# Lethbridge Minor Softball Association

# Board Meeting Agenda

## November 25, 2018

## 1:00pm

**Items highlighted in green represent new ideas/suggestions (new committees)**

**Items highlighted in yellow are items to be addressed at next meeting**

Invitees: Jennifer Drader, Beth Moulton, Joshua Cinnamon, Tyler Fallwell, Travis Grindle, Jackie Fletcher, Kim Snideman, Jay Insley

1. Call to order
   1. Jen calls meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.
2. Approval of minutes from last meeting
   1. Accept minutes – no objections brought forth
3. Open and Ongoing Business
4. Welcome new Board Members and assigning Executive Positions to the new members
   1. Jen thanks new members (Josh, Tyler, Jackie) for joining and adding their knowledge and expertise
5. Treasurer Report – Kim (statement provided to all)
   1. Revenues exceeding expenditures this year: approx.. $6100 (after parade expenses)
   2. Registration: Could lower registration be due to schools sending out only electronic pamphlets, rather than paper? Suggestion to put it on the radio (Tyler) in addition to getting info to schools earlier so it gets out on time (February, not March)
   3. Savings Account: continue to put some money into savings account for future years (our little nest egg). Beth motions to put $2000 in for this year. Seconded by Tyler. All in Favor Vote: yes.
   4. Update on Re-instating our Society Status
      1. Have not had status since 2006; we need to re-apply
      2. Kim will have us sign. $50 dollar fee to start
   5. Summary of funds from both the Slow-Pitch Canadians and the Golf fundraiser – see treasurer report
   6. Priority List and Wish List; Committee Proposal: To create a list of priority expenditures – what does that define? Player development, fundraising, etc. Beth will strike this committee and seek members. Beth suggests calling this committee ‘Player Development’ and showing how this is utilized through different tracks. Josh will join this committee. Email will be sent out to parents to seek their feedback, commitment to join, etc.)
6. Camps and Clinics (dates, cost, instructors, facility)
   1. Winter Training: Boys and Girls Club Facility (high ceilings, rubber flooring); charge $50 per hour for non-profit (they will give it to us for 8 hours for this charge); A few weeknights available; Not every Saturday but weekends are available.
      1. Jen and Beth run U10/U12; Tyler will help out with these groups but run older groups (U14/U16). Josh will attend when able (school schedule permitting). The key is to ensure that we are all on the same page, regardless of age group. Separate out age groups (U10 and U12 since they use the same ball size) Beth would like to try longer sessions and Jen suggests on a weekend. Indoor practices will cover pitch recognition, hitting, etc. Suggestion is to run these two camps back to back which would make a weekend work better. These camps will run from February-March (overlap with pitching clinic).
      2. Season will start end of April (23rd?). Outdoor practice can start when weather cooperates but will have to be on random field (not Miners Field) Dates will be finalized at January meeting.
      3. Involving U16 kids to help out with U10 and U12 groups would be a great idea and is part of our culture that we would like to build.
   2. Coaches Clinic:
      1. Can we provide coaches clinic again (Level 1)? This would allow for certification. If you coach the year that you are certified, you get reimbursed for your coaching clinic cost. Jen will check with Softball Alberta for dates that this can happen. Last year we used the Boys and Girls Club facility – meeting room and gym space.
      2. \*\*Suggestion to have a coaches/umpire meeting to get all on the same page\*\*
   3. Umpires Clinic:
      1. If there is interest in this, we would love to run another clinic. This would help with starting up our mentorship. We had a fantastic group of boys who came out this year and we would love to continue to support them and help them through learning how to umpire. Lethbridge is really lacking in umpires. Josh is willing to help out and mentor these kids.
   4. Pitching Clinic:
      1. Josh would like to run Pitching Clinics (once per week for two months); 6-8 kids; three sessions per day (1.5 hours per session); University players would like to come and help. Looking at Saturday or Sunday. Josh will get a small return for his commitment ($5 per kid per week). Player commitment would be to pay for all sessions in advance. Fees are yet to be decided. Players must bring somebody (parent or player) to catch for them. This is offered for U10 and up. Tyler will help with catchers and observe clinic. Sessions will have U10 and U12 together. Another session will be U14 and U16. One session for U18. (all dependent on registration numbers)
      2. NOTE: If a U18 player wanted to play, they may play any position other than catcher or pitcher
      3. Josh will do one day sessions for those new to pitching.
      4. Start these clinics with experienced players (January/February) and then host other pitching clinics for newer players (March/April) These could be drop ins or only run for 1 month.
7. Traveling/Provincial Team
   1. Timelines, Fees, coaching, fundraising, expectations
      1. Last year, those interested in coaching put their name forward with qualifications. The Board looked at applicants and voted on coaches. No timeline has been set yet. Putting this information out would be for January meeting.
      2. Is there someone that would like to take this on? Beth, Tyler, and Josh will work on this and create a committee (build an overview of what we want this year but also what we would like moving forward)
8. Minors Ball Field
   1. Signage – Got 3 quotes for the large sign outside the field.
      1. Beth and Jen discussed with Travis and Robyn (City Hall) to discuss Minors Field in entirety
      2. We would like to replace signage that faces out to show ‘Home of the Lethbridge Heat’
      3. Three Quotes (not including design. We give them the design, they print it on):
         1. L.A. Neon (printed and installed; $800 plus tax; $500 without installation)
         2. Total Impact Signs (printed and laminated, backer; $650 - $720 plus tax)
         3. Zurcon Graphics ($996.57)
      4. Beth questions whether we can get volunteers to take old sign down.
      5. Travis – sign will have to be signed off by Robyn (City of Lethbridge); size and scope cannot change or it will require a development permit
      6. Tyler: Are we open to sponsorship on the sign? Travis said we can have sponsorship if signs are inward facing on the field. For this sign, because it is on the outside, it cannot have sponsorship on it but a separate sponsorship sign can be placed on the inside. First, let’s decide on a design to determine if there are any additional charges (for colours, etc.) Tyler can look into this (design).
      7. What do we want on the sign: Lethbridge Minor Softball: Home of the Lethbridge Heat; use fiery softball image that Tyler has – should we remove the ponytail and eyelashes to make it more gender neutral? Keep the sign gender neutral but for team shirts, jerseys, etc., a different logo can be used (add ponytail, etc.). Tyler will bring design forward for January meeting.
   2. Sponsorship packages to include signage facing inward along our fences.
      1. These must be approved by Travis/Robyn (City of Lethbridge)
      2. We would like to put together a sponsorship package (create a committee to do this) to create different levels of sponsorship; we would like this done before season begins. Jen strikes committee and is seeking members (Jay, Beth, and Kim have volunteered to help with this)
      3. Where will we place sponsorships posters? Josh suggests not putting it along outfield fence, however, this is prime advertising space. Suggestion to put it only on foul territory fencing. Tyler suggests the sponsorship potential of those spaces and that it should not interfere with players.
   3. Cleanup of storage area to allow for setting up for possible selling of packages goods. Possible small freezer and get rid of large freezers and replace with shelves or cabinets.
      1. We would like to get rid of Freezers and put in some shelving, so we have space to store items rather than using the floor. Some teams would like to sell dry goods at games; this would allow room for this to happen.
      2. We will check if Tara has had a response as to who owns these freezers, then we will check if they work, call Coca-Cola and see if they want their freezer back, sell those that are unclaimed, take to dump any that do not work, etc.
      3. Target March/April for clean out of space and get organized.
   4. Shale Infield and where we stand with the city. What possible solutions do we have? Grants we get on our own?
      1. Travis: quotes (RFP) have been accepted; City has settled on one; Minors is priority one but the individual who will do the work has not been notified yet. Infield will be scalped, turf will be removed, cap and bury, back fill with clay, and shale on top; re-establish outer edge. There will be no irrigation in the infield. Question of whether or not we can get a quick coupler to rake, hose down infield to prevent dust, etc. Travis will look in to this (Tyler also). Goal is to have it ready for next season
      2. Pitching Mound/Plate: get rid of this as it is unneeded
      3. Travis will keep us notified of timelines; should begin in March
      4. Hope to implement this with girls - that they should be helping maintain field
      5. In the future, City hopes to pass maintenance on to us. First piece is ensuring field is fixed, then discussing how this works.
      6. Travis: 2020 Lethbridge is hosting Alberta Summer Games; City will reach out to us as this process gets further along its planning timeline. Consider whether we have a group of girls (U16) that we can steer in one competitive direction (funds through Lethbridge Sports Council – look into this; talk to Susan Einmen); Could be potential for a few smaller legacy items if we can help out by volunteering at games (new freezer, etc.) We are considering using Softball Valley for this rather than using Miners Field
      7. Beth: What do we need to do to discuss future developments/joint partnerships? If we have questions, pass them on to Travis and he can try to find answers for us. If there was a chance to expand behind Diamond 10 at Softball Valley, we would need to do a Feasibility Study (three years in advance from this time). If this is done and a plan is in place, we could start applying for grants, etc. Tyler adds we need to keep getting more kids playing before we can do this and our Feasibility Study needs to be spot on.
9. New business
10. Any New Business:
    1. Tyler: Can we discuss utilizing field on weekends? – mini tournament for house league, sell concession, etc.
    2. Tournament on Softball Alberta weekend again – Hannah, Medicine Hat, etc.
    3. Hosting Provincials – umpire fee kills us! If we can make things work, Softball Valley would help us in making this happen. Deadline to apply is September 1st (for 2020 which is Summer Games – Level B) Softball Alberta is looking for coaches – apply now!
    4. Talk to Travis (City) re: practices at Westminster given needle situation there
    5. Discussion of time switch for Learn to Play/U10 – tabled until January meeting
    6. Mass Practice – to be discussed in January (U16-U18)
    7. New Board Members: Positions:
       1. Jackie – Secretary
          1. Beth nominates Jackie for Executive Position of Secretary; gives motion
             1. Kim seconds; All in Favor Vote: yes
       2. Tyler – U10 Divisional Director Position
          1. Jen nominates Tyler for Executive Position of U10 Divisional Director; gives motion
             1. Beth seconds, All in Favor Vote: yes
       3. Motion forwarded by Kim to create Executive Position: Directors of Umpires
          1. Seconded by Tyler; All in Favor Vote: yes
       4. Josh – Director of Umpires
          1. Tyler nominates Josh for Executive Position of Director of Umpires
          2. Josh agrees to put is name forward for this position
          3. Seconded by Beth; All in Favor Vote: yes
11. Next Meeting date and time
    1. Sunday, January 6th, 2019 @ 1:00. Venue to be determined.
12. Adjournment
    1. Jen calls adjournment @ 3:52