**ELSA FALL MEETING**

**Tuesday, October 3, 2017**

1. **Meeting Called to Order at 7:05PM**

* 23 teams represented
* Executive members in attendance: Corey, Betty, Mary Lou, Allana
  + Regrets: Al, Grant, Marian

1. **Minutes of 2016 Annual General Meeting**

* Adopted as reported

1. **Business arising from the minutes –** Nothing to report
2. **Presidents Report -** Corey reported on behalf of Al

* Thanks to the executive for their continued hard work during the 2017 season, as advised previously, there will be several members stepping down from the board: Betty, Mary Lou, Marian and Al.
  + Mary Lou, thank-you for your many years of service to the league as Treasurer. You have done an amazing job with our finances and the person responsible for the league originally getting a casino; you will be a huge loss to the league. Thank-you for volunteering to help your successor over the next year to ease the transition.
  + Betty, thank-you for your many years of service as the 1st VP; you have been a huge support through your volunteer efforts. Your help with the old Early Bird tournament will never be forgotten.
  + Marian, thank-you for your few years of service as the 2nd VP; your hard work has helped the league greatly.
* Thanks to all the representatives that attended the meeting tonight; each team representative is to pick up their cheque at the end of the meeting.
* Congratulations to the following teams for their top standings in their division:
  + Division 1:
    - St. Albert Pride
    - No Playoffs for Div 1
  + Division 2:
    - Regular Season Leader – Rebel X
    - Playoff Champion – Alexander TPC
  + Division 3:
    - Regular Season Leader – Edmonton Royals
    - Playoff Champion – Edmonton Royals
* Congratulations to the following teams for medaling in Provincials:
  + U16A – Rivercity Hornets ’01 for winning Gold
  + U18A – Lloydminster Gerow Farm Liners for winning Silver
  + Sr B – St. Albert Pride for winning Silver
  + Sr B – Edmonton Warriors Pride for winning Bronze
  + Inter B – Alexander TPC Legacy for winning Gold
  + Inter C – St. Albert Storm for winning Gold
  + Inter C – Edmonton Royals for winning Silver
* Congratulations to the following teams for medaling in post provincial play:
  + High Park Hype for winning Bronze at the U21 Western Canadian Championships
* Congratulations to Grant Taylor and Team Alberta for winning Silver at the Canada Summer Games.
* Al concluded in thanking the league for having him as your president; he started coaching in this league in 1984 and has served on the executive board for over 25 years. It has been an honour to serve this amazing league and I am sad to step down, but it is for the best. I turn 68 tomorrow, I am a grandfather and I would like to spend more time with my family. Plus, I think it’s time for some new blood to take over and start the league in a new direction. I encourage our new executive to keep fighting for our diamonds at John Fry Park, re-apply for the casino and look for new means of league promotion and fundraising. Bless this league and to many more years of success.

1. **Treasurers Report**

* Mary Lou has been with the league for 20+ years and would like to spend more time travelling south and being with family. She will be around to help her successor over the coming year, but doesn’t anticipate any issues with the transition.
* There will be no further expenses, except for the phone line, for next spring.
* In order to have the ELSA remain sustainable, the team registration fees will have to increase year over year to fund the league; we will continue to try to keep the fees at a reasonable level for as long as possible.
* Report adopted as presented.

1. **Election for New Executive** – chaired by Corey

* Both Allana Bridgewater and Grant Taylor have one more year left in their term as Secretary and Facilities Director respectively.
* All positions up for election are for a two-year term
* **President**
  + There was one nomination for the President vacancy emailed in for Kristine Peterson, assistant coach with the Pacers. Kristine was absent from the meeting, but fellow Pacers coach Karen Holtslendon spoke on her behalf. Christine has been a long time player within the ELSA, as well as assistant coach for the Pacers. She is extremely dependable and efficient, and would serve as a great addition to the executive as President.
  + Corey called three times from the floor for further nominations or volunteers; no further nominations.

**Election of Kristine Peterson as President CARRIED.**

* + Karen is to advise Kristine of her election and Corey will be in contact with her to provide an information package put together by Al on the position and its responsibilities.
* **1st Vice President**
  + Duties mainly include game coordination and scheduling.
  + As previous Program Coordinator, Corey is willing to be available to help during the transition.
  + Corey called two times from the floor for nominations or volunteers; Taylor Zwack with the Mayhem volunteered to step in as the new 1st Vice President.
  + Corey called one more time from the floor for nominations or volunteers; no further nominations.

**Election of Taylor Zwack as 1st Vice President CARRIED.**

* + Cory will provide Taylor with an information package for the position and its responsibilities, and will help her through the transition.
* **2nd Vice President**
  + Past duties mainly included coordination of the casino and general help when needed.
  + Should this position be dissolved or kept vacant and be repurposed for other responsibilities in the future?
  + Corey called three times from the floor for nominations or volunteers. No nominations put forth.

**Motion for ELSA to have the position of 2nd Vice President remain vacant for the 2018 moved by Lyle Paul, Seconded by Fred Dumont.** **CARRIED.**

* **Treasurer**
  + Duties include paying bills, depositing money, management of record of accounts. This position is not a huge commitment in time, but is a critical role within the ELSA. Previously held a major role in the management of the past casino’s coordination.
  + Corey called three times from the floor for nominations or volunteers; Heather Shaw with the Mayhem volunteered to step in as the new Treasurer. No further nominations.

**Election of Heather Shaw as Treasurer CARRIED.**

1. **New Business**

* Discussion regarding re-application for a casino; eligibility requirements have changed and there has been a shift in the amount of minor (under 21 players) in the league – this may allow us to meet requirements for re-application.
  + It was suggested that a committee should be formed to investigate this further; once we know if we are eligible, ELSA could reapply and we would move forward from there (ex. how to allot teams/volunteers for casino, etc.).
* Suggestion to have playoffs removed from the schedule for both Divisions 2 and 3, which had been done this season for Division 1. There is a continued struggle with player availability for teams during the playoffs since there isn’t necessarily a set game schedule.

**Motion for ELSA to dissolve playoffs in both division 2 and 3 moved by Jamie Wagner, seconded by Al Goombos. CARRIED (with 3 parties opposed).**

Discussion:

* + Would we need to ensure that all rainout games are played out to ensure that the standings are accurate? No, the percentage of games played is used when calculating the standings throughout the season.
  + With playoffs removed from the schedule, would there be an increase in the amount of regular season games scheduled? Yes, we would look at adding games to the regular schedule to fill out the weeks we have the diamonds available to us.
  + Would we still have a Rainout Week for makeup games scheduled and would that come into play?
    - When the Rainout week is booked, we are charged for the diamonds booked no matter how many games end up having to be scheduled. We have 16 days prior to the booked dates to cancel those diamonds.
  + What is the threshold of games that would need to be played out in order to justify the diamonds being booked for the Rainout week? With no playoffs, do we even need to have the rainout week? The makeup of rainout games would not necessarily need to be played out since they wouldn’t influence the standings with the percentage of games played being taken into account in the calculations.
* ELSA is hoping to have the same diamonds and period booked for the 2018 season, but it is an unknown with various other organizations having to compete for the same facilities at the field allocations meeting each year.
  + The new executive will have to look at how late they would like to book the diamonds for considering the removal of playoffs from the schedule in all divisions and how to best accommodate an increase in regular season games to maximize those weeks booked.
* Put your suggestions together on the direction you would like to see for the ELSA in the future for the executive to provide them with some guidance moving forward. The new executive’s contact information will be posted to the website ASAP.
* Suggestion to remove the June 30th deadline for signage to a team roster in the rules for player eligibility under Section 13B. Why do we have this deadline and signage restriction in place? At the end of the season, teams are always scrambling to fill their game-day roster so they don’t forfeit and are fined.

**Motion to remove the final signing date of June 30th under the player eligibility ruling in Section 13B moved by Al Goombos, seconded by Jamie Wagner. DEFEATED.**

Discussion:

* + There would be no other changes to the rule as stated, other than the removal of the signing deadline; therefore, you would still need to obtain roster releases for a player within ELSA to be deemed eligible and you would still not be able to sign a player from a higher division. This suggestion is more so to allow a player outside of the ELSA league to be signed after that imposed deadline date in order to prevent a team from having to forfeit a game and face fines.
  + The maximum amount of players allowed on a team roster is 20.
  + If you remove the date deadline restriction, would this open up the chances that a team brings in a “ringer” at the end of the year?
    - There are currently no restrictions in place that could technically prevent this from happening already, if the player signed before the June 30th deadline date.
* Will the team registration fees be increasing again for next year?
  + Realistically, until ELSA is able to find and secure an alternative revenue stream that was lost with the dissolution of the casino and Early Bird tournament, fees will continually have to be increased year over year to cover the league expenses. As always, the executive will try to keep these fees and an increase within reason.

1. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** moved by Corey Schwartz, seconded by Amber Herbert at 8:05pm.