

*The Official Home Of*  
**DARTMOUTH MINOR BASEBALL**



**Minutes of the DDMBA Annual General Meeting  
Monday, November 10, 2020  
Mic Mac Aquatic Club**

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<b>DDMBA Representatives</b>	<b>Carl Poirier, President Kevin Murphy, Vice President Tammy Mariner Hartlin, Registrar Jim Scott, Treasurer James Aalders, Cole Harbour President Jason Lombard, Eastern Passage President Chris Cluett, Diamond Dawgs President Albert Sarracini, Humber Park President Lori Arnold, Porters Lake President Brian Secord, BNS Re</b>
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**Calling the Meeting to Order:** Carl Poirier called AGM to order at 6:30 p.m.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to Approve Agenda: Ken Zwicker & Tammy Mariner

**2. Approval of minutes from 2019 AGM**

Motion to approve last year's AGM Minutes: Chris Cluett & Todd Webb

**3. Review actions from last AGM**

- a. A student was not hired this season due to the COVID pandemic.
- b. There was no All Star Team due to the COVID pandemic.
- c. Winter Camps were held at the Dome and hosted by the Dry.
- d. Looking to schedule 2020-21 Camps
  - Tentatively scheduled Saturdays 2-4pm
  - U11 and below 2-3pm
  - U13 and up 3-4pm

#### 4. Presidents Report

- a. A special 'thank you' to Kevin Murphy for his leadership and perseverance in getting the 2020 Season going. Kevin is responsible for the fact that we had a 2020 season.
- b. Another 'thank you' to Chris Cluett and Jamie Alders for a great job on the recreational season that went until the end of September even having a playoff.
- c. Finally, a 'thank you' for the divisional presidents and DDMBA executives for their hard work getting the season moving and going in the midst of the COVID pandemic. Everyone is hopeful that next year be back to normal.

#### 5. Divisional Reports

##### a. **Diamond Dawgs**

- Did conditioning until end of June until approval for games
- Kids had a good year for starting late
- Would like to see more coaching help for coaches

##### b. **Porter's Lake**

- COVID pandemic played havoc on their registration numbers
- Only had 2 teams in recreational and an 18U A team
- Thanks Humber Park & Cole Harbour for taking Porter Lake kids into their organization

##### c. **Humber Park**

- Thanked everyone for all the hard work on getting the season started
- Only had 2 teams but the kids had fun

##### d. **Cole Harbour**

- Good Season. Had everything ready before the go ahead.
- Kids had a fun year!
- Everything went smooth
- Had a coach's appreciation again this year with softball game & dinner, drinks.

##### e. **Arrows / Competitive**

- Competitive tryouts – tried a new process which worked somewhat better but due to the COVID pandemic did not have enough time for on-field games.
- Need to have more time on the field for games before teams are picked.
- **Bantam AA** – Ken Zwicker had 29 games in for the season till end of September. Travelled to Yarmouth & Cape Breton
- **Midget AA** – Brian Secord had 21 games in 6 weeks plus practices. Good Season

- **Mosquito** – Craig reported a good year for development to different positions with 16-17 games. Pitcher & Catcher development. Craig feels evaluations is hard to do and feels that players should not be given an option for tryout level

## 6. General Discussion

- Competitive skill levels were good but need more game time like the Midget's did
- Carl Poirier commented that kids getting parked (not having to try-out) for the season needs to be reviewed
- Use the Moosehead Dry more! Make them aware of what DDMBA is expecting – especially if they are being paid or are fundraising
- Ken Zwicker felt that it is concerning using the Dry as they don't know the kids like the coaches do. Ken did his homework by going to practices and games all season seeing players that will be moving up to his level coaching to be prepared for next season's tryouts. Carl noted that tryouts are meant to see kids without previous bias or being penalized for previous seasons. Players can improve in off season if they went to camps etc...
- Although the small tryout groups were beneficial, the second set of tryouts didn't go the way it should have. There should be more games and kept impartial with focus kept on ranking kids.  
It was brought up that the DDMBA should make some profit from winter camps to help out for the competitive teams' tryouts
- Brian Secord suggested that the AAA coaches be named early to help out with the winter camps and tryouts
- Susan Sparks remarked that some motivated kids can develop strong skills over the winter year and their evaluation should not just be left up the previous years' coaches to say whether a child makes the team. Susan also believes that previous year's game stats could be used in the tryout process. Concern was raised that not everyone knows how to properly keep stats and there can be inconsistencies
- Year-end coaches' evaluations should be done for the next year coaches of players.
- Concern was raised that the competitive league still has to have change and that too much attention of the DDMBA is given to the Arrows.
- Chris Cluett observed that recreational teams need to be balanced first instead of looking at development first. Once the teams are balanced in skill set then you look at your development for recreational.
- Brian Secord informed everyone that this year's coaching course is free thru BNS
- Craig said he know some of the older kids who have aged out from higher level ball are looking to help out coaches. He has upwards of 6 names that would be interested in assisting recreational ball teams.
- Susan Sparks said that DDMBA needs more females for coaches and assistant coaches
- Sydney Bricombe says that some of the 21U girls would be interested.
- James Alders felt that DDMBA failed the recreational league this year. DDMBA Executive is supposed to run the league and it was totally left to the divisional

executive. He also felt that DDMBA is overly focused around the Arrows league and not the recreational league. It was noted that the recreational coordinator role was not filled and there was nobody there to run the rec league/playoffs. It was also noted that the competitive league did their own scheduling without help from the Executive, similar to rec.

## 7. Treasurer's Report

- a. Jim Scott to offer the members a breakdown of expenses for the year. He has everything linked up to Wave account. Action: ***Jim to send out statement with more detail.***
- b. Budget figures will be approved later this year due to the COVID pandemic. This will be before season next year.
- c. Susan Sparks expressed concerns that have been raised by parents that they can't afford to pay the additional Arrows costs so that is why some elite players end up playing A with their home division because they don't have the additional Arrows costs. It was noted that A typically has the most travel and can incur the most team costs. AAA/AA teams are usually local therefore should be lower costs.
- d. There was discussion regarding competitive fees. Carl Poirier stated that the Arrows fee was eliminated this year and there was agreement that this should continue.

## 8. Registrar's Report

- a. Tammy Mariner advised that there were 644 kids registered for the 2020 season
  - **Recreational & A** - 531 total
  - **Arrows** – 113 total (AAA, AA and 1 A team)
  - **Cole Harbour** - 291 total (11UA, 13UA and 18UA)
  - **Diamond Dawgs** – 167 total
  - **Porters Lake** - 50 total (18UA)
  - **Humber Park** - 23 total
- b. The registration process had to be a bit more flexible this year because of the COVID pandemic.
- c. There were some significant time wasters where players were registered as recreational even though they were trying out for A teams. All agreed that it needs to be clear that registration is filled out correctly at time of registration.
- d. There should be two separate registrations for recreational & competitive.
- e. The registration should start earlier this upcoming year to help out.

## 9. Baseball Nova Scotia Report (BNS)

- a. BNS is now having a U22 team which would be a combination of A/AA for recreational players for after finishing up 18U years
- b. Hopeful that we will return to normal play next season but if not, it would be the same back to play plan as this past season
- c. The decision will be made in March 2021 for Nationals if it will happen. Dartmouth/Halifax is hosting this year.

- d. BNS put forward maybe cutting down the BNS league to a month but that was shot down.
- e. The players making the U17 select team is Ty Doucette, Matt Grabmann, Matt Hoskins, Ryan MacDonald, and Kole Miller

## 10. DDMBA Nomination for Positions

### a. Open Positions

- Recreational Coordinator – No candidates
- Competitive Coordinator – No candidates
- Secretary – No candidates
  
- Kevin Murphy suggested a subcommittee for Recreational. Perhaps 1 member from each association.
- Sydney Bricombe would be interested in the Rec Coordinator position if it is a paid position. Rainouts would be on weekends and she will only reschedule once. She wanted to know more details. **Action: Carl Poirier to follow-up with Sydney Bricombe regarding the Recreational Coordinator Position.**
- Members said that if Rec Coordinator is going to be a paid position then the Rep Coordinator should be as well
- Colin Bush offered to help with the Rep Coordinator. He also suggested he may know experienced coaches willing to coach at Competitive level. Colin to talk to his contacts to apply for positions when posted.
- Donnie MacDonald is planning to stay on as the treasurer for the Arrows. **Action: Carl Poirier to follow-up with Colin and Donnie regarding the Competitive Coordinator Position.**
- Susan Sparks offered to help with something as she retires in May 2021 – perhaps the Secretary or Competitive helper. **Action: Carl Poirier to follow-up with Susan Sparks regarding the Secretary or Competitive helper.**

### b. Returning Positions

- Registrar – Tammy Mariner – Motion to approve: Susan Sparks and Brian Secord
- Treasurer – Jim Scott – Motion to approve: Chris Cluett and Ken Zwicker
- Vice President – Kevin Murphy – Motion to approve: Ken Zwicker and Susan Sparks
- President – Carl Poirier – Motion to approve: Colin Bush and Todd Webb

## 11. Open Floor Discussion

- a. Lorri Arnold requested that the DDMBA Divisional Presidents become full members of the DDMBA executive with voting rights instead of an associated member. **Action: Carl Poirier to follow-up on the process to amend the DDMBA constitution Position to enable this to happen.** The constitution has needed to be updated for many areas as it is old and does not have all the things that should be in it. **Tammy Mariner to contact Mark Raftus to see if the one on the website is the DDMBA's only copy. .**

- b. Sydney Bricombe will continue with her Social Media role with Donnie MacDonald's guidance.

**Adjournment:** Carl Poirier adjourned the AGM at 8:19 p.m