

**2022 WORKSHOP & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28<sup>th</sup> – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**SINBAD'S HOTEL**

**GANDER**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Annual General Meeting Agenda	3
President's Report	4 – 7
Registration Report	8
Challenger Baseball Report	9
Umpiring Chairperson Report	10 – 11
Coaching Chairperson Report	12 – 13
Minor Chairperson Report	14 – 18
Junior/Senior Chairperson Report	19
Female Chairperson Report	20 – 26
Appendices	
Appendix A – Provincial Tournament Champions	27
Appendix B – 2021 Baseball Canada National Championship Results	28 – 29
Appendix C – Minutes from October 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2021 Annual General Meeting	30 – 35

# BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

## AGENDA

BASEBALL NL WORKSHOP AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 28<sup>th</sup> – OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 SINBADS HOTEL GANDER

### Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022

7:30 PM

Baseball NL Executive Meeting

### Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

TIME	Main Salon	Boardroom
8:45 AM – 10:15 AM	<b>Coaching Roundtable</b> Lead: Greg Williams	<b>Junior/Senior Roundtable</b> Lead: Nick Mercer
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM	<b>Minor Division Roundtable</b> Lead: Kristyn Coley	
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	<b>LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)</b>	
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	<b>Female Baseball Roundtable</b> Lead: Mark Healy	<b>Umpiring Roundtable</b> Lead: Mark Jones
3:15 PM – 5:15 PM	<b>High Performance Roundtable</b> Lead: Mark Healy & Greg Williams	
7:00 PM	<b>RECEPTION &amp; ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS</b>	

### Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

10:00 AM

#### Baseball NL Annual General Meeting

1. Roll Call of Delegates
2. President's Welcome
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting
4. Business Arising from Meeting
5. Reports
6. Amendments to the Articles
7. Election of Officers
8. New Business
  - a. Coaching
  - b. Umpiring
  - c. Junior & Senior
  - d. Minor
  - e. Female
  - f. Scorekeeping
  - g. High Performance & Provincial Teams
  - h. Baseball Canada & Baseball Atlantic
  - i. Hall of Fame
  - j. Other Business
9. Adjournment

## **2022 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Introduction**

First and foremost, I would like to thank you all once again for another memorable season of baseball in our province. After what truly was our first “normal” season since 2019, it was great to see all activities – Provincial Championships, Atlantic Championships and National Championships – return once again.

Having played through two challenging seasons – 2020 and 2021 – it was fantastic to see baseball return to what we know and love about the game, and what we have grown accustomed to offering the great players, coaches, and officials in our province.

### **Registration**

2022 was yet another banner year for registration. While we did experience a marginal increase in overall registration, our biggest gain in overall registration comes in two avenues. Firstly, our overall registration surpassed that of 2019 and pre-pandemic numbers. That strength of registration is fantastic to see, and highlights the fact that baseball truly is back stronger than ever. I know there are other sports that were not as fortunate as baseball in retaining membership post-pandemic. Knowing our sport did not have this problem brings me great relief and shows that our sport will be strong for many years to come.

Our second notable registration highlight can be found in our female registration – a 10.5% increase compared to 2021. Female baseball is our biggest potential growth area. Putting an emphasis on female programming has led to a fantastic level of success in recruiting and retaining female players, and success at the Atlantic and National level as a result. More importantly, however, it has led to great increases in our registration and uncovered a hidden growth area for our province. Continuing to place an emphasis on female programming at all levels will bode well for the continued growth of our sport moving into the future.

A more in-depth analysis of overall registration and female registration can be found in the Registration Report and Female Chairpersons Report found later in this document.

### **Provincial, Atlantic and National Championships**

Once again, our championship season at three levels was successful for everyone involved. At the Provincial Level, we held 21 championships across Minor, Junior, and Senior divisions with great competition throughout. Particular highlights include the return of the Pasadena Pirates to the Senior Division, and the entry of the CBS Raiders to the Senior Division. In the Minor Division, we had 91 different teams enter Provincial Championships this year – an 11% increase from 2021. These returns in Senior and growth in Minor Provincial attendance shows that we are developing more players at all levels and allowing them pathways to play baseball for as long as they wish. This speaks very well to the success of our programming at the grassroots level, and will continue to bode well for our sport moving into the future. Congratulations to all teams and players that competed in Provincial Championships, and a special congratulations to those that were successful in taking home an individual award, Team MVP, or medal!

## BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

At the Atlantic Level, Baseball NL was well represented by teams at the 11U, 13U, 14U, 15U, and 18U categories in AAA and AA skill levels. Traveling to Atlantic Championships takes commitment and dedication to practice and gameplay. Representing Newfoundland and Labrador at these events is a privilege and anyone who experiences this opportunity will remember it for quite some time. Special congratulations to our 14U Team NL Black (bronze) and the CBS 13U AA Raiders (silver) on their respective medals at Baseball Atlantic Championships this summer.

Finally, for the first time since 2019, National Championships returned to our calendar of events for the 2022 season. These events are the premier high-performance events for our athletes and coaches and it was a welcomed sight to see them played once again. Newfoundland and Labrador were represented nationally at the 13U National, 13U National Atlantic 15U, 16U Girls, Canada Games, 18U, 21U Women and Senior Men Category. Attending these National Championships does not come without a great deal of work and commitment from players, coaches, and parents. On behalf of the baseball community, thank you for this commitment and dedication. You all represented the province and yourselves with class, poise, and dignity throughout your respective Championships.

### **2022 Successes & Highlights**

Each year there are special highlights that deserve attention and recognition – 2022 is no different.

With National Championships returning, Newfoundland and Labrador played host to two National Championships on the Baseball Canada calendar – the 13U National Atlantic Championship and the 21U Women Invitational Championships. Both events were hosted in St. John's. At the 13U National Atlantic, six teams competed with the host St. John's Capitals and Team NL Rep Paradise Phantoms over four days of great baseball action. Congratulations to Port City (NB 2) on their gold medal victory over Eastern Express (PEI 1). At the 21U Women Invitational, Team NL was joined by teams from Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia to crown the best 21U Women's team in the country. Congratulations to Quebec as they defeated BC 13 – 9 in the Championship game.

Hosting National Championships is not as easy task. It takes a very dedicated group of volunteers to ensure things run smoothly. Whenever an event is hosted in our province, those in attendance constantly remark on the efforts of the Host Committee (regardless of where in the province we are hosting). Special thanks to Kristyn Coley and Mark Healy for their efforts at each event to ensure it was the best possible experience for players, coaches, officials, parents, and volunteers.

It has also recently been announced that female baseball will be added to the 2025 Canada Games sport schedule. As you all know, the 2025 Canada Games are to be held in St. John's. Having this be the first-time female baseball will be its own sport discipline, we are thrilled that our 2025 Games will get to play host to this historic event. Our province has some of the best

female baseball players in the country. With this announcement, it will continue to grow and develop our female program in the years leading up to the Games, and will strengthen our sport nationally for decades to come.

Lastly – but certainly not to be forgotten – are the accomplishments of Jaida Lee throughout this past summer. Jaida’s 2022 season was nothing short of historic, having become the first female player to play “male” baseball at the Canada Games. While this was impressive, Jaida’s poise and grace while managing the added pressures that came with this was even more impressive. Jaida was the flagbearer at the Opening Ceremonies for the 2022 Games, and was even honored by the Toronto Blue Jays by throwing out the first pitch at the Blue Jays game on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. Jaida has not only blazed a trail for herself in the baseball world, but she has become an inspiration and role model for young female players in our province and across the country. It can no longer be considered “male” baseball at the Canada Games because of this historic achievement. Well done, Jaida!

