

## **2023 RESOLUTIONS FOR THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING**

The following resolutions are put forward to the membership for approval, and if accepted will take effect January 1, 2024. Note, the following 8 motions will be brought to the floor for discussion at the SGM as they have met the 14-day delivery requirement. Following that, 51 percent vote at the SGM will be needed for the motion to be carried.

### **Motion 1 brought forward, by the Management Committee, following the Competition Restructure Committee Meetings:**

To add a true “AA” Championship, with no “AAA” players allowed.

**WHEREAS:** Baseball Manitoba currently hosts a “AA” Provincial Championship where AAA players are allowed to participate,

**AND WHEREAS:** Baseball Manitoba regions form their teams differently, based on their Zone,

**AND WHEREAS:** “AAA” players playing with and against “AA” players hinders the playing time of the AA players,

**AND WHEREAS:** “AAA” players playing with and against “AA” players creates an unlevel playing field,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Baseball Manitoba hosts a true “AA” Provincial Championship, with no “AAA” players allowed.

*Note: Regions are not required to enter a team in to “AA” Provincials and could amalgamate with other regions to form a true AA team, or send teams to the A, B and C events only without consequences.*

*Note: Numbers of teams from each zone will need to be determined by the Competition Restructure Committee.*

*Note: The 2 events could not be hosted on the same weekend, as Zone 2 players could play in both.*

*Note: The 11U AA event will be addressed in a separate motion.*

**Motion 2 brought forward, by the Management Committee, following the Competition Restructure Committee Meetings:**

Establish a player number threshold to determine if a Region must have a 13U AAA program.

**WHEREAS:** Baseball Manitoba currently stipulates that all Regions host a AAA Program at 13U,

**AND WHEREAS:** There are consequences to the region and their A/AA teams, if they do not host a AAA Program,

**AND WHEREAS:** Player numbers in the region may suggest that hosting a AAA is detrimental to player development, as the region could host one or more AA teams,

**AND WHEREAS:** Player numbers in the region may suggest that the region could host one or 2 AA teams to improve player development more broadly,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Baseball Manitoba set a player number threshold to dictate whether a region must have a 13U AAA Teams.

*Note: Numbers will be set by the Competition Restructure Committee, based on research from historical registration numbers.*

*Note: If a region does meet the threshold of having a AAA team, they do not have to enter a full AAA Province Wide Schedule.*

**Motion 3 brought forward, by the Management Committee, following the Competition Restructure Committee Meetings:**

Establish a player number threshold to determine if a Region must have 2 13U AAA programs.

**WHEREAS:** Baseball Manitoba currently stipulates that all Regions host a AAA Program at 13U,

**AND WHEREAS:** Some regions are selecting 1 team from a pool of 75 or less 13U players,

**AND WHEREAS:** Some regions are selecting 1 team from a pool of 150 or more 13U players,

**AND WHEREAS:** The teams choosing players from the larger pool of players have a competitive advantage at the AAA level,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Baseball Manitoba set a player number threshold to dictate that a region must have 2 13U AAA Teams.

*Note: Numbers will be set by the Competition Restructure Committee, based on research from historical registration numbers.*

*Note: If a region does meet the threshold of having a AAA team, they do not have to enter a full AAA Province Wide Schedule.*

*Note: It may be determined that the number needed to have 2 AAA teams exceeds the number of players in our largest region.*

**Motion 4 brought forward, by the Management Committee, following the Competition Restructure Committee Meetings:**

Add B and C division to Provincial Championships (based on reg numbers).

**WHEREAS:** Baseball Manitoba currently hosts A, AA and AAA Provincial Championships,

**AND WHEREAS:** The competition at A and AA Provincial Championships is uneven,

**AND WHEREAS:** Regions sending teams to A and AA events have drastic differences in region and population size,

**AND WHEREAS:** Associations may be able to confidently apply to host Provincials in these categories,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Baseball Manitoba add B and C Provincial Championships at 11U, 13U, 15U and 18U and set player registration number thresholds to determine what clubs can qualify for each division. Only players within the specific age group will be counted.

*Note: Competition Committee to establish working groups in Zone 1 and Zone 2 to set the number thresholds, keeping in mind that the number of teams at Provincials needs to be kept to less than 10. ED, VP-Competition or President may meet with the group and assist in the process, document, and report back to the Restructure committee.*

*Note: This could be attempted at all age divisions to see which ones will be able to support the multiple levels of classifications.*

**Motion 5 brought forward, by the Management Committee, following the Competition Restructure Committee Meetings:**

Provincial Championships must be a maximum of 10 teams.

**WHEREAS:** Baseball Manitoba currently hosts 12, 15 and 16 team Provincial Championships,

**AND WHEREAS:** These events require 3 fields, extra amenities and many volunteers,

**AND WHEREAS:** This limits the clubs who can host such large events,

**AND WHEREAS:** The schedules for these events are tight, unfair and limited,

**AND WHEREAS:** The number of games in these events is challenging for umpire recruitment,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Baseball Manitoba limit the number of teams at each Provincial Event to 10 teams.

