



Softball New Brunswick Board Meeting
Monday, March 18th via Zoom

Attendance – Voting Members:

Scott Willis – President (Vote only if tie)
Gracelyn Kaine - Adult Coordinator
Charlie Chaisson - Region 1 Coordinator
Craig Clarkson - Region 3 Director
Paul Bedford - Region 4 Director
Stacy Blois - Minor Female Coordinator
Frances Borque - Region 5 Coordinator
Darleen Sobey - Region 6 Coordinator

Non-Voting Members (Staff):

Hillary Pineau – Executive Director
Cameron Rogers - Technical Director

Vacant Positions:

Slo Pitch Coordinator
Timbits Coordinator
Region 2 Director
Region 7 Director
Region 8 Director

Absent Voting Members:

Dan Mersereau - Vice President (Left at 8:20pm)
Ron Campbell - Provincial Umpire in Chief
Matt Whipple - Minor Male Coordinator

1. Presidents Welcome

- a. Meeting following the Special Meeting of the Members

2. Land Acknowledgement

- a. Read by Vice President, Dan Mersereau
- b. Softball New Brunswick's office is located on the traditional unceded territories of the Wolastoqiyik, Mi'kmaq, and Peskotomuhkati Nations. We honour the traditional lands and homelands of all indigenous peoples and communities across Canada, including First Nations, Inuit, Métis living both on and off reserve, in rural and urban communities.

3. Recap on Special Meeting of the Membership

- a. Board reviewed the spring upcoming deadlines
 - i. March 21st
 1. Notice of Motion Deadline for Softball NB AGM
 - a. Hillary Pineau will prepare the notice of motions that are being recommended from the Board of Directors and will present them at the April Board meeting ahead of the Annual General Meeting.
 - ii. April 6th
 1. Nomination Deadline for Board Positions
 - iii. April 15th



1. Zoom Board meeting to review Notice of Motions and discuss AGM
- iv. April 20th
 1. Softball NB AGM @ Fredericton Inn
 2. Coach Symposium

4. Financial Update

- a. Ellen Fitzsimmons (Treasurer) provided an updated financial report to the Board of Directors. She recapped some of the changes completed to the way the financials are tracked
 - i. Income Statement
 - ii. Balance Sheet
- b. Credit Card Proposal
 - i. Hillary Pineau proposed the Board of Directors consider applying for a company credit card. Hillary reviewed a proposal that was circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting.
 1. Motion to permit Softball New Brunswick staff to apply for a small business credit card to pay for company expenses. Credit Card statements are to be regularly included in the financial updates to the Board of Directors
 - a. First: France Bourque Second: Darleen Sobey
 - Carried

5. Registration Update

- a. 2019-2024
- b. Hillary Pineau presented a current snapshot of the registered membership for the 2024 season. She compared the registration trends from the last 5 years and predicts there will be an increase in the overall membership this season.

6. Umpire Update

- a. Cameron Rogers updated the Board of Directors that umpire clinics are being scheduled currently and registration would be launched later in the week

7. Softball Affordable for All

- a. Darleen Sobey indicated to the Board of Directors that she wanted to ensure that our programming remains affordable for all members. She indicated that she does not want to see things get too expensive and unaffordable
 - i. Hillary Pineau and Cameron Rogers reassured that affordability is top priority when creating new programs and budgeting. They also indicated that there are programs for financial aid (Kidsport, Jumpstart, Pro Kids, Pro Jeunesse) that families may consider applying for, if needed.

8. First Nation update



- a. Darleen Sobey indicated that she contacted select First Nations communities in an effort to begin the development of relationships with them and discuss potential softball programming
 - i. To date, she has not received any responses, and has indicated that she will plan follow up and meet with select groups in person and provide an update at the next Board meeting.
- 9. Regional updates**
- a. Regional Directors all provided an update of what has been currently going on in their areas ahead of the 2024 season.
- 10. Provincial Teams**
- a. Fundraisers events
 - i. The Board of Directors had a conversation on the selling of alcohol as fundraisers under the NB Selects provincial team programs.
 - ii. The Board of Directors will not permit the selling of liquor/cannabis products as fundraisers for the NB Selects Provincial Team Program. This applies to all programs (U20 and below)
- 11. Player release process**
- a. Cameron Rogers outlined a proposed revised Minor Release process to manage athletes playing outside their region due to lack of teams available and/or exceptional circumstances.
 - i. Proposed Process
 - b. Motion to accept proposed Regional Release Process as presented
 - i. First: Paul Bedford Second: France Bourque
Carried
- 12. Minor Rules**
- a. Minor Rules discussion was tabled to the next meeting
- 13. Coach Symposium**
- a. Coach symposium will be held on Saturday, April 20th following the completion of the Annual General Meeting
 - b. Cameron Rogers and Hillary Pineau are planning instructors and sessions. Sessions will be tailored to coaches of all skill levels
- 14. Adjournment**
- a. First: France Bourque