### **Thanks and Acknowledgements**

I have mentioned some groups separately throughout this letter, but there are countless others that need to be thanked, as well.

Firstly –thank you to the Baseball NL Executive. The hard work, dedication, and commitment to our sport once again did not go unnoticed by me. It would not have been possible to have the successes we had this year without your involvement. Thank you very much

Secondly – a thank you to Sport Newfoundland and Labrador, led by Executive Director Troy Croft. SportNL advocates on behalf of PSOs across the province on any number of issues/concerns, and it always more than willing to assist whenever possible. It is this partnership that allows PSOs to flourish and develop as much as possible. Without this partnership it would be challenging to complete our season as successfully as we do.

Last, and certainly not least – the biggest thank you goes to our local associations. Their executives, staff, players, coaches, parents, officials, volunteers. Everyone. Your passion, commitment and dedication to our sport is unrivaled by many in the province. With over 3,500 registered baseball players in the province, it takes everyone pulling in the same direction to make sure the summer is successful. Without your commitment to this common goal, a successful summer would not be possible. Thank you for ensuring success in anything you were involved with, and thank you for ensuring our players reaped the benefits of your hard work and dedication. It certainly did not go unnoticed.

### **2023 Outlook**

With another season behind us, it is time to shift focus to 2023 – it will be here before we know it! I am very excited about the direction of our sport and what will happen in future years. Our programming continues to be strong, our coaches and officials continue to develop and grow, and our registration continues to increase each year.

## BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

I am also excited to get to share this with the rest of the country next fall when our province plays host to the 2023 Baseball Canada Convention. This will be a fantastic opportunity to highlight baseball in our province and showcase everything we have to offer our sport. COVID cancellations and postponements have delayed our hosting of this event, but I am very excited to know it is finally going to happen in 2023!

### **Closing**

In closing, thank you for another memorable season of baseball in the province. Having been involved for the past 20 years – 10 as President – I am blown away each year by the work, effort, and commitment everyone puts in to make sure each season is successful. Thank you all for letting me be a very small part of what truly is a great organization and a great group of people to associate with. Be safe, be well, and once again – thank you.

Yours in Baseball,

Kevin Legge  
President

## **2022 REGISTRATION REPORT**

The 2022 baseball season in Newfoundland and Labrador saw the first “normal” season since 2019 with a full-scale return of programming at the local, Provincial and National level, with overall registration reflecting the welcomed return of a full slate of baseball programming

<b>ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
St. John’s Minor Baseball	991	958	900	982	1,018
St. John’s Amateur Baseball	172	211	199	212	210
Mount Pearl Minor Baseball	379	384	353	417	439
Mount Pearl Senior/Junior Baseball	25	-----	-----	-----	-----
Paradise Minor Baseball	605	475	313	478	543
CBS Kiwanis Minor Baseball	263	234	150	198	207
Baseball CBN	82	105	72	93	88
Baseball Gander	180	159	125	113	141
Gander Senior/Junior	-----	-----	-----	10	-----
Grand Falls-Windsor Minor Baseball	234	216	136	190	213
Grand Falls Windsor Senior/Junior	-----	-----	-----	14	-----
Deer Lake Minor Baseball	96	-----	-----	-----	-----
Pasadena Minor Baseball	157	143	135	132	133
Pasadena Senior/Junior	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Corner Brook Baseball	405	355	342	470	358
Bay St George Minor Baseball	175	162	156	154	148
Stephenville Minor Baseball	44	48	18	-----	-----
CHALLENGER BASEBALL NL <i>*included with PMB registration until 2019</i>	-----	86	32	59	80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,536</b>	<b>2,931</b>	<b>3,522</b>	<b>3,578</b>

As you can see from the above data, province-wide registration has once again increased this year. Though just a small increase, it is important to note that our registration has surpassed that of 2019 and pre-pandemic numbers. This is especially important to show that baseball has fully returned and prosperous times are ahead for our sport. Though our overall registration has increased only marginally, our female registration has increased 10.5% compared to 2021 registrations. This is an incredibly positive sign for our female program moving forward. Female Chairperson Mark Healy shares more information on female registration which can be found in his report.

To have returned to pre-pandemic registration numbers, and surpass them, is a testament to the overall work and dedication of everyone across the province to ensure baseball was not a casualty of the pandemic. Moving into 2023, it gives me a great sense of optimism to see these registration trends, and my hope is that we continue to build on this moving into the future.

Ryan Garland  
Executive Director



## **2022 CHALLENGER BASEBALL REPORT**

### **Introduction**

The 2022 Challenger Baseball season saw a return to baseball as we knew it pre-COVID. With a record number of registrants, Challenger Baseball experienced one of its most successful seasons in its 9-year history in our province. Events like the Provincial Jamboree and our Under the Lights Finale at St. Pats Ball Park returned this year and were once again huge successes.

### **Registration and Volunteers**

80 players were registered for the Eastern (Metro) program, and participants were placed on Team #1 or Team #2. Each group had their own 1-hour timeslot on Saturday mornings. Volunteers played a crucial role to the success to the season as they always have in years past. Although we have a handful of committed volunteers, this year we did experience challenges with our total number of volunteers declining. Moving into 2023 new volunteers will need to be recruited to ensure the players have the best experience possible.

### **Provincial Events**

Two Provincial events were hosted in the 2022 season: the Provincial Jamboree and the Under the Lights Finale at St. Pats.

Our Provincial Jamboree was a fantastic day! Challenger Baseball Specialists from Jays Care attended the event and hosted a fun afternoon of Challenger Baseball activities which our players and parents loved! In the evening, we hosted our award banquet where players were treated to Pizza and their Provincial Jamboree trophy. The Provincial Jamboree was especially successful after two years of not being able to run the event. Having the presence of the Jays Care Foundation as part of the event also brought a heightened sense of importance and awareness

Under The Lights was our final event of the season hosted at St. Pats Ball Park. Participants enjoyed the feeling of “playing like a pro” under the lights and everyone showed off their best home run trot. This is a fantastic event to close out the year and gives the players a memorable experience to close out their summer.

### **Closing and Quotes**

The past couple years saw quite a lot of challenges with COVID and social distancing. We are happy to say that the 2022 Challenger Baseball season brought players and families back together in a much-needed fun filled atmosphere. Sport unites us all, and it’s more fun when we enjoy it together!

Ryan Garland  
Provincial Coordinator

Colin Rose  
Avalon Area Program Coordinator

## **2022 UMPIRING CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

### **Introduction**

After two years of abnormal umpire development and training as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am please to report that things returned to our 2019 norms for the 2022 season. Though 2020 and 2021 brought their own set of unique challenges, there were some positives brough about that benefitted the umpire development program and were continued to be used in the 2022 season.

### **Provincial Clinics and Umpire Development**

Once again in 2022, Baseball NL partnered with Baseball Ontario to offer umpire clinics online through a teaching portal developed by Baseball Ontario. This was made available during the early onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and has greatly benefitted and enhanced the way we teach and develop umpires. Level I and II umpires gain access to online material they can study and learn at their own pace, and in-person clinics are more focused on practical and situational elements that are challenging to learn otherwise. Without Baseball Ontario's partnership in this initiative, this would not be possible. Many thanks to them for their willingness to assist in any way possible.

