



Umpire Advisory Council Meeting

August 21, 2025

Conference call

Minutes



Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85825654741?pwd=vAgGLnwC88VuSy0sNgGdDtoyypkCZP.1>

Meeting ID: 858 2565 4741

Passcode: 291671

1. Call to order

1.01 Territorial Acknowledgement & Opening Remarks

Softball BC gratefully acknowledges that we play, train, and compete in facilities located on many traditional and unceded territories of First Nations throughout British Columbia. As part of our commitment to reconciliation, we recognize and honor the distinct cultures and histories of Indigenous peoples – First Nations, Metis, Inuit – across the province. Today I am calling from the unceded territory of the Musqueam Nation.

1.02 Motion to approve the agenda as circulated.

2. New Business

Welcome Terri Boizard as the Board Liaison and Laura MacMillan as the staff member.

2.01 - Review of Provincial Championship season and Canada Cup

- It was great when the same age groups were on the same weekends (e.g. previously U14's all on one weekend instead of combining all A's, B's, C's)
- UIC's mentioned that they would have been more interested in umpiring during the weekend where all the A's were together.
- Canada Cup and Provincials on the same weekend causes a huge stress on umpires at Provincial events. This means that we might not have the most qualified umpire or enough umpires at Provincials.
- We need to recruit and retain more umpires who can work the older age categories.
- We had 889 umpires this season and we need them to stay 3-4 years before they can be comfortable to work the older age categories and higher classifications.
- Umpires are being overworked because there are not enough umpires at Provincial and Canada Cup which has caused issues for umpires returning to the event(s) the following year.
- Billet fees (Canada Cup): If you host an umpire from out of town, you will receive \$50/night as compensation for housing that umpire.

Update on Western and Canadian Championships

- Westerns in Abbotsford went very well with our young umpires. We had an entire female crew, with the oldest being 19-years old.
- We did not send anyone to the U17's as we had an umpire unavailable.
- The list of our umpires who had gold and bronze medal assignments at Westerns, Canadians and Canada Summer Games.
 - U13 Westerns: Gold Plate, Megan Halfnights & Gold Bases, Beth Hoeving. Bronze Plate, Mischa Tung & Bronze Bases, Aaliyah Moxley





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- U15 Westerns: Gold Plate, Dana Edamura
- U15 Boys Canadians: Gold 1st Base, Josko Dujmovic
- U17 Boys Canadians: Gold 1st Base & Bronze 3rd Base, Patrick Penner
- U17 Girls Canadians: Gold Plate, Megan Parsons
- U19 Women's Canadians: Gold Plate, Bronwen Marchant & Gold 3rd Base, Kiera Hamm.
- U20 Men's Canadians: Bronze Plate, Kaleb Hutchinson & Gold 1st Base, Tyler Warren
- Canada Summer Games - Women's: Bronze Plate, Kiera Hamm
- Women's Canadians: Gold Plate, Norma Mino & Gold 2nd Base, Shawn Brant. Bronze Plate, Jason Ranchoux.
- Congratulations to all of our umpires who attended post-provincial events on their success!

2.02 - DUIC elections and procedures

- Need to let Jason know if you intend to let your name stand, if not, please recommend a potential successor(s)
- Procedure on how we elect DUICs
 - Nominations go out on the AGM weekend
 - You or any of your umpires in the District can put your name in for DUIC
- Formalizing the alternating re-elections based on year and District (e.g. Odd Districts/odd years, Even Districts/even years)
 - This is to avoid 15 new DUIC's. This is currently not in the bylaws, so we will need to determine if we would want to put this in place during the AGM.
 - Everyone is up for re-election this year.
 - We will need to provide qualifications (there was one from 2019 in the DUIC Handbook). Teresa Allen may have an old version of this criteria.

2.03 - PODC appointments

- We need help, particularly in the Lower Mainland! Must be minimum 4T
 - We can have up to four (4) PODC members.
 - Nick Allen continues to be on a one year term, until replaced.
 - Jeff Vanzella has put his name forward as a potential PODC member
- Suggestions to alter the make-up of the Committee
 - Examples, Education, Provincials, Recruitment and Retention
 - Potentially a social media and communications PODC member
 - No suggestions of the make up of the PODC.
 - Reach out to Jason Ranchoux if you have ideas of the role of the PODC.





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2.04 - Softball BC Handbook amendments due Aug 31

- Update on submitted revisions/deletion proposals
 - Jason has been working on a few submissions with Tyler Warren and Baukje Edamura
 - Proposing removal of SOR's that are already in the Softball Canada rulebook
 - Recommending that we remove "bases touched" from Provincials and use the Women's format.
- Suggestions regarding Article 19 in the handbook, any changes needed?
 - Please send your recommendations to Jason Ranchoux.
- Suggestions on motions outside of Article 19 will need to be revised by the appropriate councils as well (e.g. minor rules to the Minor Advisory Council, adult rules to the Men's and Women's Council/Slo-Pitch Committee)

2.05 - Province-wide Umpire assigning software

- Looking at Arbiter, Horizon Web Ref, RAMP...any others?
- This would allow all umpires in the Province to be on one system. There has been a number of umpires and associations in areas (e.g. Lower Mainland) and they are not assigned because they do not know there are games available, leading to games being cancelled.
- There is no "ownership" of umpires, if they are not assigned, then they should be able to umpire for another association.
- The potential cost could be \$2,000/year for the entire province (hockey, volleyball, etc. plan their officials this way).
- Concern about umpires going out of District.
- Tabled. Continued discussion in the September meeting.

2.06 – Softball Canada AGM - RULE CHANGE YEAR!

- Any suggestions for rule amendments in the SC rule book? Please send to Jason Ranchoux ASAP
- Keep in mind we are trying to align with WBSC as much as possible

Next Meeting Date? Week of September 20

Adjournment

M: Josko

TIMELINES 2025





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Attendance

District	Coordinator	Attend	Regrets	Not Known
Chair/PUIC	Jason Ranchoux	Y		
1	Teresa Allen	Y		
2	Shawn Brant	Y		
3	Vacant			
4	Samantha Niemi	Y		
5	David Maandag		Y	
6	Tyler Warren		Y	
7	Jeffrey Vanzella	Y		
8	Paul Muirhead	Y		
9	Lucas Crosby		Y	
10	Vacant			
11	Kaleb Hutchinson	Y		
12	Ken Edwards	Y		
13	Vacant			
14	Josko Dujmovic	Y		
15	Calvin Holman		Y	
PODC	Nick Allen	Y		
PODC	Shawn Miller	Y		
PODC	Vacant			
BOD Guest	Terri Boizard	Y		
Staff	Laura MacMillan	Y		

