



FREDERICTON MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016



President's Report

The 2016 season marked the second season serving as President of Fredericton Minor Baseball Association (hereafter FMBA). It has been an absolute pleasure and privilege to serve as the President of FMBA over the past 2 years. It's hard to believe that 2 years has passed so quickly, but time passes quickly when you are surrounded by a Board whom works as diligently, effectively and efficiently. It's an honor to work with each and every person on the board and for an association as a whole which has such terrific support from it's volunteers.

Once again we have been able to accomplish a great deal, continue to improve FMBA and give our members a terrific experience. Over the past year we have made additional improvements to our programs, expanded our programs and continue, as a board and membership, to look for further improvements to every aspect of our association.

Like any season, it wasn't smooth sailing or without a few roadblocks, but as a group we attempted and for the most part were successful in finding solutions in order to persevere and make the collective experience a positive one for all involved.

As a board we were ecstatic with the growth that we experienced in the 2016 season as we had in excess of 100 additional registrants to a total of 572. Naturally, with such growth, there are growing pains with field availability and scheduling, team assignments, apparel, equipment, etc., but those are welcome issues. They are issues that we are actively addressing in order to continue to foster growth within our association as well as the sport as a whole throughout NB and Canada.

For me personally, these past 2 years has been a rewarding and by the same token a challenging experience. Nonetheless, it's an experience that even though there are trials and tribulations filled with moments where you're the villain and/or the hero, I look forward to another wonderful season in 2017.

Finally, I would like to give a quick recap of the 2016 season as well as highlight some points for discussion for the upcoming 2017 season.

November 2015 – I was fortunate that 18 of 19 members of a terrific group of board members, with an incredible work ethic and desire to not only offer a great baseball program to our members, but more importantly with a desire to make each of our young members better persons, not just better baseball players were wanting to continue with their board duties.

Also, we opened registration for the inaugural Royals Off-Season Baseball Program. The program had long been a discussion amongst some board members and along with Justin Hill & Paul Hornbrook the program was developed. We made agreements with The Ville for Sunday evenings and started a program that was more successful than we had anticipated or even imagined. Speaking from an instructor/coaching response aspect to a player registration aspect, the response almost overwhelming. The success of the program actually allowed for

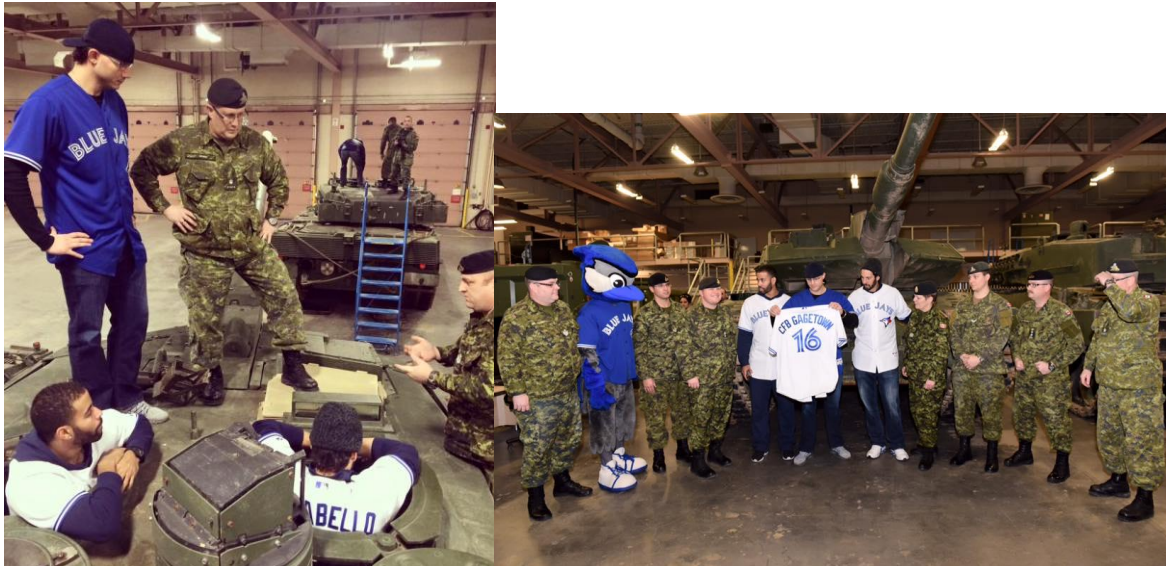


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the purchase of a Pitching Machine that will benefit all levels of training (beginner to elite) for our members for many years to come.

