



**American Legion Department of Michigan
Baseball Committee Meeting Minutes
Doubletree Hilton Hotel Meeting Room III/IV
10:30 am**

Roll Call of Committee Chairs:

Committee Chairman/5 th Zone	Tim Walters	Absent Excused
1 st Zone Chairman	Jeff McGinnis	X
2 nd Zone Chairman	JC German	X
3 rd Zone Chairman	Kimberly Lambouris	X
4 th Zone Chairman	Nelson Cronkright	X

Guest: Department Commander Avie, Mike Trickey 5th Zone Commander, Sandy Lipman District 18 SAL Commander, Post #141, Post #566, District #12 Commander, and Post #88

The meeting opened at 10:30 am with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion – Kim Zone 3 made motion to elect Nelson Cronkright to be Vice Chairman./2nd JC German Passed.

Nelson - suggested to the committee to change the dates of our State Tournaments to instead of starting on a Wednesday and go thru Sunday, to start the tournaments on a Friday thru Tuesday. Terry Meyer explained the reasoning as, if you start the tournaments on Friday it makes it better for the parents and increase the attendance at the tournaments. It was asked that wouldn't the parents still have to take the weekend off and Monday and Tuesday? Terry explained that you are going to have more teams playing on Friday and Saturday. With just a couple teams playing Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday. This also helps with the Teams cost on transportation for the teams. Ashley will be getting Nationals dates in the next couple weeks. We can finalize the tournament dates in our December Committee Meeting.

Nelson – opened up discussion on how we can improve baseball in the state to get more teams playing. JC talked about the big issue in baseball everywhere is that we are losing kids playing baseball when they get to high school. If we start with post sponsoring little league baseball ages 12 years to 14 years age group that will be your Junior League and you keep them interested with baseball once they get into high school. That will be your Senior teams because you have the teams and coaching staff. Kim talked about her plans to improve baseball in her District/Zone with the post sponsoring parks and recreation teams. We need to show what value American Legion Baseball has to offer over Travel Teams. Promote how many of our American Legion players have been recruited to play college baseball with scholarships and to the Major Leagues.

Nelson – Regionals for AA will be in Kentucky this year.

Jeff – spoke to SAL Dept to donate \$500 for each Zone for zone tournaments. For Chief Umpire for AA is Dale Clyde and Chief Umpire for A is Brian York.

Dept. Commander Avie – stressed the importance about building baseball from the grassroots with the local post. Many post in Michigan have baseball diamonds that are not being used because they do not have teams.

Meeting adjourned 11:53 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Nelson Cronkright
Vice Chairman Baseball Committee

~~Jeff – Stated Midland might be hosting the Regional Tournament this year.~~ *Jim*

Kim – Suggested a way to increase teams and participation is by adding more scholarships to compete with travel teams that is a way we can promote baseball and improve participation.

~~Meeting Adjourned 7:43 pm~~ *Jim*

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Walters
Chairman American Legion Baseball
5th Zone Chairman

Kimberly Lambouris
American Legion Baseball Secretary
3rd Zone Chairman

m/ Lambouris
2/ Lepinski
to accept
PASS