



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 27, 2014, 7 p.m. Arizona Bar and Grill, Carlingview Drive

# AGENDA

- 1. Call to order
- 2. Roll call
- 2.1 Approval of minutes from 2013 AGM (previously circulated, copies available)
- 3. Reports from officers:
  - i. President
  - ii. Treasurer
  - iii. Vice President
  - iv. Registrar
  - v. Sponsorship
  - vi. Equipment
- vii. Umpire-in-chief
- viii. Communications/Special Events
- ix. Website / Social Media
- x. Photography
- xi. Skills Development
- xii. Select/Rep Baseball
- 4. Divisional Convenor Reports:
  - i. TBall
  - ii. Rookie
  - iii. Mosquito
  - iv. Peewee
  - v. Bantam
  - vi. Ladies Slo-Pitch
- 5. Amendments to the Constitution No amendments for 2014
- 6. Awards
- 7. Election of Executive
- 8. New business
- 9. Adjournment

#### **President's Report – Patrick McConnell**

Every year I struggle to find the best way to sum up the 'Year That Was' within Bloordale Baseball. There is no simple way summarize the thousands of words contained in this Annual Report that outline the wonderful things that make Bloordale one the best community-based baseball leagues in Ontario.

At the end of the day, our success as a league is not illustrated in the number championship titles our teams bring home (and 2014 had a number of those including an Ontario Champion and Ontario Finalist). Those championships are a direct result of our true victories that we have all seen during the hundreds of house league games played on Bloordale fields every year.

Our success is in the joy of watching a player, struggling at the plate, who finally finds their swing and makes solid contact for the first time. It is in the smile of a young player after throw across the diamond for the first time to record an out. It is in seeing the satisfaction of fielder successfully tracking a fly ball or cleanly fielding a grounder. It is in the team comaraderie we hear in the dugout and on the bench during the good times and the bad.

Our success as a league and as community volunteers shows through every day and in so many ways in the faces of the boys and girls, young men and young women who wear an Old English B on their hat.

Everything we do is for the benefit of our youth members including:

- Providing a safe and welcoming environment to play baseball no matter what your skill level
- Investing in coach and player development training programs
- Working on maintaining and improving fielding conditions
- Upgrading our equipment every year (ie: we increased our investment by 25 percent in 2014 spending almost \$12,000 on new equipment)
- Organizing fun events to promote the spirit of sportsmanship and the traditions of baseball
- Supporting a competitive Select and Rep program for those looking to advance their skills
- Recognizing our volunteers, who are the backbone of our organization
- Partnering with our community-minded sponsors and local business who share our passion (again without whose financial support we couldn't deliver an economical youth sports program)
- Strategic planning exercises to prepare long-term trending in registration
- Ensuring fiscal responsibility for the long term sustainability of the organization

These are only some broad strokes of Bloordale Baseball's ongoing success. The details can be found in the individual sections in this report. Of course we not perfect. Some of our mistakes are also noted. Every year we learn from them and do a little better the following season.

2015 will be an exciting time within Bloordale. We will continue to deliver the quality, communitybased House League, Select and Rep baseball program that we have become known for and that attracts families to every year. But it will also be a year of transition and change as we welcome new people to the executive team. They bring with them new ideas and new ways of doing things. Change (with the stability of tradition supporting it) is healthy for any association. With change, comes new opportunity. Having said that, it is with mixed emotions that I present this, my sixth and final report, as President of Bloordale Baseball.

As some of you already know, the long-standing President of the Etobicoke Baseball Association retired from his position earlier this month. I was approached to take over the role and was subsequently elected on Nov 20. As president of EBA, with the mandate to represent the interests of all Etobicoke leagues, it would be inappropriate for me also wear the hat of Bloordale President at the same time. For this reason, it is with a heavy heard, that I announce I will be stepping down as President of Bloordale Baseball.

As many of you know, I have a long personal connection with the league. I started with Bloordale as T-Baller on the Whaler's Wharf team, playing out of Neilson Park. I moved up through all the divisions playing house league and on a number of All-Star teams until High School and work forced me to stop playing. I rejoined the league as a Father when my son became Tball age. Little did I know the journey would take me to where I am today.

I would also like to personally thank the Executive members and some wonderful key volunteers who I have leaned on for assistance, support and guidance during my 14 years of serving on the Bloordale Executive board, and more specifically as president. As I said, as the President of this wonderful organization, I have the benefit of hearing about the wonderful work you are all doing on behalf of the league and the youth we serve. Believe me, your efforts are appreciated.

I thank you all from the bottom of my heart and look forward to my new role from a different side of the Bloordale executive table.

#### Treasurer's Report – Brian Walsh FOR THE YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2014 Operations

For the year ended October 31, 2014, the Bloordale Baseball League had an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$12,866. For the previous year ending October 31, 2013, we had reported an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$12,590. The actual surplus this year of \$12,866 is a more favourable result than the budgeted surplus of \$10,108 by a margin of \$2,758.

These results show the operations of the house league only. The league's total results include an additional \$85,000 of revenues and expenses from the operations of the select and AA teams which all operate on a break-even basis.

#### **Revenues**

Our revenues for 2014 of \$109,736 are lower than those of last year by \$2,158 or 2%. This year over year decrease is due primarily to decreases in Sponsorship, BBQ and Fanwear revenues. Revenues from Banquet, Tournament Hosting and Interest all increased in 2014, partially mitigating the above mentioned losses.

The modest increase in Registration revenue for both House League and Ladies Slo-Pitch is the end product of two opposing factors. Overall registration in the league was down by 25 players, a 6% decrease with the bulk of that decrease coming from the T-Ball and Ladies Slo-Pitch Divisions.

Registration revenues are also up due to increases to our registration fees, primarily to cover the increased permitting fees from the city and school boards for the use of the parks. (For a six year comparative history of the divisional registrations, please refer to Appendix 2 Comparative Registration Summary.)

Sponsorship revenue is down \$3,903 or 30% from last year but is still above that of 2012 by 31%. This is due to 2013 being a particularly good year for sponsorship revenue with new sponsors having being brought in not just by our Sponsor Convenor but several other executive members. Unfortunately we couldn't keep up that momentum of 2013 for 2014.

Banquet revenues are virtually unchanged from those of 2013.

Other sources of revenue this year included the \$6,000 from the five AA teams and \$1,503 from the BBQ operations, which was down 67% from the 2013 results. BBQ results were lower due to only having two BBQ events for the whole season. Poor weather reduced volunteer resources were contributing factors to fewer BBQ events .

Interest Revenue more than doubled to \$758 this year due to increased investments in term deposits. Bloordale also earned \$1,002 hosting tournaments.

#### **Expenditures**

Overall expenses are down \$2,434 or 2.5% from those of last year and are also \$5,834 below budget. This is primarily due to decreased variable costs associated with handling 6% fewer players, not having any 50<sup>th</sup> Branding costs, lower BBQ costs due to reduced BBQ activity. The lower costs mentioned above were partly offset by further increases in permit fees imposed by the city and school boards.