Registration numbers for Level I and II clinics once again remain strong. The Level I Clinic saw 122 participants province-wide register, while 18 participants took place in the Level II program. We are also nearing the opportunity to once again offer a Level III Super Clinic in the province now that we have sustained capacity at the Level II and III levels. Last offered in 2018, this Super Clinic sees umpire clinicians from outside the province come to Newfoundland for a weekend of instruction and development on topics that otherwise would not be possible. It is my hope that we can offer this opportunity in 2023 or 2024 at the latest.

I also want to thank those that assist with clinic delivery on an annual basis. These are our senior and most-experienced umpires who willingly offer their time and knowledge to teach and instruct new and prospective Level I and II umpires across the province. It would not be possible to offer clinics in the environment we do without their support and assistance.

### **Baseball Canada National Program**

For the first time since the 2019 season, Baseball Canada National Championships resumed. This is something everyone nationwide was excited for, and Baseball NL was well represented on the National stage once again. Baseball NL presently has eight umpires in the National Program, with six representing the province this summer.

- **Ryan Garland** umpired at the 2022 Canada Summer Games in Niagara;
- **Doug Spracklin** umpired at the 22U Men National Championships in Halifax;
- **Cole MacIsaac** umpired at the 15U National Championships in Saskatoon;
- **Peter Keough** umpired at the 13U National Atlantic Championships in St. John's;
- **Mark Jones** supervised at the Senior Men National Championships in Sydney;
- **Dave Buckingham** supervised at the 13U National Atlantic Championships in St. John's.

## BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

The return of National Championships is a way for our officials to continue on their own high-performance pathway similar to players and coaches. The lack of National Championships temporarily paused this development, but all umpires and supervisors made sure to represent themselves and the province at the highest level possible and experienced great success this summer. Their successes set them up for personal growth moving forward, and also positions the province to continue to be well represented at National Championships in capacities beyond playing and coaching.

### **Closing**

2022 was a fantastic year overall for the Baseball NL Umpire Program. With more positives on the horizon for 2023 and beyond, I am excited and energized with what is to come for officials in our province.

Until then – be well and be safe.

Yours in Baseball

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Jones', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Mark Jones, Umpire-In-Chief

## **2022 COACHING CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

The 2022 season was a down year for coach training; there were 15 clinics delivered and all were done online in a virtual meeting space. Due to challenges with securing facilities, scheduling conflicts and Covid-19 related events there were no in-person clinics offered in the past few years. The table below shows the breakdown of the number of coaches that attended clinics this past year.

	<b>NUMBER OF COACHES IN ATTENDANCE</b>		
<b>CLINIC</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Initiation	34	56	44
Absolutes	34	33	44
Planning	31	33	33
Teaching & Learning	32	37	39
Pitching & Catching	18	57	21
Strategies	12	37	13
Skills	-----	49	7
<b>EVALUATION</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Coach Portfolio	3	5	5
Game Evaluation	-----	-----	3
Practice Evaluation	-----	-----	6
<b>TOTAL CLINICS</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>

As the table above indicates, Baseball NL continues to increase the number of trained coaches that are involved with programs and associations across the province. The numbers from the past year are consistent with the previous year, although there remain several coaches in the province that are not availing of coaching clinics when offered.

The coaching clinics were offered in two blocks of time, end of May to mid-June and mid-August to the end of August. I fully realize that the clinics in August were on short notice and were a challenge for some coaches to attend, however the attendance at those clinics was higher than the late spring clinics. Moving forward the plan is to return to in-person clinics and still offer one round of clinics online. The initiative from Baseball Canada is for all clinics to return to in-person, and only certain modules should be offered online. A proposed schedule of clinics will be presented at the 2022 AGM, with times being offered to associations outside the Avalon to host clinics in their region.

In 2022, Baseball NL was also able to offer a female only clinic that was delivered by Kristyn Coley, one of the few female Coach Developers for Baseball in the country. This was a success with 11 coaches attending and Baseball NL will continue to offer other clinics in the future for any female coaches that would prefer to attend a female only clinic. Also, outside of that specific clinic there were several female coaches that attended other clinics and there 18 new female coaches registered with Baseball Canada this year.

## **BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

In February of 2022 Baseball NL assembled a new group for the Baseball NL Coaching Committee, there were some new members added to the committee, however the interest in this committee remains primarily on the East Coast of the province. Unfortunately, the committee did not have the opportunity to meet and action any items during the spring and summer. The reason for this falls directly on the committee chair. As the winter ended and spring began, baseball was returning to its full strength prior to Covid shut downs, and my personal commitments and schedule prevented me from having the opportunity to schedule any times to meet. I know the committee was disappointed in this and the meetings will resume in the fall and over the winter. Some of the main goals for this committee will be to propose guidelines for Coaching requirements for Provincial Tournaments, develop Coaching development opportunities outside NCCP, and recruitment and retention of coaches across the province.

In summary, this season was an overall success despite the many challenges. There will always be opportunity for improvement, and Baseball NL is dedicated to continue to develop coaches and work with associations to provide necessary training.

Greg Williams  
Coaching Chairperson

## **2022 MINOR CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

2022 was the first “normal” season of baseball since 2019. While this was exciting, it certainly brought about some challenges for minor baseball in this province. Registration numbers across the province remained relatively steady which was great to see as the sports world shifts back to normal and players are being pulled in many ways due to increased commitments from 2021. 2022 also marked the triumphant return of Atlantics and Nationals. As a province, we attended 7 Atlantic events and 8 National events. Congratulations to Paradise and St. John’s for their hosting efforts for 13U AA Atlantics and 13U AAA Atlantic Nationals. For Minor Provincial events, we awarded 17 champions in 8 different age categories. More details on these events can be found in the appendix. Thanks to all associations in their respective efforts to host and attend all of these events during a busy tournament season.

After the 2021 AGM, Baseball NL was advertising for their several working committees. The purpose of the minor committee is to allow for increased representation and engagement at the minor level. Baseball NL solicited applications for both chairs and committee members. As minor chair, I selected the following members to be a part of the minor committee: Melinda Blundon (CBS), Kerry Chaisson (BSG), Joe Fowler (MPMBA), Jamie Jenkins (GFW), Stephen Leonard (CBBA) and Sam Oliver (PMBA). I was very excited to see all the interest in this committee based on applications! Due to this interest, we requested an increase in committee size over the last edition and were approved by Baseball NL. This definitely helped us ensure that many voices and backgrounds from across the province were represented here. Once the committee was formed, we worked to develop a mandate and established goals for our term (2021-2023).

There are 3 major areas of interest for our group as outlined by Baseball NL. These areas include: grassroots development, provincial tournaments, and media/publicity. Some highlights that we were able to achieve in 2022 under this mandate include:

- Increased media presence: We built upon our recent gains in social media to introduce a new website and monthly mailer. While not everyone may avail of these options, it’s important to recognize what it can do for building our association numbers and drawing attention to the great work everyone is already doing. Thanks to Ryan and our partners at RAMP for creating and maintaining the website. It’s been a great resource to help organize our initiatives. The monthly mailer has been getting a lot of traction and has allowed us to highlight some special stories in our Province. While it is difficult to maintain during the busy times of year, it is a worthy addition to our media presence.
- Baseball NL 75th Anniversary: We helped to highlight the accomplishments of Baseball NL over the past 75 years. We commissioned a special 75th logo which was used throughout the season. We also got a lot of social media interaction with historical posts which was great to see the engagement of past members. While COVID-19 prevented a lot of in person events, it was nice to see some new and creative ways in which we could

## BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

celebrate the 75th Anniversary. We will also have a 75th Anniversary clothing order before Christmas.

