

Vagrant League

Fantasy Baseball

Volume 1, Issue 2

March 2002

Winter Meeting Results

The Votes Are In – Interested in the results?

Ed Feldman

Rules Committee Chairman

The 2002 pre-season winter meetings took place on March 7th at auction headquarters in Melville. Attendees of this years meeting were Ed, Ira, Doug, Ron, Barry, Frank, Chris & Tom. After some heated discussions the email that went out last week highlighted the four rules for voting as only one passed at the meetings.

The rule that passed at the meetings was revoking the bench “hoarding” rule that stated you must activate a player from your bench before picking up a free agent at that position or you loose the bench player. The main reason for this is that no one paid any attention to this rule and it was up to me research every move. I do not want to do that so the rule is repealed.

As for the four rules we voted on the results are in. Most of the votes were pretty lopsided. I want to thank everyone for taking the time to think these over and vote for what they feel makes the most sense and not

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New Owners Reveal Name

And the new team name is...(a drum roll please)

Ed Feldman

League Historian

It's official, Ryan Express is no more as the new owners have officially changed the team name to the *Marauders*. Webster's Dictionary defines a Marauder as:

marauder

ˈMa*raud`er, n. [From [Maraud](#), v.: cf. F. maraudeur.] A rover in quest of booty or plunder; a plunderer; one who pillages. --De Quincey.

I think they will learn that finding booty or plunder in the Vagrant League will be hard to come by, especially for rookies. Other names they reportedly considered before settling on Marauders were:

thief, robber, homo triumliterarum, pilferer, rifler, filcher, spoiler, depredator, pillager, harpy, shark, land shark, falcon, mosstrooper, bushranger, bedouin, brigand, freebooter,

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Stat Service

Our stat service has been shopped around

Ed Feldman

League Commissioner

The current stat service, [USA Stats](#), charges \$39 per team for a total of \$468 for the league. That seemed a bit pricey and John Ortiz uses a stat service called TQStats for another league that charges only \$99 for the entire league.

While TQStats provides essentially the same

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Winter Meetings

just for what is best for you personally. Here are the results, all rules need at least 7 teams to vote yes in order for it to pass.

Rule 1: Passed by a 9-3 vote. Goes into effect 2003.

- Expand the minor league draft from one round to two.
- The second round will be the same order as the first round (6th-12th then 5th-1st).
- Expand the farm system from 3 players to 4.

Rule 2: Passed by a 8-4 vote. Goes into effect 2004.

- Change rookie contracts from \$2, \$4, \$6 to \$1, \$3, \$5

Rule 3: Passed by a 10-2 vote. Goes into effect 2003.

- Convert from a \$130 league to a \$260 League. (note that the league fee is still \$250 + stats)
- At the conclusion of the 2002 season all player contracts will be doubled.
- Starting in 2003:
 - Free agent pick-ups will be \$10
 - Free agent AL pick-ups will be \$20
 - Farm system call-ups will be \$2,6,10
 - Long term contract formula will multiply each year by \$4, not \$2
 - 6th, 7th & 8th place will receive \$6, \$4, \$2 extra at the draft instead of \$3,2,1
 - \$4 will be added to player contracts with a current contract of \$12 or less
 - Any dollar values I have forgotten to mention will also be doubled.

Rule 4: Not passed by a 6 - 6 vote

- Allow the utility player to be either a hitter or pitcher after the season starts.

Rules 1 thru 3 that passed will be review at the beginning of the auction.



Protected Lists Due

Last Week to Make Those Decisions

Ed Feldman

Roster Overseer

A sure sign that the new season is fast approaching is that the 15 man protected lists are due in just a few short days. Your protected players must be in to me by noon on Friday, March 22nd. As I always get a phone call or two five minutes after the deadline by owners wanting to know who was protected please have your list in on time. I will NOT give out any keeper information until I have ALL the protected lists in. This is because I do not want to read each teams keepers 11 different times over the phone.

To help assure that you have your list in on time I highly recommend emailing it to me on Thursday. If you do you will still have the right to change your list until noon on Friday should any late breaking news affect your keeper situation. When submitting your keeper list please provide:

- ✓ **The Players First & Last Name**
- ✓ **The Position you are putting him at**
(Reminder: A player is eligible only at positions he has played a minimum of 20 games at)
- ✓ **His Current Salary**
- ✓ **Make a note of anyone you are signing to a long term contract.** Include the # of years you are signing him for. After the protected list submission you will not be able to sign players to long term contracts until next season.

Not adhering to the above will only delay the posting of the protected lists. As soon as I have all the protected lists I will update the rosters and post them on the VLFB website for you to view and print out. If the list is not published on the website by 12:15pm on Friday the 22nd then that means there is a team owner that is not playing by the rules and creating problems for no reason by not submitting his list on time. "I got busy at work" is not a valid excuse. If that is possible send me your list Thursday evening. I will also send out an a league email when the protected list has been posted.



WEBSITE LINKS

[Vagrant League Fantasy Baseball](#) (Our home page)

[USAStats](#) (Our stat service. League code and password are both vagrant).

[Major League Baseball](#)

[ESPN MLB](#)

[Rotoworld](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PROTECTED LISTS

PLACE: CALL IN OR BY EMAIL

TIME: MARCH 22ND, BY NOON

15 Man protected lists are due to Ed for each team. Please try and not wait for the last possible minute as nothing will change and the other owners want the rosters as soon as possible.