Skills Development at \$2,354 is \$1,982 or 46% below budget and \$1,482 lower than last year's cost. While we hosted the same number of training events for coaches and players, not as many umpires claimed training cost reimbursement.

Banquet expenses are higher by \$1,147 or 10%. This increase is primarily due to a \$1.50 per meal increase from our main banquet host. A breakdown of banquet revenues and expenses is included on the attached Appendix 3 of this report.

The lower BBQ revenue mentioned above resulted in lower BBQ Operations Costs. BBQ Operations Costs for 2014 at \$1,070 were lower by \$2,093 or 66% from the \$3,163 of 2013. The net profit from the BBQ operations totalled \$269 for the two days of operation. While we did not experience a significant amount of revenue from BBQ operations there are other tangible benefits from its operation.

Equipment spending for house league teams at \$11,843 was 28% higher than the \$9,218 reported in 2013 but within budget. Major items purchased included a new generator, two pitching machines, an upright equipment box for rakes on Millwood 2 and additional catcher's masks and gloves.

Of the \$4,515 reported for Field Maintenance in 2014, \$4,000 comes from this year's accrual for the planned \$12,000 container storage unit which will be attached to the batting cage at Millwood. This facility will be used to further increase the security of the pitching machine as well as to improve our storage capabilities at Millwood. We are awaiting the approval from the city to install the unit.

Meeting costs reflect the cost of our Coaches Night, a Wings Night for Ladies Slo-Pitch and the cost of this AGM.

Permit costs reflect the costs of diamonds run by the City of Toronto and the TDSB and gyms permitted for training purposes. These costs are up 60% over those of last year but below the budget that we had set. Further increases are expected in coming years. These costs are partially offset by permit recovery fees included in the revenue section above.

Registration expenses at \$6,718 are lower than the \$7,204 of last year by \$486 or 7% due decreased registrations.

Photography and Trophies costs are lower than in 2013 due to decreased registrations.

Uniforms costs up due to higher prices. All jerseys up \$1, all pants up \$2.

#### **Balance Sheet Review**

As of October 31, 2014, the League had total net assets of \$74,834 of which virtually all is held in bank accounts and term deposits. The term deposits currently earn interest at rates from 0.8% to1.65% annually.

Accounts Receivable of \$3,958 is comprised of amounts from other leagues, sponsors and late paying players.

Other liabilities of \$15,936 include, amounts owing to an AA team and other accrued charges.

The Insurance Reserve is a reserve for self-insurance on the loss or destruction of our equipment. No funds were drawn from this reserve this year.

#### <u>Surplus</u>

As at October 31, 2014 the League had accumulated a surplus of \$74,834. 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.

STATEMENT OF OPER	ATIONS - Final					
				Excess		2014 Actual /
Period Ended -	October 31, 2014	2014	2014	(Shortfall)	2013	2013 Actual
		Budget	ACTUAL	to Budget	ACTUAL	Over / (Short)
		(full year)	(full year)			
REVENUES						
Registration - Regular		66,910	66,673	- 237	63,222	3,451
Registration - Juniors	/ AA Teams	4,800	6,000	1,200	4,800	1,200
Registration - Ladies	Slo Pitch	15,375	16,390	1,015	15,722	668
Family Discount	-	500 -	1,320	· 820 ·	- 505	- 815
Sponsor Fees		13,253	8,850	4,403	12,753	- 3,903
Banquets		3,900	4,026	127	3,900	127
Fundraising BBQ		4,500	1,503	2,997	4,509	- 3,006
Fan Wear		500	50 ·	450	3,615	- 3,565
Permit Recovery		3,094	5,804	2,710	3,094	2,710
Interest		550	758	208	355	403
Other	Tournament Hosting	430	1,002	572	430	572
	-			-		
		112,812	109,736	3,076	111,894	- 2,158
EXPENSES	-					
Skills Dev		4,336	2,354	1,982	3,836	1,482
Banquets		12,347	13,120	- 773	11,973	- 1,147
BBQ Operations Cost	s	3,163	1,070	2,093	3,163	2,093
Equipment		12,229	11,843	386	9,218	- 2,625
BBQ Equip		-	164	. 164	132	- 32
Fields		4,000	4,515	- 515	4,000	- 51
Insurance		2,072	1,980	92	2,072	92
Meetings		1,889	2,016	- 127	1,559	- 45
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	599	599
Fanwear		-	-	-	5,929	5,929
Permits		14,973	11,694	3,279	7,264	- 4,430
Administration (Webs	ite)	889	642	247	889	247
Photographs		2,102	1,973	129	2,002	29
Registration		7,595	6,718	877	7,204	486
Storage		2,362	2,559	· 198	2,226	- 333
Supplies		700	719	· 19	484	- 23
Trophies		4,490	4,526	- 36	4,679	154
Umpire Fees		6,365	6,190	175	6,205	15
50th Branding		-	-	-	1,906	1,90
Uniforms		23,192	24,788	1,596	23,965	- 822
		102,704	96,870	5,834	99,305	2,434
Excess of revenues over	er expenses	10,108	12,866	2,758	12,590	276

BALANCE SHEET as at I	October 31, 2014	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash			
Chequing		25,806	63,900
Term Deposit	0.8 % Maturing Mar 6, 2015	10,052	- 0
Term Deposit	1.65 % Maturing April 25, 2015	30,370	-
Term Deposit	1.65 % Maturing June 6, 2015	26,287	25,823
Amounts Receivable		3,958	2,740
Prepaid Expenses		-	1,372
Capital Assets		2	2
Other Liabalities		- 15,936	- 26,762
Self Insurance Reserve		- 5,707	- 5,107
		74,834	61,968
Surplus			===========
Opening		61,968	49,378
Excess of revenues ov	ver expenses	12,866	12,590
Ending		74,834	61,968
			==================
		0	0

## APPENDIX 1 – Registration Summary 2014

	Players	Registration	Discounts	Refund	Net
	Registered	Received	Given	Recapture	Registration
T-Ball	90	12,460	140		12,460
		40.070	240		40.070
Rookie	89	19,970	210		19,970
Mosquito	64	14,440	580	80	14,520
PeeWee	61	14,300	70		14,300
Boys Bantam	23	5,410	275	13	5,423
Llauraa Curk Tatal		66 500	4 075	02	CC (72)
House Sub Total	327	66,580	1,275	93	66,673
Ladies Slo Pitch	80	16,390	45		16,390
Total	407	82,970	1,320	93	83,063

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
T-Ball	55	71	54	58	114	90
Rookie	85	83	69	78	96	89
Mosquito	72	61	76	52	49	64
PeeWee	45	50	48	55	48	61
Boys Bantam	25	25	27	31	39	23
Baseball Sub Total	227	219	220	216	232	237
House Sub Total	282	290	274	274	346	327
Ladies Slo Pitch	82	87	81	83	86	80
Total	364	377	355	357	432	407
Registrations by Da	<u>ate</u>					
Jan 31 / Feb 1			51	64	67	72
Feb 15	57	72	25	43	59	71
Feb 28	71	77	77	34	122	74
Mar 15	125	143	70	75	25	36
Mar 31	56	41	76	76	91	82
Apr 15	25	28	31	46	42	31
Apr 30	38	16	24	7	24	13
May 15			0		2	13
May 31						15
Total	372	377	354	345	432	407

