



Softball New Brunswick Board Meeting

September 12th, 2022 - 7:30pm

Meeting Minutes

Attendance – Voting Members:

Scott Willis – President (Vote only if tie)
Mark Gough – Vice President
Breanna Saulnier – Region 5 Director
Darleen Sobey - Region 6 Director
Dan Mersereau – Adult Coordinator
Ron Campbell - Provincial Umpire in Chief
Gracelyn Kaine - Minor Female Coordinator
Angela Sanford - Timbit Softball Coordinator

Non-Voting Members (Staff):

Hillary Pineau – Executive Director
Matt Whipple - Technical Director

Absent:

John Paixao - Treasurer (Non Voting)

Vacant Positions:

Region 2 Director
Region 3 Director
Region 4 Director
Region 7 Director
Region 8 Director
Minor Male Coordinator
Slo Pitch Coordinator

1. Presidents Welcome
2. [Land Acknowledgement](#)
3. [Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting](#)
4. SNB Board
 - i. Board reviewed a list of the current filled and current vacant positions on the Board of Directors.
 1. The Treasurer position is the main priority to fill, followed by the director positions
 - ii. It was agreed that the Board needs to develop a recruitment strategy
 - iii. Mark Gough questioned if there has been anymore consideration of changing the board structure, as it was discussed in previous meetings. Scott Willis indicated it had not yet been revisited as it was first presented going into the season but is worth revisiting. When discussed in early 2022, the board agreed to wait and see the direction SBC was going with the board structure review.
5. 2023 Priorities
 - a. Development of a Discipline Committee



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- i. Need to develop a committee designated to handling discipline which in turn will help free up the Executive Director so they can focus on the day to day operations.
- ii. Looking at potentially seeking representation from each organization to serve on the committee and or individuals with or without softball experience.
- b. Rules and Regulations Handbook
 - i. Rules and Regulations need to be updated, top priority for 2023
 - 1. Winter project for ED/TD and BOD and to be rolled out in spring 2023
 - 2. Combine all SNB documents and policies into 1 spot
 - 3. Update document annually
- c. Pitching Program
 - i. Matt Whipple has been working with Bobby Despres to design a pitching program for our minor membership – Ages 8-15 (approximately).
 - ii. Matt is requesting from the board to consider potential candidates to become Regional Pitching Instructors.

Dan Mersereau joined the meeting at 7:53pm

6. 2022 Canada Summer Games Recap

- a. Board was giving a top line report of each team's performance. A review of each program will be conducted before hiring the 2025 coaching staff.
- b. Women's Team Placed 7th
- c. Men's Team Placed 10th

7. Eastern Canadians

- a. New Brunswick Hosted Tournaments
 - i. U13 Boys and Girls
 - 1. Both tournaments went very well in Fredericton and Oromocto
 - a. 12 girls teams in Fredericton, 5 boys teams in Oromocto
- b. Report back on results from others who went away
 - i. Results
 - 1. U17 Girls - Congratulations
 - a. Southern Black Bears - GOLD
 - i. Monica Bourque (Top Pitcher)
 - b. Oromocto Silverbacks - SILVER
 - i. Emily Rowe (Top Batter, MVP)



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- c. New Brunswick Team attendance at Easterns
 - i. U13 Boys – 2 teams
 - ii. U13 Girls – 3 teams
 - iii. U15 Boys – 1 team
 - iv. U15 Girls – 1 team
 - v. U17 Girls – 2 teams
 - vi. Intermediate Men's – 1 team
 - vii. Intermediate Women's – 1 team

8. Provincial Teams

- a. Softball NB sent 4 Provincial Teams away to Canadian Championships in 2022
 - i. U15 Girls – Saskatoon
 - ii. U17 Girls – Montreal
 - iii. U19 Women's – Fredericton
 - iv. U17 Boys – Saskatoon
- b. Overall success for the first year running the program.
 - i. Selection process can improve (more consistent)
- c. Equipment and Jersey challenges/delays due to supply chain struggles. Should improve in 2023
- d. Call for coaches planned for November 2022 with tryouts being planned for winter 2023
- e. Matt Whipple is planning to schedule a recap with coaches in later September and use the feedback to streamline the tryout criteria and selection process

