

Wallace wins award for top batter

The North Dufferin Baseball League doled out 2014 season awards Sunday in Lisle during a lunch and meeting.

Taking top honours in the junior division was Josh Wilkins of the Barrie Red Sox, winning awards for best batter, best on-base percentage and most runs scored. Orillia's Nathan Dix picked up the Most Valuable Player award while Jamie Hanna of Creemore Barons was the Most Sportsmanlike Player.

A tie between five players for most home runs included Paul Bishop of Ivy Rangers, Ricky Darrell of Creemore Barons, Chris Fafalios of Aurora Jays, Jon Grootveld of Barrie Red Sox, and Brett Scott of the Rangers.

Best pitcher for the juniors was Devon Wu of the Aurora Jays.

The senior division batting awards went to Mike Wallace of the Bolton Brewers, earning the best batter and best on-base percentage award. Teammate Brett Chater had the most runs scored during the regular season.

Top pitching honours went to Brad Greiveson of the Ivy Leafs. Most Valuable Player was teammate Todd Gowan who also won the most home runs award. Mansfield Cubs' Tyler Linger was selected as the Most Sportsmanlike Player while his teammate Rob Kinsely, Aurora Jays' Fab Dolan, and Midland Indians' Jason Seeler received the best catcher award in a three-way tie.

For the second consecutive year, Rob Wilson and Michael Keon of the Aurora Jays won the coach of the year award.

During the event, a President's Award was presented to Gord Dunn. The award is a prestigious honour for dedication to the league and the sport of baseball. Dunn previously served as statistician in the 1980s, served a three-year term on the executive, and has been an umpire for four decades. He played his baseball career in Lisle.

Dunn thanked current and past players and fans in his acceptance speech. He noted previous recipients of the award and was taken back by the surprise.

?To be lumped in with those guys is a pretty special feeling,? Dunn said.

Dunn was the eighth person to receive the award since its inception in 1984.

The league held their annual general meeting after the awards presentation. Five-time champs Bolton Brewers have requested a one-year leave of absence and another Creemore senior team was accepted for the 2015 season.

Chris Esson joins as the new vice president. Sean Hayward moves to past president and Jesse McIntyre is the president. Scott Anderson and Dan Gowan return as secretary and treasurer respectively. Pete Kinghan was acclaimed as statistician as was Vance White in the York-Simcoe representative position.

The senior division will play a 26-game schedule while the juniors have a 21-game schedule. Opening day is set for May 2.



Gord Dunn receives a President's Award at the North Dufferin Baseball League awards and lunch in Lisle. Dunn accepted his award from president Sean Hayward for his decades of service to the league as a player, coach, executive member and umpire. Photo by David Anderson