## **APPENDIX 2 – Historical Registration Summary**

		2014	1			2013				2012		
Main Banquet												
	To	tal	Cost	: per		Total	C	Cost per			Co	st per
<u>Revenues</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>\$</u>	Pla	iyer	<u>#</u>	<u>\$</u>		Player	<u>#</u>	<u>\$</u>	P	layer
			Regis	stered			R	egistered			Re	gistered
Door Receipts		3,459.00				3,536.00				3,460.00		
50/50 Draw Profit		567.00				363.50				371.50		
Total Banquet Revenue		4,026.00				3,899.50				3,831.50		
Costs												
Cost of Meals		9,916.75				8,287.68				7,731.20		
Cost of Room		141.59				162.77						
Prizes & Tickets						285.59				385.83		
Newsletter & Surveys												
Net Cost of Main Banquet	304	\$ 6,032.34	\$ 1	9.84	308	\$4,836.54	\$	15.70	243	\$ 4,285.53	\$	17.64
Other Banquets												
Boys Bantam	23	672.35	\$ 2	9.23	39	750.00	\$	19.23	31	621.50	\$	20.05
Ladies Slo Pitch	81	2,389.50	\$2	9.50	86	2,487.00	\$	28.92	83	2,449.00	\$	29.51
Net Total Banquet Cost		\$ 9,094.19				\$8,073.54				\$ 7,356.03		

#### **APPENDIX 3 – Banquet Summary (year-over-year)**

#### Vice President's Report – Rick O'Connell

It has been again my pleasure to serve as a Bloordale executive. As always, I am happy to volunteer alongside such dedicated volunteers.

This year I had the opportunity to see Bloordale teams of all levels play at parks throughout the neighbourhood. It's great to see players of all skill levels enjoying the game of baseball. I trust everybody had fun, and thanks to all our parent volunteers, coaches and convenors.

I continue to hear positive feedback from within our organization as well as from teams visiting our diamonds from other organizations. Congratulations to Bloordale members on another fantastic year.

#### Registrar's Report – Mohammed Khan (per Patrick McConnell)

Registration for the 2014 season went smoothly and no major challenges were encountered.

#### **Registration Methods**:

- In-person: Three in-person sessions were held at Cloverdale Mall. All of them were quite successful as quite of few parents were able to register their kids in person. Four separate lap-top based registration stations were available which helped to reduce the waiting time to a great deal as multiple registration were possible simultaneously. Along with division coordinator, a number of Bloordale executives were present to help out and answers any questions parent might have. Much of everyone surprise the weekday registration day was much busier compared to the weekend sessions. We also handed out a flyer noting key dates for the season which many parents seemed to appreciate.
- **On-line**: On-line registrations via Thriva system were also a success. Challenges were at a minimum. Multiple registrations were also reduced to almost none.

#### Advertising:

- **Flyers:** We did not do a school flyer campaign this year. We hope to return to this practice in the future.
- Group Emails: Multiple pre-registration emails were sent out to our current registrants from the existing database. I believe this did help with informing parents about the registration dates and location.
- Display Signs: This season signs announcing the registration info/dates were placed at three different locations for a total duration of three month. Signs were displayed about two weeks prior to first in-person/on-line registration date. Signs were located at Centennial Park, Neilson Park, and Millwood Park
- **Personal Phone Calls:** Near the end of the Registration season, all division convenors were provided with lists of family contacts who had not yet registered and personal calls were made to encourage sign-ups or to find out where they will be playing, if at all.

**Registration Forms:** As agreed by the Executive Committee no registration forms were printed this year and left over forms from the previous year were utilized with some minor manual adjustment at the time of the registration. No issues were encountered and saving of about \$150 was achieved.

**Information/inquiry through registrar email:** Approximately 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 2014 sponsorship campaign was a great success. For the 2014 season with the help of the Executive, we had a total of 25 sponsors. They are Markland Homes Association, IDA, Centennial Sports, Pro Teach, Keating Roofing, Canadiana Family Restaurant, Scotia Bank, Home Run Sports, CCS, Procom, Humbertown Orthodontics, Cloverdale Mall, CLR, Future Stars, Levitt Lightman Dewar & Graham LLP, West Mall Dental Group, Mc Bride Wallace Laurent & Cord LLP,

#### Platinum Sponsors: CCS, CLR and Scotia Bank

Gold Sponsors: Levitt Lightman Dewar & Graham LLP

We are looking like we will have a great upcoming 2015 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 2015 year. Once again from the Bloordale Baseball Executive Team: Thank You Sponsors. And I would like to Thank of course President Patrick for all their help.

It is with regret that following this AGM, I will officially resign from the Executive. Due to personal commitments outside of Bloordale, I no longer will have time to volunteer with the board. Thanks again to everyone for your support over the years.

#### EQUIPMENT – Jim Tomeo

There won't be too many facts or figures in this report, it will be mostly personal observations and opinions. Back in February, my family and I made the decision to move to the Kitchener/Waterloo area, eventually choosing a home in Waterloo. We moved on August 5, but between going up and looking at houses, getting ready to go, and tying up loose ends for my job, the baseball season was just a blur for me.

- I presented a "per team" budget at last year's budget meeting, which I believe will make for a little less uncertainty when planning for future equipment spending. We also purchased a larger equipment box that was put at Millwood 2, allowing for some field-grooming items to be stored there, avoiding having to carry them back and forth between the bunker. It was definitely a team effort to get it in place, thanks to all involved.
- I moved up the sponsorship deadline a little, and as a result, all the kids' uniform shirts came in the Tuesday before Opening Day. Again with the help of some Executive members, I was able to sort them and get them to the Convenors in advance, without any of the troubles we had last year.
- We purchased a two-wheel pitching machine to replace the one taken a couple of years ago, and a single-wheel machine, bringing our total to 3. With 3 machines and 3 generators, it will give the Rookie Convenor much more flexibility in scheduling should we hold on to our increased T-Ball numbers the last couple of years.
- There also seemed to be less "in-season" reports of problems this year, but nothing of any note. I had intended to order trophies earlier this year, both because of my move and to avoid last year's mix-ups, but unfortunately didn't get to it. Thankfully our supplier didn't mind a little long-distance phone tag, and things got done.
- I am currently compiling my notes from over the years and intend to pass them along to assist whoever takes the role on next. I will also include some proposals for moving forward that the Executive can consider. I hope to have this all completed before the end of the 2014.
- I spent some time at the locker after the season began, trying to get it squared away, but, while it's considerably better than it was, it still falls far short of where I wanted it to be, but I am proud to say it is better than where it was when I took it over.

I am proud of my time serving on the Bloordale Baseball Executive. My son started out 10 years ago playing T-Ball, and although he eventually left after his first year of Mosquito, he enjoyed his time in the

league, as have I. I am happy to have worked with such a dedicated group of people. I wish Bloordale the best of luck as an organization, and to all of you on a personal level. Thanks for letting me be a part of something that really felt like being a part of something.

#### UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF – Cecilia Fulton

For the 2014 season, the Umpire in Chief role was divided between Cecilia Fulton, looking after the house league division and Patrick McConnell who looked after the Select and Rep divisions. This division of work worked very well as the volume of work to oversee both House League and Rep is enormous and overwhelming.

As it was, Bloordale Umpires officiating at more than 150 house league and ladies slo-pitch games. In total, over 40 different umpires saw action on Bloordale diamonds, 11 of those being new to the Blue Crew. Nearly half of our umpires this year were 16 years old or under. We are also fortunate with a number of senior level umpires (level 2.2 and above) and adults on our team. One of the biggest challenges this year was the number of new umpires and trying to schedule them with experienced umpires. This was particularly the case for many of the new umpires who were only able to umpire at the mosquito level. Thankfully all of these umpires were also seasoned players and they were able get their skills and confidence up to speed very quickly.

Believe it or not, the never ending rain outs actually provided this age group with more opportunities to umpire and many of them umpired more than 6 games this season.

PeeWee division games were covered by seasoned umpires who had solid baseball experience coupled with their umpire credentials. Bantam games were covered by level 2 or level 3 umpires who were at least midget age. Ladies slo-pitch was covered by 3 adult umpires one per game until the final.

Our umpires for the most part were enthusiastic, knowledgeable and reliable. There were no instances of 'No-Shows'.

Hopefully most of our umpires will return next year. If this is the case, we will see a real increase in those moving up to Level 2 category which will open up more opportunities for them and provide us with the experience needed to mentor young recruits.

#### **Current House League Rates:**

Mosquito \$20, Peewee and Ladies \$25, Bantam \$30 These rates will be reviewed based on a survey of surrounding leagues to ensure we are competitive.

## **Financial Report Payments** Total Payments – Regular Season plus Play Off: \$6115.00

Skills Development------ \$ 480.00 (re-imbursement for umpire course if requested)

Total Payment-----\$6595.00

#### Recommendation for next year:

- UiC to chair a Rules Committee (comprised of representatives from each division). The committee will conduct a review of all division rules during the off season. A formalized Bloordale Baseball Playing Rules document will be created, distributed to the convenors and posted on the website for use by umpires and coaches.
- No rule changes to be made without approval of UiC and League President.
- UiC have some discretion to adjust umpire pay in situations where games run extremely long or are rained out at the last minute.

#### Communications / Special Events – Wendy Kudeba

**Coaches' Night:** Coaches' night was held on April 15 at Arizona's Bar & Grill. This is a great opportunity for us to thank our volunteers and to review any rule changes, field time booking protocols, equipment information, coach training data, etc.

**Sponsor Packages**: In order to assist with everyone's ability to approach sponsors, a standard Sponsor Package was produced. A customized letter could be included to add a personal touch. This document will be updated annually.

**Barbecues:** We were only able to hold two barbecues this year, both in August. The opening day barbecue was cancelled due to lack of volunteers, and closing day was cancelled due to both inclement weather and a lack of volunteers. In addition, illness and personal circumstances prevented some volunteers from being able to commit to the barbecue weekends throughout the summer. Financial results are available within the context of the treasurer's report. If new volunteers are not secured for the barbecue, additional revenue-generating opportunities will not be possible in future years.

#### **Banquets**

There was excellent attendance for the Rookie, Mosquito, and Peewee banquets, all of which were held at the Canadiana. We once again held the Tball year-end event at Silverthorn Collegiate. This venue is able to accommodate the nearly 250 players, coaches and parents who attended. Additional volunteers are needed to assist with the Tball banquets.

The Bantam division held a year-end party at the E-Zone in place of a banquet and trophy.

**Note:** Wendy is also a member of the Select Ontario Baseball Association Board (SOBA), and the GM Select for Etobicoke Baseball Association (EBA). She attended the Ontario Baseball Association (OBA) Annual General Meeting in November 2014 as a Toronto Baseball Association (TBA) representative and SOBA Representative

#### Website / Social Media – Webmaster Patrick McConnell

Bloordale Baseball's website continues to be one of our main communication tools with our members year round. We are also happy to see people using the site throughout the season for schedules and game results. We have strong year-over-year visits with distinct trends based on seasonal league activity. When appropriate, custom buttons and dedicated pages were created around tournament hosting and special league events.

We welcome content from parents and coaches, so please send your content ideas, photos, videos and stories to <u>bloordaleevents@gmail.com</u>. We are also looking for volunteers to help co-ordinate our website and assist with posting content and social media. The website and social media accounts played an integral role in the many tournaments we hosted for promotion, communicating to teams and for posting of results. We also saw a significant spike in website hits during Aug and Sept (mostly attributed to tournaments, HL playoffs, Select and Rep Team tryouts).



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2014	1,434	3,270	13,803	61,184	2.32 GB
Feb 2014	1,348	2,918	14,427	77,934	2.84 GB
Mar 2014	1,600	3,312	16,438	81,504	3.36 GB
Apr 2014	1,989	4,187	19,430	100,951	3.38 GB
May 2014	2,388	6,508	29,706	148,991	4.98 GB
Jun 2014	2,453	7,419	33,964	151,833	4.78 GB
Jul 2014	2,217	7,551	32,719	131,511	4.39 GB
Aug 2014	3,280	9,835	43,920	195,801	6.23 GB
Sep 2014	2,878	8,937	36,079	199,556	7.10 GB
Oct 2014	1,486	5,650	16,504	46,961	2.37 GB
Nov 2014	985	4,016	12,781	30,322	1.58 GB
Dec 2014	0	0	0	0	0
Total	22,058	63,603	269,771	1,226,548	43.34 GB



#### **PHOTOGRAPHY – Atul Marathe**

2014 season saw two photo days with the league pictures being divided into two dates:

- T-Ball, Rookie, Mosquito, Peewee, Bantam, Select and Rep
- Mosquito and re-takes

Due to the number of teams involved we had two photography stations set up at two field locations during the first and busiest photo day. Based on comments from families, it seemed to work and schedules were kept. 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.

Once again this year Future Stars was our photo supplier. As in previous years, 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.

For next year, considering the issue of parking on the street on the photo day, a thought has to be given to select a location for photo shoot which is associated with a parking lot. (e.g. behind Centennial Park hockey arena)

#### **Skills Development – Dave Good**

The Skills Development program at Bloordale continues to be strong, with a number of undertakings throughout the year, and some excellent feedback from parents on the impact of our programs. I found it gratifying that the parents of one of our players, who is now moving on to AAA baseball, credited the Mosquito pitching clinics (provided to our Mosquito players before the season begins) as the incentive for their son to take up baseball as his favourite sport. We continued to offer those Spring Pitching Clinics for Mosquito players this year, as well as training sessions at Proteach for all house league players.