9. Provincial Championships

- a. Hillary Pineau reviewed the Provincial Championship tournaments that were hosted in 2022
 - i. Several cancellations due to lack of hosts or registered teams
 - ii. U13 Girls postponed due to lack of umpires
 - iii. Need to prioritize reintroducing these tournaments in 2023
- b. Tournament Rules and Regulations document will be reviewed and updated for 2023

10. Fall Banquet / Awards

- a. Fall banquet will be resuming in October 2022
- b. Hillary Pineau will be working with Angela Sanford and Gracelyn Kaine to plan the event

11. Scholarship

- a. Account Balance - \$2257.80
- b. Softball NB will be advertising for the scholarships beginning next week
- c. Breanna Saulnier requested to update the scholarship candidacy to be more inclusive. Will now distribute 2 scholarships to two individuals, rather than 1 female and 1 male.



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12. Softball Canada AGM

- a. Coming up in November (9-12th) at the Fredericton Inn
- b. Hillary / Scott / Matt to begin planning over the next few weeks. Will be following budget approved at previous board meeting
- c. Documentation needs to be submitted to Softball Canada by October 1st
- d. Board representation is encouraged at the event.
- e. Volunteers will be needed
- f. **Motion to support George Gillett's induction to the Softball Canada Hall of Fame up to a maximum of \$1,500 towards the cost of tickets and accommodations.**
 - i. **First: Mark Gough** **Second: Angela Sanford**
Carried: 7-0

13. 2022 U19 Women's Canadian Championships Recap

- a. 17 teams in attendance
- b. Very successful. Board was very pleased with the outcome of the event
 - i. A lot of positive feedback was received from across the country
- c. Board agreed that a thank you to the City of Fredericton and to all sponsors / volunteers is needed
- d. Hillary Pineau is currently finalizing financial and the tournament report

14. Year End

- a. Financial Update
 - i. Hillary Pineau provided an overview of financials for Softball NB
 1. Overall, in very good shape financially. A good year.
- b. September 30th is Softball NB Year End. Hillary Pineau will be finalizing required documentation with John Paixao and will approach Ken Cogswell to once again for required review

15. New Business

- a. Provincial Team Bats
 - i. A proposal was made to purchase bats from Softball Canada at a discounted rate to provide to Provincial Teams for use
 - ii. **Motion to purchase up to \$2,000 of discounted bats from Softball Canada to distribute up to Softball NB's discretion**
 1. **First: Ron Campbell** **Second: Mark Gough**
Carried: 6-0-1
- b. Oromocto and Area Wall of Fame
 - i. Craig Carr going is being inducted as an official this November



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- ii. Hillary Pineau shared she was approached by Dale Currie to purchase an advertisement for their commemorative program
- iii. **Motion to purchase 1 full page advertisement (\$100) for the Oromocto and Area Sports Wall of Fame to support Craig Carr's induction. \$50 will come from the umpires account and the other \$50 will come from Softball NB.**

1. **First: Ron Campbell** **Second: Angela Sanford**
Carried: 7-0

c. Canadian Championship Bid

- i. Matt Whipple made a proposal to the board of directors to consider the opportunity to submit a bid for both the 2023 U15 and U17 boys Canadian Championships in Fredericton. His proposal was reviewed with support from the City of Fredericton (tournament host fee / 2022 U19 Tournament in kind services) and the Fredericton Inn as host hotel with room rebate.
- ii. Discussion was had by the board on the opportunity these championships will provide to promote the male game of fastpitch as the 2022 U19 Women's Canadian Championship.
- iii. **Motion to support a bid for the U17 and U15 boys Canadian Championships for Fredericton, NB, for 2023. This tournament would be hosted by Softball NB**

1. **First: Dan Mersereau** **Second: Darleen Sobey**
Carried: 7-0

16. Adjournment

a. **Motion to Adjourn**

- i. **First: Mark Gough**



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