THE AUCTION\ DRAFT

PLACE: KPMG, MELVILLE

TIME: **MARCH 30TH, NOON**

Please be sure to keep this date free!

TRADING DEADLINE

TIME: AUGUST 14TH, NOON

There is no trading after this deadline until the season is over

SEPTEMBER EXPANSION

TIME: SEPTEMBER 3RD

Beginning with the September 3rd moves you can expand your roster from 23 players to 24. The extra player can be either a hitter or pitcher.



New Team Name

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bandit, thug, dacoit; pirate, corsair, viking, buccaneer, pickeerer; rover, ranger, privateer, rapparee, wrecker, picaroon; smuggler, poacher; abductor, badger, bunko men, cattle thief, contrabandist, hawk, jackleg, rustler, sandbagger, sneak thief, spieler, strong-arm men, highwayman, cut purse, pickpocket, thimblerrigger, blackleg, autolycus, artful dodger, trickster, peculator, duffer; smasher.

My favorite alternate name is a toss up between Jacklegs & the Freebooters. Anyway, any name is better than Ryan Express which has only become synonymous with losing. Clearly the Marauders have taken the first step in bringing a once proud franchise back to respectability.



Auction Check

What You Need to Bring

Ira Mandelbaum

Controller

The stats this year will cost \$21 per team bringing the total to \$271 for the season. What you need to do for the auction:

- ✓ Bring a check made out to Ira Mandelbaum
- ✓ Make the amount \$271
- ✓ Marauders, bring check for \$171

Don't forget. I would hate to have to send my boys after you to collect.



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Stat Service Review

information as USA Stats I really liked working with USA Stats and prefer to stay with them. I also prefer the USA Stats layouts a little more. With all that said I was not willing to pay \$369 more for the entire league just for a few subtle differences so I called USA Stats and they agreed to charge us only \$250 for the entire league. This means that instead of paying \$10 per team for TQstats (the few extra dollars would have gone into the prize pool) we will pay \$21 per team to USA Stats. I feel that for an \$11 dollar difference per team it is worth it to stay with USA Stats. Note that we will still be paying \$18 less per team for the same stat service than last year representing a 46% decrease in cost.



RULES REFRESHER

TRADING

- Unrestricted trading with other teams until noon on the second Tuesday in August. No trading after this date.
- After the start of the auction until the trading deadline, any players traded with a salary of \$6 or less will have \$2 added to his contract each time he is traded.
- After every trade, both teams must have eligible players at all 23 positions. You cannot leave a position “empty”.

FARM SYSTEM CONTRACTS

- Farm system players called up will have a contract of \$1 his call up year, \$3 his second year and \$5 his third year.

MINIMUM INNINGS PITCHED AND AT BATS

- *Minimum Innings Pitched:* 900 - Needed to earn your ERA & Ratio points. Otherwise you get moved to the bottom in each category (1 point for each)
- *Minimum At Bats:* 4250 - Needed to earn your Batting Average points. Otherwise you get moved to the bottom of BA and get only 1 point.

PLAYER POSITION ELIGIBILITY

- At least 20 games for the protected list & auction.
- If a player did not play 20 or more games at one position then he is only eligible at the position he played the most at.
- Only 1 game once the regular season starts

ROSTER MOVES

- The first roster moves will be on April 16th. The pick-up order will be based on the April 9th standings.
- All roster moves are due to Ed by noon on Tuesday every week starting on April 16th.
- Either call in moves at 631.425.6067 or email them to edwardfeldman@kpmg.com.
- Once per season each team can make a move on an active player that has not been placed on the DL, sent down, etc.. This is called the “Free Move”



My Player Was Traded!

What Can I Do About It?

Ed Feldman

League Commissioner

What happens if my protected player gets traded to the AL before the start of the season you ask?

Once you submit your protected roster if you have a player get traded to the AL you have two choices. If he gets traded before the auction you can either keep him on your roster for the remainder of the season or throw him back to get the roster spot and the money back for the auction. You will not be able to protect another player in his place though. Also note that if the player is still in the AL the following season you cannot protect him again.

Once the season starts, if you have a player get traded to the AL you can either keep him or release him and pick up someone else. You cannot place this player on your bench when he gets traded unless he is on the DL, sent down, etc.. Once this player is released he is out of our league and cannot be picked up unless he is traded back to the NL.



VLFB NUPTIALS

Showing true team unity the co-owners of Red Storm (Howie Storm & Bob Metzger) both got married last year to cousins. That’s right, cousins. I don’t know what that makes them now relation-wise (cousins in-law?) but they are now related by more than just Rotisserie. Actually, marrying cousins is a smart move as the girls can hang out together and bitch about their husbands being at some stupid baseball draft thing every year. It gives them something to do.

Howie was married on September 21st to Cousin Tracy at the Millage Inn in Hicksville and honeymooned in the beautiful islands of Hawaii. The Storm’s now make their home field in Queens.

Bob was married on May 18th to Cousin Valerie and they are expecting their first child on June 19th. No, the child was not conceived out of wedlock as it is known that the Metzger conception took place after much drinking at Howie’s wedding, which was after their own wedding. The current Metzger home field is in Long Beach. Good luck to both you guys!

