



Lacombe Minor Baseball Association (LMBA)
Annual General Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 15th 7:00pm- County Room LMC

Welcome and Introductions by Shannon Bruns - LMBA President. She stated that she is very excited about the growth in LMBA!

Called to order @ 7:03pm

- 1) Adoption of 2024 AGM Agenda
Adopted by Clayton Russell. Seconded by Kelly Brown. All in favour.
- 2) Adoption of 2023 AGM Minutes (available for review on LMBA website)
Adopted by Tamara Noordhof. Seconded by Alison Stangeland. All in favour.
- 3) General LMBA Information presentation by Melanie Callihoo - LMBA Secretary



LMBA AGM
Presentation-2024.ppt

- 4) 2023 Season Highlights and 2024 Season Initiatives
 - ☐ 2023 season highlights provided in previous presentation.
 - 2024 Initiatives:
 - ☐ 11U development program practice format
 - ☐ Policy updates due to growing association
 - ☐ Upcoming Rust Busters Sessions-Registration will be capped for these based on facility capacity. Purpose of these sessions is to “dust off” and have fun.
 - ☐ Skills sessions follow the evaluation format. Open to AA registered players. No evaluators present. These sessions are a chance to run through the evaluation skills prior to try-outs.
 - ☐ Skill sessions will also be offered to A level players later on in the winter.
 - ☐ For insurance purposes players must be registered. No additional costs for these sessions.
 - ☐ Changes to the policy wording for the competitive try-outs. Revised policies will be sent out once 2024 executive meets.
 - ☐ Akemi Matthie provided words of appreciation for LMBA coaches and encouraged those interested in coaching to take on a coaching role.
- 5) Registration Information (see further details towards the end of this document)
NEW for 2024: Spordle
 - ☐ Links are live on website.
 - ☐ Payment by VISA or Mastercard only.
 - ☐ Discount for all in attendance at AGM.

- ☐ Baseball AB moving to Spordle platform. Not mandated yet but LMBA decided to start using Spordle for this season.
- ☐ Email LMBA Registrar for KidSport or other questions.
registrar.lmb@gmail.com
- ☐ Can indicate during registration that you want to coach but cannot fully register as a coach yet. Anyone interested in coaching AA should let the executive know as soon as possible.
- ☐ Umpire registration not live yet.

6) 2023 Final Budget and 2024 Proposed Budget presented by Jeff Kluthe - LMBA Treasurer

- ☐ Budget based on same numbers as 2023.
- ☐ Registration fees staying the same for each age division.
- ☐ Introduction of a separate registration fee for Community A players continuing their season to play in the provincial championship tournament.
- ☐ 2023 surplus of \$4406.80
- ☐ Acknowledgement to the LMBA sponsors.
- ☐ Looking to break even for 2024.
- ☐ Credit Card processing fee changes with Spordle. Administration expenses lowered as a result of Spordle.
- ☐ Repairs/Field maintenance category for 2024 will include the purchase of equipment lock boxes at the U11, U13, U15 and U18 diamonds. These will house the hammers, pegs, base plugs, etc. The hope is that these locked boxes will help reduce the theft of items that occurs from the dugouts.

Mike Berdan made a motion to approve the 2024 Budget as presented.
Kim Willington seconded. All in favour.

7) Society Act and Audit Delegation

Brief explanation provided of the Societies Act audit process.

Alison Stangeland nominated Mike Berdan and Pam Oickle to be the 2024 LMBA auditors. Mark Blatz seconded. All in favour.

**Later in the meeting Mike was nominated into a director role. Following the meeting it was noted that he would no longer be eligible to fill the auditor role. A new auditor will be nominated via an all-association email vote.

8) Proposed Bylaw/Policy Revisions and Vote

The proposed bylaw revisions were presented by Melanie Callihoo-LMBA Secretary. All changes were highlighted (red=additions, blue=deletions) and discussed for those in attendance. Opportunity for questions was provided.



Bylaws for Lacombe
Minor Baseball Assoc

Cam Szeszorak made a motion to approve the bylaw revisions as presented. Jay Adams second. All members in attendance in favour.

9) 2024 Sponsorship Opportunities.

- ☐ Highlighted the generosity of the past season's sponsors.
- ☐ LMBA will be using the same sponsorship package as used in the 2023 season.
- ☐ Explained that there are limited spaces available on banners so sponsors should act quickly if they wish to secure a spot for the 2024 season.
- ☐ **Grant - Scoreclock on Diamond 12**
****Note this item was on the agenda but was missed during the meeting. No discussion was provided.**

10) Nomination and Election of 2024 LMBA Executive

Shannon introduced the 2023 executive members that were in attendance. Nominations of 2024 executive commenced.

