



2010 Guelph Men's Recreational Slo-Pitch League Newsletter

A New Ball Season Is Almost Here!

With only a couple of months to go before the beginning of the 2010 Slo-Pitch season we felt it was a good time to touch base. We look forward to another great season welcoming everyone back. As usual, we encourage all members to promote our league with friends, neighbours and acquaintances. A fun and exciting season of ball is always better when shared with friends.

Your 2010 League Executive thanks the Team Representatives and other volunteers who make the season a success.

Please talk up the league with friends and family

Full league registration is our best means of keeping our registration cost low in the future and retaining the league activities. For 2010 we plan to field 32 teams.

2010 Message from the League President

Gentlemen,

For the past few years we have made a push for full membership. Obviously, we are in the best financial position when we have full rosters. The reality has been that we have been short of full registration. We will continue our efforts to fill the league but we will also make some changes for 2010 in order to "live within our means".

For the last 3 years we have incurred additional expenses related to insurance and legal bills. The bills are associated with legal action taken against the league. While we are not yet sure of the complete impact we expect to incur additional legal expenses in the 2010 season.

We have examined all aspects of the league operation in order to determine a balance of events and fees to provide the best value. For the 2010 season, the fee will be \$150.00 and there will be some changes to event formats.

This fee, a slight increase over 2009, includes Opening night dinner; Cool team shirts; 15 regular season games; June Tournament and Family Picnic; August Tournament; Playoffs; Year-end dinner; Usually at least a couple of really funny stories - at least they sound good when you have a beverage in your hand; and finally Friendships that last lifetimes.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the diamonds again this season. Best wishes for a fun and safe 2010!

Regards,
Tom Curtis,
Guelph Men's SloPitch 2010 League President

2010 Changes

As mentioned in the above section we plan some changes in the 2010 season in order to work within our financial means.

The Closing Dinner has been the most expensive event for the league in the last couple of years. The format for 2010 will be to only include members of the league. We extend an apology to the ladies while at the same time welcoming them to attend the June Family Picnic.

We will offer a "play both nights" option for registration and this will be discussed in the Registration section.

Registration

Members are encouraged to bring new players into the league. We will continue with our "sign up a buddy" program where each member can identify **one new member** that they would like to have on their team for the 2010 season. We cannot 100% guarantee, you will play together on the same team, however the earlier we receive your registrations, the more likely it is you will be assigned to the same team. Both registrations must be submitted **together** with two cheques in order that Pete Tyldesley (our Registrar) is aware of your request.

As a further incentive for talking up the league and recruiting new players we will provide **the opportunity for members to win back their registration fee**. New member applications will have a field where an existing player's name can be written. Each time an existing member's name is submitted with a complete and valid new player registration, the member's name will be added to the draw.

2010 will introduce the concept of "**sign up for both nights**". The approach here will be that **IF the league membership is not full by close of registration** then we will allow members to register to play both evenings (Tues and Thurs). Members will be asked to designate their primary night which will be used to determine the team you will play on for the June Tournament and Playoffs. If positions are available you will be assigned to a team on the alternate night. The price for this will be \$25 and the member will be provided with a team shirt for the alternate night as well as their primary team.

The league is open to registrants who are 33 as of December 31, 2010.

Picnic and Tournaments

We will once again hold the June tournament AND Family Picnic on the weekend of June 11th/12th at Marden Park, just north of town.

The **August tournament** is planned for the weekend of August 6th/7th, and once again, we will structure it as a 'lottery tournament'.

Once we have determined the number of players wishing to play, we will randomly mix Tuesday and Thursday players together to form new teams for this tournament. You will have the opportunity to meet and play with a completely new group of members.

Pete Tyldesley will use our computer rating system to establish a tournament team for each of you to play on. Your tournament Rep will contact you and provide details for the weekend.

The number of interested players will determine the number of teams and the tournament format. All teams will be guaranteed three games.

Small Business Owners

Everyone, at one time or another is in need of someone to help repair the washer, fix some plumbing, and finish some electrical or other tasks. With that in mind, we have developed a list of small business owners and placed this on our web page. If you would like to be included in this section, please reply to info@guelphslopitch.com and provide us your business, contact name & number.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another year of Slo-Pitch and look forward to another successful season. As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions which greatly assist to improve the experiences we all enjoy as members of this league. We are committed to creating a recreational membership, which builds on lasting relationships and lifelong friendships.

2010 Executive Team

Tom Curtis	President	Pete Tyldesley	Director
Rob Kalapaca	Vice President	Ian Clutton	Director
Ian McDiarmid	Treasurer	Paul Wettstein	Director
Jeff Morrison	Secretary		