**Wetaskiwin Baseball Club Meeting** **Minutes**

December 7, 2015

Present: Helen Bye, Stephen Hawkes, Damara Wolters, Jamie Young, Nancy Fischer, Daren Gall, Linda Throndson, Vanessa Crough, Dalbert Adkens, Chuck Hebert. Regrets: Holly Pitcher, Courtenay Houghston, Jennifer St. Hilaire, Trevor Bearchell, John Kennedy, Eileen Chambers.

No minutes from the previous meeting were brought.

Treasurer: Peewee has about $175 balance remaining from the provincial playdown tournament. Mosquito AA has about $1100 balance remaining from their fundraising/tournament. There is a list of people who had NSF cheques. Treasurer recommends that those fees must be paid before the individuals register for the upcoming season.

**Equipment Director:** Vanessa reported that all equipment (uniforms) is back in the seacan. She didn’t have any problems getting it all back. All the inappropriate bats were donated to schools. Vanessa suggests going through all the bins of pants and getting rid of the really badly stained or ripped ones. Jamie Young and Stephen Hawkes both suggested that player in Mosquito and higher should buy their own pants from now on.

**BASEBALL:**

**Learn to Play** (Jennifer St. Hilaire- Written Report submitted): Felt season was better organized than previous year. LTP numbers close to previous year. Need to stress that parents are to participate with their child at practices. Coaches reported that it was difficult to get the parents involved.

**Rookie** (Jennifer St. Hilaire-Written Report submitted): Poor start to season as no one stepped up to coach until the very start of the season. Complaint about CUB league head stacking his Leduc team with all 2nd year players. Suggests stricter guidelines re: fairness of teams. Good year overall. Thanks to Helen for getting equipment that they needed. Suggestion that bases not be kept in the city’s locked boxes but be kept with the coaches.

**Mosquito** (Daren Gall): 2 CUB teams plus AA team (Nationals). Coaching issues for CUB league. One good coach, one was weaker. One coach didn’t abide by the CUB rules (ie) moved mound closer to plate, and didn’t interact with the players very well. **AA TEAM** (Stephen Hawkes) did very well. Ended up in Tier 2 this year. Hosted Provincials and ended up 3rd/8 teams in tier 2. Raised $3300 in sponsorship. Changes in place for the coming year include the removal of the mound on the KofC diamond. Will use portable mounds. East diamond may also be kept for Baseball as well. City was good to work with for Provincials and getting diamonds ready.

**PeeWee** (Nancy Fischer): Team did well in CUB and ended up Tier 1 for playoffs and lost to Devon in final. Chose to go to Provincials in the recreational A division. Ended up in the lower grouping and didn’t win many games. Hosted one weekend playdown tournament and raised $1400 in sponsorship in 5 days. Tournament went well. Played in the provincials in Rocky Mountain House and didn’t win much except a rematch vs Devon! All Peewee players but one move up to Bantam next season.

**Bantam (no team this year)** but there will be a team next season. Looking to go AA and recruit some more players (especially pitchers).

**SOFTBALL:**

**U10 Competitive** (Dalbert Adkins): Won their league but it was a terrible league. Got killed in Provincials. 6-7 players move up to U12 next season. 4-5 stay down in U10. One could move up but the father would be a good coach for U10. Worried about numbers for U10 competitive next year. May have to move some to baseball. Suggests looking at the Ponoka/Red Deer league but it would involve more travel which may lose the team some players.

**U12 Competitive** (Holly Pitcher-Written Report presented by Damara Wolters): Played in the South League, good year. Thinking only 2 players remain in U12, rest move up to U14 for next season. Coach disappeared for 3 weeks without warning so John Crier took over and did very well. Suggest that if there are only a few U12 next year, and if they have no team to play on, that they can play baseball.

**U14 Competitive** (Chuck Hebert): Won GPLS ‘B’ Division. Came 2nd in Provincials vs the same team that they beat in league. 3 players move up and 8 remain with the u14 team. Numbers are not great for U14 competitive for next year. Edmonton teams are looking for competitive players and Heberts have shared this information with other U14 parents so they can decide where their girls are going to play. Edmonton tryouts were held in Sept/Oct already.

**U12/U14 Recreational** (Dalbert): 5-6 move up to U16, 5-6 stay in U12. Dalbert suggests combining with Beaumont bc some players are going to play in Edmonton. Numbers will stay up if two towns combine.

**REGISTRAR** (Linda Throndson):

SOFTBALL: U12/U14 recreational: 10

U10 competitive: 11

U12 competitive: 10-11

U14 competitive: 10-11

BASEBALL: Learn-to-Play: 31-33

Rookie: 11

Mosquito CUB: 23

Mosquito AA: 11

Peewee: 14

Need to know numbers early b/c a number of players may try out for competitive teams in Camrose.

**SEACAN UPDATE:** Expect Cobra to do the work soon (before spring).

**EQUIPMENT UPGRADES AND NEEDS:** MOUNDS: $500/mound and higher. Need 2 (one for PW/MOS; one for Bantam/Midget). Stephen Hawkes to get pricing on different qualities. YAMAHA agreed to raffle off a quad for WBC. Club needs new jerseys, new training equipment (ex: T’s, Hurricanes, balls).

**UMPIRES:** Program changed. Now Part A is Level 1, need to do Part B for Level 2. Last year we carded alot of new umpires but we only have one Level 2. Need to get our guys to upgrade to level 2 this year.

**AGM: NEEDS TO BE EARLY THIS YEAR TO GET STARTED ON REGISTRATIONS AND A WINTER BALL CAMP.** Decided to have AGM on Thursday, January 21st at 6:30 pm at the Manluk Centre. We will follow this with a membership drive.

Decided to use free advertising in Parade of Programs. Also will use billboards again. Suggested that we use online registration. Need to recruit. Also need paper registration to be still available.

**WINTER BALL CAMP.** Stephen Hawkes agreed to run one on Monday nights at the Drill Hall for Mosquito and Upwards in January/February...Drill Hall with turf is $80/hour. Stephen Hawkes to book.

**FEES:** Need to add cost of new jerseys onto registration fees. 6 sets of jerseys for $2250, add $25 to fees. Missing 2 sets of rookie jerseys and one set of mosquito jerseys. Need to replace these.

There are $$$ in the Summer Games Funds that should be used for some of the equipment upgrades.

**UPDATED REGISTRATION FORMS TO GO OUT FEBRUARY 1ST. SEND PDF VERSION TO SCHOOLS FOR INCLUSION IN THEIR NEWSLETTERS. EXPAND LIST OF SCHOOLS TO INCLUDE OUT OF TOWN ONES.**

Helen suggests emailing information about AGM and Winter Camp out to as many people as we can.

RALLY CAP PROGRAM: Stephen Hawkes suggests that this program be adopted and replace the existing Learn-to-Play program. This program involves 6 player teams with 1-2 parents per team. There are stations on the field and each team goes from station to station learning different things. Beaumont and Spruce Grove use this program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.