January 2016 – FMBA and the City of Fredericton were fortunate to be a stop on the annual Toronto Blue Jays’ Winter Tour from the 17th & 18th. Then current players Chris Collabello, Brett Cecil and Dalton Pompey along with a full entourage of Blue Jay Staff and Employees visited for 3 days including an autograph session at Regent Mall, a Private Clinic at Nashwaaksis Field House and visits to the New Maryland Elementary School and Base Gagetown. Fans showed in droves as over 500 were at the 2 hour autograph session. A funny tidbit though was the players, specifically Collabello was a bit upset with the fans and asked Jamie Campbell of Sportsnet (a Fredericton native) “What is up with these people?” to which Jamie replied “What do you mean?” and his reply was “With all this Royals stuff. Are they trying to shove it in our faces?” obviously referring to the playoff loss to the Kansas City Royals, but Jamie explained that it was our associations nickname. Needless to say, we left a lasting impression and they Blue Jays’ certainly left a lasting impression with a terrific visit to our area.





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April 2016 – We began extensive spring training for our members in preparation for the season with sessions at The Ville and on the Turf Fields. We actually began tryouts at the end of April for our Mosquito and Pee wee programs on the Turf Fields as a terrific winter and spring allowed us to begin our season’s earlier than normal. We welcomed Sean O’Shea as the new Rookie Coordinator, congratulated Justin Hill in moving to the Coaching Coordinator role and unfortunately said goodbye to a long-time board member who has given a tremendous amount back to association, Mike Washburn Sr. Mike, thank you for your tremendous dedication.

May 2016 – All competitive teams were chosen and our Recreational Programs hit the ground running. FMBA had a record 11 competitive teams that would be competing in provincial play during the 2016 season as we had ‘A’ teams at the Mosquito, Pee wee and Bantam levels due to our increased enrollment and interests. It was a continued effort to create more opportunities for the registrants in our association at every level.

FMBA also had it’s inaugural Royals’ Opening Weekend on May 28th & 29th as we welcomed 9 competitive teams from Dartmouth to Fredericton to play 9 of our teams in 2 sets of double-headers for a total of 36 games to kick off the season. This was a tremendous weekend of baseball throughout as we witnessed exciting games at every level, great baseball and a celebration of baseball as a whole between 2 of the largest associations in Atlantic Canada. It was so well received Dartmouth wishes to return to open the 2017 season as well.





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June 2016 – All FMBA programs were fully underway from Rally Cap to 18U (Midget). This month also saw our 6th annual FMBA Baseball Camp operate another successful and enjoyable camp at Royals Field, Marysville Community Centre and ‘The Ville’ when rain required field closures. In 2016 we were pleased to have Devon White join our camp to give the participants another once in a lifetime experience.

Also, we congratulated several association members on being named to Elite Level teams as Adam Estey, Sam Beaulieu, Craig Oliver & Riley Burt were named to the NB Selects team. In addition Oliver Burnett, Jackson Wilson, Max Grant, Sam McKinney, Quinn Gregoire and Zach O’Hara were named to the 15U Jr Selects team. Finally, Michael Leonard and Jordan Drier were chosen to Team Atlantic for the T12 Selection Tournament in Moncton.

July 2016 – It was announced that we would once again be sending a Frederickton contingent of baseball players to Veradero, Cuba in February 2017 as part of the ongoing Canada-Cuba Goodwill Tour. Andrew Rice was named the Head Coach of this contingent and took on the tough task of selecting 17 deserving players 11-13 year old players to travel to Cuba, take more greatly needed school supplies & baseball equipment.

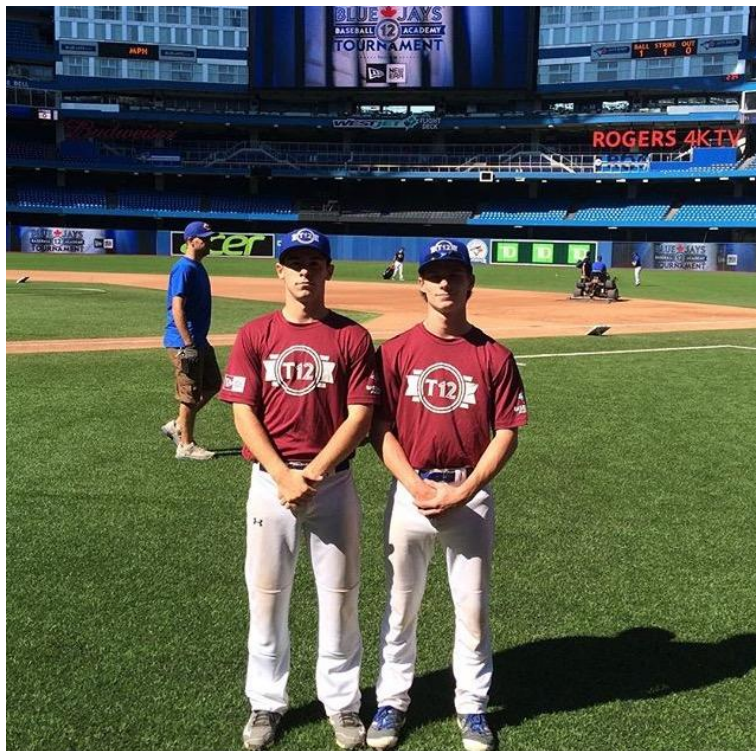


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August 2016 – All divisions held their year-end jamborees, most of which included our neighboring associations in New Maryland and Oromocto and by all reports each was a resounding success culminating a successful season at all levels within FMBA. Many thanks on behalf of the kids to each of the division coordinators Amanda Buchanan (Rally Cap), Sean O’Shea (Rookie), Adam Humphrey (Mosquito), Jamie Boyle (Peewee), Susan MacKenzie (Bantam-Midget) for your tremendous efforts.