- **Baseball NL Mascot:** One of the goals tasked to the committee after the 2021 AGM was to introduce a BNL Mascot. In consultation with the BNL Executive, we purchased a mascot that was introduced at the first Provincial Tournament of the season (Senior B Provincials). To increase the engagement with the mascot, we hosted a social media contest to help us select a name. We had dozens of submissions with the name “Slider” being selected. The creator of the winning name got to throw out the opening pitch with Slider at the Senior B Tournament. Slider got to travel to several events and tournaments over the course of the season which ended with them making an appearance in Corner Brook over the Labour Day Provincial Weekend. Thanks to Mark Healy for his support and mascoting prowess.
- **Baseball Day in NL:** One of the long-term goals for the committee was to introduce a Baseball Day in NL. The goal of this day is to highlight the work of the local associations and to give players the opportunity to participate in baseball related activities throughout the province, while being funded by Baseball NL. Thanks to CBS, GFW and St. John’s for their participation this season. The date (Aug 6th) tied in well with the Senior A Finals and we will look to hold this date going forward as it is the centerpiece of our tournament schedule.
- **Baseball NL Annual Awards:** Baseball NL has been tweaking their awards over the past few years (opening to more nominators, social media highlights, slideshow presentation, etc.), however we were still struggling to get nominations, especially in the Sr/Jr categories. We identified the awards that each Provincial baseball association was doing locally and weighed the pros and cons of enacting in our own Province. We also built upon the updates to the SportNL awards to help to mirror more adequately what they were doing. Due to this update, we have added 4 new awards and updated some old categories to form 12 new awards. I am pleased to say that we more than doubled our nominations from any of the past 5 years!
- **Baseball NL Game of the Week:** we created the Baseball NL Game of the Week in 2021 which was designed to give our local associations some increased publicity and to allow house league players to experience some of the extras that are generally reserved for tournaments (i.e. music, announcing, etc). Thanks to GFW and Gander for taking on this challenge in 2022 and making this a wonderful event - kudos to them!
- **Professional Development Opportunities:** As part of the Baseball NL Semi-Annual meeting, we organized a presentation from CSC NL about good board governance. As a PSO, it’s essential that we promote professional growth amongst our member associations to ensure our group goals and vision is being met in an appropriate way.

## **BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

- **Tournament and Convenor Manuals:** Building on one of our major initiatives for 2021, we continued to update and edit our tournament and convenor manuals. This took many days and weeks to complete but the feedback was incredible! We will continue to update the document each year and we hope it will be an integral tool for coaches in this province. It also provided some advertising monies, as well!
- **Rules Sessions:** in conjunction with the female committee, we hosted 4 rules sessions in advance of most provincial weekends. These sessions were well attended and we had great feedback on how this helped coaches in advance of provincials.
- **Provincials Rankings:** we were tasked in 2020 at the AGM to find a way to prevent teams from being incorrectly ranked for provincials. It was determined in 2021 that since travel was not guaranteed, we would try tiered events since ranking would not be possible. This was further discussed and agreed upon at the Semi Annual Meeting in May 2021. I firmly believe that there were a lot of positives when it came to tiered events but I understand that change can be difficult. Furthermore, tiering is not a perfect solution (although one that many PSO's use) and in 2022, we did solicit feedback on ranking systems from associations and other PSO's. We have created several scenarios that will be finessed and finalized by the Baseball NL Executive in advance of the 2023 season.
- **Hosting Grants:** at the 2020 AGM, it was agreed that hosts would not pay for tournament fees (\$350) and would get an additional \$150. We continued this in 2022 and had a lot of positive feedback from the hosts. Hopefully will create more of an interest to host events going forward.
- **Changes to Pitch Count:** we recommended changes to pitch count to increase pitch count usage in several divisions. While this was a difficult endeavour to achieve throughout the province, I was pleasantly surprised to hear a lot of positive feedback.

Going forward, we would recommend the following:

- Continue to keep the new website and monthly mailer current and relevant
- Continued importance placed upon social media channels.
- Continuing the Baseball NL Game of the Week and finding ways to get all associations to participate.
- Expanding the Baseball NL clothing line and incorporating a provincials specific item sold at those events.
- Build more association buy-in to use and take care of the mascot costume.



## **BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

- Continuing to hire summer student(s) to help our goal to expand into new regions throughout the province, as well as supporting associations in their training programs. While it is difficult to find the right student, it is necessary that we continue towards parity amongst associations when it comes to player development opportunities.
- Continue to host program think tanks and rules sessions to promote engagement of membership and mutual understanding.
- Continue to use and update the tournament and convenor manuals.
- Continue to refine and evaluate the annual awards program.
- Continue to investigate methods to rank teams in provincial events.
- Continue to provide hosting grants with the amount to be dependent on budgetary restraints for that season.
- Continue to expand the usage of pitch count into other divisions/levels with the goal to be 100% standardized with Baseball Canada rules.
- Host a PD event for Phys. Ed teachers
- Continue to offer relevant Professional Development opportunities for associations.
- Finalize Safe Sport policies to be enacted.
- Create a blog of the week highlighting programs, coaches, strategies, etc.
- Look into the feasibility of an association performance bond to support the work being done by Baseball NL office staff
- Support associations to update their registration platforms

While we have seen an increase in popularity of baseball in our province over the past few years, I think it is essential that we spend time on ensuring the quality of our programming is something we can all be proud of. The lack of education and understanding of how Baseball NL and its member associations operate has caused some uninformed and unproductive opinions to form. We must ensure that our membership is engaged and that the integrity of the game does not become diminished. Engagement is a two-way street - if there are questions, they should be asked in an appropriate and professional manner. I feel strongly that through our new committee structure, concerns that are brought to the committee in a respectful way will be heard and allow us to work towards holistic solutions that benefit associations of all sizes.

Thanks to Ryan and the BNL Executive for believing in our committee and the important work we were tasked to do. Our committee is incredibly grateful for the opportunity we were given to

## **BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

facilitate change in Baseball NL. I certainly hope that we continue to grow and develop as a sport within our province in 2023 and beyond.

Kristyn Coley  
Minor Chairperson

## **2022 JUNIOR/SENIOR REPORT**

The work for this year's senior and junior baseball seasons began several months before the first pitch. With a mandate to look at the composition of those divisions and how they operate, a new committee was formed shortly after the 2021 AGM held in St. John's last fall. After an application process that generated nine candidates, a committee with chairperson Nicholas Mercer was formed. Along with returning member Kevin Higgins (Gander), the rest of the committee was made up of Ken Curtis (St. John's), Aaron Dowden (Mount Pearl), David Lahey (St. John's) and David McCarthy (Corner Brook).

