



Board of Directors Meeting

March 12, 2025

Minutes



In Attendance:

- Lisa Parkes, President
- Baukje Edamura, Vice-President (arrived at 6:14 pm)
- Rachel Allan, Treasurer
- Terri Boizard, Director
- Lavaughn Larson, Director
- Scott Wheatley, Director
- Diane St-Denis, Executive Director
- Laura MacMillan, Programs & Championship Director
- Cheryl Humphrey, Sport Law (Guest for item 3.02 only)

Regrets:

- Kevin Langley, Director

1. Call to Order

1.01 Territorial Acknowledgement & Opening Remark

L. Parkes called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm and provided a brief territorial acknowledgement.

1.02 Motion to approve the agenda

Moved by R. Allan, seconded by L. Larson, to approve the agenda with the following addition of

- **Move item 3.02 to the start of the agenda**
- **4.03 Minor Development Fund Allocation**
- **4.04 Additional Edits to the Handbook**
- **4.05 Human Resources (In Camera)**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.03 Motion to approve minutes

Moved by S. Wheatley, seconded by R. Allan, to approve the February 19, 2025 meeting minutes as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.04 Business Arising from the last meeting

a. Article 2

D. St-Denis noted that the Softball BC residency article is not aligned with Softball Canada’s policy. After some discussion, which included a desire to have the Softball BC rule be as inclusive as possible, the office was directed to revise the article to ensure alignment with Softball Canada while ensuring we are being as inclusive as possible and all participants are insurable.

Action: Office to revise Article 2 and bring it back at a later meeting.

- b. Convert Article 18 to a policy, Article 20 to an Awards Policy
Pushed to a later meeting.
- c. L. MacMillan to check Softball Canada regulations and bring back 13.6.3.
As Softball BC is more stringent with our rule than Softball Canada AND the slo-pitch coordinators have not asked for an edit to this rule, we recommend leaving 13.6.3 as currently listed in the SORs.
- d. PCMSA and TCMSA mediation
Preliminary meetings with each of the associations were scheduled for March 10, 2025.

2. Board Business

2.01 Committee Updates

- a. Finance Committee
 - i. Board Financial Report - January 31, 2025
R. Allan noted that the current projections show a surplus at year-end. No questions from Directors on the report.
 - ii. Draft 2025-26 budget
Pushed to April meeting.
 - iii. viaSport Funding Requirements
D. St-Denis provided a summary of the conditions listed in the viaSport Funding Agreement and a list of how Softball BC is currently meeting those conditions. The report was information only as the Directors prepare for the strategic planning session on April 5 & 6.
 - iv. Restricted Funds
Gordon McDonald/Thoms Memorial Fund, Minor Development Fund, Umpire Development Fund and the Board Designated Fund will be reviewed at the April meeting.
- b. Governance Committee
Next meeting on April 14th.
 - i. Membership Policy Update
Pushed to May
 - ii. Review of Committee TORs
Pushed to May

- iii. District Review Working Group
Pushed to May
- c. Minor Advisory Council
Nothing to report. Next Meeting April 13th. The Boys Working Group is meeting on March 13th.
- d. Men's & Women's Advisory Council
Nothing to report. Next meeting is on March 27th. The Slo-Pitch Committee meeting on March 18th.
- e. Umpire Advisory Council
Nothing to report.
- f. Ad Hoc Committees
 - i. Appointing Chairs
 - a. Nominations Committee - D. St-Denis and L. Parks to review and bring a nomination to the April meeting.
 - b. Men's Fastpitch Working Committee - L. MacMillan will contact Rich Haldane about the role of chair and identify potential members working group members.
 - c. Awards Committee - Office to consult the membership. Staff will lead the process for now.
 - d. Coaching Committee - Lori Zehr

Moved by T. Boizard, seconded by L. Larson, to approve the appointment of Lori Zehr as Chair of the Coaching Committee. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

T. Boizard requested a list of members for each committee.

Action: L. MacMillan will contact Rich Haldane about the role of chair and identify potential members for the men's working group members.
D. St-Denis and L. Parkes to review and bring a recommendation for the nomination committee to the April meeting.
Office to consult the membership for the Awards Chair.
Office to create a listing of all committee members for the next Board meeting.