*Note: the other motions will play a role in making this possible. By adding further divisions (B and C), it allows for the same number of teams, but spread out to more hosts.*

*Note: the "AAA" Tier 1 and Tier 2 events are considered 2 events with less than 10 teams each.*

*Note: Baseball Manitoba and each region will need to consider their budgets, as the total Provincial Championship Fees will be affected.*

**Motion 6 brought forward, by the Management Committee, following the Competition Restructure Committee Meetings:**

Provincial Championships be held with no more than 10 teams, specific to 11U AA.

**WHEREAS:** Baseball Manitoba has adopted a new rule which states that Provincial Championships will consist of no more than 10 teams,

**AND WHEREAS:** Previously, the 11U AA Provincial Championship was a 15-team event with shortened Round Robin games due to time constraints,

**AND WHEREAS:** Team formation at 11U is different from Zone 1 to Zone 2, and within Zone 2,

**AND WHEREAS:** There are no AAA players or Provincials at 11U,

**AND WHEREAS:** Baseball Manitoba has created A, B and C Provincial Championships at 11U,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** The top 5 teams from the Zone 2 A Provincial Championships will qualify for the 11U AA Provincial Championships. Along with the 5 Zone 1 teams, who qualify from the WMBA Championships, would create a 10 team 11U AA Provincial Championship.

*Note: Whichever Zone (1 or 2) hosts the Provincial Championship would qualify one less team in the event, as the host team would take one of the 5 (10) spots.*

**Motion 7 brought forward by Louis Cote, following an 18U AAA Zone 2 meeting:**

To have an effective system to decide the Zone 2 tier 1 and tier 2 representatives for 18U AAA provincials.

**WHERE AS:** The qualifying tournament used at the 13U and 15U AAA in Manitoba to decide tier 1 and tier 2 teams is not currently feasible at the 18U level due to the need for the event to be played on a weekend in late June/early July which causes conflicts with Team Manitoba 17U events and the 18U AAA Provincial Championship is earlier than 13U and 15U AAA, due to the 17U Canada Cup.

**AND WHERE AS:** High School baseball has become very popular around the province and is promoting the sport,

**AND WHERE AS:** Involvement of all Zone 2 teams in the 18U AAA Provincial league is not possible due to conflicts with High School baseball and travel,

**AND WHERE AS:** Some Zone 2 teams can play a full schedule in the 18U AAA Provincial league due to location near Winnipeg and/or less/no conflicts with High School Baseball,

**AND WHERE AS:** All 18U AAA Provincial league games, for Zone 2 teams, are of an exhibition nature and there are no games in which the results are of any importance,

**AND WHERE AS:** The current 18U AAA Provincial league does not have a balanced schedule and/or games are currently not used towards deciding Tier 1 and Tier 2 teams,

**BE IT RESOLVED: That Zone 2 18U AAA teams play a balanced interlocking schedule within the Baseball Manitoba 18U AAA League and use these games to decide the Tier 1 and Tier 2 representatives.**

*Note: The amount of Zone 2 18U AAA teams vary from year to year and will typically range from 6-8 teams which would mean 10-14 games will be used to create rankings.*

*Note: Zone 2 teams can/will continue to play the remainder of the schedule versus Zone 1 teams. (These games will not be used towards deciding Tier 1 and Tier 2 representatives.)*

*Note: The games will be scheduled, as much as possible, on weekends and/or in the form of mini tournament/doubleheaders to ensure pitching depth is needed.*

*Note: The games will be scheduled around High School and Team Manitoba events to allow for Provincial Team players to be involved.*

*Note: A Zone 2 competition focus group will finalize the details such as whether the teams with the 3 highest number of points will advance to Tier 1 Provincials, or, if the top 2 automatically advance and the 3<sup>rd</sup> place team plays the 4<sup>th</sup> place team to determine the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tier 1 spot from Zone 2.*

**Motion 8 brought forward by the Competition Committee:**

To allow -5 Metal Bats at 15U (AA and A)

**WHEREAS:** Baseball Manitoba currently stipulates that BBCOR or Wood Bats must be used for the 15U age category.

**AND WHEREAS:** Many players between the ages of 14-15 are not physically mature enough to properly handle a BBCOR or wood bat, causing a decrease in success, confidence and overall development,

**AND WHEREAS:** These players, who are not physically mature enough to handle a BBCOR or wood bat develop bad habits and a defensive mindset at the plate with a BBCOR or wood bat, resulting in poor, weak swings in an effort to make contact and not get sore hands or break the bat,

**AND WHEREAS:** These new metal bats are controlled to react much like a wood bat, making player safety a significant priority,

**AND WHEREAS:** Metal bats have a larger “sweet spot” increasing players success and confidence,

**AND WHEREAS:** Players swinging with more success become more confident and produce good habits by promoting aggressive swings, without fear of bats breaking or hurting their hands,

**AND WHEREAS:** Hitting in baseball is the most exciting part of the game, it is what most players look forward to the most. It is also the most difficult part of the game, where failure is already at a very high level for young players,

**AND WHEREAS:** Many Provincial Team Coaches and Player Development Personnel in Manitoba believe that allowing these players to use -5 metal bats will improve the overall game at this level by putting more well hit baseballs in play, forcing pitchers to pitch better; hit spots, learn off-speed pitches and execute pitches more effectively and fielders to be prepared for more hard hit balls on a regular basis.

**BE IT RESOLVED:** -5 Metal Bats with USSSA (BPF 1.15) Certification be acceptable for 15U AA and A players in Manitoba.