Soon after the selection of its members, the committee met for the first and started looking at its mandate. Over the course of several meetings, the committee hammered out the details of how it saw senior and junior baseball being played this summer. That included a change to the format for senior baseball and some alterations to the rules about how rosters could be composed at both levels, amongst other alterations. The plan was presented and accepted by the Baseball NL executive and then presented to the division's delegates at the semi-annual AGM in the spring. After meeting with the delegates, there were some small housekeeping items squared away before the start of the season.

When the season did start, the senior B tournament was the first event on the calendar. Featuring the Gander Pilots, along with the newly formed Pasadena Pirates and the Conception Bay South Raiders. The double round-robin tournament ended with the Conception Bay South victory and their first provincial senior baseball title. In a couple of weeks, the Raider would be bound for Corner Brook where they would face the Barons in the senior A senior finals.

Before that though, the St. John's Capitals hosted four other teams in the BNL Junior A baseball provincial championships. The Caps outlasted the Corner Brook Barons, Mount Pearl Blazers, Paradise Phantoms and Gander Pilots to take home their fifth straight junior A title.

The calendar then shifted to the BNL Senior A semi-final series between Corner Brook and Conception Bay South. Held at Jubilee Field, the series went the complete five games with the Raiders pulling out the 3-2 series win. Now, they had won their second-ever provincial title and were off to St. John's to meet the Capitals in the Senior A finals.

The Raiders' impressive run ended in Game 5 as they took the Caps to the limit. Unfortunately, they could not knock off the defending champions as the Caps won their seventh straight provincial title.

Finally, at the Baseball Canada Men's National Championship in Sydney, Nova Scotia, the Caps advanced to the quarterfinals before losing to Nova Scotia and finishing 6<sup>th</sup> overall.

Nick Mercer  
Junior/Senior Chairperson

## **2022 FEMALE CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

The following report highlights the Baseball NL Female program for 2022.

The purpose of the report is to provide high-level details on the key areas for Female Baseball in Newfoundland and Labrador including highlights, areas for improvement and recommendations.

Comments, questions and feedback on format, content, etc. are encouraged and appreciated.

Please contact BNL Female Baseball Director, Mark Healy.

### **Registration**

The below table highlights the Female registration numbers since 2015.

Association	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
St. John's	65	73	91	122	135	147	179	217
Mount Pearl	30	32	33	25	26	32	45	55
Paradise	24	26	32	73	62	52	116	153
CBS	15	19	26	31	21	14	11	13
CBN	23	18	24	23	---	4	11	11
Gander	7	15	18	12	7	9	7	5
Grand Falls Windsor	71	76	66	62	27	35	49	64
Deer Lake	---	---	---	22	---	---	---	---
Pasadena	35	33	37	45	24	41	40	35
Corner Brook	66	74	102	97	72	94	120	104
Bay St. George	---	---	38	72	68	62	64	67
Stephenville	4	---	8	11	---	1	---	---
<b>Totals</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>725</b>

\*\*\* Increase of 10.5% in 2022 \*\*\*

### **Events**

Bring a Friend Night April 24 TechniPlex (St. John's, Mt. Pearl, Paradise & CBS)

Baseball Day in NL August 6<sup>th</sup> Outdoors Province Wide

For 2023 the Female Committee should look at creating a Female Baseball Day in NL to align with the national female committee initiative.

### **Leagues**

St. John's Minor Baseball operated "A League of Their Own" LOTO again in 2022 with three divisions. Participation was open to all associations on the Avalon.

12U 10 Teams St. John's, Paradise, Mt. Pearl  
 14U 6 Teams St. John's, Paradise  
 17U 4 Teams St. John's, Paradise

## BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

### Training

St. John's, Paradise, Grand Falls Windsor and Corner Brook offered various levels of Female WinterBall and Spring Training programs during the winter and spring.

### School Tournaments

School tournaments are an excellent opportunity to promote the game and provide exposure to new players.

Event	Divisions	Dates
Joe Mullins	12U	June 10 - 12
St. John's Junior High School	14U	June 1 - 5
St. John's Senior High School	16U	June 17 - 19

### Invitational Tournaments

The below invitational tournaments were held this summer with Female Divisions.

Event	Divisions	Dates
Honda Hickman Classic	12U, 14U, 16U, 21U	July 23 - 25
Mike Buist Classic	12U, 14U	July 15 - 17
Mary Tavenor	12U	July 8 - 10
Heather Healey Classic	12U, 14U, 16U	June 24 - 26

### **Notes:**

- The 21U Women provincial team participated in the 15U division of the Mary Tavenor.
- The St. John's 16U AA team participated in the 15U A division of the Mike Buist Classic

### Provincial Tournaments

The following female provincial tournaments were held in 2022.

#### 12U - AA/A

Date	Host	Teams	Champions	Runner-Ups
Sep 3 – 5	Corner Brook	Bay St. George Corner Brook AA GFW AA Mt. Pearl St. John's AA	St. John's AA	Corner Brook AA
		Paradise St. John's A Pasadena GFW A Corner Brook A	Paradise	St. John's A

**Baseball NL Rep: Darren Hancock**

## BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

### 14U – AA/A

Date	Host	Teams	Champion	Runner-Up
Aug 12 - 14	Paradise	Bay St. George Pasadena St. John's AA Paradise AA	AA - BSG	St. John's AA
		St. John's A Paradise A	A – Paradise A	St. John's A

**Baseball NL Rep: Mark Healy**

\*\*\* Championship games were played at Edgar Hartery (Little St. Pat's) during the 21U Women's Nationals \*\*\*

### 16U

Date	Host	Teams	Champion	Runner-Up
Aug 19 – 21	St. John's	Bay St. George Corner Brook AA Paradise St. John's AA	St. John's AA	Corner Brook AA

**Baseball NL Rep: Ryan Garland**

### 21U

Date	Host	Teams	Champion	Runner-Up
Sep 3 – 5	Corner Brook	Team Burgundy Team Black	Team Burgundy	Team Black

**Baseball NL Rep: Darren Hancock**

\*\*\* Corner Brook was not able to field a team for the event, so the event was modified so that all interested 21U players (all associations) were able to register and two “equal teams” were created for the event. \*\*\*

\*\*\* This was a four game total aggregate series. \*\*\*

### Atlantic Tournaments

NL Girls Baseball participated in the 14U Atlantics- held in Moncton, NB on September 9 – 11.

Team Black	3W – 2L	3 <sup>rd</sup> place (Bronze Medal)
Team Burgundy	1W – 4L	4 <sup>th</sup> Place

### National Tournaments

NL Girls participated in the 16U Girls and 21U Women National Championships. Each provincial team will provide a separate report and financial statement.

The 16U was hosted in Summerside, PEI on August 25 – 28.

Team NL	4W – 3L	6 <sup>th</sup> Place
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## BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

The 21U Women's were hosted in St. John's on Aug 11 – 14, St. John's will host again in 2023.  
Team NL      0W – 4L      7<sup>th</sup> place

### **Operations and Planning**

The following areas are key components of the NL Girls Baseball program.

#### **Female Committee**

A provincial Female Committee was established in 2020. Below is a list of the current Female Committee members.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Association</b>	<b>Role</b>
Mark Healy	St. John's	BNL Female Chair
Kristyn Coley	St. John's	BNL Minor Chair Metro Director
Greg Williams	Mt. Pearl	BNL Coaching Chair BNL HP Co-Chair
Gavin Simms	Paradise	Committee Member
Nikki Musseau	St. John's	Committee Member
Susan Skiffington	Mt. Pearl	Committee Member
Maddi Healy	St. John's	Player Rep
Holly Russell	Grand Falls Windsor	Player Rep
Sommer Mosher	Corner Brook	Player Rep

#### **Female Champions**

Continued to promote, recruit, and identify "Female Champions" in each association / region.

