

Dear IRBL Members:

<sup>managers</sup> I waited as long as possible to give all 10 permanent and temporary NL a chance to vote on the DH rule issue. Unfortunately, only 5 teams cast their vote. The Reds&Astros for the DH; the Braves, Mets and Cubs against the DH. Therefore, no DH in the NL this season. Another vote will be taken at the conclusion of this season.

Some new addresses and managers:

CALIFORNIA ANGELS	MONTREAL EXPOS	CLEVELAND INDIANS
Tom Yanega	Dennis Bialaszewski	C.B. Butzky
79-31 260th St.	(temporary)	(temporary)
Bellerose, N.Y. 11004		
212-347-3708		

Larry Alber (Mets&Brewers)	Robert Custer(Dodgers)
6 Plum Lane (as of June 1st)	ETB 7413 (immediately)
Troy, New York 12180	NAV SCOLS COM T.I.
	SF, Calif. 94130

2 trades have been confirmed by both teams involved: The Cubs traded Randy Hundley, Bill Bonham, Carmen Fanzone and Ferguson Jenkins to the Red Sox for Bob Montgomery, Dick Pole, Danny Cater and John Curtis. The Red Sox traded Marty Pattin to the Braves for Ron Schueler.

MINIMAL CARD RULE (for those teams with less than 25 player cards):

33) Teams with less than 25 player cards can fill out their 25 card team by utilizing minimal player cards. The player can be called any non-baseball name. In future years, a non-card player on your 40 man roster can be used as a name. At bat, the player will use the American League Pitcher's Hitting card. In the field, he will be the worst fielder at that position and is a "1" runner. If used as a pitcher, he has the following regular pitching numbers, columns 1 thru 6: 3-5-4-f-5-5; for H&R: 5-3-5-3-4-5. He has no "B" grades. He has unlimited PA's and IP's. He will revert to all "5's" under the rules where regular pitchers revert to all "5's".

Any team that wishes to use one or more minimal cards should send me the names chosen and records should be kept for these players as if they had a regular card.

3) The following pitchers are allowed a maximum of 5 PA's as pinch-hitters: Carl Morton; Steve Renko; Andy Messersmith; Ken Brett; Mike Corkins; Terry Forster; Vida Blue; Ken Holtzman; Jim Hunter; Darold Knowles; and John Odom. Of course, the AL pitchers can only use the AL pitcher's hitting card.

WAIVER RULE:

34) After the trading deadline, trades can be completed if waivers are obtained for the players involved from the teams between the 2 teams wishing to make the trade. Once I receive a request to put a player on waivers, I will give all teams 4 weeks (2 newsletters) to put in a claim for the player or players. Based on the standings at the time of the waiver request, the order of claim goes from the worst team in that league (taking all 12 teams) to the team with the best record; then to the other league from the worst to the best record team. I will send the list of claims to the team who placed the player on waivers. He can deal the player to the team with the highest priority claim or reach some agreement to get that team to pass his waiver claim so the player can be dealt to another team.

I suggest that no team invoke rule #34 unless you are really desperate to make a trade. Chances are, you will not be able to clear waivers for the players to be traded to the team that you want. (Unless the 2 teams involved have the 2 worst records in a particular league in which case their will be no problem).

For those managers who are unfamiliar with the new hitting streak rules, if a player has no AB's in a game (BB, HBP, SH), but has a SF, the streak is ended.

A comment on rule#23: The road manager need only send his players B.Ave. HR, W, L, Sv, and E.R.A. to the home manager along with the instructions and a roster list. Additional statistics can be sent at the road manager's option.

On rule #24, complete statistics of the home team for the season is sent by the home managers when he reports the results of a series.

DELETE RULE#8. Since many times you will be forced to send out instructions before receiving the results from your previous series, you will not know if a pitcher needs 4 days rest. Therefore, it is not a workable rule in mail league play.

On injury rule #18 and the board rules: Instructions listed in both are in effect except that an injured player cannot pinch-run and he can be used to pinch-hit just once during the injury (it counts as a game sat out and he must be pinch-run for if he gets on base).

When playing a series with an open team (home or road) (so far the Padres, Phillies, Athletics, Orioles and Tigers), send me play-by-play scoresheets for both teams and a composite boxscore for the open team for the series listing all the required statistics.

My AD's will definately appear in the April and May Scoreboard. I'm sure the open teams will be filled shortly.

I am enclosing a flier sent to me by Bob Collins. I have not seen his work, so order from him at your own risk. He has agreed to give our league some coverage in his All Sports Conference News if I send out the fliers. We might be able to get some managers through his newsletter.

Since players tend to be injured in bunches in Replay, it might be a good idea to list several alternate lineups or instructions on how to bat the players if several are injured.

Send your instructions at least 3 days in advance of the series date. Teams on the road playing an open team will be receiving playing instructions for the open team from me. (also if you are home versus an open team).

That's about it for this last newsletter before the opening of the first IRBL season. Good luck to all NL teams and AL West teams in their season opening series.

Barry Koopersmith