- 1. The Spring Pitching Clinics for the Mosquito age group had excellent turnout from the players (and parents), and wonderful feedback from those who attended. As this is the first year in which players are actually pitching, Bloordale presents organized clinics before the start of the season to help players learn how to pitch (and throw!), hopefully to help them acquire proper pitching (and throwing) mechanics, and also to help them overcome any anxiety about getting on the mound for the first time. Again this year, the response was strong, and the feedback was excellent. A program which should be continued.
- Early in the regular season, one week of regular season house league games were replaced for all age levels from Rookie to Bantam (TBall was not included) with sessions at Proteach Baseball, and included training for all players on the basics of throwing, hitting, fielding, and base running. Sessions were well attended, feedback was excellent, and the benefit to our players was obvious. It is recommended that these professional training sessions be continued in future seasons.
- 3. Coaching clinics for new and/or existing coaches were planned for the season, under the auspices of the EBA. These sessions were carried out in the Spring...I would encourage the EBA to continue to have these coaching clinics—we should encourage our coaches to get as involved in the development of their skills as we do our players. Our coaching turnout was light this year, most likely due to scheduling difficulties. However, we need to continue to provide our coaches with coaching....how to do it right!

Note: The Ontario Baseball Association continues to require that coaches who are involved with teams who play in OBA sanctioned events have National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) certified coaches on their roster. The requirements are specific, and age-group-dependent, but are becoming more and more stringent as time goes on. This applies specifically to our Select and Rep teams, and any team who plays at an OBA tournament. This is currently a requirement for Rep and select coaches, but should be considered for any coach at any level. Bloordale will consider re-imbursement of costs associated with acquiring NCCP certification for our coaches.

#### Select and Rep Convenor Report – Patrick McConnell

Bloordale boasts an active Select and Rep program.

**SELECT:** In 2014 we saw 50 House League players sign on with four Select teams (rookie, mosquito, 2 peewee). Our select teams played all season long and represented Bloordale in inter-league play and travelled to tournaments across Ontario. Our select teams did very well:

- Rookie: Provincial Champions, 2<sup>nd</sup> TBA West
- Peewee: Second in Ontario, TBA West Champions (going undefeated)
- Mosquito : Second TBA West

Every select coach reports player skill development was key to all teams' successes this year. Bloordale also convened the TBA West Peewee Select division and hosted the TBA West Peewee Select championship tournament. We also hosted the SOBA Junior Provincial Championship tournament.

In 2015, Bloordale will have four select teams (Rookie, Mosquito, Peewee and Bantam). Select team rostered players will continue to show leadership within the house league ranks.

**REP (A/AA**): 2014 was the third year Bloordale has fielded Rep (A/AA) OBA-carded teams. In total, 62 players signed with 5 Rep teams. The teams all had a successful season:

- Minor Mosquito TBA Finalist
- Major Mosquito TBA Finalist
- Minor Bantam TBA Champions (worst to first)
- Minor Midget 3<sup>rd</sup> TBA (Lost to OBA Champion, Royal York)

Growing Bloordale's rep program has resulted in increased exposure of the league throughout Toronto and the province. This included the hosting of mini Mosquito Rep Invitational Tournament. The success of our teams has also attracted players to Bloordale at all levels and boosted our select and house league ranks. In 2015, Bloordale will field rep teams at the following levels: Mosquito, Minor Peewee, Major Peewee, Major Bantam and Midget .

#### Detailed Select and RepTeam reports are as follows:

- Exhibition games (w-l-t): 3-1-0
- Regular Season games (w-l-t) 9-4-0
- Playoff games (w-l-t) 3-2-0
- Tournament record (w-l-t) 7-4-0
- # of tournaments entered : 3

**Final standing end of season**: Provincial Champions, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Regular Season, TBA West Finalist **Season Highlights**: First awesome game was a come from behind win to beat Royal York for the first time in the regular season. In the Provincial Championships, we beat Leaside twice, Royal York once and eventually beat North Toronto in the finals by scoring 4 and coming back to win in the bottom of the seventh inning. We had played North Toronto twice before and never beaten them until the championship game.

Suggested improvements for 2015: None at this time

Division: MosquitoLoop played / number of teams:TBA West/ 8 teamsYear-end classification: SelectHead Coach:Eric DescoteauxFinal standing end of season: TBA West FinalistAssistant Coaches:Cameron Summers, Chris Lindsay# of players on roster:13Season Record:32-8•Exhibition games (w-l-t):2-1

- Regular Season games (w-l-t) 14-0
- Playoff games (w-l-t) 5-2
- Tournament record (w-l-t) 11-5
- # of tournaments entered : 4

Final standing end of season: First (regular season), Finalist TBA West

Season Highlights: Winning the Vaughan Tournament – Beat Vaughan #1 in extra innings 10-9 after being mercied by them in Round Robin. Beating Royal York AA 13 - 11 - 0ur first game against a REP team. Beating Annette in TBA West tournament 9-8 a day after losing 32-0 to them. Suggested improvements for 2015: The imbalanced schedule (playing Royal York 2) 7 times hurt our

development. In hindsight should have played one other Select Tournament. More focus on pitching depth

Division: Peewee (Team 1) Year-end classification: Select Assistant Coaches: # of players on roster: 12 Loop played / number of teams: Head Coach: Mike Woolcock

TBA West/ 9 teams

#### Season Record: XX-XX

- Exhibition games (w-l-t): xx
- Regular Season games (w-l-t) 15-0
- Playoff games (w-l-t) 6-0
- Tournament record (w-l-t) xx
- # of tournaments entered : xx

Final standing end of season: Ontario Finalist, TBA West Champion

**Season Highlights**: Making it to the championship game at the Provinicals. Going undefeated (21-0) during regular season and city championship play (and never running up a score)

## Suggested improvements for 2015:

Division: Peewee (Team 2)Loop played / number of teams:TBA West / 9 TeamsYear-end classification: SelectHead Coach:Marcello NigroAssistant Coaches:Dave Good, Don MacFarlane, Rob Lowe (manager)# of players on roster:12Season Record:5-17-0

- Exhibition games (w-l-t):
- Regular Season games (w-l-t): 4-10-0
- Playoff games (w-l-t) 0-2
- Provincials (w-l-t) N/A
- Tournament record (w-l-t) 1-5-0
- # of tournaments entered : 2 (Glen Forest, Muskoka)

## Final standing end of season:

**Season Highlights**: As a development team the majority of our players had never played baseball above the house league level. Our team was mostly minor aged players (5 Maj. And 7 Min.) With that said the team did compete well in most games and despite only earning a few wins for the most part we were competitive with most teams we played against.

**Suggested improvements for 2015**: We have added 5 new players and with this past year's experience and the boys getting a bit stronger (physically) we hope to improve for next year. We are planning indoor workouts with (Baseball Zone or Pro Teach) to supplement our regular Winter indoor workouts. Also I hope to have the boys take part in a couple more Tournaments. I would also like to run our own Bloordale Peewee Tournament this coming year. Both Dave Good and I will be returning to coach the team and we will add any additional coaches/manager over the Winter.

Division: Minor Mosquito	Loop played / number of teams:	TBA/YSBA 13 Teams
Year-end classification: Rep AA	Head Coach: Glenn Lovegrove	
Assistant Coaches: Anthony Rze	pka, Leo Salas	
# of players on roster: 12		
Season Record 23-17	-1	
<ul> <li>Exhibition games (w-l-t):</li> </ul>	0-0	
<ul> <li>Regular Season games (w-l-t</li> </ul>	;) 14-6	
<ul> <li>Playoff games (w-l-t)</li> </ul>	1-2	
• Provincial Championships:	0-2	
-	0 7 1	

• Tournament record (w-l-t) 8-7-1

- # of tournaments entered : 7 (including TBA's and Provincials)
- Final standing end of season: TBA Finalist, 3<sup>rd</sup> regular season

**Season Highlights**: Our winter workouts were very successful in setting things off in the right direction. We also had a great start participating in the North Toronto season opening tournament. Our whole season was really exciting and a terrific environment for the kids and the parents. The kids knew each other when we started but they are definitely friends now. Competitively it was great to win a few games vs our cross town rivals from Royal York. It is a very healthy and fun rivalry. As for one particular game, it would definitely have to be our 9-8 win over North Toronto at the TBA's in a game where our kids played through adversity and showed great mental toughness and physical skill in hanging on for the win.

**Suggested improvements for 2015**: There are a couple of things that are for certain...one is that Bloordale has offered our kids and families a wonderful place to learn the game and build friendships that will last for years to come. The one area of need is the work that needs to be done on Millwood 2. It is so awesome to have the grass infield to play on, it is real baseball and very unique, but if it is really going to serve our league properly then we need to do some serious work starting with a load of clay to replenish and re-grade what is left.

Division: MosquitoLoop played / number of teams:TBA/YSBA xxxYear-end classification: Rep AHead Coach:Michael GiornoAssistant Coaches:Mark Price, Jamie Reed, Dave Willson# of players on roster:13Season Record:16-26--0• Exhibition games (w-l-t):2-1-0

- Regular Season games (w-l-t) 9-11-0
- Playoff games (w-l-t)
   2-2-0
- Provincial Championships: 0-2-0
- Tournament record (w-l-t) 3-10-0
- # of tournaments entered : 4 (3 OBA, Bloordale Inivitational)

## Final standing end of season: TBA Finalist

**Season Highlights**: It was a tough season for the kids and parents. We quickly found that 2 teams in the TBA/YSBA AA division to be very, very strong (i.e. top AA teams in the province). We were really uncompetitive against these teams, losing regularly by the 10 run mercy rule.

The coaching staff consistently preached about winning in August and September. In the previous year (Minor Mosquito) we easily won in our TBA/YSBA loop, but flamed out when it counted most (TBA's) – and didn't qualify for the provincials. We were not going to repeat that this year. We received a "gift" in early July when it was determined that 2 teams from the TBA's would be going to the provincials. If we didn't win the TBA's we could still qualify by being a finalist.

With Bloordale hosting the TBA's at MW2 I wanted to use this to our advantage. Since I was the convenor for the AA divisions, I was able to schedule essentially all our games (and practices) in August on the MW2 diamond. I also scheduled an invitational tournament – hosting Mississauga Majors, Mississauga Twins and North Toronto Diamondbacks for the weekend before the TBAs on MW2. The team hit its lowest point of the season in the week before the TBA's (our Bloordale Invitational tournament). We had a bunch of injuries and then we went out and lost badly in all games of the roundrobin. We lost the consolation final to a very strong A team (NT Dbacks). Things did not look good.

Playing on our home diamond, the TBA's started on Friday night vs North Toronto Giants. We had gone 0-6 against them all season with only a couple games not being mercies. We pitched one of our better pitchers and kept it close for a few innings (down 2-0). After the 5<sup>th</sup> we were down 7-0. As a coaching staff we had decided in advance not to waste good pitching if we were down. As we had never beaten the team, we decided to pitch off. We ended up losing 22-0, but at the end of the game the kids were up and cheering. This was the turning point of the season.

We were now destined for the Semi-Finals on Saturday night. First we had a Saturday AM game vs Royal York – a team that won 3 total games all season. We had never lost to RY, having a 7-0 record (including exhibition games). Essentially knowing this game was meaningless we saved our best pitchers for the Semi-Final. Continuing the attitude from Friday night the boys came out and easily handled the Cardinals playing great all round baseball. Our defense (usually our Achilles heel) was stellar. Pitching and hitting solid. We were on a roll.

We had to wait for the NT vs RY game to see who we were meeting in the Semi-Final. There was a chance that it could be NT but RY essentially throws the game knowing their only chance is beating us in the Semi-Final.

The boys are pumped for this game. We have our top two pitchers ready to go as does RY. We win the coin toss and take the home. RY goes 3-up-3-down in the top of the inning. We get on the bats and <u>our</u> <u>first batter hit a home run</u> and the route is on. We end the game in the bottom of the 5<sup>th</sup> just like we started the game, <u>with a home run – the Grand Slam variety</u>. We are off to the provincials. Sunday morning comes and the kids are still pumped. It's the TBA finals and we have to face NT again. We still have ample pitching. The kids believe in themselves. We again are playing stellar defense, pitching is superb and the bats are doing just enough. We are leading NT 2-1 after 4 inning. Then disaster strikes. Already down 1 player with injury, our SS jams his finger on a ground ball and is done for the day. Another player goes down with a leg injury and is also done. With only 9 our defense weakens and we succumb 7-2 to NT. The closest game we have every played. The TBA weekend was our highlight of the season.

**Suggested improvements for 2015**: Team will be carding A in 2015. The team is a complete rebuid. Five of our players went to the Rangers, 1 each to Majors, Twins and Tigers. Three players wanted to stay AA and went to RY (the team that won 3 games all season).

Division: Minor Peewee	Loop played / number of teams: TBA/YSBA 10 teams
Year-end classification: Rep AA	Head Coach: Mike Barry
Assistant Coaches: Mark Price, Ja	amie Reed, Dave Willson
# of players on roster: 12	
Season Record	
<ul> <li>Exhibition games (w-l-t):</li> </ul>	2-1-0
<ul> <li>Regular Season games (w-l-t)</li> </ul>	9-9-0
<ul> <li>Playoff games (w-l-t)</li> </ul>	0-2-0
<ul> <li>Provincials (w-l-t)</li> </ul>	N/A

- Tournament record (w-l-t) 4-7
- # of tournaments entered : 3

Final standing end of season: 6<sup>th</sup> in TBA out of 10 Teams

**Season Highlights**: Big victory over Royal York late in season that pulled team out of slump (players always more pumped up against RY). After playing poorly in first game of Tecumseh tournament, team played very well in next four games very well. Unfortunately we lost in the semi-finals (to eventual tournament victor) **Suggested improvements for 2014**: Work on getting more depth in pitching. Consider pro training for pitching.

Division: Minor BantamLoop played / number of teams:5 TBA / 6 YSBA (11 Total)Year-end classification: Rep AAHead Coach:Naeem SiddiqAssistant Coaches:Jon Bezanan, Soni Patal# of players on roster:12Season RecordSeason Record

- Exhibition games (w-l-t): 4-2
- Regular Season games (w-l-t) 17-5
- Playoff games (w-l-t) 0-2
- Tournament record (w-l-t) 14-8
- # of tournaments entered : 4

Final standing end of season: TBA Champion AA

**Season Highlights**: We went from last place in 2013 to win the division in 2014. A significant improvement over one season. We were finalists in 2 of the 4 tournaments we entered (Barrie, Muskoka)

**Suggested improvements for 2014**: Continue to be concerned about the safety of playing on Millwood 1 due to the poor condition of the infield grass. Many concerns raised by other teams and parents. We would be willing to help in any way to help improve an otherwise beautiful park. More practice time will be needed on alternate diamonds as Millwood 1 is heavily used.

Division: Minor MidgetLoop played / number of teams:TBA/YSBA 16 teamsYear-end classification: Rep AAHead Coach: Russ LoewenAssistant Coaches:Tom Sfyndilis, Jim Smith, Scott Barker# of players on roster:14Season Record

- Exhibition games (w-l-t): 0-0
- Regular Season games (w-l-t) 14-8-0
- Playoff games (w-l-t) 1-2-0
- Tournament record (w-l-t) 0-2-0
- # of tournaments entered : 2

Final standing end of season: 3<sup>rd</sup> TBA , 6 overall in the 16 team loop

**Season Highlights**: Some hard fought games against tough division rivals and especially Royal York who eventually won the OBA's.

**Suggested improvements for 2014**: the 2015 team will be taking on a new shape as some existing players and coaches have made personal decisions not to return.

#### **AWARDS - Patrick McConnell**

Since the 2013 AGM, Bloordale and its members have been recognized with the following awards 2013 EBA League of the Year – Bloordale Baseball League 2013 EBA Coach of the Year – Rookie Select Coach Colin Pinkney

#### **Divisional Reports –**

#### T-Ball, Domenic Ali (per Patrick McConnell)

AL champions - ..... Coaches: NL champions - ..... Coaches: 90 players on 12 teams

The Super Six format is now firmly engrained 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. 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. For the second consecutive year, Forest Glen did not interlock with Bloordale. While historically, this has helped to expand our loop and was essential in creating enough diamonds to accommodate the play of more teams in the new format, this year's turn-out and diamond availability indicates this is no longer the case. Overall, a good year and the Convenor thanks the Executive team for their support throughout the year.

#### Divisional Report – Rookieball Cameron Summers

The registration for the 2014 Rookie Ball season was strong again this season but there was not the anticipated growth of T Ballers moving up in numbers. This season we ran with 8 teams in Rookie Ball (The same number of Bloordale teams – just one less Forest Glenn Team). The Bloordale teams played in an interlock loop with a team from our neighbours in Mississauga, at Forest Glen Baseball.

Each Bloordale team had a roster size of 13 while the Glen Forest team were at 12. We managed to keep most parents happy (playing on the team they requested), at a cost of balanced teams. The 8 team loop was easier to schedule than the previous years 9 teams.

For the fifth year in a row the Rookieball Pro-Teach session were run indoors at the ProTeach facility. There was an incident with the power going out in the area for 15 minutes but we were able to continue on with the session when the power restored. There were a few people who left and did not return, others were caught in the parking lot when the power was restored and they returned to the session. As usual the turnout was very good. There were two 90 minutes sessions with 3-4 teams at each session. At ProTeach the kids were separated into multiple stations so we can have larger session 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 excitement. Mother Nature played was having her spring havoc early on and a few games were postponed. Unfortunately the coaches weren't able to reschedule all games so some teams played less than others. The regular season winner was team Home Run Sports. There was a real mix in talent levels on the teams (2 teams were considerably ahead of others in the standings, 4 teams were fairly even in the middle and 2 teams struggled in the regular season but excelled in the playoffs.

The summer sessions were a little disappointing turnout wise, however the enthusiasm for the game was high from those attending. Again we heard after the fact that some coaches did not pass along the open session information to their players. This probably contributed to the low enrolment. These sessions should be held and advertised to parents and players alike to ensure the growth of the game. If this is to continue next season (and we think it should so long as we have a volunteer) the list of all players should be provided to that person (persons) and have them send out directly OR an email blast from the league.

The playoffs were a double elimination knockout format. Each team played 3 playoff games in a round robin pool with the top 2 teams from each division crossing over to play each other in the semi finals. The level of play improved dramatically over the summer making for some very close Rookie Ball games. Just like in previous years, there were upsets in the playoffs. Mother Nature did not play nice on the first Saturday of the playoffs and we continued to battle to get the games in. The semi finals and finals were both played on a beautiful Saturday with Sports Clips playing Home Run Sports in the finals. To cap off the season we planned for a Rookie Ball All-Star game, however with tryouts and all of the rescheduled games this was cancelled (related to the weather in the playoffs).

#### **Comments/Suggestions:**

- Getting the 9AM Sat Broadacres slot back was greatly appreciated by families and coaches as the 1PM time slots were never well received.
- I do not see a dramatic drop in players or growth in the future for Rookie ball, however status quo will continue to develop players in the league.
- The diamonds this season were still not maintained to an adequate level. Improvements should be made to both. Neilson is often very hard (hence the drag of the diamond manually) and Broadacres could use some levelling to create better drainage (especially at third base and home plate).
- The new generator was a blessing and we should get some maintenance done on it during the
  off- season in prep for next year. We would suggest an open practice session for new players
  for next year to gauge current skill levels and a ranking system for returning players a coaches
  evaluation. This should help balance teams. Player requests should be considered but not
  necessarily given to ensure a balance.
- The open tryout/workout in the spring should be done BEFORE teams assigned.

Thanks to Jim for the equipment support - you will be missed. In addition I would like to thanks the exec team for all of their hard work. Congratulations are in order for the Rookie Ball Select team with Coach Dong Lee and Al Banks and the Ontario Champions! Way to go boys!

#### Divisional Report – Mosquito, Eric Descoteaux

This season we ran with 6 teams in Mosquito. The five Bloordale teams (made up of 64 players) played in a loop with 1 team from our neighbours in Mississauga, at Forest Glen Baseball. Each Bloordale team had a roster size of 12 or 13. We managed to keep most parents happy (playing on the team they requested), with the exception of 1 team (Scotia). With 6 teams we had no challenges with scheduling.

The Mosquito Pro-Teach session were run indoors at the ProTeach facility. As usual the turnout was very good. There were two 90 minutes sessions with 2-3 teams at each session. At ProTeach the kids can be separated into multiple stations so we can have larger session 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 May (delayed because of the weather) with much excitement. Mother Nature played havoc early on and quite a few games were postponed. Unfortunately the coaches weren't able to reschedule all games so some teams played less than others. The regular season winner was Humbertown Orthodontics. There was a real mix in talent levels on all the Bloordale teams with the exception of Scotia. The team coaches and families opted not to have any Select Players so they could have more 2003 kids. That decision created some challenges for the team as the season progressed.

The playoffs were a success with each team playing a minimum 3 playoff games.

