



2022 Baseball PEI Fall Forum Agenda and Discussion

Saturday, October 22, 2022
Royalty Center, Charlottetown
Room 158

1. Welcome – the Forum began at 10am.
2. Strategic Planning exercise 30 mins
 - a. Members were walked through the criteria for each category in a S.W.O.T analysis.
 - b. Members were divided into groups of 3-4 and participated in the S.W.O.T survey process.
 - c. The ED collected all information and added it to submissions made by associations ahead of time to be used for Strategic Planning exercise by BOD for 2023-2027 draft.
3. Zones 15 min
 - a. What does the data say?
 - i. Fulsome discussion about the strengths and challenges around the current zone system. Arguments made for the following:
 1. Easter zone is too strong – need to rezone this area.
 2. Population trends have more to do with why any one zone dominates over time, and this is random and can't be predicted.
 3. The data is not consistent, and the zone is not as successful in all divisions as suggested.
 - ii. **OUTCOME:** we will not change the zones at this time.
4. Transfer Policy 10 mins
 - a. Much discussion around the AAA player movement and how to mitigate this or make it unpalatable to anyone who is association “shopping” to find stronger teams.
 - b. Recommendation to the BOD that policy be built that is very clear and strong that this will not be tolerated without consequence.

5. 9U division 10mins
- a. Structure options
 - i. Continued dialog around the creation of a “AA” 9U division for the players who are stronger surfaced.
 - b. LTAD recommendations
 - i. Competition focus is not supported by the BBC LTAD recommendations in this age group.
 - ii. An ad-hoc group will be formed. The ED will gather what other provinces do with this division, other models, and seek expert recommendations for 8–9-year-old development.
 - iii. The ED will present viable options to the Ad-Hoc for a recommendation to the BOD when complete.
6. AAA, AA, A Divisions 12 mins
- a. Selection process/timing
 - i. Associations encouraged to be timely with selections so players who do not make a AAA team in the larger zones have the opportunity to attend tryouts in neighboring zones.
 - b. Selection committees
 - i. BBC recommending that defensible process be followed for athlete selections and that LSO’s have evaluators in place who have no vested interest in the outcome of selections.
 - ii. The Summerside selection policy was brought up as an exemplar and will be shared with LSO’s if they want to use this language for their own policy creation.
 - c. Length of schedule
 - i. More time needed for break at end of league before championships start – past season was pushed back due to hockey going 2 weeks later which cramped all the league play for this year.
7. Calendar 20 mins
- a. Timing of Championships/Atlantics
 - i. If possible BPEI could leave more space between the championships for rest and recovery for pitchers

- b. Provincials
 - i. Ensuring we stagger the championships so that the umpires who will officiate lower levels are not playing on the same weekends.
 - ii. Some provincials were too big – host sites were hard to find, and the number of teams made it hard to coordinate.
 - iii. Recommendation that an Ad-Hoc work at building possible tiering structure options for next year and make recommendations back to the BOD.
 - iv. Discussion around the west to east seeding that is used vs. actual league play “counting” towards seeding. This will be considered overall in the new championship model to be recommended for the coming year.
- 8. Hosting proposal 10 mins
 - a. Several options that would encourage hosts to bid for provincials were suggested:
 - i. Schedule revolving zones and each zone must host certain championships each year on a rotation.
 - ii. Incentivize hosting by offering more money to the host
 - iii. Create a smaller championship model that would allow more options for hosts with only one field or no lights to bid for a tournament.
 - b. The ED will work with the BOD to determine the best solution for next year – and was advised that option #1 above was the least favorite of the membership.
- 9. Tiering of large divisions 10 mins
 - i. The mid-season tiering pilot for 13U A was not popular. Lots of challenges – break in schedule, nobody could plan for the 2nd half of the schedule until it was drafted. Members want an alternative approach to this for 2023.
 - ii. The ED will work with the BOD to determine a better option for 2023.
- b. ½ way vs. for provincials

- i. This option of just tiering for provincials and not for league play was popular and will be considered by the BOD as a pilot for this coming year.

10.Coach Development

10 mins

a. After NCCP work

- i. It was discussed that just taking the NCCP modules was not enough to support proper coach development. Members would like more support at the grassroots level.
- ii. The ED and Skills Development Director will make recommendations for options to the BOD for consideration.