**ELSA AGM**

# Tuesday, October 1, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

# Drivewyze - 5425 Calgary Trail NW, Edmonton

1. **Call to order at 7:10pm**
* 6 teams in attendance: Warriors, Shaleburn, Thunder, Royals, Havoc, Hurricanes
	+ 4 teams missing: ISGA Diamonds, Sherwood Park Storm U17A, Alexander Rampage, Stingers
* Executive Members in attendance: Allana, Jamie, Erin, Cassi
	+ Regrets: Diane
1. **Minutes of 2019 Annual General Meeting**

**Moved by Cassi, seconded Jamie to adopt the 2023 AGM minutes as reported. CARRIED.**

1. **Business arising from the minutes** – Nothing to report.
2. **Presidents Report** – Reported by Allana
* Thanked teams in attendance and for the executive members hard work throughout the season; wish current secretary Leanne well as she has decided to no let her name stand for a future term.
* Will only roll over 75% of diamonds from previous year; this was a pilot project this year, but will now continue for the future.
* We were able to pick up most of the remaining 25%
	+ Continuing to struggle for diamond time with the City of Edmonton as there are minor and other groups also wanting to use the diamond space
		- Diane plans to reach out to baseball and see if they are willing to start their bookings 15 minutes earlier.

Congratulations to the following teams on their performance this season:

Division Standings:

First Place – Warriors, Second Place – Shaleburn, Third Place – Alexander Storm

Provincial Medalists:

U17AW – Gold Medal – Sherwood Park Storm

Intermediate B – Bronze Medal – Warriors

Intermediate C – 4th Place – Edm Stingers

Western Canadians

U17AW – Gold Medal – Sherwood Park Storm

1. **Treasurer’s Report** – Reported by Allana
* We have an account balance of **$35,855.89**, with $18,624.90 in our General account and $17,231.00 in our Special Events account.
* No longer renting office space from Softball Alberta, only being used as storage for a nominal fee, saving approximately $900
* Continued to manage the Program Coordinator position within the executive, saving $5000
* Continued use of prepaid cell phone for the 3 months of the season, rather than paying for a full year of service
* An increase of the Performance Bond to $300 was voted on at the 2023 AGM and will be implemented for the 2025 season (increase from $200)
* Low registration for 2024 season (10 teams, compared to 15 in 2023 and 26 teams pre-covid in 2019); only ran a single division
	+ Working with GEMSA to help recruit players who are aging out of the minor system
* Re-establishment of the Ice Breaker weekend as a stand alone tournament helped the bottom line
	+ Made a profit of $916.92, even though the tournament was cancelled after Friday due to poor air quality
	+ 24 teams over 2 divisions
	+ Will continue tournament again next year and potentially looking at expanding the number of teams and divisions
* Kernals popcorn fundraiser profited $1986.84
* Our current Umpire contract has expired at the close of the 2024 season; the new contract will be discussed and signed in December. We could potentially be looking at further increases, but won’t know until the discussions take place
* With some big expense reductions, the addition off the stand alone tournament and fundraising push, we’ve improved our financials and have moved from a loss to a profit model; we’re very proud of what we have accomplished and am sure we’ll continue to improve and recoup lost funds in the coming years
* Looking at fundraising ideas:
	+ Potential for 2nd tournament in Leduc
	+ Other easy fundraising ideas? Please speak to your board.

**Moved by Erin, seconded by Cassi to accept the Financial Report as presented. CARRIED.**

1. **Notice of Motion and Amendments to Operating Rules for 2025**

**Amendment 1**

Submitted by: ELSA Executive

Reference: Number 11 (Defaults), Letter D

Motion: Update the amount of time required to give notice of a pre-determined game postponement or cancellation from two (2) weeks to sixteen (16) days.

*Currently written as: Any requests to postpone a game must be in writing and submitted to the program coordinator a minimum of two (2) weeks in advance*

Amended to: Any requests to postpone a game must be in writing and submitted to the program coordinator a minimum of sixteen (16) days in advance and will be ruled on by the ELSA executive.

Rationale: To be in line with the amount of lead time required by the City of Edmonton to cancel a diamond slot without penalty (16 days notice).

**Amendment 2**

Submitted by: ELSA Executive

Reference: Number 11, Letter E

Motion: Increase the fine amount from $100 to $150 for teams defaulting with less than one (1) weeks notice.

*Currently written as: Defaulting with less than one (1) week of notice will have a fine of $100.00, whether or not the time slot can be filled. …*

Amended to: Defaulting with less than one (1) week of notice will have a fine of $150.00, whether or not the time slot can be filled. …

Rationale: To align with the cancellation fees charged to ELSA by the City of Edmonton when a diamond slot is cancelled with less than the sixteen (16) days notice required by them.

**Amendment 3**

Submitted by: ELSA Executive

Reference: Number 11, Letter F

Motion: Increase the fine amount from $25 to $50 for teams defaulting with more than one (1) weeks notice; with the additional fee if slot cannot be filled increased from $20 to $50.

*Currently written as: Defaulting with more than one (1) week notice will have a fine of $25, whether or not the time slot can be filled. An additional fine of $20 will be applied if the time slot is not able to be filled. This fine shall be taken off of the defaulting team’s bond.*

Amended to: Defaulting with more than one (1) week notice will have a fine of $50, whether or not the time slot can be filled. An additional fine of $50 will be applied if the time slot is not able to be filled. This fine shall be taken off of the defaulting team’s bond.

Rationale: To align with the cancellation fees charged to ELSA by the City of Edmonton when a diamond slot is cancelled with less than the sixteen (16) days notice required by them.

**Amendment 4**

Submitted by: ELSA Executive

Reference: Number 11, Letter F i

Motion: Revise the pre-arranged default notice from one (1) week to sixteen (16) days.

*Currently written as: For a pre-arranged default, one (1) week of notice is required. Teams that give adequate notice will not be subject to the fine outlined in Rule 11, Section E.*

Amended to: For a pre-arranged default, sixteen (16) days of notice is required. Teams that give adequate notice will not be subject to the fine outlined in Rule 11, Section E.

Rationale: To align with the cancellation notice required by the City of Edmonton when a diamond slot is cancelled to not incur a cancellation fine.

**Amendment 5**

Submitted by: ELSA Executive

Reference: Number 16, Letter D

Motion: Include a notation that team volunteer requirements for the annual Ice Breaker tournament are not tied in with the fundraising bond; this requirement is mandatory and will be subject to a fine for those teams who do NOT supply their allotted volunteers.

*Currently written as: Not currently defined in the operating rules.*

Addition (D i): All teams will be required to supply two (2) volunteers during the annual Ice Breaker tournament, which will be scheduled by ELSA. Failure to do so will result in a $200 fine, unless otherwise discussed and authorized by ELSA Executive.

Rationale: To ensure adequate coverage during the tournament and support the ELSA in its revenue initiatives. This tournament is the primary supplemental revenue stream for the league and is not considered as a team fundraiser opportunity; therefore it will no longer be tied with the Fundraising Bond submitted upon registration and will illicit a fine for those teams who choose not to fulfill their commitment.

1. **Election for New Executive**
* Officer positions up for election (2-year terms):
	+ Vice President (Cassie to let her name stand, she stepped into the role in an “off” year due to vacancy) **CARRIED**
	+ Secretary (vacant)
		- No nominations from the floor; Jamie will cover this position until a replacement is found. **CARRIED**
	+ Facility Chairperson (Diane Leeder to let her name stand, but would like if someone would step in to co-chair.)
		- No further nominations from the floor. **CARRIED**
1. **New Business**
* Open call for help with fundraising and tournament

**Discussion on 2025 Season:**

**Options for Open field slots:**

* Retuning any “unfilled” slots after schedule is made back to the city may cause us to lose the slot in the future
* ELSA teams use for practice – cost TBD
* Reach out to GEMSA & SEMSA to pick up slots for exhibition games or practices
* Reach out to Red Deel Ladies league for potential inter-league play

**Playoffs:** Whether to move forward with playoffs for the 2025 season or to continue only have regular season games scheduled from the start to finish of the season. **Consensus among members was to remain as status quo; this can be revisited in future AGM’s if members would like to re-implement playoffs.**

**Rainouts:** Rainout games will NOT be built into the 2025 schedule; only 2 rainout games were rescheduled in 2024, leaving ELSA to cancel numerous diamond slots and incurring cancellation fees. A few open slots will be worked into the schedule that teams could potentially use for rainouts, but all open slots will be cancelled by ELSA with the City of Edmonton within their 16 day notice requirement.

**New Player List:** Will not be posted to the ELSA website to protect the privacy of players; team reps will have access to the Google Sheet to contact interested players. Please contact ELSA via email to gain access to this.

**Sub Lists:** We are working to make this easier to submit and access, also including a field for position(s) played information. We are looking at allowing individual players to register with ELSA as a ‘SUB ONLY’; need to determine details on how/what to charge them for this. The executive will be discussing this further and will have a solution for the 2025 season.

**Fundraising:**

* Mandatory team volunteers required for Ice Breaker (not tied to bond)
	+ Failure to provide volunteers will result in a fine (which will be included in the 2025 Operating Rules)
	+ These volunteers will be scheduled by the ELSA (not first come, first serve time slots as previously done)
		- Will be scheduled around any teams participating in the tournament, as to not conflict with round robin games
		- Teams can submit a request for a time preference, but we cannot guarantee requests can be fulfilled
* Team Participation in ELSA fundraisers (outside of Ice Breaker)
	+ Bond will be strictly linked to this
	+ Looking at a buyout option (outside of bond)
	+ More team participation equals more fundraising dollars, which means registration costs don’t have to continue to increase
1. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** at 8:06pm