



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2011, 7 p.m.
Canadiana Restaurant, Six Points Plaza**

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
- 2.1 Approval of minutes from 2010 AGM (previously circulated)
3. Reports from officers:
 - i. President
 - ii. Treasurer
 - iii. Vice President
 - iv. Registrar
 - v. Sponsorship
 - vi. Equipment
 - vii. Umpire-in-chief
 - viii. Special Events / Photography
 - ix. Communications
 - x. Skills Development
 - xi. Select Baseball
 - xii. Awards
4. Divisional Convenor Reports:
 - i. TBall
 - ii. Rookie
 - iii. Mosquito
 - iv. Peewee
 - v. Bantam
 - vi. Ladies Slo-Pitch
5. Amendments to the Constitution
6. Election of Executive
7. New business
8. Adjournment

President's Report – Patrick McConnell

“Don't fear failure so much that you refuse to try new things. The saddest summary of a life contains three descriptions: could have, might have, and should have.”

Unknown

As I was looking for a way to best sum up the year's activities as president of Bloordale, I made a list of the things the league has done this year. I took a look at the reports submitted by my fellow executive members. And I went back and reviewed the minutes of our executive meetings for the past year. One theme showed up time and time again: The new initiatives the league took on during 2011. These include:

- Successful start-up of the Bloordale fundraising barbeque program (see details under Special Events)
- Launching and maintaining of the league's new Website (see details under Communications)
- Launching of the league's Social Media strategy and associated dedicated social media channels (see details under Communications)
- Media outreach resulting in 4 hits through the Etobicoke Guardian including front page coverage and video coverage (see details under Communications)
- Spearheading the campaign to have EBA's purchase 3 garden tractors for member leagues. One of those now has a permanent home at Millwood Park and was used extensively this season to improve the grooming and grass cutting of both Millwood 1 and 2 diamonds
- Tractor operator training was led by Bloordale for all EBA members. Hosted at Millwood
- The purchase and installation of an equipment storage bunker for Millwood and associated field grooming tools to help improve the quality of the diamonds
- New mound at Millwood 1 rebuilt from the below ground survey stake up with proper clay
- Hosting the TBA West PeeWee Select Championship tournament
- Two of our house league teams (Rookie and Mosquito) participated in the SOBA Intact Provincial Championships for the first time in memory.
- A tournament-style championship playoff round was introduced at the Rookie and Mosquito divisions giving house-league players a taste of how tournament play works.
- Bloordale fielded its first Junior-aged Select team in recent memory
- Bloordale has a renewed focus on player and coach development. We have invested more time and financial resources into player clinics, umpire training, and coach development.

As I look forward to next season, some of the things on my mind are:

- Expand league marketing activities to build registration numbers from the T-Ball level right up to Bantam.
- Source alternate revenue streams to help offset operating costs
- Increase player and coach development opportunities
- Focus on volunteer recruitment, recognition, retention
- Expand our use of Social Media
- Co-host a tournament
- Work with the city and league volunteers to improve the condition of Millwood 2
- Train volunteers in basic field grooming techniques to improve our fields
- Provide proper grooming equipment at all diamonds
-

On a longer term, things we should be looking to include:

- Increased marketing efforts aimed at increasing registration
- Expanded Select and Rep programs
- Expanded divisional play to include Midget, Junior and Senior level teams
- Improved lighting at Millwood Park

There were also some very special moments this year. Things that the Bloordale Family should be proud of:

- [Our 2011 Rookie Ball Select Team is the Provincial Champion.](#)
- Bloordale Alumnist [Joey Votto donated \\$1,000](#) to our league that we have put towards player and coach development
- Bloordale players (and parent coaches) powered Millwood Junior School to the [Grade 5 City Championship](#). While the players wore Millwood jerseys, they proudly wore Bloordale hats while competing.
- Our more than \$76,000 operating budget came with \$120 of balancing for the year.

I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to note the passing of Dave Lauzon on Sept. 7, 2011 after a lengthy illness. Dave's passion for baseball and instructing young people in the finer points of the game will be his legacy. Whether hitting thousands of fungos, throwing batting practice, orchestrating from the dugout or spending hours fixing up a ball field by hand after a rain storm to make sure a game could be played, Dave always put his players first. Dave touched hundreds of baseball families in Bloordale, Etobicoke and Toronto. He served his community not only as a coach but also on the executives of Bloordale, Etobicoke and Toronto serving as President for many years on all three of the associations. Earlier this month, Dave's contribution to baseball was further recognized with his induction to the Carmen Bush Signature Club. [A tribute chronicling all of Dave's work can be found on the Bloordale website.](#)

Finally, there are many 'thank yous' that have to be extended as the 2011 season comes to a close. To my fellow executive members: Yours is a thankless job toiling behind the scenes to make sure the league runs smoothly. Many of you do not have family members currently in the league which makes your dedication even more admirable. To the Coaches: Your commitment is much more than the two hour game for which you don the green bloordale coach's jersey. The hours spent preparing for each and every game and practice for the benefit of all players on your team shows your commitment to your community and to the development of young people. And to our parents and sponsoring businesses: Thank you for your support of Bloordale and the trust you have put in us as a community organization to provide a safe environment for our youth to grow and develop both as athletes and young people.

I look forward with great anticipation the 2012 season.

**Treasurer's Report – Brian Walsh
FOR THE YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2011**

Operations

For the year ended October 31, 2011, the Bloordale Baseball League had an excess of expenditures over revenues of \$120. For the previous year ending October 31, 2010, we had reported an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$1,901. The actual deficit this year of \$120 is more favourable than the latest projected budget deficit of \$2,589 by a margin of \$2,470.

These results show the operations of the house league only. The league's total results include an additional \$20,242 of revenues and expenses from the operations of the select teams which all operate on a break-even basis.