- a) President
Melanie Callihoo nominated Shannon Bruns. Mark Blatz seconded. All in favour.
- b) Vice President
Mark Blatz nominated Bill Lawrence. Akemi Matthie seconded. All in favour.
- c) Registrar
Lee Porath nominated Veronica Whitbread. Jeff Kluthe seconded. All in favour.
- d) Treasurer w/ shadow position for 2024
Akemi Matthie nominated Jeff Kluthe. Kim Willington seconded. All in favour.
Jessie Sautner nominated Robyn Schweer. Tiffany Watson seconded. All in favour.
- e) Secretary
Mikki Scabar nominated Crystal Pobuda. Veronica Whitbread seconded. All in favour.
- f) Website and Social Media Director
Clayton Russell nominated Lee Porath. Tiffany Watson seconded. All in favour.
- g) Fundraising and Apparel Director
Veronica nominated Renee Spelt. Jeff Kluthe seconded. All in favour.
- h) Equipment and Uniform Director (2)
Mark Blatz nominated Melanie Callihoo. Kim Willington seconded. All in favour.
Colin Jeffries nominated Clayton Russell. Tiffany Watson seconded. All in favour.
- i) Coach and Player Development Director
Tamara Noordhof nominated Colin Tee. Doug Astles seconded. All in favour.
- j) Umpire and Facility Director

Clayton Russell nominated Kim Willington. Mark Blatz seconded. All in favour.

- k) Community A Tournament Director
Position remained vacant during the meeting. Following the meeting Jennifer Young was nominated by Kelly Brown. Pam Oickle seconded. Email was sent to association to provide opportunity for votes against this nomination. None brought forward.
- l) 7U (Rally Cap) Director-Tonya Bos nominated by Tamara Noordhof.
Crystal Pobuda seconded. All in favour.
- m) 9U (Rookie) Director
Jay Adams nominated Akemi Matthie. Clayton Russell seconded. All in favour.
- n) 11U Director
Mark Blatz nominated Mike Berdan. Clayton Russell seconded. All in favour.
- o) 13U Director
This position was vacant at the conclusion of the meeting.
The following day Ryan Braaksma's name was brought forward. Email was sent to the association to provide opportunity for votes against this nomination. None brought forward.
- p) 15U Director
Lee Porath nominated Mark Blatz. Mike Berdan seconded. All in favour.
- q) 18U Director
Mark Blatz nominated Colin Jeffries. Clayton Russell seconded. All in favour.
- r) Female Athlete Director
Tamara Noordhof nominated Alison Stangeland. Mark Blatz seconded.
All in favour.
- s) Special Events Coordinator *new executive position
Remained vacant

11) Important LMBA Dates

See attached information at the end of this document.

12) AGM Attendance Discount: **AGM2024**

13) Adjournment

Mike Berdan made a motion to adjourn the AGM meeting. Mitch Nesbitt seconded. All in favour.

***See information on the pages below that was provided as printed handouts at the AGM meeting.

Registration Information

***Fees below are before \$25.00 AGM discount**

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 2024 Registration Prices | AA Deadline: February 15, 2024 |
| | A Deadline: March 15, 2024 |
| | Rally Cap/9U (Rookie): April 1, 2024 |
| | Coach Registration 11U-18U AA deadline: February 8th, 2024 11U-18U A deadline: March 8th, 2024 |
| | *Fees below are before \$25.00 AGM discount and **include an individual/team photo package for every player. |
| Rally Cap (2017, 2018, 2019) | \$140 |
| 9U/Rookie (2015, 2016) | \$200 |
| | |
| 11U AA (2013, 2014) | \$380 + \$15.00 tryout fee |
| 11U A (2013, 2014) | \$295 |
| | |
| 13U AA (2011, 2012) | \$385 + \$25.00 tryout fee |
| 13U A (2011, 2012) | \$305 |
| | |
| 15U AA (2009, 2010) | \$395+ \$35.00 tryout fee |
| 15U A (2009, 2010) | \$315 |
| | |
| 18U AA (2006, 2007, 2008) | \$405+ \$45.00 tryout fee |
| 18U A (200y, 2007, 2008) | \$325 |

Additional Fees

There will be additional expenses with Competitive AA teams that are not included in the player's registration and tryout fees. These will be for umpires, tournament entry fees, exhibition games, game balls, etc. These fees can range from \$100.00-\$400.00 per player depending on the extent of such costs. To minimize these additional fees, most teams will organize a fundraiser(s) or obtain sponsors (all fundraising/sponsorships should be approved through the LMBA Fundraising and Apparel Director).

If a Community A team decides to enter a tournament, play exhibition games or enter A provincials, there will be additional costs. All A teams are required to attend the LMBA Community Tournament held in early June at Michener Park in Lacombe. To minimize these additional fees, most teams will organize a fundraiser(s) or obtain sponsors (all fundraising/sponsorships should be approved through the LMBA Fundraising and Apparel Director).

