

Ottawa Tech Mixed Softball League 2011 Captains' Meeting

19 April 2012

Our mission:

- to provide the opportunity to participate in a recreational league
- to ensure that everyone has fun

Agenda Items

1. Executive for 2012
2. Milestones
3. Carling Diamonds
4. Report on the 2011 season
5. Constitution, Changes to the Code of Discipline
6. Time Slots, Tier format, Playoffs
7. Sportsmanship
8. Equipment
9. Budget and Fees (\$x per team)
10. Indemnity Forms



The 2012 Exec Members

We are always looking for assistance and volunteers - many hands make for light work



The Exec: Out standing in the field!

President

Vice President

Commissioner and Web Master

Treasurer

Scheduler

Registrar

Equipment and Diamonds Manager

Playoff Coordinator

Past President

Daniel Cayouette

Tim Dall

Ian Holden

Darryl Ryan

Ian Holden

Brian Taylor

Marc Gauthier

Al Lounsbury

Leigh Thorpe

2012 Milestones

Date		Event
Mon	26 Mar	Team Registration Opens
Fri	13 Apr	Team Registration Closes
Thu	19 Apr	Captains meeting/League Fees Due
Wed	25 Apr	Schedules finalized
Tue	1 May	Season opener (depends on condition of fields)
Tue	15 May	Indemnity forms and signatures due
Mon	1 Jul	Last date to change teams / add players
		End of regular season
		Start of playoffs
		End of playoffs

Carling Diamonds

We have approval in principle from PWGSC Real Estate to use the Carling diamonds (at no charge) with the following requirements:

1. Indemnity Insurance proof (from NSA)
2. Player Indemnity forms signed by all players and captains and provided to PWGSC

Note: No smoking restriction is in effect (just like with City Diamonds starting April 2, 2012). The indemnity forms are more formal than the ones from Aralia.

We are also looking at an option to use City diamonds instead.

Report on the 2011 season

- Some things stayed the same:
 - Affiliation with NSA Canada to get indemnity insurance
 - 1 tier for regular season games
- Some things changed and mostly simplified in line with a smaller league
 - Umpiring your own team - so, no more 3rd team
 - Playoffs moved from a weekend to during the week
 - Playoff format moved to double elimination
 - No paid umps for the playoffs but independant umps for some finals
- You can download the complete report from:
 - http://otttechsoftball.org/information/Ottawa_Tech_Softball_Report_2011.pdf

Time Slots

We will continue to use Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Teams can identify preference of 4:45 or 6:15

- 6:15 teams will have always play their games at 6:15 including rain-outs
- 2 « 4:45 teams » will usually play at 4:45

Decisions for Captains' approval

- 1 Continue with the self-umping during the season.
 - 1 Reminder: The umps are not to coach their players - especially not the plate ump!!!
- 2 Continue with 1 tier for the season.
- 3 Playoffs
 - 1 No playoff weekend and playoff during the week.
 - 2 Double-elimination separated in 3 or 4 sub-tiers.
 - 3 No paid umps for the playoffs.
 - 1 Independent umps for all finals

Other changes

- We will continue with the sportsmanship ratings with the following changes:
 - All ratings will now have a comment section to encourage team reps to provide feedback and info on their game
 - We will no longer have sportsmanship prizes

The ratings are meant to be an indicator of the social ambiance of the game. It is also meant to provide the exec with some feedback on whether a positive playing environment is maintained. We read each and every comment you provide - it's important to us to ensure everyone is having fun.

It is not meant to reflect whether the rater's team lost or won (we already know that part).

Season and Playoff format (same as last year)

- Regular Season:
 - Round robin, everyone plays everyone once
 - A rain week
- Playoffs:
 - Split into sub-groups based on standings
 - Double elimination
 - Finals are umped by volunteer umps from the other-subgroup
 - Winners of each sub-group get a trophy

Equipment

Same plan as last year - 2 sets of equipment will be put into the bins at the diamond

In each bin will be:

- *2 or 3 different types of bats for each team*
- *2 different styles of masks for each team and umpires*

From the bin, the home team will get their game ball and second USED ball (put used game balls in the bags after the game).

We will also be organizing the bins to try to have containers for umpire clickers so that they are available to easily find (and put back).

NOTE: HELP us keep the bins organized. Take a few moments to tidy up if things are getting hard to find. TELL us if something is broken or missing. Put garbage in the garbage bins.

Team Equipment & First Aid Kits

Each team should have their own first aid kit

- While the league tries to make available a reasonably stocked first aid kit and to have ice packs in the bin for anyone's use, teams should also take care to have small first aid kits at the game.
- If you find the league's first aid kit is missing stock or you could not find ice packs, please tell us so that we can re-stock it. While we try to check it when we visit the diamonds, we do rely on the other teams to help us out also.
- Buy a couple of ice packs and have them in your sports bags.

Teams

- Awareness of team fees: \$225 per team (was \$250 in '11)
 - The fees are due at the captains' meeting
 - This represents \$95 NSA fee
 - please make cheques out to "Ottawa Tech Mixed Softball League ».
- Awareness and agreement of the intent to register players with NSA to allow league members to make insurance claims as appropriate

Budget 2012

Assumption: No Paid Umps for Play-offs

Expenses	2010 Budget	Actual 2010	2011 Budget	2011 Actual	2012 Budget		
Equipment	\$1,000	\$924	\$1,000.00	\$984.67	\$1,000.00		
Diamonds	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Trophies	\$1,000	\$1,116	\$1,200.00	\$1,527.76	\$1,100.00		
Playoffs	\$1,500	\$1,138	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Exec	\$175	\$106	\$355.00	\$355.81	\$350.00		
Web Hosting	\$175	\$187	\$200.00	\$201.14	\$205.00		
NSA fee	\$1,620	\$1,530	\$1,600.00	\$1,425.00	\$1,500.00		
Misc	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Total	\$5,470	\$5,001	\$5,605.00	\$4,494.38	\$4,155.00		
Revenue							
Case Reserve							
Fees	\$2,400	\$3,325	\$3,900.00	\$3,750.00	\$3,375.00		
Selling old equip			\$500.00	\$500.00			
Correcting Balance		\$170		\$0.35			
Total		3495.42	4400	\$4,250.35	\$3,375.00		
Balance Fwd	\$1,561.36	\$3,126.16	\$1,921.16	\$2,882.13	\$2,102.13		
					\$225.00	<- Fees	

Indemnity Forms

Players **MUST** sign their team's indemnity form **BEFORE** stepping onto the field to play.

The captain is responsible for enforcement.

The captain will take legal liability responsibility for any player that starts playing before signing the indemnity form. In addition, failure to do comply with this will lead to penalties against the team ranging from the player being ruled ineligible to play for a number of games through to the team being removed from the league.

Provide signed indemnity form to the League registrar.

Up to Jul 2nd deadline you may add players to your online roster and have them sign the indemnity form and send it to the registrar - all before they step on to the field to play for your team.

The league exec may be conducting random spot checks to check the list of players who are playing for a team against those registered on the indemnity forms

Questions & Answers

Backup Material (For reference only)

- 1. NSA League Affiliation**
- 2. Rules**
- 3. Webpage - <http://otttechsoftball.org>**
- 4. Registration Information and Process**
- 5. Player Eligibility**
- 6. Game Incidents**
- 7. League Policy on Alcohol and smoking ban**

Changes to the Code of Discipline

The Incident Handling Process Has changed:

- Includes a resolution committee chaired by the Vice-President (or a delegate) and 2 team captains (or delegates) that are not involved in the dispute.
- The preference is to have consensus between the 2 team captains. The VP will only vote when there is disagreement between the 2 captains.

Changes to the Code of Discipline

All penalties were changed from a minimum to a maximum to be identified at the discretion of the resolution committee

- For example, the following:
 - First Offense: Suspension for the next game played by the player's team
- Is changed to :
 - First Offense: Suspension **of up to** the next game played by the player's team

NSA League Affiliation

- We will continue to affiliate with NSA Canada to get indemnity insurance for league executive and captains. NSA also gives players additional health benefits in case of injury. <http://www.nsacanada.ca>
- \$95 per team fee, which we get 50% to 60% back in prize items from NSA to use for recognition
- Coverage paid here is valid for teams & players that participate in other leagues or tournaments
- NOTE: Our affiliation with NSA is not meant to mean we are adopting any of their league or association rules. We will remain with our local rules as we set them.

Rules



Re-emphasize safety rules

- Visible blood - any player with visible blood must get the bleeding under control before they can continue to play; allow some time for the player to try to control the bleeding before continuing the game if necessary
- Jewelry - this is required during the playoffs and we **STRONGLY** encourage captains to get players to play without jewelry during the summer too; it is a Softball Canada rule

If something happens at your game, especially an injury or near injury, team captains **MUST** inform the executive. If in doubt, tell us and we'll decide the appropriate followup.

Intend to review the current league rules and see if additional examples or clarifications are necessary

Webpage - <http://otttechsoftball.org>

The following are on the web page, or will be added as they become available:

- Team & Player Registration
- Free agents list & sign-up
- Nortel Mixed League Rules
- Copies of forms, captains' info sheet, and this slide deck
- Umpiring Guidelines
- Team contact list
- Schedules
- Maps to diamonds (include parking info and ground rules)
- Practice diamond reservations
- Game Results Submission
- Standings and Stats (as season progresses)
- Playoff information (posted around Aug 1)

Registration Information and Process

Register on-line at **otttechsoftball.org**

Click on **Administration** & see the section **Team and Player Registration**

Team registration is open now

Player registration:

- Additional players may be registered as the season progresses, consistent with the July 1st deadline.

Player Eligibility

- Anyone willing to have fun playing softball.
- Minimum age restriction – players must be at least 16 years old.
- Must sign the indemnity form before starting to play

League Policy on Alcohol and smoking ban

Our standard alcohol message:

- Alcohol is not allowed at any diamond or in the parking lots
- If teams are caught, we could lose access to diamonds
- Conclusion: Have your beer at the pub or BBQ after the game.

Our new smoking message:

- Starting April 2, 2012, the City smoking ban extends to all City owned properties - including their softball diamonds
- Same applies to NCC diamonds at Carling Place

Budget 2012 (alternate)

Assumption: With Paid Umps for Play-offs

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