Revenues

Our revenues for 2011 of \$79,192 are higher than those of last year by \$11,397 or 17%. This year over year increase is due to increased registration fees, sponsorship revenues, the Junior Select team fees and fundraising from running BBQ events at tournaments.

Overall registration in the league was down by 22 players from last year, with 17 less T-Ball division players and six less ladies in the Ladies Slo-Pitch division this year. The total registration of the other baseball divisions increased by a net of one player over that of last year to a total of 220 players.

Registration fees were increased by \$20 per player for all divisions except Ladies Slo-Pitch which saw an increase of \$15 per player.

For a five year comparative history of the divisional registrations, please refer to Appendix 2 Comparative Registration Summary.

Sponsorship revenue is up \$3,156. This is due to increased sponsor fees, more paying sponsors and the availability of new levels of sponsorship.

Banquet revenues and interest income are virtually unchanged from those of 2010.

New sources of revenue this year included \$800 from the Junior team and \$3,098 from the BBQ operations.

Expenditures

Overall expenses are up \$13,417 or 20% from those of last year but just \$301 over our budget for expenditures.

Skills Development at \$3,985 is just \$12 above budget and up by \$188 or 5% from last year's \$3,798.

Banquet expenses are lower by \$299 or 2.6% from last year while being under budget by \$1,242. The largest elements of the cost decrease is due to lower meal costs and increased participation in the 50/50 draws at the main banquets.

The lower meal costs result from a closer alignment of meals ordered to meals consumed.

The lower cost of main banquets was partially offset by higher costs incurred in the Bantam and Ladies divisions. The increased allotment of \$2.50 for the Ladies Slo Pitch banquet was funded as part of the additional \$15 per player increase in registration fees mentioned above.

A complete breakdown of banquet revenues and expenses is included on the attached Appendix 3 & 4 of this report.

The acquisition of the BBQ, although not part of the original budget, was as financially rewarding as a Bloordale Burger is tasty. The cost of operating the BBQ i.e. food, ice etc. was \$1,782. When applied against the \$3,098 of revenues mentioned above, we are left with a profit of \$1,316 or 42.5% of sales. That profit covers the entire cost of acquiring all of the BBQ equipment, which was \$1,255. This BBQ equipment should provide us with many future years of fundraising opportunities.

Equipment spending for house league teams at \$4,815 was higher than the \$3,969 reported in 2010 by \$846 but less than the budget of \$3,969 due to the league not purchasing a new pitching machine and generator. Included in equipment cost is \$429.76 of field equipment and \$433.92 for baseballs to be given out to players as part of their registration package. These complimentary baseballs were budgeted to have cost \$5.00 each but were acquired by an alert convenor at \$2.26 a piece.

Our Field Cost of \$8,196 includes the purchase \$984 of clay and \$100 of labour to rebuild the pitcher's mound at Millwood One and a net cost of \$7,112 for the equipment / lawn tractor bunker. The total cost of the bunker was \$13,112 of which the EBA covered \$6,000. We used the remainder of our Nevada funds to help pay for the bunker.

Meeting costs reflect the cost of our Coaches Night, and a Wings Night for Ladies Slo-Pitch and are close to budget.

Registration expenses at \$5,741 are less than the 5,804 of last year by \$63 due to lower registration activity and a \$290 refund from Thriva for registration errors.

Photography at \$1,628 was higher by \$188 due slightly more photographs and the charging of shipping charges.

The costs of Trophies at \$5,217 are over those of last year due to paying \$1,486 to refurbish our ceremonial trophies. Trophy costs are also over budget due underestimating the cost of refurbishing the trophies.

Umpire and Uniforms costs are higher in 2011 than for the year 2010 by 5% and 4% respectively.

Balance Sheet Review

As of October 31, 2011, the League had total net assets of \$43,348 of which virtually all is held in bank accounts and term deposits. The term deposits earn interest from 1.5% to 1.6% annually.

Accounts Receivable of \$1,880 is comprised of amounts from sponsors and one late paying player.

Other liabilities of \$10,694 include, amounts owing to select teams, the trophy invoice, and other accrued charges.

Surplus

As at October 31, 2011 the League had accumulated a surplus of \$43,348. This Surplus is intended to cushion the League from any significant adverse unknown and unforeseen financial developments, and to fund future capital expenditures that are required from time to time and are not generally covered by fees.

**BLOORDALE BASEBALL LEAGUE
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**

<i>Period Ended -</i>	<i>October 31, 2011</i>	2011 <u>Budget</u> (full year)	2011 <u>ACTUAL</u> (full year)	Excess (Shortfall) to Budget	2010 <u>ACTUAL</u>	2011 Actual / 2010 Actual Over / (Short)
REVENUES						
Registration - Regular		46,715	44,752	- 1,963	40,600	4,152
Registration - Juniors		-	800	800	-	800
Registration - Ladies Slo Pitch		13,180	12,040	- 1,140	11,875	165
Family Discount	-	579	636	- 57	579	57
Sponsor Fees		12,759	14,709	1,950	11,553	3,156
Banquets		3,856	3,936	80	3,856	80
Fundraising BBQ		-	3,098	3,098	-	3,098
Interest		491	493	2	491	3
		76,421	79,192	2,771	67,796	11,397
EXPENSES						
Skills Dev		3,973	3,985	- 12	3,798	188
Banquets		12,056	10,814	1,242	11,113	299
BBQ Operations Costs		-	1,782	- 1,782	-	1,782
Equipment		8,911	4,815	4,096	3,969	846
BBQ Equip		-	1,255	- 1,255	-	1,255
Fields		8,000	8,196	- 196	4,817	3,378
Insurance		2,051	2,056	- 5	2,051	5
Meetings		897	834	63	897	64
Junior Team		-	100	- 100	-	100
Permits		1,892	1,972	- 80	1,782	190
Administration		2,700	3,695	- 995	385	3,310
Photographs		1,440	1,628	- 188	1,440	187
Registration		5,884	5,741	143	5,804	63
Storage		2,404	2,184	220	2,137	47
Supplies		800	429	371	600	170
Trophies		4,444	5,217	- 773	3,544	1,672
Umpire Fees		6,300	6,610	- 310	6,300	310
Uniforms		17,259	18,002	- 742	17,258	744
		79,011	79,312	- 301	65,895	13,417
Excess of revenues over expenses		- 2,589	(120)	2,470	1,901	2,021