Community A Teams

The Community A Program in LMBA is a development program aimed to ensure players develop skills and learn the fundamentals of baseball at an age appropriate level.

- ★ The Rally Cap (7U) division plays in a house league and there is no travel outside of Lacombe. Season runs from May 1- June 25 on Mondays and Wednesdays.
- ★ The Rookie (9U) division plays in a house league with no travel scheduled outside of Lacombe. Some teams may choose to play games with nearby communities (Bentley, Blackfalds, etc). Rookie (9U) does host a one day mini tournament early June. This tournament is now on the same weekend as the Community A Tournament and is held at Michener Park. Season runs from May 1- June 25 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- ★ 11U-18U teams are usually determined around the middle of April. Evaluations will take place if there are enough players to form more than 1 team to divide players up and create equal teams. Community teams play in the Central Alberta Baseball League (CABL). Home games will be at Michener Park and away games are usually within a 45 minute drive. The schedule is done by Baseball Alberta and usually provided mid-end April. At the community level, there are no league games on weekends (teams may choose to enter tournaments). Teams can expect 1-2 practices per week for the remainder of April depending on weather and indoor facility availability. The CABL season usually includes 2 games per week from May 1- June 25. Teams may choose to add practices depending on diamond availability and may choose to enter the Provincial Tournament (which will include games into July and possibly hosting games on a weekend). All A teams are required to play in the Lacombe Community Tournament (May 31-June 2) and the CABL Year End Finals (June 22-23). CABL information can be found on the Baseball Alberta website: <https://www.baseballalberta.com/cabl-home/>

Competitive AA Teams

Competitive teams are usually determined by the middle of March. If there are enough players registered, there will be a tryout process starting after the registration deadline. There may be 1 or more competitive AA teams per division. Players that do not make a AA team are encouraged to play for a Community A team. Once the team is determined, practices 2-3 times per week can be expected throughout the season depending on weather and indoor facility availability. The AA league is province wide and utilizes a 3 round seeding/tiering format. Teams can expect to play in a regional format in May, North/South division in June and Provincial Tiering in July. Each round usually includes 2 weekends per month and 2-4 games per weekend. Practices and exhibition games would take place during the week (practices are usually Tuesdays and Thursdays). Home games and practices take place at Michener Park on the west end of Lacombe, just off Highway 12. Teams may choose to enter tournaments (outside of the tiering weekends).

More information can be found on the Baseball Alberta website:
<https://www.baseballalberta.com/>

Upcoming Dates *dates/facilities may change

Must preregister for all rust busters. AA registration required for Skills and Tryouts

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| January 22 | 6:30-8:30pm | 15U/18U Rust Buster | Dome |
| <i>January 23</i> | 5-7pm | <i>11U/13U Rust Buster</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| February 5th | 6:30-8:30pm | 15U/18U Rust Buster | Dome |
| <i>February 9th</i> | 3pm-7pm | <i>11U/13U Rust Buster</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| <i>February 12th</i> | 5-7 | <i>15U/18U Skills</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| February 15th | | AA registration deadline | |
| February 19th | 6:30-8:30 | 11U/13U (pre register) | The Dome |
| | 8-9:30 | 15U Tryouts | The Dome |
| <i>February 25th</i> | 3-5 | <i>11U Skills</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| | 5-7 | <i>13U Skills</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| February 26th | 7:30-8:30 | 15U Tryouts if needed | The Dome |
| | 8:30-9:30 | 18U Tryouts | The Dome |
| March 4th | 5:00-7:00 | <i>11U Tryouts</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| | 7:00-8:45 | <i>13U Tryouts</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| March 11th | 5:00-7:00 | <i>11U Tryouts (if needed)</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| | 7:00-8:45 | <i>13U Tryouts (if needed)</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| March 15th | 3pm-7pm | <i>Winter Drop In</i> | <i>Gull Lake Centre</i> |
| | | A Registration Deadline | |
| March 30 | | Apparel Deadline | |
| April 1st | | AA Team Entry Deadline | |
| | | 7U/9U Registration Deadline | |
| April 8th | | AA Roster Deadline | |
| April 12th | | A Team Entry Deadline | |
| April 13/14 | | Umpire Clinics | Upper EI |
| April 19-21 | | Coach Clinics/Player Clinics | Upper EI/Gull Lake Centre |
| April 19th | | 11U/15U AA Round 1 schedule | |
| April 26th | | 13U/18U AA Round 1 schedule | |
| May 1/2 | | 7U/9U season starts | |
| May 4th | | AA season starts | |
| May 6th | | A season starts | |
| May 10/11 | | AA/A Picture Days | tentative |
| May 30-June 2 | | Community A Tournament | |
| June 11 or 13 | | BBQ Date | tentative |
| | | 15U AA Exhibition | |