



**Men's and Women's
Advisory Council
Via Zoom
8:00 PM November 20, 2024**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Al Groff, Chair, MaW Advisory Council
Derek Hipwell D10
Diane MacPherson D14
Deb Tidy Member at Large
Rick Benson Staff
Suzy Parker D6

Tracey Oye D7
Lindsay Dealy D2
Lisa Hayton D3
Mindy Kennedy D15
Tracy Sherlock D5
Merv Sandrel Member at Large

Absent:

Ashley Vukovic D1
Harv Wiens D8
John Pagnotta D11
Joe LaLiberte D12

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- Al Groff welcomed everyone. The Whats App tool is working well, and providing another level of communication to the group.
 - Move to adopt the agenda as approved
Moved by Diane MacPherson, Second by Derek Hipwell
 - No minutes from our last meeting
 - Tracey Oye was nominated for position of vice-chair. As there were no other nominations, Tracey was re-elected by acclimation.
 - Draft budget for the 2025 Provincials was presented to the council for their input. Benson explained the key changes in the proposed budget from the actual summary for the 2024 provincials.
 - Key features of the proposed 2025 championships includes:
Increase in tournament registration fees from \$600.00 to \$650.00 per team
Elimination of the Hosting fee (\$100.00 per category and classification hosted)
Increase in umpire fees from \$200.00 per team registered to \$45.00 per umpire, per game
Return medals as part of the prizing package
Provide prizing based on number of teams registered. When there are six or less teams registered in a classification, we will provide prizing and medals to the top two teams only. When more than six teams register, we will provide prizing for the top three teams.
After some discussion and questions, the council approved the changes proposed to the Provincials.
Moved by Mindy Kennedy and seconded by Diane MacPherson to approve the proposed budget for the 2025 Women's Provincials – APPROVED
 - SOR Motions



1. Amend SOR 10.4.2 when a team places in top three at a championship, they will be reclassified when they have eight or more returning players. Exception Intermediate A will move the first-place team up one classification unless they have eight or more returning players. To read “ Exception Intermediate A will move the first and second place teams up one classification unless they have eight or more returning players.
Moved by Diane MacPherson and seconded by Suzy Parker
Discussion followed to consider amending the number of returning players. The motion was tabled while members considered number of returning players and will be reviewed at the earliest possible date.
Discussion continued via email and an electronic vote was taken on an amendment that there be six or more returning players.
Amendment moved by Deb Tidy, second Harv Wiens. APPROVED
Amended motion carried and approved
2. Amend SOR 10.4.5 a player must have participated in a minimum of four games in order to be eligible for Provincials. Exceptions will be considered due to injury. The Men’s and Women’s Director will have sole authority in this decision. This motion is being amended to read “a dated medical clearance must be available”. Minimum number of games may be reduced in light of the medical restriction. The Men’s and Women’s Coordinator shall have sole authority in this decision”
Motion moved by Tracey Oye, seconded by Barry Riva
Moved by Suzy Parker, seconded by Mindy Kennedy to amend the motion to add “Each previously rostered player” APPROVED
Amended motion approved.
3. Amend SOR 13.6.2 and 10.1.7(g) “In women’s for the 2024 season as a trial,” to remove this phrase, making it a permanent rule.
Moved by Tracey Sherlock, seconded by Diane MacPherson APPROVED
4. Amend SOR 10.3.11 addition/deletion form shall be in effect up until and including the day of the Provincial coach’s meeting. Only additions for documented medical reasons, or moved out of the province will be considered for approval by the Men’s and Women’s Coordinator. After July 1st, approval is to come from the Men’s and Women’s Director.
Amend to read “the addition/deletion form shall be in effect up to and including the day of the Provincial coach’s meeting. Changes to the roster will be permitted as long as there is signoff by both the player and the player’s team coach. Approval of the change to be by the respective Men’s and Women’s Coordinator. Approval can come after July 1st but only until the Tuesday before the start of the provincial to allow proper time to process the changes.”
Moved by Tracy Sherlock, seconded by Mindy Kennedy
An amendment was proposed to remove the first line to avoid confusion, thereby starting with “Only additions for ...” and adding the addition/deletion form as a requirement, so the



amended motion would read “Changes to the roster will be permitted as long as there is signoff by both the player and the player’s team coach, using the addition/deletion form and approved roster. Approval of the change to be by the respective Men’s and Women’s Coordinator. Approval can come after July 1st but only until the Tuesday before the start of the provincial to allow proper time to process the changes.”

Amendment moved by Diane MacPherson, seconded by Suzie Parker APPROVED

Amended motion APPROVED

- All-star teams for Canadian championships

The council had previously endorsed a call for expression of interest from the membership to see how many eligible athletes would be interested in attending a Canadian championship for Men and/or Women as part of an all-star team. BC has been approved for all-star status with Softball Canada, making this a potential pathway to having a team represent us at a Canadian championship. Benson reported we had received 27 expressions of interest over a period of two weeks. The council is encouraged by the level of interest and is keen to have this program move forward. Next steps will be to form a plan for how the team would be selected, including coaches and manager and create a proposal for the board to consider for approval.

Action item – staff will work with the chair to create the proposal for the board and ask to have it included in the December board meeting.

- Classification of teams

The council was asked to provide input and comments on what steps should be taken when considering reclassification of a team. Lower mainland coordinators communicate with each other and ask for feedback from their peers. Due to the distances between Vancouver Island and the lower mainland it is difficult for the coordinators to compare and the LM coordinators felt that they may not have the same criteria and lens when reviewing their team’s classification as those on Vancouver Island. D2 Coordinator said the more familiar we are with each other and the calibre of play we see, particularly when competing at Provincials, the better calibration they can do with their team’s classifications.

- Roundtable

D10 is working on bringing two teams into the association

D2 is concerned that registration for adult teams dropped from eight teams to zero due to the cost of registration vs. the cost of insurance for a team in their league. She asked for any suggestions on how she can overcome the objection of the cost to register, or if Softball BC was considering lowering annual fees. Further she asked that the 2025 fees be published before their league has the meeting end of February to determine how they will register.

D15 will be connecting with teams from her district over the next month to prepare them for the new season, and try to deal with any issues or concerns before they become serious.

D6 reiterated how important it is to have the costs for the new season as early as possible in order to give teams and leagues an opportunity to create their own budgets.



- Motion to adjourn 9:35 PM
Moved by Diane MacPherson, seconded by Suzie Parker APPROVED