BALANCE SHEET as at *October 31, 2011*

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Cash		
Chequing	20,537	22,849
Nevada Trust Account	- 0	4,973
Term Deposits	36,624	26,576
Amounts Receivable	1,880	670
Prepaid Expenses	399	-
Capital Assets	2	2
Other Liabilities	- 10,694	- 6,803
Self Insurance Reserve	- 5,400	- 4,800
	-----	-----
	43,348	43,468
Surplus	=====	=====
Opening	43,468	41,567
Excess of revenues over expenses	- 120	1,901
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Ending	43,348	43,468
	=====	=====
	0	0

 PRESIDENT

 TREASURER

Appendix 1: Bloordale Baseball Registration Summary 2011

	Players Registered	Registration Received	Discounts Given	Refund Recapture	Net Registration
T-Ball	54	6,500		12	6,512
Rookie	69	11,840	180		11,840
Mosquito	76	12,970	240		12,970
PeeWee	48	8,490	30	50	8,540
Boys Bantam	27	4,830	80	60	4,890
House Sub Total	274	44,630	530	122	44,752
Ladies Slo Pitch	81	12,040	106		12,040
Total	355	56,670	636	122	56,792

Appendix 2: Bloordale Baseball Comparative Registration Summary

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
T-Ball	107	93	55	71	54
Rookie	82	90	85	83	69
Mosquito	65	67	72	61	76
PeeWee	46	52	45	50	48
Boys Bantam	38	37	25	25	27
Baseball Sub Total	231	246	227	219	220
House Sub Total	338	339	282	290	274
Ladies Slo Pitch	76	72	82	87	81
Total	414	411	364	377	355

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Appendix 3: Bloordale Baseball Banquet Revenue

Banquet Revenue	T-Ball		Rookie		Mosquito		PeeWee		2011		2010		2009	
									Total		Total		Total	
	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$
50/50 Draw		85.00		117.00		177.00		77.00		456.00		336.00		339.50
Parents Paying	47	940.00	53	1,060.00	52	1,040.00	22	440.00	174	3,480.00	176	3,520.00	176	3,512.00
Total Receipts		1,025.00		1,177.00		1,217.00		517.00		3,936.00		3,856.00		3,851.50
Attendance														
Paying Guests	47		53		52		22		174		176		176	
Non-Paying Attendees									0		3		3	
Head Table & Guests	5		5		6		9		25		17		17	
Coaches	15		10		10		8		43		45		35	
Players	45		60		60		37		202		206		189	
Total	112		128		128		76		444		447		420	
Paid For	107		140		138		79		464		500		470	
Difference	5		-12		-10		-3		-20		-53		-50	

Appendix 4: Bloordale Baseball Banquet Revenue and Costs

	2011			2010			2009		
<u>Main Banquet</u>									
	Total		Cost per	Total		Cost per	Total		Cost per
<u>Revenues</u>	#	\$	Player <u>Registered</u>	#	\$	Player <u>Registered</u>	#	\$	Player <u>Registered</u>
Door Receipts		3,480.00			3,520.00			3,512.00	
50/50 Draw Profit		456.00			336.00			339.50	
Total Banquet Revenue		3,936.00			3,856.00			3,851.50	
<u>Costs</u>									
Cost of Meals		7,475.20			7,910.40			7,909.75	
Cost of Room									
Prizes & Tickets		355.53			253.65			272.91	
Newsletter & Surveys					100.00			27.12	
Net Cost of Main Banquet	248	\$ 3,894.73	\$ 15.70	265	\$ 4,408.05	\$ 16.63	257	\$ 4,358.28	16.96
<u>Other Banquets</u>									
Last Year - Carryover									
Boys PeeWee Act									
Boys Bantam	27	593.25	\$ 21.97	25	500.00	\$ 20.00	25	300.00	12.00
Ladies Slo Pitch	81	2,390.00	\$ 29.51	87	2,349.00	\$ 27.00	82	1,804.00	22.00
Net Total Banquet Cost									
		\$ 6,877.98			\$ 7,257.05			\$ 6,462.28	

Vice President's Report – Michael Giorno

To be made available on November 16, 2011 during the AGM

Registrar's Report – Mohammed Khan

Registration for the 2011 season went smoothly and no major challenge was encountered.

Registration Methods:

In-person:

Three in-person sessions were held at Cloverdale Mall. Both of them were quite successful as quite a few parents were able to register their kids in person. Along with division coordinator, a number of Bloordale executive were present to help out and answer any questions parents have.

Challenges:

1. An error with the Thriver registration application was identified with the fee schedule. For the final registration, system did not have the correct early bird discount cut off date and for couple of extra days, continued to apply early bird discount. Issue was reported and it was quickly resolved by correct fee. Issue was resolved quickly resolved by Thriver. They also credit back the amount lost due to the issue.
2. We only had two computers available for registration. It would be nice if for next season we can have at least three computers available as it saves time for manual work and registration process looks more user friendly and professional

On-line:

3. An error with the Thriver registration application was identified with the fee schedule. For the final registration, system did not have the correct early bird discount cut off date and for couple of extra days, continued to apply early bird discount. Issue was reported and it was quickly resolved by correct fee. Issue was resolved quickly resolved by Thriver. They also credit back the amount lost due to the issue.