#### **Women in Baseball Network**

The purpose of this group is to allow for networking and idea sharing between women who are involved or would like to become more involved with baseball in our Province. Baseball NL recognizes the fact that there are more barriers to women and gender diverse people in accessing this information and are hoping to bridge this gap by providing an inclusive learning environment. The group will discuss and explore a wide range of topics and presentations including administration, scorekeeping, rules, coaching, umpiring, etc. This group is open to women and people who identify as gender diverse.

#### **Survey**

Developed an annual survey to foster engagement, participations and ideas. The first survey was sent out in October 2020 and another sent out in October 2021. A survey was circulated in 2022.

#### **Rules**

Continued to review rules and rule modifications to ensure BNL is aligned with Baseball Canada and Baseball Atlantic while trying to ensure we do what is best for our athletes and province.

## **BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

Some rules were modified for provincial tournaments in 2022 due to changes at Baseball Atlantic and with the Baseball NL minor committee.

- 14U AA adopted lead-offs and stealing
- Modified Pitch Count for all Female Divisions

There was a recommendation to do a 12U Pitching Pilot in 2022 at one of the invitational tournaments but because of several reasons it did not proceed. This should be discussed and revisited for 2023.

### **Sponsorship and Funding**

Sponsorship and Funding are two key areas that have potential opportunities for Female Baseball.

### **Sponsorship**

In 2020, Bob Morgan and Mark Healy were able to secure Tiller Engineering as a Title Sponsor for Female Baseball in Newfoundland and Labrador for the next three years.

Note sponsorship from Tiller Engineering was deferred for 2020 due to COVID-19, so 2021 was year 1. Many auxiliary sponsors continued their support in 2022.

### **Funding**

Identified and recommended funding opportunities for female athletes and coaches.

- Athlete Scholarships
- Athlete / Coach Travel subsidies
- Tournament Hosting
- Baseball Canada programs
- Other programs
- Equipment

### **Grassroots**

Continued to grow the game at the grassroots level.

- Grow 12U age group across the province
  - Target areas include:
    - Gander
    - Conception Bay South / North

Social Media promotion and advertising

Female Divisions for school tournaments

Female Divisions in invitational tournaments

Female Champion in each association

Encourage / Add more female coaches

Encourage / Add more female officials

Planning (Executive, Champions, Coaches, etc.)

Centers and associations need to ensure some level of short and long-term planning for their female programs as numbers are not as consistent as traditional male numbers and many female champions follow their own kids through the various stages and age groups.



### **High Performance**

Continued to develop and enhance the NL Girls High Performance Program, which included incorporating female Teams in the new overall BNL High Performance Program which was launched in October 2021.

### **Summary**

In summary, 2022 was a very successful year with many highlights:

- Announcement of Female Baseball at the 2025 Canada Games
- Jaida Lee participating in the Canada Games and throwing out the 1<sup>st</sup> Pitch at the Blue Jays game
- Team NL 6<sup>th</sup> place finish and performance at the 16U National Championship
- Team NL Black Bronze Medal at the 14U Atlantic
- Hosting the 21U Women's Championship in St. John's
- Megan Bennett umpiring at the 16U Girls Nationals
- Increased female athletes, coaches and umpires across the province
- Creation of the Women in Baseball NL Network
- Representation (Mark Healy) on the Baseball Canada Female Committee
- Representation (Michelle Healy) on the Baseball Canada Championships Committee
- Representation (Kristyn Coley) on the Baseball Canada Scoring Committee
- Female Provincial Tournaments in 12U, 14U, 16U, 21U
- High Performance Fall/Winter Indoor training in Western and Eastern regions
- Fall/Winter/Spring Female Baseball training in St. John's, Paradise, Grand Falls Windsor and Corner Brook.

Some other highlights that stood out personally for me as Female Baseball Director included:

- Honda Hickman Classic in Grand Falls Windsor
- 16U Developmental Team Invitational tournament
- 21U Provincial Championships played at Jubilee Field
- 21U Provincial team participating in the Mary Tavenor Tournament
- 14U Jr. Female Coaches at the 14U Atlantics
- 14U AA/A Championship games at Little St. Pat's during the 21U Women's Championships
- 16U AA championship game between St. John's and Corner Brook

Like anything, there were some challenges (opportunities for improvement) experienced throughout the year but they were addressed and/or will be addressed accordingly as we continue to plan and to move forward.

Opportunities for Improvement included:

- Continuous rule review (Provincially, Atlantic and National)
- Tournament Formats, Rankings, Placements
- Tournament dates and scheduling
- Grassroots development in existing and new regions

### **Recommendations**

- **BNL:** Continue to invest and update NL Girls Baseball Social Media Platforms:
  - Website [www.nlgirlsbaseball.com](http://www.nlgirlsbaseball.com)
  - Twitter [www.twitter.com/nlgirlsbaseball](http://www.twitter.com/nlgirlsbaseball)
  - Instagram [www.instagram.com/nlgirlsbaseball](http://www.instagram.com/nlgirlsbaseball)
- **BNL:** Maintain “Female Committee” Structure
- **BNL:** Work to identify a “Female Champion” in each association
- **BNL:** Continue to support the Women in Baseball Network
- **BNL:** Continue to evolve and participate in the BNL high-performance program
- **BNL:** Continue to have off-season (Fall / Winter / Spring) training programs
- **BNL:** Work to identify additional sponsorship opportunities for Female Baseball
- **BNL:** Provide funding opportunities for Female Baseball Athletes/Coaches/Managers
  - Hosting grant for Atlantic and National Tournaments
  - Grant and scholarship opportunities for Female players
  - Funding for coaches/managers
- **BNL:** Create and Promote a “Female Baseball Day in NL”
- **BNL:** Continue to host pre-provincial rule sessions
- **Female Committee:** Plan to meet more regularly throughout the year
- **High Performance Committee:** Develop Canada Games plan for female baseball for 2025
- **General:** Associations should ensure coaches are prepared and aware of applicable division rules
- **General:** Associations should try to follow BNL provincial rules when hosting invitational tournaments (where possible)

### **Closing**

It has been my pleasure to continue to serve in the capacity of BNL Female Baseball Chair (Director). Thank You to Executive Director Ryan Garland and the Baseball NL Executive for their trust and support of the Female Baseball committee.

I believe there has been great progress and many achievements over the last few years with tremendous opportunities ahead for Female Baseball.

I am looking forward to continuing to be part of it and contributing.

