “AAA”, and 15U “AAA” Provincial Championships. 15U “AA” and 15U “A” teams will still follow the minus 3 rule for metal bats. The wood ruling also applies to Western Canada and Baseball Canada 15U and 18U “AAA” events. Baseball Canada has implemented a minus 10 (-10) bat regulation at the U13 – 13U Regional events. The wood bat ruling does not apply to Western Canada 15U “AA” championships, as they will still use metal bats.

Baseball Canada, with Baseball Manitoba following allowed the use of 2 ¾ barrel bats while also allowing 2 5/8 and 2 ¼ barrels. This is for 13U and 11U baseball. This rule will remain in effect.

* **Leagues: ensure that for Provincial, Western Canada and National Competition that your teams have the correct bats. Especially related to 15U, 18U and Senior.**

**2019 Important Dates**

Provincial Team Tryout Weekend: May 18-20

Mosquito Monster Mania:

• Winnipeg May 26

• Brandon May 11

Grand Slam Jamboree: July 6

Baseball Manitoba Day with the Goldeyes: July 6

Coach Symposium: June 8

Toronto Blue Jays Academy – Honda Super Camp: July 10 and 11

T12 Tryouts: July 11

Field Maintenance Seminar - TBD

Baseball Manitoba Convention – November 2 and 3

*There will be more information become available after the League Meeting and Baseball Manitoba AGM.*

* 1. **Coach Convention**
  2. Will be held March 22nd to 25th at the Sport for Life Building in Winnipeg.

<http://www.baseballmanitoba.ca/sites/default/files/2019-02/2019%20Coach%20Convention%20Flyer.pdf>