

2009 Metro League Agenda

22 April

Schools represented and introduction:

Kennesaw Mountain	North Cobb	Harrison	Allatoona
Lassiter	Sprayberry	Hillgrove	Campbell
Marietta	Walton	Kell	Pope
Wheeler			

2008 Board

- 2008 Board consisted of:
 - i. Danny Hefernen-Harrison
 - ii. Dale Troutman-North Cobb
 - iii. Steve Scott-Hillgrove
 - iv. Kenneth Sheffield-Kell

2010 Metro League

Jeff Michaud has agreed to begin running the Metro league in 2010. Jeff will be on the board this year and assist Kenneth Sheffield with the schedule and league in 2009

2009 Board

- 2009 Board consists of:
 - i. Kenneth Sheffield-Kell
 - ii. Jeff Michaud-Harrison*
 - iii. Robert Woody-Kennesaw Mountain
 - iv. Kim Broome-Harrison

* Will take program next year

Introduce Bob Earwood and Steve Marcus (not present)

- Scheduling/costs/paying for umpires – responsibility of home team. Cost \$78/game or \$39/umpire same as JV games
- Stressed the importance of communication with the umpires association for scheduling by the teams.
- Kenneth Sheffield will send a schedule to both umpire groups but it is the schools responsibility to get with umpire association and schedule them. My copy to the umpire associations is for their convenience only.
- A suggestion by Mr. Earwood: Maybe you could schedule a Metro game to follow a JV or Varsity game, although possibly later than the normal start time, the umpires might be a higher caliber.

Insurance: Very Important

- Lords Insurance (Contact information is in the eligibility handout)
- Approximately \$90 per team
- Each team is responsible for making sure they have insurance
- Each team is required to purchase insurance for \$20 per team to protect the school and the umpires association (this is cost, no profit)
- *Umpire associations will not call game without insurance in place before first game*

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Eligibility guidelines

- There were no changes to past guidelines
- How eligibility questions are addressed by the board
 - Home location/district
 - Cobb County employee
 - Other
- 5th graders eligibility is up to each school program
- Roster forms – will be emailed as soon as contact sheet is verified
- For teams that have issues with player eligibility, they usually contact me before I get the roster and explain the issue or put a note on the roster.

League Format

- Continue the same format of Gold and Silver brackets during the season and for the tournament
- 1st year single teams will have the option of Gold or Silver
 - If Campbell has a team, they will have the option of Gold or Silver in first year.
- 12 games followed by end of season tournament
- No in season tournaments allowed but will allow a preseason tournament as in 2008
- Practice games are allowed during the season
- All games will be scheduled as follows and only conflicts will need to be discussed by the coaches:
 - Saturday “Gold” games 10am
 - Saturday “Silver” games Noon
 - Sunday “Gold” games 2pm
 - Sunday “Silver” games 4pm
 - Week night games all start at 7pm
 - If any changes to the schedule please have both coaches confirm with Kenneth Sheffield via E-mail. If I don’t hear from both coaches I can’t know for sure what was agreed upon and I will have to assume the original schedule was correct. The umpire association should be kept in the loop by the home team should a reschedule occur.
 - Schedules will be attempted to schedule your closest opponent for weekdays and your furthest opponent for weekends.

Standings:

- Both coaches should E-mail Kenneth Sheffield the game results no later than Every Tuesday morning.
- By Wednesday, the standings should be out on the website
- Please make sure your scores are correct as the runs against count for tie-breakers.
- Tie Breakers for seeding purposes
 - Winning percentage
 - Head to Head – If 3 teams are tied only works if one team beats the other two in head to head, then remaining 2 teams continue from here
 - Runs Scored against
 - Runs scored against in games only involving tied teams
 - Runs scored
 - Runs scored involving games only among tied teams
 - Coin Flip

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Tournament:

- Cost: \$250 per team (in the past)
- Straight Double Elimination
- 1 hour 20 minutes
- Same run rules as regular season
- Home team decided by higher seeded team. No re-seeding in case of upsets

Tournament Host Schools:

- Allatoona has requested to host the tournament in 2009. Kell and Harrison also requested the tournament but due to them hosting the tournament in the recent past, it went to a school that has not hosted. Allatoona must commit to the board that securing of fields has occurred for this tournament by August 3.
- Kennesaw Mountain/Hillgrove will co-host the preseason tournament.
 - i. Schools request no late games on the Sunday before first day of school

Cobb Metro Website: <http://www.leaguelineup.com/cobbmetrofastpitch>

- Schedules will be posted
- Standings will be posted
 - As last year, I will attempt to update the scores or schedule changes as soon as I receive them from the coach. Please inform your parents that I appreciate them looking at the website and letting me know the scores of the games but I will update it when I hear from the coach or their designee.
- Schools information with links to high school website
 - School has option of providing information to Kenneth Sheffield to be about their school
- Contact information
- Directions to school
- Amenities (seating, restrooms, parking requirements, concessions, etc.)

New Teams:

- South Cobb and Campbell have expressed interest in fielding teams for the 2009 season.
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Open Discussion:

▪ Preseason Tournament

1. In 2008, KM/Hillgrove hosted a preseason tournament for the Metro teams at Lost Mountain. It is possible they may want to conduct again or should this be on a rotation like the end of season tournament?
 - KM/Hillgrove will host the pre-season tournament in 2009
 - Biggest complaint: Sunday evening games the day before school started.

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▪ 2008 Issues

1. Marietta parents discussed with Kenneth Sheffield that they did not think it was right for their team to play at Gold when they are a Silver team.
- Marietta requested that teams be evaluated and the board determines who is Gold and Silver at the pre-season tournament.
 - Rule in place is not subjective on the teams playing ability that play in Gold.....black and white rule with not much gray area. The rule was discussed and it will remain as is and the board will have the ability to move a team for the post-season tournament.
2. On occasion, I would receive a phone call on the action of a coach or a parent at a game. I would attempt to get the facts and then contact the coaches involved or coach of the parent and not get the board involved for this matter. At this time we have not banned a coach or parent from the Metro league and moving forward I am not sure that we will. However, if the issues got to that point, I would discuss with the Board and then contact the Varsity coach. Should it ever get to point where the Board has to ban a coach or parent...it will go back to the HS program.

Idea

1. Kell and Kennesaw Mountain have scheduled August 29 for all of their teams to play each other. Both Metro teams, then JV and the Varsity. So these Metro games will be part of this year's schedule.

Teams

1. While the board and everyone involved in the Metro league wants every kid in the County to play softball in the league, some of the varsity coaches or booster programs are not as active and do not have a Metro team in the league. Since we play by HS rules and eligibility, *it is not possible to combine 2 or more schools to form one team.*

Website

I thought the website worked really well in 2008. I attempted to keep the schedule and scores up to date. I know that it was being used because of the phone calls and E-mails from parents/coaches. I thought it was convenient and worked out well for the league.