Yours in Baseball,

---

Mark Healy  
Female Baseball Director, BNL  
709.685.0727

## **2022 PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS**

### **Senior Provincials**

- Senior B: Conception Bay South
- Senior Semifinals: Conception Bay South
- Senior A: St. John's

### **Junior Provincials – St. John's**

#### **11U:**

- AAA: Mount Pearl
- AA: Conception Bay South
- A: St. John's

#### **12U:**

- 12U AA: St. John's
- 12U A: Paradise

#### **13U:**

- AAA: Paradise
- AA: CBS
- A: St. John's

#### **14U Girls:**

- 14U AA: Bay St. George
- 14U A: Paradise

#### **15U:**

- AAA: St. John's
- AA: CBS
- A: St. John's

#### **16U Girls:**

- AA: St. John's

#### **18U:**

- Qualifier: Paradise
- Provincial: Mount Pearl

### **21U Women – Team Burgundy**

## **BASEBALL CANADA CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2022 REVIEW**

### 13U National Atlantic – St. John's, NL

- Team NL 1 (St. John's Capitals)
  - o Round Robin (1 – 2 record)
    - LOSS; 12 – 2 to Port City (NB 2)
    - WIN; 9 – 8 over New Glasgow (NS 2)
    - LOSS; 18 – 5 over Eastern Express (PEI 1)

**OVERALL PLACEMENT – 7<sup>th</sup> (8 teams)**

- Team NL 2 (Paradise Phantoms)
  - o Round Robin (1 – 2 record)
    - WIN; 12 – 10 over Fredericton (NB 1)
    - LOSS; 15 – 4 over Dartmouth (NS 1)
    - LOSS; 8 – 4 over Summerside (PEI 2)

**OVERALL PLACEMENT – 8<sup>th</sup> (8 teams)**

### 13U National – Windsor, ON

- Round Robin (0 – 4 record)
  - o LOSS; 19 – 0 to Quebec 2
  - o LOSS; 16 – 3 to Nova Scotia
  - o LOSS; 15 – 0 to Riverside (Host – ON)
  - o LOSS; 10 – 0 to Manitoba
- Placement Round (0 – 1 record)
  - o LOSS; 13 – 1 to PEI

**OVERALL PLACEMENT – 10<sup>th</sup> (10 teams)**

### Ray Carter Cup (15U Nationals) – Saskatoon, SK

- Round Robin (1 – 4 record)
  - o LOSS; 13 – 3 to New Brunswick
  - o LOSS; 17 – 7 to Alberta
  - o LOSS; 13 – 4 to Manitoba
  - o LOSS; 6 – 2 to Nova Scotia
  - o WIN; 6 – 5 over PEI

**OVERALL PLACEMENT – 11<sup>th</sup> (11 teams)**

### 16U Girls National – Summerside, PEI

- Round Robin (4 – 1 record)
  - o WIN; 14 – 4 over Manitoba
  - o LOSS; 19 – 9 to Saskatchewan
  - o WIN; 10 – 0 over New Brunswick
  - o WIN; 18 – 2 over Prince Edward Island
  - o WIN; 13 – 0 over Quebec 2

## BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

- Playoff Round (0 – 2 record)
    - o LOSS; 10 – 3 to British Columbia
    - o LOSS; 13 – 0 to Ontario
- OVERALL PLACEMENT – 6<sup>th</sup> (11 teams)**

### Canada Games – Niagara, ON

- Round Robin (1 – 4 record)
    - o LOSS; 10 – 0 to Manitoba
    - o LOSS; 17 – 7 to Alberta
    - o LOSS; 5 – 3 to PEI
    - o WIN; 9 – 7 over New Brunswick
    - o LOSS; 7 – 0 to Quebec
  - Placement Round (0 – 1 record)
    - o LOSS; 10 – 0 to PEI
- OVERALL PLACEMENT – 10<sup>th</sup> (10 teams)**

### 18U National – Fort McMurray, AB

- Round Robin (1 – 3 record)
    - o LOSS; 11 – 0 to Manitoba
    - o LOSS; 23 – 1 to New Brunswick
    - o LOSS; 12 – 0 to Saslatchewan
    - o WIN; 8 – 4 over Nova Scotia
  - Placement Round (0 – 1 record)
    - o LOSS; 7 – 1 to Nova Scotia
- OVERALL PLACEMENT – 10<sup>th</sup> (10 teams)**

### 21U Women National – St. John's, NL

- Round Robin (0 – 3 record)
    - o LOSS; 20 – 17 to Manitoba
    - o LOSS; 12 – 1 to Saskatchewan
    - o LOSS; 17 – 0 to British Columbia
  - Placement Round (0 – 1 record)
    - o LOSS; 21 – 0 to Manitoba
- OVERALL PLACEMENT – 7<sup>th</sup> (7 teams)**

### Senior Men – Sydney, NS

- Round Robin (1 – 2 record)
    - o WIN; 4 – 3 over Sydney (Host – NS)
    - o LOSS; 16 – 14 to British Columbia (10 innings)
    - o LOSS; 5 – 0 to New Brunswick
  - Playoff Round (0 – 1 record)
    - o LOSS; 3 – 0 to Nova Scotia
- OVERALL PLACEMENT – 6<sup>th</sup> (8 teams)**

# BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

## MINUTES

### BASEBALL NL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

CAPITAL HOTEL – ST. JOHN’S

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#### 1. ROLL CALL

Delegates:	Ken Curtis	St. John’s Minor Baseball	
	Susan Skiffington	Mount Pearl Minor Baseball	
	Todd Powell	CBS Kiwanis Minor Baseball	
	Nick Mercer	Baseball CBN	
	Sam Oliver	Paradise Minor Baseball	
	Michael Burns	Grand Falls Windsor Minor Baseball	
	Jason Mosher	Pasadena Minor Baseball	
	Darren Hancock	Corner Brook Minor Baseball	
	Kerry Chaisson	Bay St. George Minor Baseball	
	Mark Healy	St. John’s Amateur Baseball	
	Greg Williams	Mount Pearl Junior/Senior Baseball	
	David Coates	CBS Junior Baseball	
	Justin Kelly	Gander Junior/Senior Baseball	
	Chris Davis	Grand Falls Windsor Junior/Senior Baseball	
	Brian Sansome	Corner Brook Junior/Senior Baseball	
Executive:	Kevin Legge	President	
	Kevin McCarthy	Vice President	
	Joe Fowler	Treasurer	
	Kristyn Coley	Metro Director	
	David Coates	Eastern Director	
	Kevin Higgins	Central Director	
	Jason Mosher	Western Director	
Staff:	Ryan Garland	Executive Director	
Observers:	Mark Jones	Jamie Jenkins	Melissa Flynn
	Christine Rowe	Bob Morgan	Leon Ledgister
	Fred Zillman	Aaron Flood	Heather Russell

#### 2. PRESIDENT’S WELCOME

President Kevin Legge welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for making the effort and commitment to attending the meeting. He also noted particular thanks to everyone in attendance for making 2021 successful given the challenges that COVID-19 once again brought everyone. He particularly highlighted the changes from 2020’s COVID season, and noted that he hoped 2022 continued in the same positive trend toward a true return to normal that 2021 offered.

**3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Kevin Legge asked for a review of the minutes from the November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 Annual General Meeting and, if there were no objections, asked for a motion to adopt the minutes as presented.

**MOTION: Higgins/Mercer**

To adopt the minutes from the November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 Annual General Meeting as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes to address.

**5. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Treasurer Joe Fowler then gave an update on the financial situation for the 2021 season

- Joe noted the overall expected net income for the fiscal year – approximately \$58,000
  - o Joe also noted that in a normal year, this would likely be closer to \$40,000 but with the cancellation of many travel events, including the Baseball Canada Convention, this was the reason for the increase in the income projections.
- Joe also noted that there were some monies held in Baseball NL accounts for various provincial teams and programs, and that the chequing account balance of \$324,472.05 should be about \$105,000 lower to reflect the true “cash on hand” balance
- Leon Ledgister asked about future investments given the five (5) GIC’s Baseball NL opened in 2018. Joe noted that another was set to mature next year. Once this matures, Joe mentioned that it would be reinvested at a new value of \$25,000. This would give Baseball NL three GICs valued at \$25,000 and two GICs valued at \$15,000

As there were no further questions, a motion was made to accept the financial statement.