The playoff rounds were very exciting. (despite the challenges with the weather) The level of play improved dramatically over the summer (as the pitching got stronger) making for some very close Mosquito games. Just like in previous years, there were upsets in the playoffs.

Mother Nature did not play nice on the Saturday of the finals pushing the game out to the last day in September. Team Procom and Markland Homes association reached the Finals, with PROCOM winning the Championship game in exciting fashion.

#### **Comments/Suggestions:**

- As we are all aware Millwood 2 does not drain well. As a result a lot of games were cancelled because the field was unplayable. Kudos to all the parents and coaches that helped to make the field playable whenever possible.
- We would suggest an open practice session for new players for next year to gauge current skill levels and a ranking system for returning players a coaches evaluation. This should help balance teams.
- It would probably be good to stress with the coaches before the season starts the importance of treating our umpires with respect. With new pitching and with young umpires there can be some frustrations. Overall, I would say the umpires did a great job this season.

A very BIG THANK YOU to Cecilia Fulton for scheduling and rescheduling and rescheduling the umpires as a result of the many "rainouts". Thanks to Jim for the equipment support and the exec team for all of their hard work.

### **Divisional Report –**

#### Peewee, Jamie Smith

The 2014 Pee Wee division had 61 players born in 2001 or 2002. We had five teams this year and two select teams. Four teams had 12 players and 1 team had 13. The playoffs consisted of a round robin format. The final game was played by Team 2 – Mc Bride Wallace Laurent and Cord LLP and team 4 – Centennial Sports. Centennial Sports who was coached by Theo, won the final playoff game. Mc Bride Wallace Laurent and Cord LLP won the season, coached by Adam.

We had a large number of rainout games this season and found it difficult to make some of them up. Due to the five team structure, the schedule was set up with practices for the teams that had a bye round. The practices were held Tuesdays Broadacres diamond.

This year we had a fun day/skills day for the non-select players. All select players were away for a tournament. Patrick did a fantastic job running it and we received great reviews. I would recommend we do a similar event in 2015.

Due to personal time commitments, I will be unable to convene this division in 2015 but will endeavor to recruit an appropriate person and work with them during transition.

#### Suggested changes for the 2015 season

- Practices scheduled at Millwood 1. Due to the gravel at Broadacers it is dangerous for the kids to practice sliding.
- More experienced plate umpires

## **Divisional Report –**

#### Bantam, Brian Moore

The 2014 Bantam division had 23 players and two teams. The Bloordale teams played an interlock schedule with five Royal York teams

The interlock was very successful. I would recommend pursuing an interlock schedule with Royal York again, as it provides a greater variety of teams and ballparks. The two sets of rules used by the respective leagues are virtually identical; still, it is recommended that the conveners meet prior to the season to review the rules and settle any questions.

The two Bloordale teams were very close to each other competitively, but were at a disadvantage relative to the Royal York teams because Bloordale didn't have a select team. In a show of good sportsmanship, the Royal York coaches proposed and unanimously agreed to a rule that limited the number of select pitchers in a game to be equal to the lesser of the two teams. This rule remained in effect from the time it was introduced at the midway point of the season to the end of the playoffs.

Poor weather played havoc with the regular season; each team managed eleven games. There were two exhibition games in July where combined Bloordale squads played against Rexdale house league teams. In the September playoffs, Team 1 (West Mall Dental) defeated Team 2 (Levitt Lightman Dewar & Graham LLP AKA Orangemen!) in a best of five Bloordale final, before losing to a powerful Royal York squad in the third game of the best of three interlock final.

Coaches always set the tone for the season, and the Bantam division was fortunate to have two sets of extremely engaged and spirited coaches. Thank you to the players, coaches, families, and sponsors.

Team	Coaches	Sponsor
1	Gary Dick/Grant Coffey	West Mall Dental
2	Rob Robichaud/Jim Smith	LLDG (Levitt Lightman Dewar & Graham LLP)

## Divisional Report – Ladies Slo Pitch, Jamie Smith

A meeting was held at the start off the season with the majority of the coaches and me to discuss rules and other concerns.

We got off to a very rocky start this year due to losing a number of players the morning of our first game. We ended up having six teams however at times some teams had difficulty fielding enough players. The teams were not equally numbered and this became a problem throughout the season.

Due to bad weather we were forced to end our season one week later. We also had a problem fielding teams on the long weekends.

Our final game was played at Eringate with Breaking Bat taking home the Trophy. A big Thank you to Stephen Porier for allowing us to use Eringate twice this season.

The Ladies held their banquet at Lone Stars and was hosted by the Black Dragons team. We did not do team pictures this year but did give pictures to the winning team with the trophy.

This year no maintenance was done on the two school board diamonds at Broadacers. Patrick was able to secure us diamonds at Wellsworth for the months of July and August. We were only able to use one diamond because the other was too close to the playground. This was very well received.

We also had a few problems with the rules. A meeting will be held prior to the start of registration between me and the other coaches. We will be going through the Slo Pitch Ontario Rules and making our rules clear. **Changes for next year:** 

- Going forward a cutoff date for registration will be set. No player shall be added to a team unless payment is received and after the cutoff date.
- The ladies would like to bring team pictures back.
- New diamonds even if it means we play at different parks.
- New bases
- Defined rules set out before the start of the season
- A few new bats for League play as some players do not have personal bats.

## **Executive Slate of Officers**

Executive State of Officers	_
EXECUTIVE	
PRESIDENT	Wendy Kudeba
PAST PRESIDENT	Patrick McConnell
VICE PRESIDENT	Rick O'Connell
SECRETARY	Jamie Smith
TREASURER	Brian Walsh
REGISTRAR	Michael Giorno
SPONSORS	ТВА
EQUIPMENT	Paul MacLeod
SPECIAL EVENTS	Wendy Kudeba
PHOTOGRAPHY	Atul Marathe
PARKS AND RECREATION	
LIAISON	Patrick McConnell
PERMITS (City)	Patrick McConnell
PERMITS (School Boards)	ТВА
WEBMASTER	ТВА
COMMUNICATIONS	Wendy Kudeba
DIRECTOR - SKILLS	
DEVELOPMENT	Dave Good
DIRECTOR - UMPIRES	Cecilia Fulton
DIRECTOR-SELECT BASEBALL	Patrick McConnell
DIRECTOR-REP BASEBALL	Naeem Siddiq
EBA REPRESENTATIVES	Naeem Siddiq
	Rick O'Connell
VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION	ТВА
DIRECTOR AT LARGE	Bev Bryck
DIRECTOR AT LARGE	Trevor Pardy
DIRECTOR AT LARGE	
DIRECTOR AT LARGE	
DIRECTOR AT LARGE	
DIVISION CONVENORS	
CO-ED T-BALL	Brent Niedbala
ROOKIEBALL BASEBALL	Cameron Summers
MOSQUITO BASEBALL	John Valvano
PEEWEE BASEBALL	Nicole Kreutzberg
BANTAM BASEBALL	Brian Moore
MIDGET BASEBALL	ТВА
LADIES' SLO-PITCH	Jamie Smith

New Business: