

New York State District Administrators Association  
Fall 2007 Meeting

The fall meeting of the New York State District Administrators Association was held in Owego, NY on September 29, 2007. Dan Cavallo presided as Director, Pete Pennelle served as Treasurer, and Tom Gillett served as Secretary.

Danny Cavallo convened the meeting at 9:00 AM. The following Districts were represented by their District Administrators or designated representatives:

1	2	4	8	13	15	16	17	18
19	20	22	23	24	27	29	31	33
35	37	38						

By our Constitution, the above comprises a quorum, and actions of the Association may be taken. Little League Eastern Region was represented by Corey Wright and Patrick Holden.

**Treasurer's Report** Pete Pennelle reviewed the status of our expenses, income, and net funds. As of right now, District 26 is the only one unpaid for 2 years, and thus "not in good standing". Apparently, Dave Miller is the contact. Others unpaid for 2007 are Districts 7, 21, 28, 30, and 31. With expenses for the fall 2007 meeting paid, we now have \$1,800.09 in the checking account, and \$2,236.00 in the savings account.

Danny also noted we received a check for \$260.00 as commission on the Congress pins sale for NYS DAs. This will be added to the account. Finally, Pete will be providing invoices and receipts shortly for 2008 dues.

**Remembering Others** Danny noted that a "gift of cheer" has been sent to Joan Bosinius during her convalescence, as well as Linda Pennelle and Ron Worley. A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Dave Gamboli, former DA of NY 18. Retirees recognized by a plaque are Ron Opperman, Mike Sheehan, and Jim Tarpey. Finally, a plaque was made recognizing the efforts of Milt Schmidt in tracking LL baseball history.

**Election Results** Danny noted the following results of the recent balloting. Elected positions are:

Section 1 Coordinator – Don Jordan  
Section 3 Coordinator – Harold Weissman  
Secretary – Tom Gillett  
Treasurer – Pete Pennelle

**50 Year Celebrations** Danny read the list of NYS leagues who first chartered in 1958. Certificates were distributed to DAs for recognition of these leagues.

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**Section Reallocation** At the June meeting, it had been decided to go forward with developing a 6-section reorganization for NYS LL. Danny reviewed the outcome of a meeting held September 28 among representatives of the existing 4 sections, plus Eastern Region. See the attached tabulation for the result. A map markup was also presented. This new alignment represents a reasonably equal division of leagues among the proposed six sections. Some implications of the proposed system:

- New Section Coordinators need to be elected for all 6 Sections.
- Much work remains to be done to balance the numbers of leagues within certain districts. Danny asked that we reestablish the practice of Section Coordinators meeting the day prior to our regular meetings, to work on balancing league numbers.
- About 300 more kids will be able to play at the State Championship level with this change.
- The State Tournament rotation among Sections will have to be updated.
- There will be some impact on tournament schedules, with more teams in State level play. There will also be some added cost for State Tournament hosting.
- We must revise the Association Constitution to account for new elections.

Proposed new schedule is:

Section Coordinators (all) – 2008, 2011, 2014, ....

State Coordinator and Secretary – 2009, 2012, 2015, ....

Treasurer – 2010, 2013, 2016, ....

Danny recommends moving forward with the above. Len Ricchiuti moved, and Joe Sagaria seconded, to adopt the new Section Alignment, with the indicated changes to the election of Coordinators and Officers. The motion carried unanimously. Work will start on the above actions, with the changes to be all in place **for the 2009 season**. The election schedule for the 6 new Section Coordinators is:

Call for nominees distributed – 3/15/08, due by end of March

Ballots distributed – 4/1/08, votes due by April 15

Votes tabulated – 4/15/08

The schedule impact is yet to be determined, but it appears that all District level divisions except 9/1 and 10/11 would have to complete by about July 9. Section would start about July 12, State July 19, and Regional July 31. Corey noted that Districts can request to start District as early as June 20. Further, there is no restriction on league play continuing after the District Tournament has begun.

Further comments offered by DAs:

- We need to agree on a common format for State level. Sections have freedom to make their own Section formats, within reason.
- It is very difficult for some areas to start District play by 6/20.

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- Rebalancing leagues within a district is important as well. Maybe we need more Districts in some cases. This would mean more votes at Congress.
- Rebalancing leagues within a district can be done better now, with smaller Sections.
- It's a real problem if some leagues refuse to move from one District to another. Also, some small leagues need to merge.

**NYS DA Association Website** Danny indicated his desire to make our website more easily used, information-rich, and more attractive. Part of the plan is to be able to link into Section and State Tournament results by clicking on links to the hosts of those games. Dieter Silva from District 33 is doing the primary work. Members were encouraged to contact him at [dietersilvabl@aol.com](mailto:dietersilvabl@aol.com) to provide link information. The obvious key to making this all work is for hosts to keep their websites current on game results.

**ASAP Qualified Fields for Section & State Tournaments** Danny asked if there had been any problems with having qualified fields for Section and State games. Answer is no.

**Eastern Region** Corey and Patrick offered the following comments from Eastern Region.

- No personnel changes are planned at Region
- The annual DA clinic will be held November 3 and 4 in Bristol, with the usual Nuchie's mixer and dinner November 2. Paper brochures will be sent only to those without email. The brochure is also on the Eastern Region website. Cost is \$60 per DA, with an extra amount for spouses and non-DAs.
- League Administrators Clinic will be 1/26/08.
- Umpire Clinic will be 2/9 and 2/10/08.
- AI & AI Coaches Clinic will be 3/1/08.
- Road shows will be in NY (Dist 4) 11/17/07 (\$35 per person), NJ 12/1/07, MD in January, Philadelphia in February, Scranton in January.
- A listing of leagues on regional hold will be out to DAs shortly.
- Is LL BB flexible on tiebreaker rules for pool play? Answer is no.
- Umpire resumes are due to Eastern Region **no later than November 1**. Corey noted they typically get about 2,000 applications each year.
- DA elections are due by 7/15/08 in the following NY Districts:

2	5	8	11	14	17	20
23	26	29	32	35	38	

Letters will be sent to Presidents regarding incumbent DAs with below-average ASAP compliance

- Rule changes for 2008 will be sent out shortly. LL will be sticking with the requirement for 12 yr olds to play at the Major level. Parents can request a waiver of said rule, for their child to "play down". DAs can sign off on this request.

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- Corey thanked the State Association for its \$2000 contribution to the refreshment stand. Fund raising is going well.
- NY State Tournaments seemed to go well this past season. No one had difficulty getting through to Region on “game in progress” calls.
- Non-wood bat bans are still under discussion in some locations, although no youth baseball organizations have taken action. It appears most of these discussions depend on local (emotional) issues as the basis to ban non-wood bats, as opposed to facts.
- East Region has about 2,100 leagues. This year we have added about 40, and we lost 39 charters. The 39 charters lost were from:

Mergers (15)

Non-compliant (6)

Leagues folded (5)

Rules violations (2)

Went independent (5)

Ripken/Ruth (6)

**Constitutional Matters** Danny noted the changes required because of the new Section alignment. In addition, there had been a question about who could be elected Section Coordinator. By the letter of the Constitution, this person need not be a DA, only a member of the Section.

**DA Questions** The following discussion was the result of questions submitted by DAs.

- Section Coordinators need to work actively under the new alignment to re-balance the number of leagues within some of our Districts.
- District 37 had arranged housing for hosting this year’s tournament, by holding some rooms on its own credit card. The team from Section 4 (Huntington) declined the rooms, offered to pay back half, then did not pay at all. It is critical at the June meeting to communicate that hosts have put their own \$\$ on the line for rooms, and it is the responsibility of the Sections or Districts to keep the hosts whole. Len Ricchiuti moved, and Guy Madsen seconded, that Section 4 should do whatever is necessary to make District 37 whole on this matter. Motion carried unanimously, with one abstention.
- Don Horton asked for suggestions on what other Districts do for funding. Please reply to [dhorton625@roadrunner.com](mailto:dhorton625@roadrunner.com).
- A discussion was held about possible alternate locations to Owego for State meetings. Some thoughts were offered. Owego/Treadway Inn is booked for 2008 meetings. The new Section Coordinators should make a proposal for 2009 and beyond.
- Does LL insurance cover games with non-affiliated teams? Yes, if all rules are followed (play rules, field requirements).
- District 34 has hosted the State Big League BB Tournament for some time, and it has gotten fairly large and difficult to schedule. The District asks that we return to Section play where required, with 4 teams playing at the State level in 2008 (6 in 2009).

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- District 22 distributed photo albums of their very successful 10/11 BB State Tournament. Photos will be posted to the State website.
- Next year's State Tournament will be as determined at the June 2007 meeting. Tom Gillett will develop a new proposal for the 6-Section alignment.

**Miscellaneous**

- Next year's State meetings will be June 7 and September 20, at the Treadway Inn in Owego.

Tom Gillett  
Secretary  
NYS District Administrators Association

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New York State Little League  
New 6-Section Alignment

<u>Section #1</u>	<u>District</u>	<u># Leagues</u>	<u>Section #4</u>	<u>District</u>	<u># Leagues</u>
	1	15		17	19
	2	11		18	15
	3	11		19	31
	4	21		20	19
	5	12		21	8
	<u>38</u>	<u>11</u>		<u>33</u>	<u>13</u>
Total # Leagues		81	Total # Leagues		105

<u>Section #2</u>	<u>District</u>	<u># Leagues</u>	<u>Section #5</u>	<u>District</u>	<u># Leagues</u>
	6	16		22	15
	7	13		23	13
	8	28		24	11
	9	11		25	8
	10	20		26	7
	<u>37</u>	<u>11</u>		27	12
Total # Leagues		99		29	14
				<u>30</u>	<u>13</u>
			Total # Leagues		93

<u>Section #3</u>	<u>District</u>	<u># Leagues</u>	<u>Section #6</u>	<u>District</u>	<u># Leagues</u>
	11	14		28	9
	12	23		31	9
	13	10		32	11
	14	14		34	21
	15	15		35	13
	<u>16</u>	<u>11</u>		<u>36</u>	<u>21</u>
Total # Leagues		87	Total # Leagues		94

Total Districts = 38

5 Sections of 6 each

1 Section of 8

559 Leagues in NYS

Approximately 296 more children will have the opportunity to play in State level All-Star competition.