

Baseball Nova Scotia AGM Minutes – May 7th, 2023

- (1) Call to order
 - a. Called to order at 1:08 by Andrew Downs
- (2) Establishment of Quorum
 - a. We do have Quorum.
- (3) Approval of agenda
 - a. AD moved to approve agenda
 - i. Joe Young approved
 - ii. Brian Second seconded
 - b. Approved
- (4) Approval of minutes from the previous annual general meeting, including all business arising from those minutes
 - a. Agenda posted on site
 - b. No lasting items
 - c. Motion to approve
 - i. Mark Raftus approved
 - ii. Chris Hatchard seconded
 - d. Approved
- (5) Executive and board reports
 - a. President
 - i. 2022 was a busy year, with strategic planning session being held in Fall
 - ii. Copy of strat plan distributed today
 - iii. Recreational committee met coming out of those sessions
 - iv. Baseball Canada is in process of restructuring the board. Is currently a representative board (from each province) and board may be more skill set based, with official, athlete and coach representatives. Provincial presidents will then become a President's Council
 - v. Baseball Atlantic AGM was yesterday with a few procedural changes – scheduling updates, updates re: 18U kids on rosters, in Atlantic events the host team does now have to play the host schedule
 - vi. Looking forward to another busy and exciting schedule
 - b. Tyler
 - i. Introduced Christian Vogler
 - ii. Referenced roles being adjusted to account for the addition of Christian and Katie Hagen into the office
 - c. Mike Crawford
 - i. Female baseball had a good year, and expecting growth again in other players and coaches (offering female only coaches clinics as well)
 - ii. Representation in Bluenose will be growing
 - d. Joel
 - i. Referenced target of 450 umpires

- ii. Explained the Green Arm Band initiative, where green arm bands will be given to all umpires who are aged 2005-2011.
 - 1. It is age based versus experience based. Some hesitancy from older age groups. Example given re: Safe Sport requires age for complaints versus experience
 - 2. Stems from verbal abuse over the past year.
 - 3. Penalties within discipline grid have been updated to consider the green arm band (6.3.2 of the grid)
 - 4. Communications will be provided to associations
- (6) Approval of the financial statements of BNS
 - a. Handouts referenced
 - b. Financial statement
 - i. We are currently running a small surplus this year (noted that this reconciliation needs to be finalized)
 - ii. \$81K in the bank as of the end of March – could be more to be collected, but small amount of expenses to be paid out as well.
 - iii. Referenced Covid loan on the statement, which we are paying in the next few weeks. It shows as \$40,000 but we will be keeping \$10k. Covid did not drastically impact our operations, so we were lucky financially.
 - iv. Referenced GIC on the statement, which we will be renewing for a year.
 - v. MB - Motion to accept financial statement as presented as draft pending final review.
 - 1. Seconded by Glenna Ingram
 - 2. Motion carried
 - c. Budget for this year
 - i. We did increase hosting stipends for provincials (will show in handbook)
 - ii. No questions about the budget
 - iii. MB - Motion to accept budget for 2023/24 as presented
 - 1. Seconded by Chris Zinck
 - 2. Motion carried
- (7) Election of auditor and/or audit committee for the next fiscal year if determined necessary or desirable by the members
 - a. Sport organizations are facing more scrutiny on their budgets
 - i. Our grants are dependent on this transparency
 - b. Proposing that MB and Tyler Fancy will secure an auditor to review financial statements and report back to the board in October (we are looking for a CPA)
 - c. We are looking at a one-time, but will establish process moving forward
- (8) Consideration of any business specified in the meeting notice
 - a. Opening up the floor
 - b. Question re: status of play 9, bat 9 at 13U and it was clarified this was not moving forward.
 - c. NCCP updates – courses are coming online now and Brandon requested that they be notified now for scheduling of course hosting.

- i. Will be offering hybrid courses to make participation more straight-forward. Will be able to get credit for 5 courses in two nights. Trying to give coaches more time back.
 - ii. We will determine how to reconcile existing coaching certifications in this hybrid model.
 - d. Cory and summer student will be available to do rally cap clinics (referenced Toronto sponsorship)
 - e. We received an update on SafeSport and there will be a new 3rd party reporting system that would handle any issues with complaints logged against the UCCMS rules. The investigation will be handled outside of BNS, and we would only be responsible for carrying out sanctions (for issues or allegations).
 - i. Timeline is blurry, but will not be available this season.
 - ii. Members will need to sign waiver agreeing to this (easiest through RAMP)
 - iii. For this year, for issues that come up, we will be able to use Baseball Canada's third party. There may be delays on this.
 - iv. Joe Young noted the importance of the communication of findings as well.
 - f. Re: general requirements for background checks, BG clarified that we are looking for criminal record checks, but noted that other associations consider Vulnerable Sector Check as well (Truro example).
 - g. Provincial championship / Bluenose – we now have a structure that every team that registers must play a minimum number of games (3) – these teams will have paid the same fee as the team accessing a full-season. Every team in the provincial championships will have played.
 - h. Question re: increase in membership fees
 - i. Noted that the notice went out in December
 - ii. Insurance has gone up, registration system was an increased cost, needed to increase capacity at office
 - iii. Noted all players were given the increase and we had a committee struck to deal with this

(9) Election of Executive

- a. Operations
 - i. Tyler Fancy – appointed as VP Operations
- b. Finance
 - i. Mike Beamish – appointed as Finance

(10) Adjournment

- a. Adjourned at 1:58