

West Coast Fantasy Baseball Association

Board Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2012

Present: John Haines, Mark Gemello (Treasurer), Ray Mialovich, Doug Penney (President), Michael Simon (League Commissioner), and Rob Weber (Non-Voting Chairman and Tournament Director)

Absent: Matthew Schmuck

League and tournament rules were reviewed with special emphasis on the rule pertaining to injuries and courtesy runners. It was decided that the existing rule was too subjective in nature and that we would adopt the basic components of a rule used by local MSBL organizations. The new rule will read as follows:

1. ***INJURIES AND COURTESY RUNNERS: ** NEW for 2012 ** All batters must run from home plate on balls put in play. Once a player reaches base, a courtesy runner is available under the following circumstances:***

- *Prior to the game, each team will be allowed to designate up to **two** players in their batting lineup who are to be replaced by courtesy runners once they have reached base. Once the game has started, NO changes or additions can be made to this designated player list.*
- *When a player who is currently playing the catching position defensively is still on the base paths with two outs, a courtesy runner can be employed. This is not mandatory, but it does allow the catcher to get their gear on and be ready for the start of the next half inning.*

*If one of the players described above reaches base, they will be replaced on the bases by the last **recorded** out. When determining the last recorded out, keep in mind the following:*

- *The last recorded out is the player who exits the field when the last out was recorded.*
- *In the event of a double play, the last recorded out is the second out recorded.*
- *The courtesy runner will be the second to last recorded out if either of the following are true:*
 - *If the last recorded out is also designated to receive a courtesy runner*

- *If the last recorded out is currently playing the catching position and there are two outs*
- *If a runner is required in the first inning of a game and an out has not yet been recorded, the runner shall be the last player in the batting lineup provided they do not also require a runner.*

Since a team's designated runner list must be set before the game, any batter who is unable to run the bases after the start of the game must be removed from the lineup and the lineup will be collapsed. When that player's position comes up again in the lineup, they will be skipped, but no out will be recorded. It is permissible for any such player to continue playing defense, but they cannot be added back to the batting lineup.

Team coaches are responsible for insuring that the correct courtesy runner is used. The opposing team can challenge whether or not the correct courtesy runner is used and if they challenge successfully, the runner will be removed from the bases and an out will be recorded. Any challenge must take place before the runner in question scores or the half inning concludes.

John Haines proposed that a new rain line be instituted giving league representatives more control over the changing of the message. We all agreed that this was needed to provide better and more timely communication to league members on days with inclement weather. The new rain line number will be 408-732-0907. Instructions were given to the league commissioner, the field coordinator, and the pool coordinator on how to change the message on the rain line.

Rob Weber proposed we commission a poll from Rich Hertz which focuses on the reasons for low head counts at recent tournaments including Glendale. It was approved.