Frederickton again congratulated talented young men whom were chosen to attend the prestigious T12 Tournament. Adam Estey once again was chosen along with Riley Burtt. Both performed admirably at the tournament at Rogers Centre in Toronto. Estey was ranked the 5th best hitter in the tournament.



At Provincials, we had another very successful season. Every team competed very well in their respective tournaments although we weren’t rewarded with as many titles as we wished.

Mosquito ‘AA’ – Provincial Gold and Atlantic Gold

Mosquito ‘AAA’ – Provincial Gold

Bantam ‘A’ – Qualified for Provincial ‘AA’ and advanced to semi-finals

Bantam ‘AA’ – Provincial Gold

Midget ‘AAA’ – Provincial Silver



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Finally, the Matt Stairs Charity Dinner & Auction and Golf event was another huge success as Jake Allen was the guest speaker and Bill Lee returned to once again provide some great entertainment. The event will once again provide in excess of \$10,000 to our Capital Fund and provided an incentive program for our competitive programs whom received in excess of \$4,000 to attend Atlantic Championships.

October/November 2016 – We were invited to the City of Fredericton City Council Meeting to present the current state of baseball in the area. There has been significant discussion on our needs within the City for Facilities from playing fields to indoor facilities for the past several months. As a result there is plans, provided approved at the budgetary meeting, that the City will study those needs and assess what all groups will need in the future to suit their needs. Therefore, we are very pleased that our concerns and needs are being considering thoroughly.

Fredericton was lucky to be host to the Annual Baseball Canada Convention and AGM. This culminated with an incredible Hall of Fame Induction and Ceremony with presentation of annual awards and a great dinner at the Delta Fredericton.

Plans for the 2nd Royals Off-Season were completed and expanded to include 5 age groups, an extra hour each Sunday and an ability to increase to 100 participants. Within a week all groups were filled with coaches for all age groups completely in place to once again overwhelm us with the response and demand for baseball in Fredericton.

This past year has been an absolute pleasure and privilege as mentioned due to the fact we have such a motivated and hard-working group of volunteers throughout our association. This extends from our Board of Directors to the Coaches, the Managers and the parents as a whole whom contribute to the success at every single level of our association. In addition, it should be noted that we extend significant gratitude to the City of Fredericton and their Recreational Personnel whom assist in making our events and activities a success by providing facilities as well as with their upkeep of the facilities we use.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim O'Hara, President



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Bantam/Midget Coordinator Report

The start of the season looked promising as it looked like there was going to be 7 teams in the league (4 from FMBA, Oromocto, Minto and New Maryland). Unfortunately, Minto and Oromocto had to back out due to insufficient players and the creation of the Bantam 'A' team meant the rec league consisted of only 3 teams. We thought we would get the season off and running early but schedules had to be changed a couple of times due to teams no longer playing.

We did have a couple of incidences with the New Maryland team in regards to unsportsmanlike behaviour from their bench and it was addressed with Terry Pond. He spoke with the team and the season was better from that point forward.

Also, there was a discussion with Terry Dexter in regards to the ump's showing up late for games. It was happening on a regular basis. A couple of times it was as much as a half hour late. As well, had one incident involving an ump at a game in New Maryland where there was a confrontation between one of the ump's and a parent.

Recommended changes for next year to ensure the program still runs with enough players.

- The evaluations and draft should be done by individuals who are not going to be coaches. This caused a real issue this year with inequality in the strength/pitching and catching of the teams and left the younger players feeling frustrated and discouraged.
- Decision on whether or not a Bantam 'A' team will be created should be done prior to the evaluations/draft of the recreation players so that they are not included in the draft process of the teams. This year there was a lot of back and forth in regards to the 'A' players playing/not playing in the recreational league and their commitments were when playing both 'A' and rec.

We had new coaches this year – Ryan Smith, Chris McGee and Ryan DiDiodato coached the Blue Jays and Dwaine Brewer and Isaac Thomas coached the Phillies. I received positive feedback for all five of the coaches and hope they will consider coaching again next year. Kevin Englehart and Ed Theriault coached the Mariners this summer. This was their last summer for coaching as their boys are moving on and we will miss their great wealth of knowledge, experience, organization and skill that they have provided as coaches over the past several years.

The jamboree and skills and drills weekend was a success. It was great weather and the players had a great time competing in the Skills competition.