Opportunities:

A few opportunities have been identified for next season and they will be discussed and action, where required, prior to start of the next season.

We will aim to have the next year registration more interactive and sort a family event with early registration prizes and set up would be more decorative and lively.

Advertising:

Flyers: Flyers to local schools were distributed late this year and the situation impact registration numbers to some extent. I am not sure as to with how many schools flyers were distributed.

It was also discussed and agreed that this season no news paper advertising will be used as it was not found to be effective.

Group Emails:

A total of three pre-registraion emails were send out to our current registrants from the existing database. I believe this did help with informing parents about the registration dates and location.

Opportunity: A number of emails were returned due to various reasons. I have a list of people who have requested to be taken out as they either move or their kids grown up. Based on this list and returned email a clean up will be done prior to sending out any group emails for registration purpose.

Display Sign:

This season signs announcing the registration info/dates were placed at three different locations for a total duration of one month. We used a new company and were able to saved about \$200 compared to previous years.

Signs were displayed about two weeks prior to first in-person/on-line registration date. Signs were located at: Centennial Park, Neilson Park, Garnetwood Park

Registration Forms:

This is an area of opportunity where some potential saving is possible as we had about 150 form printed but only about 50 were used.

If fee is not increased for the next season we should use the same form with manually changing some information on about 65-70 forms. It is a bit work but could potentially save \$150 for the next season.

Information/inquiry through registrar email:

About 15-20 emails were received before and during the season with different inquiries. All emails were replied back in timely manner with requested info/inquiry or directed to our sources (Accountant/Division Coordinators).

SPONSORSHIP – Joe Smith

This year's 2011 sponsorship Campaign was a great success. For the 2011 season we introduced a new 5 tiered sponsorship option (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, & League sponsor) giving our sponsors an opportunity to advertise their companies through Bloordale Baseball in a variety of different way such as web links, web advertising shirt logos and annual newsletter recognition at an increasing cost. With the return of 25 existing sponsors and the addition of 7 new ones, we were able to provide every Bloordale team with their own sponsor.

This enabled us to exceed our projected revenue by 17%.

We are looking like we will have a great upcoming 2012 year with regards to our sponsors, if anyone is interested please get in contact with myself Joseph Smith, as we do have some opening for this upcoming 2012 year.

Once again from the Bloordale Baseball Executive Team: Thank You Sponsors.

EQUIPMENT – Jim Tomeo

I was pleased with having the uniforms available for opening day, I think it went over well with everyone. I have already spoken to Centennial Sports, and if we follow the same timeline (shirts ordered by end of Feb., sponsor logos by end of Mar.), we can accomplish this again for the coming season. We had a few missteps, mostly from having two people doing a job previously done by one. I don't anticipate the same thing happening again. We have some blank shirts ready to go, 4 teams in T-Ball, 1 each from Rookie and Mosquito, which we can use this coming year, or we could hold off and use them to partially offset a planned capital cost in a future year. I will look to the Executive for direction at a future meeting.

In previous years, if pants have went on sale, we made sure to pick some up. I am currently taking stock of what we have on hand, and will again purchase some if there are savings to be had.

As for actual equipment, I will be e-mailing all convenors asking them to contact all coaches to get back any bags, keys, or miscellaneous equipment. I will also be emptying every box at every park this year, and over the winter make as accurate an assessment as I can as to what we have and what we need. I hope to have some concrete numbers and a definite "wishlist" before spring. It is my understanding from Joe Smith that he has approached Home Run Sports as a sponsor, I too will be speaking to them regarding equipment needs.

Patrick McConnell is speaking to neighbouring leagues about making a bulk purchase for baseballs, I don't know where that stands, but if we decide to have another opening day ball giveaway, I will include that in the numbers. At the last Executive meeting it was agreed upon to use 65cc balls for all divisions Pee Wee and below, down from 80cc in previous years. On average we will save about \$10 per dozen doing so.

Trophy costs will be down somewhat this year, as no new bases are required, but will still be a little higher than normal. We haven't had any new plaques made or installed for at least the last couple of years, but I plan to have them done before the end of the regular season.

There is no specific requirement for first aid kits at the parks, but even so, they've been woefully neglected the past few years. I'm hoping for some coaches and parents input, along with the

Executive, at the AGM so that I can have a clear idea of exactly what we want to be supplied in the kits moving forward. I'd like to have them ready for the start of the season, and keep the well-stocked all the way through.

Umpire-in-chief – Brian Riddell

Bloordale added 8 new umpires in 2011. 26 umpires were used this year for house league, playoffs and ladies slo-pitch. The majority of our umpires were under the age of fifteen. 7 adults were also part of the crew. As all convenors found this was a difficult year to schedule because of the weather. All mosquito and peewee games were assigned 2 umpires. There were 5 games where only 1 umpire showed up and 2 where no umpire showed up. Part of the problem was the number of games that were rescheduled because of the rain. In particular this happened when peewee aged umpires were scheduled for mosquito games and had a peewee game rescheduled for that night. Bantam games were covered by level 2 umpires who were at least midget age. Ladies slo-pitch was covered by 5 adult umpires one per game until the final.

We also provided level 2 or level 3 umpires for all Bloordale Select Teams.

Our umpires for the most part were enthusiastic and reliable. There were no major incidents involving players, coaches or parents.

I believe that most of our umpires will return next year, which will give us some more level 2 umpires. The majority of these will be bantam age and along with our adult staff we will be able to cover all games that Bloordale offers.