**MOTION: Mercer/Higgins**

To accept the financial statement as presented.

**CARRIED**

**6. REPORTS**

Ryan Garland then briefly ran through the Registration and Challenger Baseball reports and offered each Baseball NL committee chairperson the opportunity to recap anything in their report that was not covered during either of their Workshop sessions from Saturday. All committee chairs did not wish to elaborate further.

**7. AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION**

There were several amendments to the Articles of the Constitution. These amendments were made a result of changes to the operations of Baseball NL in recent years that were not updated in the Constitution. These changes also included changes to the constitution that

were necessary after the structural changes to Baseball NL following the Strategy and Planning Committee's review and changes from 2019.

Ryan reviewed each of the amendments with attendees and, after some brief discussion and changes to certain amendments, a motion was asked for to adopt the changes as presented (note – as a special motion this required a two-thirds majority vote from delegates and current executive members).

MOTION: McCarthy/Mosher  
To adopt the changes to the Baseball NL Constitution as presented.  
**CARRIED**

#### **8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

For the Election of Officers, Ryan noted the three (3) positions that were up for election in 2020 – Vice President, Western Director and Metro Director. Kevin Legge (President), Joe Fowler (Treasurer), David Coates (Eastern Director), and Kevin Higgins (Central Director) all accepted the second year of their two-year terms voted in 2020.

Prior to the Election of Officers taking place, it was noted that incumbent Vice President Kevin McCarthy would not be seeking re-election. Kevin Legge thanked Kevin McCarthy on behalf membership for his 19 years of service to Baseball NL and wished him well in the future.

As there were no other questions, the Election of Officers then took place:

President – Kevin Legge

Vice President – Jason Mosher

Treasurer – Joe Fowler

Metro Director – Kristyn Coley

Eastern Director – David Coates

Central Director – Kevin Higgins

Western Director – Darren Hancock

#### **9. NEW BUSINESS**

##### ***Coaching***

There was no new business to discuss

##### ***Umpiring***

Umpire Chairperson Mark Jones noted two changes that were coming to the Level I and II umpire clinic program for the 2022 season. The first would see a pre- and post-clinic online session coupled with an on-field session in between both online sessions.



The second change is to the eligibility requirements for an interested participant to take the Level I clinic for the first time. Currently, interested participants must be 14 years old (or turning 14 years old in that year) in order to be eligible. In 2022, the age will be lowered to 11 years old (or turning 11 years old in that year). After successful trials in Ontario, this is being done to increase retention rates as umpires continue to get older. Baseball Ontario found that the age change means prospective umpires are progressing through the Level I and II programs faster, meaning that when they turn 15 and 16 years old, they are more advanced in the umpire clinic program and find it more interesting and, as a result, tend to stay with the program and wish to achieve their Level III certification.

### ***Junior/Senior***

Junior/Senior Chairperson Nick Mercer then briefed everyone on the discussion from the Saturday workshop for both Junior and Senior divisions. In the Junior division, there were three work items for the new committee to take and review:

- Host rotation for the 22U Provincials
- Roster eligibility
- Tournament format

In the Senior division, Nick noted that it was decided there would be an independent review of Senior baseball, including format, roster eligibility, hosting, etc. Though this review was agreed upon by all delegates, there was one motion brought to the floor from the meeting

#### **MOTION: Mosher/Williams**

Any junior player that is on a junior roster for that association is automatically protected at the Senior level for that same association

After the wording of the motion was agreed upon, Mark Jones asked what the necessity of the motion was given the Senior baseball review that was to come. Through discussion and agreement between Jason Mosher and Greg Williams, it was decided that this motion would be **WITHDRAWN** and any motions pertaining to Senior baseball would wait until the Semi-Annual Meeting once the review was completed.

### ***Minor***

There was no new business to discuss

### ***Female***

Female Chairperson Mark Healy noted that while there were no motions from the Saturday workshop, there were two work items from the workshop that the new committee would be tasked with looking at

- Compiling and analyzing the feedback from the workshop's facilitated activity

## **BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

- Reviewing the gap between the 16U and 21U Provincials and investigating the feasibility for another Provincial Championship in between both ages.

Mark also mentioned a Gender Equity toolbox from Baseball Canada that he would be making available to all female baseball stakeholders.

### ***High Performance & Provincial Teams***

There was no new business to discuss

### ***Baseball Canada & Baseball Atlantic***

Ryan Garland noted that the 2021 Baseball Canada Convention was cancelled as an in-person event, but similar to 2020, a virtual workshop would take place over November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> that was available to anyone in the country. If anyone is interested, they can contact register via Baseball Canada.

Ryan also discussed Baseball Atlantic events and informed attendees that the 2021 Annual General Meeting for Baseball Atlantic had been postponed until April 2022.

### ***Hall of Fame***

Ryan Garland noted that nominations for the Baseball NL Hall of Fame Class of 2021 were now being accepted with a deadline of Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### ***Other Business***

David Coates requested that Baseball NL research the process of team composition for the three Atlantic Provinces – NS, NB and PEI – for their representatives at Baseball Atlantic events.

Mark Healy asked for background on why the Hall of Fame class of 2021 was not included in the Awards Night and then noted that the Hall of Fame should be accepting nominations earlier in the year so inductees could be a part of the Awards Night festivities.

Greg Williams asked if it was still necessary for the 18U Qualifier and Provincial to be held as separate events. Greg noted that while the initial desire for two events was to increase baseball at the 18U level for smaller associations, there were no attendees from smaller associations at either of 2021's events. Kristyn Coley mentioned that while this was true, COVID-19 was still a factor and that prior to the onset of the pandemic, there was representation from eight teams at 2019 18U events. The new Minor Committee was then tasked with reviewing the 18U competition structure for 2022, with the goal of keeping two tournaments but possibly altering the meaning of the tournaments.

Ken Curtis then asked if it was possible to add the Extra Hitter (EH) rule to 18U play, along with the Designated Hitter (DH) that is already used at the 18U level. It was noted that the Minor Committee would review this, as well.

10. ADJOURNMENT

As there was nothing else to address, Kevin Legge called for a motion to adjourn the 2021 Baseball NL Annual General Meeting

MOTION: Oliver/Mosher  
To adjourn the 2021 Baseball NL AGM  
**CARRIED**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

At the 2021 Baseball NL Awards Reception on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the annual award winners for the 2021 season were announced as follows:

**Minor Male Player of the Year** – Hudson White (St. John's)  
**Minor Female Player of the Year** – Jaida Lee (St. John's)  
**Minor Coach of the Year** – Mark Healy (St. John's)  
**Minor Umpire of the Year** – Jamie Hillier (St. John's)  
**Senior/Junior Player of the Year** – Dylan MacKenzie (St. John's)  
**Senior/Junior Coach of the Year** – Sean Gulliver (St. John's)  
**Senior/Junior Umpire of the Year** – Dave Buckingham (St. John's)  
**Les Noseworthy Memorial Award** – Colin Rose (Paradise)