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At the competitive level this year, the Bantam division fielded 3 teams with the traditional 'AAA' and 'AA' teams, but also an 'A' team. All 3 teams were very successful on the season.

The Bantam 'AAA' again finished first in the League, garnering a second consecutive 17-3 regular season record. They also garnered 2 Silver Medals in their 2 tournaments in Bedford and the Gary Cormier in Moncton. But, unfortunately they lost a heartbreaker in the provincial semi-final to the eventual Provincial champion Miramichi Twins.

The Bantam 'AA' had another successful team this past season as well. They again lost very few exhibition games all season long, won tournaments in Summerside, PEI and Dieppe before capping the season with a Provincial Championship.



Finally, we fielded a very successful 'A' team for the first time in Bantam. The 'A' team performed well enough to actually qualify for the 'AA' Provincials and furthermore lost in the semi-finals nearly making the 'AA' Provincials an 'all Fredericton' final.

At Midget 'AAA' this past year we fielded another successful team with some mixed results as they finished third in the league standing as they got off to a rocky start to the season, but finished the season on and 11-2 run and lost a heartbreaking Provincial Championship Final with 2 very close games with the Metro Mudcats, earning a Silver Medal in the process.

The Midget 'AA' team was also very successful as they were the team to beat all season long, rarely suffering a defeat, but they too suffered a setback in the Provincial tournament and weren't quite able to cap a successful season with a Provincial title.

Hope to see you all back next summer

Susan



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Peewee Coordinator Report

This year in Peewee we decided to try 3 competitive teams being AAA, AA, and A. This still left enough players to have 3 rec teams, which worked out perfectly because Oromocto, New Maryland and Woodstock all had rec teams as well. This allowed setting up a league with 6 teams.

There were a couple of issues throughout the year with umpires, mostly because I had to use Royals Back for some field times and was forced to start those times at 6:00, but all other start times were 6:30. This caused some confusion with Terry Dexter at first but got straightened out a couple of weeks into the season. There were also a handful of complaints throughout the season about the umpires showing up late or shutting games down after an hour and a half. These issues were also quickly resolved.

I would recommend that if registration numbers do not go up for Peewee division for next year that we not have an 'A' team. Another recommendation I have is for the rec league in order to keep things moving that we start all batters with a 1 and 1 count. I feel this will cut down on walks and give pitchers a better chance at keeping their pitch counts down. Keeping the pitch counts down would be extremely important if we do decide to have an A team, where players have to play rec as well.

We did have some issues this year with the competitive teams in regards to a few different items. It kept us busy throughout the year, but everything that was done was in the best interests of the players and when necessary the players as a whole. We needed to ensure the kids were having fun, since that is our goal each and every year.

We had great weather for the Jamboree, which was attended by all 6 teams. All the kids registered with FMBA received a trophy, a new baseball, pizza and a beverage. No skills competition was done because of the struggle trying to get field confirmation and once we did get 2 fields it was my opinion to just have all teams play 3 games each. All teams seemed to really enjoy the Jamboree.

Field times with the city were an issue sometimes this year, but Stacey McKinney did a great job working with city staff to make everything run well. Thank you Stacey!

Hopefully numbers continue to grow in 2017 year and we get a chance to make next year even more enjoyable for every kid from AAA right down to new registrants in the rec league.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Boyle





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The Mosquito division saw a significant increase in registrations for the 2016 season, with over 120 players registered. As a result, once the AAA and AA teams were picked, FMBA was also able to offer a third full-time competitive team at the A level. This still left 90 players for the recreation league's 6 teams.

At the competitive level, the AAA North Paw Royals won the Provincial Championship, and represented NB at the AAA Mosquito Atlantics. A 3-1 round-robin record left them in a tie-breaker game with PEI, which the Royals lost.

The AA Royals also won the Provincial Championship (for the third year in a row), and headed to Gander, Nfld for the Atlantic Championships. They too went 3-1 in the round robin, and with the benefit of winning the tie-breaker, had a bye to the final. The Royals defeated NS 6-5 in the championship game, scoring three runs in their last at-bat, to bring the Mosquito AA Atlantic Championship back to NB.

Based on their scores from the season, the Mosquito A Royals qualified for the Tier 1 A Provincials. Though they did not advance past the round-robin, these players gained invaluable experience at the competitive level for future FMBA competitive teams.

At the recreation level, evaluations were held on May 24, with the players then assigned to one of six teams based on the evaluation results. Teams from New Maryland and Oromocto also played in the recreation league. Each team was scheduled for 20 games over the course of the summer, plus another 6 to 8 field times were provided to each team for practices. Due to the number of mosquito rec teams in Fredericton, teams were required to play the odd Friday evening game as there are not enough fields in the City to accommodate all of the required field times. This was not ideal, as teams were often shorthanded on Fridays with families being away for the weekend.

The season ended with a jamboree on Aug 26/27. Each of the FMBA teams as well as New Maryland played two games, and there was a skills competition for the players between games on Saturday. Pizza from Papa Johns was also provided to all of the players, who also all received a baseball.

Looking ahead, I would suggest the Mosquito Recreation league have all batters start with a 1 ball 1 strike count. This would speed games up, reduce the number of pitches thrown, and force batters to be more willing to swing the bat. These rules were used in the BNB Sorting tournament to much success – games were much quicker, and the batters were forced to swing the bats.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Humphrey

Mosquito Coordinator



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Rookie Coordinator Report

- The 2016 Rookie league was comprised of 13 teams (133 players):

Rookie Minor 5 teams

Rookie Major 8 teams (4 Fredericton, 2 Oromocto, 2 New Maryland).

Rookie teams were high in numbers, especially Rookie Minor. Roster totals ranged from 14-17 players.

- Getting uniforms to players was no simple task. There were many no-shows at scheduled uniform pick-up dates, wrong sized uniforms were picked the first time, and many late registrants expected to have uniforms the night they arrived to their first game. The equipment coordinator made a good suggestion to start practice without uniforms, and wait for most of the late registrants to sign-up before handing them out just before games are to start.

If possible, on-line registration should be left open, and not left for the group coordinators to deal with. There were occasions that the Registrar had information that I wasn't aware of, and vice-versa. If FMBA doesn't turn kids away, let them register through the proper channel, and once they are officially in the system, group coordinators can place them accordingly.

Player and parent contact information has to be correct! In no way, is this any disrespect or me being critical of the job that Ed does. However, with the technology we have today, I don't see any reason for information already filled-out by parents, to be re-entered into another program, with the chance of mistakes being made. I had over 40 e-mails bounce back to me when I tried to reach out to the entire group at the start of the season. Not only were e-mail addresses misspelled, but phone numbers were wrong, and some parent names were not correct. Come the end of the season, I still didn't have the correct contact information for everybody.

A lack of available field times was the main reason for large rosters. With the minor and major teams using the fields Monday to Thursday, that meant they only extra field time was on the weekend, when most fields were booked for other events. I started to schedule Friday games in June, so that every minor team had a chance to play twice/week. The Friday games were poorly attended by all teams, the entire summer, as a lot of families spend weekends at their camps or camper-trailers. In total, 9 Fridays were added to the schedule to accommodate 2 games per team per week.

The season was to start May 30, but the first week was cancelled due to steady rain. In total, there were 10 cancellations during the season (5 for high temps, 4 rain-outs, and 1 for lightning strikes). Some parents were upset about the cancellations due to warm temperatures. Some days the temperature didn't reach 35 degrees, but there were heat alerts issued in the area. I received numerous emails from parents on hot days prior to me cancelling, saying they were not letting their kids play. Some parents were medical professionals (First Responders, doctors, nurses), who praised me for looking-out for the kids. Others parents were upset, and felt they should be the ones who dictate if their child plays. I believe this issue should be discussed further, especially on days where heat alerts are issued. If Health Canada deems the heat/humidity to be



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unsafe, should we not follow their recommendations?

There was a lot of roster shuffling early in the year, as our field times interfered with soccer schedules. Some younger kids played up, or down a level, to be with siblings, or to accommodate soccer nights. There were also a lot of friend requests, which involved numerous kids wanting to play with one particular friend (this occurred on multiple teams in Minor and Major). This also messed with coaching numbers, as the kids who wanted to play with friends, all had parents who signed-up to coach or help.

In general, there was a lack of coaches in both divisions. Although many parents checked-off on the registration form to help coach, many backed out, or never helped at all. One minor team (Pirates) had 3 people who signed up to help only, not coach full-time. There were a few nights that all 3 could not make it to the field, so they asked a parent to step in during their absence. I believe each team should have a head coach, and at least 3 helpers. There will always be nights when at least 1, or more, may not be able to make practices/games. We may need to advertise for coaches early, and ensure that coaches training sessions are scheduled well before the season starts. The coaches in Rookie Minor were excellent to deal with, and worked great with their kids.

A former FMBA board member (Sally Goodwin) emailed me early in the year, as she was worried about injuries she had witnessed the first week of the Rookie Major season. Sally witnessed 2 kids getting hit in the face with balls. I also witnessed one incident while at a Major game. Sally wanted to know if we could provide face guards to all players, as they do in softball. I told her I would mention this to the FMBA President. From a personal view, I found that the Rookie Minor group as a whole, began to pay much more attention on the field, once we started using the hardball.

The out-of-town teams were good to deal with. Both Oromocto and New Maryland had 2 teams each of mixed ages that registered as Major. These teams had limited field availability, which meant that a lot of our Major teams played on off nights, which affected some soccer kids. This also resulted in teams playing many back-to-back evenings, anywhere between Monday-Thursday. Three of four Fredericton teams had their equal share of home and away games. 1 team did not travel as much as the others.

With limited field availability in other towns, and the need for each team to play twice/week, there were times when our teams were away. This resulted in 4 separate occasions where we had prime field time for our group go unused. June 30 Malloy was not used; July 21 Malloy and Royal Rd not used; July 28 Royal Rd not used; and August 18 Malloy not used.

Also, there were a handful of occasions when our field were not prepared for games (lines, batters box, and on-deck circle not done, field not dragged).

The FMBA photographer was very helpful in trying to get all team photos done. The only downside was he never started until July, and his busy schedule, along with weather cancellations and no-shows, delayed photos being handed out until the end of the season. Some parents felt the quality of photos were not what they should have been, and they did not include the kids names. A couple of parents mentioned Joel Banks as a possible replacement, as his photos are somewhat



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“superior” to those of other photographers.

I did receive a complaint regarding our Tigers Major team. A coach from Oromocto expressed concerns to the Tigers coaches about our kids throwing their bats when they hit the ball. From what the Oromocto coach said, this was a safety concern that our coaches should have said something about. The same Oromocto coach complained that a couple of his kids were being intentionally hit while they were batting, while our kids received quality pitches to hit. His biggest concern was that during the same game, the Tigers played all of their kids in the infield, and prevented his players from reaching base. He was, in his own words “disgusted” by that action. This led to him requesting his next game against the Tigers to be cancelled, so his kids could have some fun on their own. The request was granted, and the Tigers practiced on their own that same evening. I brought this situation to the attention of the Tigers coach, who was surprised at what I told him. He was not present that evening, and told me that when they played again, these aforementioned incidents would not be repeated.

The year-end jamboree was not what I had hoped it would be. Of course, I had scheduled it the same day as the Fredericton District Soccer jamboree, at the end of August. I held the Rookie Major jamboree the entire day at Royal Rd field and the Rookie Minor jamboree at Malloy field. I did this so the kids could get a few games in and make up for the numerous cancellations from the summer. Both groups were to meet at Malloy at supper time for a pizza party. There were many no shows, as some were too hungry and ate elsewhere between games, and others wanted to head out to their cottages/trailers for the rest of the weekend. This resulted in a lot of left-over pizza.

In all, it was a busy and eventful summer. There were many parents who told me how much their kids enjoyed playing and that they will be returning next year. Many also were impressed with the cost of baseball compared to other sports, especially with the number of games and practices we have.

Sean O'Shea

FMBA Rookie Coordinator

Rally Cap Coordinator Report

No report submitted.



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Equipment Coordinator Report

To the FMBA Executive and Board

This was my second full year as Equipment Co-ordinator. Through the winter of 2015-2016 I took inventory of what we had for jerseys and hats, etc. and began preparing my order for the summer 2016 baseball season. As spring arrived and registrations started to flow in it very quickly became apparent that we would need more than the standard orders for baseballs, jerseys and hats etc. Our registration numbers soared this year, as the Board knows, but we were able to keep up with the demand thanks to good communication between Ed Dunham, the various division co-ordinators and myself.

We maintained a good level of inventory in order to facilitate all competitive and recreational divisions and levels by quickly adjusting to the need and ordering further products where necessary. The suppliers like MacTavish's, Home Run Sports and Club Fred Grafix were all super to deal with. We used a different supplier for the majority of our baseballs this year, Home Run Sports, as a result of a volume deal that was offered. MacTavish's was consulted and they were fine with the situation, but MacTavish's remained our supplier for 45cc and Incrediballs and other equipment. For the upcoming year I understand that Mosquito and Peewee AAA may be using 65cc balls, so this is a consideration I will have to remember for inventory.

There were a couple of extraordinary purchases made this year with the approval of the Board and Executive. A full set of Royal Blue Bantam Competitive jerseys was purchased to facilitate future A (A/AA) teams, as well as looking to the future in that our AAA competitive jerseys are

getting older now. Also, given the increase in registration and the number of teams at all levels, more sets of bases were ordered and velcro straps made. Our current inventory of bases has taken a beating and sometimes they only last one or two years, so this will be an ongoing expense. On that note, several sets of old bases that were taking up storage space were provided to Andrew Rice for the Canada/Cuba Goodwill Tour team that is traveling to Cuba this winter (as well as some old Dairy Queen hats and a couple of sets of old jerseys). Another extraordinary purchase this year was an inventory of white competitive Under Armour pants as mentioned below.

The board will remember that the locks for the batting cages were re-keyed in 2014-2015 and a defined number of keys was provided and distributed to named Co-ordinator's/Coaches, each with a corresponding key number to that position. I am in the process of collecting the keys in order to do an inventory to make sure all keys are accounted for. They will be redistributed next spring to the appropriate co-ordinator etc. It is noted that a Jugs two wheel pitching machine was discovered at the equipment room in behind some other gear. We may be able to find good use for this in the future, particularly when we have secure separate storage space near the fields to make it more readily accessible.

The distribution of the equipment to the competitive and recreational teams went well in the spring. We had adequate pants and jerseys for all, however, some of the older pants may have to



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be retired and if the numbers continue to increase I will have to increase our ordering of more new pants particularly for the younger ages. Some suggestion has been to consider looking at including the cost of pants in registration and then the players can keep their pants along with the jersey and hats. This would save us having to collect and store the pants every year. In regards to competitive pants, this year we experimented with the concept of having an inventory of Under Armour pants that the AAA players could buy so they could have a good pair of game pants and a second or third pair practice pants. The purchase of this inventory was over \$9,000.00 and comprised a large portion of the equipment expenditures, but which we will recover as we sell the pants. We still have a good inventory of these on hand for next year. The collection of competitive team jerseys, pants and equipment bags is basically complete. In regards to the recreational level, I am still waiting to collect the Rally Cap and Peewee Recreational league gear and pants. The process for distribution and collection of gear and pants I think went well again this year thanks to the efforts of all of the co-ordinators, but I will continue to try and improve its efficiency through review and consultation. Overall the

inventory of equipment continues to be in relatively good shape and there is lots of equipment for the number of teams expected, unless we have a significant jump in registrations again next year. Despite the increase in the number of teams at all levels this past year we had enough equipment on hand that I was able to put together more bags of gear for all levels, in particular Rally Cap. There were 15 Rally Cap teams this year compared to 10 I think last year. We have a few pieces of equipment that need some repair which I will have done over the winter. There have been a couple of requests for specific new pieces of equipment by competitive teams which I will look at next spring. We may want to look at the purchase of another L-Screen or two.

Although I have a good idea of what needs to be ordered for next year, I will be taking stock of the equipment room over the winter to make a full assessment of our needs for the spring.

One issue that I am particularly focused on at this time is the efficient use of our storage space. When I took over this position I was concerned that we did not have enough space. However, looking at the space now and the changes I have made to date, I now believe we have sufficient space, we just need to better organize and make more efficient use of the space we have.

For instance, as mentioned previously to the Board, we have several large boxes of old jerseys that are stored at the back of the storage space below the descending seating of the Willie O'Ree rink #1. I do not believe we intend on ever using these again. We can donate some of them to the Canada/Cuba Goodwill Tour annually until they are gone, or other opportunities may arise. Once these are gone this space can be better used for the storage of equipment bags during the off season. I am also looking at the purchase of plastic, stackable containers for the rec jersey inventory which will make the storage and spring distribution of the jerseys more efficient.

Finally I am happy to advise the Board than I am prepared to carry on as Equipment coordinator for the 2016-2017 season if they wish to keep me.

Respectfully Submitted November 8, 2016.
K. Chipp McCrea



FREDERICTON MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016



Umpire Coordinator Report

Dear FMBA Executive and Board;

November 21, 2016

This year was another good year with regards to the umpire situation. We had an addition 2 new umpires join the officiating group and 2 returning second year umpires. Overall, from all years of experience, we had a total of 28 baseball umpires for the Frederickton and Oromocto area.

Of note, we also had a first year 16 year old young lady from the local officials association be named as the Junior Umpire of the year, so congratulation to Kiera McLaughlin on achieving this so early in your officiating career.

Officials were provided in 13 leagues for a total of 405 game as well as an additional 70 tournaments games for a complete total of 475 games. When considering how many games used 2 officials in total there were approximately 900 spots where umpires were required to officiate for the year.

The 2015 scheduling issues have not returned this year, thank you to all the league coordinators for work with Terry Dexter on this. I look forward to working with Terry again next year as he will again be responsible for the officials for all of FMBA, NMMBA and OMBA.

On Field Incidences:

There was one on field incidence brought forward from the umpires to be dealt with by the FMBA Board. There was also one incidence brought forward to the Umpire Ass'n from FMBA, one around Umpires behavior. Both issues were addressed quickly and with further concern.

Paul Mollins



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Director of Player Development Report

Outside of the 2016 Summer League play for members of our baseball association, FMBA has been able to offer additional baseball training and fun for the kids. In 2011, FMBA had its first Royals Baseball Camp to give players additional development opportunities (ages 8-14) and the camp will be going into its seventh season in 2017. Last year, beginning in December 2015, we added the Royals Off-Season program (ages 8-18) which was a huge success. Both the camp and the Off-season program have been at full capacity every year. As always, a huge thank you to our dedicated coaches who volunteer their time to lead and train the kids in these extra development opportunity programs.

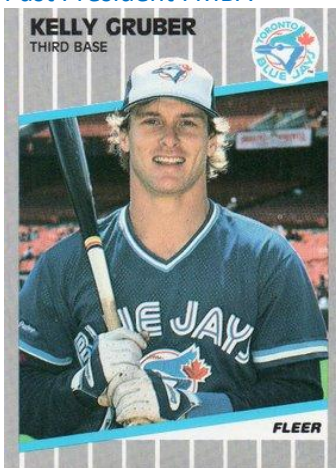
Looking into 2017, our Off-Season program has 90 kids registered which will begin December 4th, 2016 for 19 weeks. We have continued to have a positive relationship with the UNB Cougars baseball team and they help provide 5 sessions of training and development at the UNB Dome. We have also secured an additional hour of Sunday gym time (4pm-9pm) from The Ville that allows us to keep age group sizes at a workable level during the Off-Season program.

We are also pleased that Coach Andrew Rice has agreed to lead a group of 13U players from Fredericton on another Canada Cuba Goodwill Tour the week of February 11th. Andrew came off a very successful Mosquito AAA season, winning a Provincial title with his team. Although this Tour does not fall under the FMBA umbrella, it does include coaches and players from the Association and adds to the development opportunities for our kids.

The 2017 Royals Baseball Camp will include former World Series Champion and Toronto Blue Jay Kelly Gruber. The camp will run from June 26-30, 2017.

Respectfully,

Paul Hornibrook
Director of Player Development
Past President FMBA





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Field Coordinator Report

The early spring closure of Thompson and Royals Fields added some complexity to the initial field allocation for the year, particularly for tryouts and practices. This remained an issue into the beginning of the season. The year's team field assignment was also delayed related to negotiations with the City to change Queen Square Baseball to a Bantam field rather than a Peewee field. Extensive time was spent trying to find acceptable fields for each division/team. A number of fields in the City were not allocated to baseball (but used exclusively for softball).

The same process as last year was used to book fields with the City. The employee trained last year to book the fields, left part way through the year and we were then working through a casual replacement and long service employee.

Increased registration resulted in more teams, thereby requiring additional fields from last year. Two teams shared a field for practices on the same night. All coaches were very patient and understanding of the field shortages. As fields need to be shared by divisions, a number of teams practiced and played on fields not set up for their level. Once the City allocated a field to a specific division, they were then unwilling to make any changes to the field (ie. mound or bases) to accommodate different levels. The result was a number of coaches doing it on their own.

Once the allotment of teams to fields was finalized, the divisional FMBA on-line schedules were populated. The requirement to maintain and regularly update the on-line schedule was communicated to the respective coordinators/team managers. From these on-line schedules, a field requirement schedule was prepared for the City each week. This schedule listed all practices, games, tournaments, jamborees and provincials. The city used this to determine when and how the fields needed to be prepared. Despite being aware of games and tournaments, we received a number of complaints from coaches that the fields were not properly prepared (dragged and lined) for their games and tournaments.

All bookings were submitted to the City through the Field Coordinator. Any field requirements throughout the season were requested by division Coordinators or team managers to Tim or myself who subsequently requested them from the City. A change request was initiated in the City's system each time a change was made and an email to the coordinator.

Throughout the year, fields should be booked with the field coordinator, who then communicates requests with the City. At times, some team manager/coordinators requested fields directly from the City which caused confusion and resulted in the game/practice being omitted from the weekly field schedule. To ensure the most efficient process, all field requests should go through the Field Coordinator.



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While the hosting of Nationals was a very positive experience for the City as a whole, it resulted in the closure of Thompson and Royals Field at a very busy time of the year. The Midget program suffered throughout the City constantly having to find a field to practice and play. A number of meetings were held with the City to address this issue, but a satisfactory resolution was not always possible.

For the 2017 year, fields for tournaments, jamborees and Provincials will be booked with the City by January to ensure required times, dates and fields are secured.

I would like to thank you for allowing me to participate in this role. It was a great summer of baseball! I look forward to next year!!

Stacey McKinney

Promotions and Fundraising Coordinator Report

FMBA would like to thank all our corporate sponsors for their contributions and support. The generous contributions enable the divisions and teams to operate effectively and provide the environment for the kids to learn and enjoy the fun and companionship that baseball offers.

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Bantam AA – Ramada

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Midget AA – Club Fred, Shelley Pye State Farm Agent



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Mike Oliver

Coaching Coordinator Report

The 2016 season was a great success from a coaching perspective. We were able to fill our coaching requirements very early in the season and consensus around the league was very positive from a coaching perspective.

This year, we began collection of criminal record and vulnerable sector checks from our coaches. With this being our first year of such a requirement, I am pleased with the amount of coaches who supplied us their clearances. In 2017, we will work to ensure that all volunteers have their checks provided to us prior to July 15 and strive for 100% completion.

2016 also saw the organization of a weekend coaching clinic in partnership with Baseball New Brunswick. Participation was strong throughout the weekend and was a great opportunity to build our number of NCCP certified coaches and allowed for the sharing of best practices-a major benefit for the kids in our program. Our goal should be to organize a similar session in 2017.

A key priority for 2017 will be to incorporate an electronic coaching feedback model to allow parents/participants to provide mid-year and year-end coaching feedback to further our abilities to support coaches and grow our program.

I look forward to continuing to support our organization in 2017.



Justin

FREDERICTON MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