Recommendations

Mosquito rates \$20

Peewee and Ladies \$25

Bantam \$30 (increase of \$5)

**Umpire in Chief continued:
Financial Report**

Payments

Regular Season

Bantam----- \$1000.00

Peewee-----\$1500.00

Mosquito-----\$1680.00

Baseball

Total-----\$4180.00

Ladies

Slo-Pitch-----\$1200.00

Playoffs

Bantam-----\$ 50.00

Peewee-----\$575.00

Mosquito-----\$480.00

Rookie-----\$ 75.00

Baseball

Total------\$1180.00

Ladies Slo-Pitch----- \$ 50.00

Skills Development----- \$ 820.00

Total Payment-----\$7430.00

Communications – Wendy Kudeba

Media

Media coverage was fairly good for Bloordale this year. Just prior to the season opening, and in time for additional registrations to be accepted, The Etobicoke Guardian ran an extensive article on the Tball Super 7 format. Along with format founders Mark Chaisson and Jim Horton, the article also quoted Bloordale President Patrick McConnell, Tball Convenor Brent Neidbala, and Tball Coach and parent Marko Vejar.

Opening day activities were featured in Guardian photos and a video interview with Patrick, which appeared on the Guardian website. The Guardian also included coverage of the Rookie Ball Select team when it won the city and then provincial championships.

Website

Bloordale Baseball launched a new website this spring at www.bloordalebaseball.com. Besides a fresh, new look and additional content, the site also established Bloordale's first social media channels on

facebook and twitter. The website programming is user-friendly, which allows trained volunteers to update content quickly and regularly. Activity on the site is especially high during times when parents and players reference park schedules, play-off schedules and select tryout schedules. In 2012, our content development on Facebook will be a particular focus and we hope to add videos and photos to our youtube and flickr pages. We welcome content from parents and coaches, so please send your content ideas, photos, videos and stories to bloordaleevents@gmail.com.

Special Events – Wendy Kudeba

Barbecue Initiative

This year, Bloordale started a fundraising initiative by holding four barbecue weekends at Millwood. Advice from leagues in neighbouring communities allowed us to establish some good organizational processes early on. The league purchased start up equipment which included the barbecue, barbecue tools and supplies, tables, and a tent.

Barbecues were held during the weekends of an Etobicoke Baseball Association Midget Tournament June 24-26; TBA West Peewee Select Championships Aug. 12-14; Minor Bantam Provincial Championships Sept. 2-4, as well as a one-day event on Sept. 17, which was the final day of baseball for many of the divisions. The goal with the barbecues was to pay for all equipment and start-up costs in year one. The end result was a small profit (see the financial report for details.)

The barbecues could not have taken place without the participation of a number of volunteers who provided assistance with set up, tear down, cash and food preparation. Bloordale also had a number of high school volunteers participate which assisted them with their required volunteer hours.

Banquets

Year-end banquets for the tball, rookie, mosquito and peewee divisions were held at the Canadiana Restaurant in mid-October. The banquets were well attended and feedback from guests was positive. We have strived to keep the program efficient in order to give the players, parents and coaches time to enjoy some good food and company, and pick up their trophies and photos. Surveys this year included a collection of opinions about future banquet formats. This will be reviewed by the executive. The bantam division also held a year-end event with a fun night at E-Zone.

Opening Day

The Minor Mosquito Select team hosted the opening day barbecue at Millwood this year. The team offered a variety of hot dogs for lunch and served espresso, which was really appreciated during the chilly opening day weather. Profits assisted the team with their equipment and other operating expenses for the season. Media coverage was good; please see the Media section for more details.

2012 Communications/Events Plan

In 2012, Bloordale will use its electronic database to keep parents and players more thoroughly informed of events and activities. Enewsletters based on general interest or division interests will be developed and distributed on a regular basis to those who wish to receive them.

A working group has been established to focus on improved awareness for the league, particularly for registration. This group will have its first meeting prior to the end of 2011 and will determine how to supplement the usual recruitment initiatives, which includes mobile signs and flyers distributed through grade schools.

Photography – Patrick McConnell per Robert Warburton

2011 season saw three photo days with the league pictures being divided into three dates:

- T-Ball
- Rookie, Mosquito, Peewee, Bantam
- Ladies Slo-Pitch and re-takes

All House League, Select, and slo-pitch teams were given the opportunity for team and individual pictures.

Sponsorship plaques were also created for distribution to team sponsors.

This year marked the second year of a three year contract with Future Stars.

It is important to establish the photo dates well in advance of league start up so parents can be informed and the dates can be posted. Ideally, if possible, it would be good to establish our photo dates in time for our first in-person registration.

Skills Development – Dave Good

Coach Training was held in April for all coaches who intended to be on the field during the season. A large turnout from Bloordale was evident. The event was held at the ProTeach facilities, and covered fundamentals for new coaches as well as some specifics for the more experienced coaches. All attendees received a coaches handbook—a very useful tool.

For the first time this year, we held a two-day set of sessions for all of the Bloordale players, with separate times for each age group, and covering skills which were considered to be appropriate for that age and skill level. Only about half of the expected number of players that were expected actually attended (can we blame it on being Mother's Day weekend?). Those who did come out were treated to small class sizes, and expert instruction from the ProTeach facilitators.

Also for the first time this year, we held clinics for Mosquito aged players in order to prepare them for their first year of pitching. Eight sessions were held over a period of two weeks, before the season began, with between 8 and 12 players at each session. Players were taught basics (such as proper grip of a baseball), throwing mechanics, and the pitching motion. We hoped to give our new pitchers a head start on the season, and from what was witnessed on the diamond in the early part of the season, we seemed to have great success.

**Select Convenor Report –
Patrick McConnell / Michael Giorno**

Bloordale has an active select team program. This season, five teams from all divisions donned the forest green select jerseys and represented Bloordale in inter-league play and travelled to tournaments across Ontario. For the first time in memory Bloordale fielded a Junior Select team (playing in a Mississauga Baseball Association loop). While there are many highlights in our select season, one of our greatest accomplishments was our Rookie Select Team winning the Provincial Championship in Thorold, Ontario on Labour Day Weekend. Above all else, every select coach reports player skill development was key to all teams' successes this year.

Two Bloordale executive members (Patrick McConnell and Rick O'Connell) also convened the TBA West Peewee Select division. Bloordale also hosted the TBA West Peewee Select championship tournament. In 2012, Bloordale will be hosting five select teams and have added three AA teams to the Bloordale family. AA teams will be OBA carded and will not be playing house league while the Select team rostered players will continue to show leadership within the house league ranks.

Detailed Team reports are as follows:

Division: Rookieball **Loop played / number of teams:** TBA West Select / 5

Year-end classification: Select **Head Coach:** Naeem Siddiq

Assistant Coaches: Dave Wilson, Joe Leja, Brian Wilson, James Sprenger

of players on roster: 12

Season Record

- Exhibition games (w-l-t): 0-1-0
- Regular Season games (w-l-t) 9-3-0
- Playoff games (w-l-t) 4-1-0
- Tournament record (w-l-t) 11-4-0
- # of tournaments entered : 3 (Won 2 Tournaments: EBA Lloyd McConnie, West Hill)

Final standing end of season: SOBA Ontario Champions, TBA West Champions, finished 2nd during regular season,

Season Highlights: great player development from start to finish

Suggested improvements for 2012: In hindsight I wish I put an underage team together the year before as there would be enough talent to compete and get ready for the next year

Division: Minor Mosquito Select **Loop played :** TBA West Select

Year-end classification: Select

Head Coach : Gus De Franco **Assistant Coaches:** Dave Jackson, Rob Fenwick, Russ Loewen

of players on roster: 15 (9 regular players, 6 call-ups)

Season Record

- Exhibition games (w-l-t): 1-6-0
- Regular Season games (w-l-t) 4-5-2
- Playoff games (w-l-t) 1-2-0

- Tournament record (w-l-t) 2-4-0
- # of tournaments entered : 2
- Final standing end of season : finished 5th out of 9 teams

Season Highlights: Leading the Bloordale major mosquito team by 8 runs at one point during a playoff elimination game, only to lose in extra innings. Great improvements across all our players. One call-up became our best pitcher and now plays for the Rangers.

Division: Major Mosquito

Loop played / number of teams: TBA West Select / 9 teams

Year-end classification (select, A, AA): Select

Head Coach: Brian Moore **Assistant Coaches:** Tom Pizolinas, Naeem Siddiq, Peter Viti

of players on roster: 12 plus 1 call-up

Season Record

- Exhibition games (w-l-t): 9-2
- Regular Season games (w-l-t) 2-1
- Playoff games (w-l-t) 3-2
- Tournament record (w-l-t) N/A
- # of tournaments entered : 2

Final standing end of season: 3rd in regular season, TBA semi-finalist

Season Highlights: The Bloordale Major Mosquito team had a great season in 2011. It was the second consecutive year where almost the same team was together. The coaches focused on skills development, beginning with the indoor practices in January, and throughout the entire season. After a very successful regular season, the team fell just a little short during the playoff tournament. The team entered two tournaments in 2011 – one in Whitby, and the second in Hamilton. Both were classified as rep tournaments. The team fared very well against more highly classified AA teams. The convener of the Whitby tournament commented on the spirit of the players on the team. Many of these players will be playing AAA or AA in 2012.

Suggested improvements for 2011: There was a very large talent gap between the three best teams and the six others. Few of the games between the top and bottom games were competitive, which is not a great situation for either the winning team or the losing team. I'm not sure what can be done about this however. Perhaps a more unbalanced schedule.

Division: PeeWee

Loop played / number of teams: TBA West Total 9 teams

Year-end classification: Select

Head Coach: Dave Good **Assistant Coaches:** Chris Skomra

of players on roster: 12

Season Record: 6-11-0 (total, including regular season, playoffs and tournament)

Exhibition games (w-l-t): 0-0

Regular Season games : 5-7-0

Playoff games (w-l-t) : 0-2-0

Tournament record (w-l-t) : 1-2-0

of tournaments entered : one

Final standing end of season: Fifth place

Season Highlights: Lots of individual highlights—game balls for individual players for each game, and each one of those was a highlight in itself.

Suggested improvements for 2011 : More than two coaches are necessary for a select or above team. It was a struggle sometimes to handle the requirements. I would also enter a second tournament instead of just one.

Division: Junior

Loop played / number of teams: Mississauga Baseball Association , 19 teams

Year-end classification: Select

Head Coach: Doug Carr **Assistant Coaches:** Vito Ferlano

of players on roster: 14

Season Record:

- **Exhibition games (w-l-t):** 1-1-0
- **Regular Season games :** 8-10-3
- **Playoff games (w-l-t) :** out of area team was not allowed to participate
- **Tournament record (w-l-t) :** 3-5-0

of tournaments entered : two

Final standing end of season: Fifth place

Season Highlights: was one of two teams that played to a tie game vs the undefeated Mississauga North Tigers during regular season. At the end of the season Bloordale was able to beat the top teams in the division. Excellent showing in the Brampton Tournament, losing in the championship game in the last inning to the Mississauga North Tigers.

Suggested improvements for 2011 : It would be good to find a Toronto loop to play in. Team discipline was at times a challenge during the season. Stricter code of conduct and player expectation contracts should be used – and enforced -- in the 2012 season.

AWARDS - Patrick McConnell

In 2010, Bloordale established two new awards to recognize league volunteers: The Dave Lawrence Volunteer of the Year Award, The President's Award.

The 2011 Volunteer of the Year: Two volunteers were very active with the Bloordale barbecues, volunteering for all four weekends and spending well over 12 hours during each of these weekends to run the cash. For their dedication, the Volunteer of the Year award for 2011 was shared by Bonnie McConnell and Ann Power. The award was presented to Ann and Bonnie during the evening of the Peewee Banquet.

The President's Award was not handed out in 2011

Following the 2010 Bloordale AGM, three Bloordale representatives were recognized with awards by the Etobicoke Baseball Association.

Zac Kelcher-McConnell – Junior Umpire of the Year

Neil Riddell – Senior Umpire of the Year

Dave Lawrence – EBA Volunteer of the Year

Divisional Reports – T-Ball, Brent Niedbala

This year, Bloordale continued the Super Six format for the EBA at the T-Ball level; dropping the outfield and the catcher and moving to only six players on the field in an attempt to speed up the game, eliminate the grazing in the outfield and creating more at bats. The kids continued to enjoy the new format and parents also gave it mainly positive support. Most importantly, returning parents and coaches, who had seen both varieties of play, readily endorsed the new format. Given this, the Convenor's recommendation is that we make this format permanent for future seasons at the T-Ball level.

Finding coaches was no more or less difficult than usual; noting some teams had to have their coaches somewhat urged by the Convenor to get things off the ground. Not requiring someone to physically take the equipment bag made this somewhat easier as did the smaller format of the teams which reduced the ability to be an anonymous, uninvolved parent on the sidelines.

Again, we were joined this year by two teams from our neighbours at Forest Glen. This helped to expand our loop and was essential in creating enough diamonds to accommodate the play of more teams in the new format.

T-Ball continues to have some difficulty attracting the number of participants it once did. We believe this is due to both demographics in the neighborhood and the competing attraction of soccer.

Overall, a good year and the Convenor thanks the Executive team for their support throughout the year.

Divisional Report – Rookie Ball, Mike Giorno

The registration for the 2011 Rookie Ball season started slow and in the end we only had 68 children register. We "borrowed" 4 players from FG to round out to a nice number of 72 players. This was the third year in a row that our numbers decreased (2009-85, 2010-82). This year the mix of returning vs first year players was heavily skewed to the first year players (65/35 new/returning). Again this year we had a few new players to the game, proving that it's never too late to start a baseball career.

This season we were down to 6 teams in Rookie Ball. The Bloordale teams played in a loop with 1 team from our neighbours in Mississauga, at Forest Glen Baseball.

With 7 teams we ran into the scheduling issues as one team would always be idle. We were however able to turn that negative into a positive as the idle team would have a practice scheduled in place of a game. We were still able to have a balanced schedule. The 8 week season enabled each team to play two exhibition games, 12 regular season games with an additional date for a Pro-Teach session. All teams played twice a week. In the regular season each team played the other 6 teams twice - once home and once away. We were able to ensure that each team played 1 game at a Forest Glen diamond, 2-3 games at Broadacres and 10-11 games at Neilson. As well there was roughly a 50/50 split between the 9AM and 11AM games.

For the second year in a row the Rookie Ball Pro-Teach sessions were run indoors at the ProTeach facility. As usual the turnout was very good. There were two 90 minute sessions with 3-4 teams at each session. At ProTeach the kids can be separated into multiple stations so we can have larger sessions and the kids can still be focused. Again the consensus from coaches, parents and kids was that these sessions were well worth it!

The season began in April this year with much fanfare. Then the rains came and though our schedule went into chaos. Thanks to the hard work of the coaches, parents and players we were able to complete almost all games. The regular season winner was team Chestnut Place Chargers. Generally the teams were well matched with all teams being competitive.

During the summer break a few coaches ran practice sessions on Wednesday nights at the Broadacres Diamond. These were sparsely attended this year to the disappointment of the coaches.

Due to the uneven number of teams, we went with a 7 team double-elimination format for the playoffs. Each team played a minimum of 2 games.

The playoff rounds were very exciting. The level of play improved dramatically over the summer making for some very close Rookie Ball games. The most improved team was B4-Canadiana Restaurant that after a first round loss pulled off an amazing run of four straight wins to make it into the Rookie Ball Finals. B6-Chestnut Place Chargers continued their dominant play to also advance to the finals.

The final was a double elimination and Canadiana continued their stellar play by defeating the previously undefeated Chestnut Place Chargers. That was their fifth straight win for B4. In the second game the lead switched multiple times. Chestnut Place Chargers took the lead going into the bottom of the 7th, however, Canadiana came storming back in the bottom half of the inning and had the tying run on 2nd base. However, the Chargers' bend-but-not-break defense was too much for Canadiana and the Chargers prevailed with a one-run victory.

To cap off the season - there was our annual Rookie Ball All-Star game. The best house league players went up against the Rookie Ball select team. In a hard fought, but fun game, the Rookie Select Player narrowly defeated the HL All-Stars. This was very well received by all involved.

This year we entered a Bloordale team in the INTACT House League Championship. It was mostly team B6, with a few kids from B1 and B3. Thanks to the kids and coaches for participating. The outcome was not as we had hoped with our team really being out-classed by the other teams. The INTACT plays more along the SOBA rules and I believe that our rules put our teams at a disadvantage. I would be open to more discussion on the INTACT and our rules.

Divisional Report –

Mosquito, Co-Convenors Brian Moore and Gus De Franco

The Mosquito division had 76 players born in 2000 or 2001 divided over six teams. There was also one team from Forest Glen in Mississauga.

Mosquito is the first year that players pitch and those batters face live pitching. This is a bit of an adjustment for the younger players, but by the end of the season there was a notable increase in skill level demonstrated by the players.

There was an emphasis on skill development throughout the year. Since pitching was new to so many players, several of the coaches organized a series of pitching clinics just prior to the beginning of the season. These clinics were very well attended, and is recommended for 2012. There were also Pro Teach clinics in May, as well as the fun nights held on Tuesday nights throughout the summer. Despite a very wet May, a full schedule was played, with each team playing twelve games. The playoffs consisted of a seven team, two game elimination tournament, won by regular season champion Keating Roofing Contractors. The tournament format is a bit of a departure from the usual playoff format, but seemed to be well received. The convenors recommend that this format be considered in the future, especially when there are an add number of teams.

A highlight of the summer was Bloordale's first time participation in the SOBA Mosquito INTACT House League provincial Championship. Keating Roofing finished in the top 4.

The season wrapped up with an all-star game between the Minor Mosquito Select team, and the house league all-stars, which consisted entirely of non-select players. Despite losing the game, the all-star team put up a great fight. The high talent level demonstrated by the all-star players is proven by the fact that the majority of the all-star players will be playing select or rep in 2012.

The biggest challenge for the season was the general condition of the main diamond at Millwood #2. The field is generally not maintained when the regular season starts in early May. In addition, the field drains poorly, which often results in large puddles throughout the infield and especially at home plate. We understand that there are improvements planned to address these areas in 2012. Some longer term (and expensive) upgrades could include improvements to the players' benches and stands, and even night lights. With a little attention, Millwood #2 could be a sparkling facility!

Thank you to all the sponsors and coaches:

Toronto Parking **Coach:** Mike Barry

Keating Roofing Contractors **Coach:** John Catton

Markland Homes Association **Coach:** Dave Good

Markland Pharmacy **Coach:** Brent Niedbala

Atlas Care **Coach:** Mike Woolcock

Mars Janitorial **Coach:** Tim Zembal

Divisional Report –

Peewee, Convenor Gordon Blankers

Last spring we registered 48 boys but only three coaches stepped forward. Forrest Glen requested to play in our league since they had only enough player for 1 full team. One parent from Forrest Glen took on coaching a Bloordale team with 5 players from Forrest Glen. We now had 5 teams in our division. The coaches met and drafted teams in April before the beginning of the baseball season and reviewed

the rules and procedures in coaching a game and running practices. The coaches were there to teach the boys baseball skills and for them to have fun.

The season started with exhibition games for the first week of May with games on Saturdays, Mondays and Tuesdays. A skills development session took place in May. The regular season had many rain cancelled games and some were made up later in the summer. The regular season race was close with Royal Lepage Realtors coached by Cecilia Fulton coming out on top.

All teams entered the playoffs playing a round robin 4 games and the top two teams played in the finals. The race was close for three teams with the final game played by Gibson Cleaners coached by Joe Smith and Royal Lepage Realtors coached by Cecilia Fulton. The game came down to the pitching with Gibson Cleaners the better team on this day and they won the playoffs. Congratulations to all the teams and thanks to all the coaches and assistant coaches.

Divisional Report – Bantam, Patrick McConnell

The Bantam division fielded two teams this year with a total of 25 registered players. Balancing of the teams was a little more difficult this season as there was no Select team to draw from for pitching and catching support. We also interlocked with Martingrove and Rexdale for 6 of the 18 scheduled games. Many of the Bantams have been playing with and against each other for 10 years and have developed strong friendships and healthy rivalries, all evident during the good-natured chatter on the diamond during the games. Our best of five championship round was won by JanMar, coached by Randy Aucoin, three games to one.

The Bantam division hosted an alternate event to a banquet and trophies in 2011. The two teams and coaches enjoyed 2.5 hours of entertainment at the E-Zone. All agreed the event was superior to a banquet and should be done in 2012 as well. No food was served, due to cost but it was suggested an additional sponsor might be secured to cover the cost of food.

Divisional Report – Ladies Slo Pitch Cecilia Fulton, Jamie Smith

The Ladies were able to field 6- large teams. Average team size was 14 players. We had continued to use the smaller size balls this year. The Ladies held their banquet at Maple Banquet Hall. The diamonds were maintained better this year. Pull over jackets with the Bloordale Logo will be handed out this year to the winning team. The Jackets were purchased from Home Run Sports.

Next Year's Plans:

- We will start the 2012 season during the first two weeks of May.
- Have pullover jackets for the winning team.
- To continue to maintain diamonds.
- Update our equipment.

Executive Slate of Officers

EXECUTIVE	
PRESIDENT	Patrick McConnell
PAST PRESIDENT	Stephen Poirier
VP OF BASEBALL	Mike Giorno
SECRETARY	Jamie Smith
TREASURER	Brian Walsh
REGISTRAR	Mohammed Khan
SPONSORS	Joe Smith
EQUIPMENT (FIELD)	Rick O'Connell
EQUIPMENT (TEAM)	Jim Tomeo
PURCHASING	Jim Tomeo
	Rick O'Connell
SPECIAL EVENTS	Wendy Kudeba
PHOTOGRAPHY	
PARKS AND RECREATION	Patrick McConnell
PERMITS (City)	Patrick McConnell
PERMITS (School Boards)	Mike Giorno
WEBMASTER	
COMMUNICATIONS	Wendy Kudeba
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT	Dave Good
UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF(baseball)	Brian Riddell
BASEBALL SELECT CONVENOR	Patrick McConnell
	Mike Giorno
EBA REPRESENTATIVES	Patrick McConnell
	Mike Giorno
VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION	
DIRECTOR AT LARGE	
VOLUNTEER-AT-LARGE	
VOLUNTEER-AT-LARGE	
VOLUNTEER-AT-LARGE	
VOLUNTEER-AT-LARGE	

DIVISION CONVENORS	
CO-ED T-BALL	Brent Niedbala
ROOKIE BASEBALL	Mike Giorno
MOSQUITO BASEBALL	Rob Lowe
PEEWEE BASEBALL	
BANTAM BASEBALL	Patrick McConnell
MIDGET BASEBALL	
LADIES' SLO-PITCH	Cecilia Fulton
	Jamie Smith

New Business: