

**Minutes from Board of Directors Meeting  
March 29/30, 2019  
Holiday Inn, Cloverdale**

**Attendance**

***Board of Directors:***

President:	Jake Dewitt
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President	Graeme Duncan
VP, Finance:	Zeone Andrijaszyn
Umpire-In-Chief:	David Brewer
Senior Director:	Dan Coates
Minor Director:	Merv Sandrel
Director of Coaching:	Mike Renney

***Staff:***

Executive Director: Rick Benson

***Absent:***

Member-at-Large: Ian Kellow

***Guest:***

Susan Strafford

6:00 PM – Call to Order

Quorum Present, silent roll call taken

**President's Opening Remarks:**

Jake welcomed the directors to the meeting, and expressed how pleased he was at the amount of work done by the board over the winter months. He further indicated his optimism for the upcoming season and continued growth among the membership.

**Motion No. 1: (G. Duncan/Z. Andrijaszyn)**

“To accept the Agenda with powers to add”

CARRIED

**Motion No. 2: (D. Coates/D. Brewer)**

“To accept the minutes of the February 1/2, 2019 Board of Director's meeting”

CARRIED

**Business Arising From:**

- Action items were reviewed by the ED and board members were updated on the status of each item

**Correspondence:** Correspondence received by the organization was reviewed by the ED with directors. Updates and clarification was provided as requested.

Softball Canada had provided information on a new format for the Canada Summer Games round robin and playoffs, which had been agreed to by a majority of provinces.

As well, Softball Canada advised the provinces of a new certification requirement from CSG, of all coaches to be Competition Development Certified for the 2021 Games. BC will work diligently with the Team BC coaching staff to ensure we meet this requirement.

Softball Canada advised the provinces of the requirement for 2019 that all assistant coaches attending a Canadian Championship have a minimum of Competition Introduction Trained status. Through the Director of Coaching, staff have created a plan to provide an additional clinic for those coaches needing to reach the Trained status.

It was noted as well that various associations from around the province had contacted the Provincial office inquiring about a male player registering with a female team.

## REPORTS

### STAFF

- Reviewed meetings and events attended since last board meeting.
- Minor and Senior Leadership meetings were facilitated by staff and chaired by the respective Minor and Senior Directors. The meetings took place at Douglas College over one day. Feedback was received from the coordinators, which will be included in the planning for the 2020 leadership meetings.
- Reported on the progress made in our Indigenous athlete development plan, with the assistance of ISPARC and Sport4Life. Benson represented SBC at a multi PSO meeting where he gave a report on the steps taken, and plans in place. The report was very well received, the group acknowledged the progress of Softball BC over a relatively short period of time.
- Reported on the Softball Canada camp in February at Richmond Oval. Very successful event, with full registration. Looking at partnering to offer an extended multi week camp during the fall/winter.
- JMNT ID camp has been announced for BC in May
- Softball BC is working with the Indigenous sport council in selecting head coaches for the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG), which take place in 2020
- Increased interest from slo pitch and orthodox leagues to join Softball BC, primarily under Insurance Only, but also receiving interest from slo pitch teams in advance of BC hosting Canadian championships in 2020.
- We are assisting Kitimat Minor softball in sourcing materials for refurbishing of their diamonds by the city. Registration and interest in fastpitch in the Northwest has been growing, Kitimat expects an increase in youth numbers and Prince Rupert advised the local baseball club has folded and their members have joined fastpitch.
- CANHit pilot program has been very well received, with 253 participants around the province taking part. Staff will prepare a report for the board and Softball Canada detailing the structure and recommendations for the program moving forward.

**Action Item** – Staff to provide report to board and MCD on the pilot project.

- Umpire registration update was provided, numbers are above last year total, with a few more areas to report.
- Reported on partnerships with Belair Direct and the benefits for the membership, Black Press program, and advised the board of a new partnership with Team Snap, providing direct benefits back to member clubs.
- Provincial government funding has been confirmed for the next fiscal year, including a modest increase in annual contributions.
- Advised the board of anticipated increases in insurance premiums and expected additional restrictions from the underwriters. The insurance market has gone through hard times recently and so are looking to tighten their policies. Waivers from every participant, and increased risk management procedures must be implemented in order to keep our premium costs under control.

### Motion #3 (Z. Andrijaszyn /M Sandrel)

“To accept the Executive Director’s verbal and written report”

**CARRIED**

**1<sup>st</sup> VP**

- Board accepted report as written and verbally presented
- Announced Princeton has requested to bring a team of U12 girls into the District. They have been approved and will play interlock with the D9 league for 2019

**Motion #4 (Z. Andrijaszyn/D. Coates)**

**CARRIED**

“To accept the 1<sup>st</sup> VP verbal and written report”

**Provincial Umpire-In-Chief**

- Director’s report was reviewed as presented
- Update on province wide initiative for “Bring a Friend” to umpire and be eligible to win gift cards for umpire gear/clothing. After final clinic and registration has been completed, draw will be conducted by the PODC for the gift card.
- Advised the board the PODC has reviewed the locations for Provincials, and there will be some travel required for appropriately certified umpires to manage the events particularly in the north.
- It was noted by the Board that the engagement and activity by the membership at large to attract new umpires has been very successful.
- Director Brewer advised the national umpire group is looking into establishing a national database of umpires, similar to the CAC database.

**Motion #5 (G. Duncan/ M. Renney)**

**CARRIED**

“To accept the written and verbal report from the director”

**Minor Director**

- Director’s report was reviewed as presented
- Surveyed minor coordinators after the leadership meeting, including a question about the process for forming “B” teams in associations.
- Advised the board Zone 3 (districts 7, 8 and 14) has not been able to find a host for the U12C Regional Championships. At this stage, the Minor Director is working with local clubs and coordinators in this zone to find a suitable host. This is a priority for Sandrel to find a host.
- Zone hosts for Regional Championships are being assigned for Zone 1, 2 and 4.
- All minor provincials have been assigned.
- VP Duncan raised a question for the Director, if there is a ratio of Competitive teams to Community teams that LSOs are required to follow. There is a concern when clubs form B teams without a large foundation of C teams, that it ultimately impacts the “House” program negatively. There was considerable discussion about the escalation of the number of Competitive teams and subsequent watering down of Community teams. Rural areas can benefit from the opportunity within our Operating Rules, of forming All Star teams from existing C teams without impacting the house team. The Board recommended that the Competition Review committee look at what the criteria is for forming Competitive teams, and also consider expanding the All Star program to allow for more than one team in a district. The board suggested Minor Coordinators review teams in their district to insure the teams are classified accordingly.

**Action Item** – Request Competition Committee review this matter to make possible recommendations to the Minor Advisory Council.

**Action Item** - Staff to compile a report showing the % of Community to Competitive teams by year and District

**Motion # 6 (D. Coates/Z. Andrijaszyn)**

**CARRIED**

“To accept and approve the written and verbal report of the minor director as submitted”

**Senior Director**

- Received and reviewed the report as written.
- Advised the board that the potential host for the 2019 Western Canada Softball Championships has decided not to pursue the opportunity, and so he is looking for a new host.

- It was noted by Director Coates he received correspondence from concerned members of the adult teams about conflicts in the dates for Provincial Championships between Senior A and Minor A. Because of the necessity to complete Senior A and Intermediate A championships in July to fulfill post Provincial obligations, there would be a potential conflict no matter which weekend was chosen for their Provincials.
  - A discussion was held on how best to manage the expected increase in interest and participation from slo pitch teams for 2020. Potentially a qualifying event, such as a Provincial Championship could be held.
- Action Item** – staff to advise Senior Director of the timelines and criteria for slo pitch teams to register for Nationals

**Motion # 7 (G. Duncan/D. Brewer)**

**CARRIED**

“To accept and approve the written and verbal report of the director as submitted”

**Director of Coaching**

- Reviewed written report as circulated
- Director Renney advised the board that, as chair of the Team BC coach selection committee, he had approached potential members for the selection committee, and the committees had been formed; one for the male team and one for the female team.
- Applications for the position of head coach have been coming in and the Director is pleased with the quality and quantity of applications.

**Motion # 8 (D. Brewer/M. Sandrel)**

**CARRIED**

- To accept the director’s verbal and written reports as presented

**VP Finance**

- Director’s report was reviewed as presented
- Historical summary of the association’s financial status was reviewed, with emphasis on the line of credit. The association’s dependence on the LOC was noted, particularly between 2008 and 2011, as well as the improvements since that time, including current year to date level.
- Operating results from the PSO are showing better than forecast projections YTD

**Motion #9 (D. Coates/G. Duncan)**

**CARRIED**

“To accept and approve director’s report as circulated and discussed”

**Motion # 10 (D. Brewer/ M. Sandrel) 9:45 PM**

**CARRIED**

- to adjourn the meeting for the evening

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
SATURDAY, March 30th, 2019  
Holiday Inn, Cloverdale**

**Motion #11 (Z. Andrijaszyn /M Sandrel) 8:00 AM**

**CARRIED**

To reconvene the Board of Director's meeting

Director Sandrel - Absent

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Budget**

- VP Andrijaszyn presented a draft budget for fiscal 2020. The proposed budget included a shortfall of \$35,000.00 reflecting strategic plan requirements as approved by the board.
- A discussion ensued regarding annual membership fees, and a potential review of the current structure.
- **Action Item** – VP Andrijaszyn and ED Benson to review structure with suggested increase to annual fees, in order to provide financial means to meet our strategic plan objectives. Recommendations to be presented to the board in May, 2019.
- Other opportunities for revenue generation included expanding Provincial Championships were considered, however, as these are already subsidized through government funding, this was not considered to be a viable revenue generator.
- A discussion was held on the umpire registration and clinic facilitation by the office staff and possible opportunities to reduce those costs. A committee from the umpire community will meet with staff to discuss how to make the process more cost efficient
- Umpire travel costs for Provincials was reviewed, and adjusted to allow for suitable officials to attend all the championships
- Coach development expenses were discussed and additional funds allocated to meet strategic plan requirements.

**Motion # 12 (Z. Andrijaszyn/D. Brewer)**

**CARRIED**

To adopt proposed fiscal 2020 budget with the above amendments

**OPERATIONAL PLAN UPDATES**

- Strategic Plan operational plans were presented to the board. These are the guidelines for implementation of the approved strategic plan. After discussion on list of priorities it was decided to move LTAD and Athlete Development Matrix strategies to a higher priority. The board reinforced their priority on community grass roots development in the long term plan.
- Further work was recommended on developing alumni program

**Motion #13 (Z. Andrijaszyn/D. Brewer)**

**CARRIED**

To approve the operational plans as presented and amended

**Email Policy**

- Presented to board for consideration. Discussion followed on the purpose and intent of the policy, which was clarified by the ED

**Motion #14 (D. Brewer/D. Coates)**

**CARRIED**

- To approve the policy as presented

**Impairment and Accommodation Policy**

- Presented to the board, following lead from Softball Canada.

**Motion #15 (D. Brewer/M. Renney)**

- To accept the policy as presented

**CARRIED**

**UPDATES**

**2019 SOFTBALL BC VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE AND AGM**

- Board was updated by ED Benson on plans underway for the 2019 conference. Workshops and seminar planning is underway to meet the objectives of the 2019 Strategic Plan.

**2019 SOFTBALL CANADA CONGRESS**

- Board was updated on plans for the Congress being hosted by Softball BC in Richmond. As host, BC is responsible for transportation, social events, registration and nutrition breaks
- Board recommended staff look into the sponsorship opportunities and potential conflicts with national partners, such as Kahunaverse

**Motion #16 (Z. Andrijaszyn/M. Renney) CARRIED**

Move to In Camera

**Motion #17 (G. Duncan/Z. Andrijaszyn) CARRIED**

Move out of In Camera

**Motion #18 (Z. Andrijaszyn /D. Brewer)**

“To adjourn the meeting” 12:40 PM

**CARRIED**

**Next Board Meeting – September 6/7, 2019 Location TBD**