- ii. Hall of Fame
 - a. 2025 inductee recommendations
 - Player Category - Erin (Woods) White
 - Player Category - Kristy Odamura
 - Coach Category - Kelly McGiffin
 - Umpire Category - Kelly Hunter

Motion Terri Boizard, seconded by L. Lavaughn, to approve White, Odamura, McGiffin and Hunter for induction into the Softball BC Hall of Fame.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. New Format

D. St-Denis provided a brief overview of the new format, which has the induction ceremony at the Canada Cup on Friday, July 11th. She also noted Softball BC's participation in the following events at the Canada Cup:

- July 8th - Blues' Night - celebration of umpires
- July 10th - Volunteers' night - a repeat of what we did last year
- July 11th - Softball BC Hall of Fame

T. Boizard inquired about Directors attending these events. D. St-Denis noted that attendance at the Hall of Fame would be appreciated. All other events are budget-dependent if accommodations and travel costs are incurred.

iii. Coaching Development Committee

The newly formed committee is meeting on March 13th.

2.02 Email Votes Reporting

February 25, 2025

MOTION 1:

13.6.2 Rule for 2024 only - CURRENT

INJURY In the case of a forfeit because of injury, the Softball BC Rep will allow that team to compete in any further games and retain their points from any previous games. In women's, for the 2024 season as a trial, the Designated Runner may be subbed in if a team is going to otherwise forfeit the game due to injury causing fewer than 9 players. That player is no longer a DR.

EDIT BEING REQUESTED

INJURY In the case of a forfeit because of injury, the Softball BC Rep will allow that team to compete in any further games and retain their points from any previous games. The Designated Runner may be subbed in if a team is going to otherwise forfeit the game due to injury causing fewer than 9 players. That player is no longer a DR.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 2:

10.7.1.g CURRENT

The DR may not re- enter the game. Exception for 2024 women's only: In the event where an injury would result in a forfeit, the DR may enter the game.

EDIT BEING REQUESTED

The DR may not re- enter the game. Exception: In the event where an injury would result in a forfeit, the DR may enter the game.

CARRIED (6/1/0 - Wheatley Against)

MOTION 3:

11.7.1.f CURRENT

The DR may not re- enter the game.

EDIT BEING REQUESTED

The DR may not re- enter the game. Exception: In the event where an injury would result in a forfeit, the DR may enter the game.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

February 27, 2025

MOTION 1

Softball Canada has informed us that the LOI for U19 Women and Slo-Pitch are due May 1st. We would like to change 15.1 as follows (edits are in bold)

15. 1 LETTER OF INTENT: To represent BC at a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship, teams must complete and submit a Letter of Intent to Softball BC. Deadline for submission is as follows:

- Minor (U13-U19) - May 1st of the current playing season
- Adult (fastpitch only) - June 1st of the current playing season
- Adult (slo pitch only) - June 1st of the year PRECEDING the championship.

FOR 2025 ONLY - Deadline is April 15th for U19 Women's and Slo-Pitch.

CARRIED (6/0/1 - Wheatley Abstained)

MOTION 2

Having received feedback from the Board following its Feb 19th meeting, the Minor Advisory Council has voted in favour to delete this sentence from 8.6.13 "As well, this move in classification must be approved by the District Coordinator " leaving the revised rule to read:

8.6.13. CLASSIFICATION CHANGE - Any team placing 1st in a Provincial Championship moves up on classification, if playing in the same category and having 6 or more returning players to the team in the following year.

Rational:

As there is no interpretation in the application of this rule, members will have no grounds for appeals under Article 5 as there is no decision being set down by their ruling executive, District Coordinator, or a member of the Board of Directors of Softball BC.

CARRIED (6/0/1 - Wheatley Abstained)

3. Operational Business

3.01 Management Report

L. MacMillan confirmed that BC can send an all-star team. The M&W Advisory Council will lead the coach and player selection process.

Moved by R. Allan, seconded by B. Edmaura, to move in camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by B. Edamura, to move out of camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.02 OEI Final Report and Recommendations

Cheryl Humphrey was invited to join the call to answer questions related to the final report and the recommendations. She provided a high-level overview of how Sport Law will develop and support the implementation plan based on their contract with viaSport for this project.

3.03 Championships

a. Host Selection

L. MacMillan inquired about setting a deadline by which the office can inform members that regional or provincial events are cancelled and to avoid purchasing championship items that will not be utilized and cannot be repurposed. L. Larson noted that some minor events, such as regionals, have historically been set a bit later. The consensus was to set April 15th as the deadline for the host to be named and the cancellation of events to be announced.

Moved by R. Allan, seconded by L. Larson, to authorize the office to notify coordinators that celebrations, regionals and provincials that have not been assigned a host by April 15th will be cancelled for the 2025 season.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Action: L. MacMillan to notify coordinators that celebrations, regionals and provincials that have not been assigned a host by April 15th will be cancelled for the 2025 season.

b. Provincial Rep Assignments

L. MacMillan confirmed she would be circulating a request for availability to all Directors and Coordinators. The collected data is to be utilized to identify the most cost-effective and qualified individuals to be the Softball BC Board Representative at our respective provincial events.

Action: L. MacMillan to circulate a request for availability to all Directors and Coordinators and initiate the process of assigning Board reps.

4. New Business

4.01 League Play Oversight - discussion

After some discussion, the Board agreed that the ED should author a paper to be provided to all members for commentary. The paper to speak to”

- Leagues must follow all underlying rules of the game and identify what elements can be altered to enhance the player experience, such as the game's length.
- Identify the challenges our umpires, especially those new additions, are

encountering when the rules of the games are altered.

Action: D. St-Denis to work on creating a position paper on League Play Oversight to bring back to the Board at a later meeting.

4.02 Bylaws, Policies and Standard Operating Rules Editing Cycle

D. St-Denis provided a brief overview of the document and requested feedback from the Directors.

Action: Directors to send feedback on Bylaws, Policies and Standard Operating Rules Editing Cycle to D. St-Denis by April 31, 2025.

4.03 Minor Development Fund Allocation

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by T. Boizard, to approve the recommended disbursement of funds. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.04 Additional Edits to the Handbook

Moved by B. Edamura, seconded by L. Larson, to approve this final edit to 8.3.2.1 8.3.2.1 A minor player may not appear on more than one Approved Roster.

EFFECT: They are ineligible for either team, and ineligible to participate on any team in

District, Provincial or extra-Provincial events.

EXCEPTION:

a. Players may register with two different teams to form a team in a high classification (example: players from 'C' teams combine to form a 'B' team but only if

there is not a team registered in that classification in the District. This team must be

made up of players from at least three teams of a lower classification.

b. See article 8.3.6.7.

A Softball BC registration fee of \$200 per team will apply in both scenarios.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by R. Allan, seconded by S. Wheatley, to maintain the 2024 coaching requirements for all events leading up to and including the BC Provincials for this upcoming season and have staff work with the Chair of the Coaching Development Committee to inform all member associations and independent clubs about the proposed changes for 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.05 Human Resources (In Camera)

Moved by S. Wheatley, seconded by L. Larson to go in camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by S. Wheatley, seconded by L. Larson to move out of camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Next Meeting & Adjournment

April 5th & 6th – in person at the Coast Tsawwassen Inn

Moved by R. Allan, seconded by B. Edamura, to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY