



**Softball New Brunswick Board Meeting**  
**September 17th, 2024 via Zoom**  
**8:00pm ADT**

**Attendance – Voting Members:**

Scott Willis – President (Vote only if tie)  
Dan Mersereau - Vice President  
Ron Campbell - Provincial Umpire in Chief  
Gracelyn Kaine - Human Resource Coordinator  
Hillary Pineau - Grassroots Coordinator  
Matt Whipple - High Performance Coordinator  
Charlie Chaisson - North Western Coordinator  
Craig Clarkson - Capital Western Director  
Paul Bedford - Fundy Director  
Frances Borque - South Eastern Coordinator  
Darleen Sobey - North Eastern Coordinator

**Non-Voting:**

Cameron Rogers - Executive Director

**Vacant Positions:**

Adult Coordinator

**Non-Voting Observer**

**Absent - Voting Members:**

**1. Presidents Welcome**

- a. Welcome
- b. Add Provincial Supervisor Fee to agenda as point #12 to the agenda
- c. Committee's
  - i. Put together committees for hiring, leading programs, etc. They are formed for a reason, and they should be making their recommendations and we vote on them. We don't need to get bogged down with allowing the Board to get involved in stating their opinions. That is why we put the committees in place.
    1. **Amended:** As outlined in our by-laws the President is responsible to create standing committees. They are formed and discuss the topics on the table at length and bring forward recommendations to the board to be voted on. When the recommendations are brought forward there



should be minimal discussion by the board, each board member should vote on the motion based on the information brought forward from the committee and their recommendations.

**a. Motion to Amend:**

First: France Bourque      Second: Ron Campbell

Carried 8-0-0

ii. Regional Meetings

1. Spring and fall meetings should be done by each region
2. Can be done via Zoom
3. Should have their fall meeting done prior to Oct 5th Board meeting
  - a. Discuss highlight good/bad of season 2024
  - b. Hold elections for directors to follow schedule

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

- a. Dan Mersereau read the land acknowledgement

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**a. Motion to accept the minutes of the August 27th Board Meeting.**

- i. First: Hillary Pineau      Second: Craig Clarkson

Carried 10-0-1

**4. TD / Royal Bank update**

- a. Cameron Rogers recapped the issues that SNB has had with TD the last several months: Credit Card, Signees, Umpire Account. She and Scott Willis met with RBC last week. They have some systems more geared toward small two to sign business.
- b. In the process of setting up the accounts now and getting familiar
- c. Planning to get officially up and going as of October 1st
- d. Ellen Fitzsimmons fully in the loop of transition and coming into the office tomorrow to go over year end and the changes

**5. Finances**

- a. YTD Budget





- ii. Scott Willis outlined we can afford the increase, but would appreciate some grace over the next year
- iii. Rent to increase from \$402 to \$700
  - 1. Maintain the storage, boardroom, office space
  - 2. Eliminated the Apple Storage
- iv. We do have the room in the budget for this increase. Our organization has grown and needs a public space
- v. France Bourque highlighted it was a good price for our rent. Mentioned staff may consider asking about locking in our spot in the office for 5 years
  - 1. Cameron Rogers outlined that likely can't happen as we have been told Sport NB will be looking to move in the next two years.

## 7. Technical Director Position

- a. Cameron Rogers, Scott Willis, Gracelyn Kaine, and Hillary Pineau interviewed 1 candidate for the position.
  - i. **Amended:** There was 1 application for the position. Cameron Rogers, Scott Willis, Gracelyn Kaine, and Hillary Pineau interviewed 1 candidate for the position.
    - 1. **Motion to Amend:**  
First: France Bourque      Second: Craig Clarkson  
Carried 8-0-0
- b. Applicant lives in Saint John (formerly from Ontario). Scott Willis gave a summary of the interview with the candidate and provided details of the reference conversations he had.
- c. Motion to offer Megan Diercks the full time position of Softball New Brunswick Technical Director
  - i. First: Hillary Pineau      Second: Matt Whipple  
Discussion: France Bourque inquired about what the salary range posted on the position was (\$40,000-\$45,000). Inquired if we will be offering the lower end given certain deficiencies in the candidate that don't fill all the outlined



responsibilities of the Technical Director. Ron Campbell outlined that he spoke to umpires at Senior Men's about Megan who sighted she was very keen, a hard worker and someone that will be beneficial to the our umpiring program.

Carried: 11-0-0

#### **8. Hall of Fame/Annual Awards Ceremony - October 4th Fredericton Inn**

- a. Tickets on sale now
  - i. \$65/person
  - ii. Costs are high right now
- b. Award winners finalized today, will be announced on social media as soon as possible
- c. Will lose money this year based on the forecasted budget but it is a premier event and need to honor our inductees and winners.
- d. Will be doing a fundraiser to support the Janiva Willis Scholarship, if this goes well, extra money made can help to offset the costs of the event.
  - i. Scott Willis asked if any board members have any items to put into the auction, we would appreciate it.

#### **9. Provincial Teams**

##### **a. Assistant Coaches**

##### **i. Motion to approve Ricky LeBlanc as Assistant Coach of the U15 NB Selects Provincial Team for 2025.**

1. First: Dan Mersereau                      Second: Charlie Chiasson

Carried: 11-0-0

##### **ii. Motion to approve Jeremy Tracy as Assistant Coach of the U15 NB Selects Provincial Team for 2025.**

1. First: Dan Mersereau                      Second: Darleen Sobey

##### **2. Motion to table the motion**

a. First: Hillary Pineau                      Second: France Bourque

Carried: 8-2-0

##### **b. U15 / U17 Boys / U19 Women's - call for interest**



- i. Cameron Rogers outlined that we had not put out a call for coaches for these age groups as of yet due to timing, and lack of registrants previously.
- ii. U19 Girls - Will be putting out a call for players out first for these age groups prior to putting out a call for coaches to ensure there is enough interest and pitching to put forward a team to attend the Canadian Championship in Surrey, BC. They could possibly play in the Maritime weekends and not attend Canadians as well.
- iii. U15 & U17 Boys - A priority to get these teams up and going this year. Will be also putting out a call for players first to ensure there is enough interest to run the program
  1. Canadian Championship locations are still TBD for these age groups

#### **10. Male Committee direction**

- a. Hillary Pineau outlined plan for male ball
  - i. Will have a more detailed plan as of our October meeting
  - ii. Planning meeting for fall season so come out of the gate in 2025 swinging with some new groups and interest
    1. Invite:
      - a. Associations
      - b. Municipalities
      - c. Regional Directors
      - d. Call for volunteers
    2. Generate social media posts and videos, plan for distribution of promotional items

#### **11. Roundtable**

- a. **Sunday - October 27th**
  - i. Planning a roundtable chat with membership
    1. A variety of topics to consider
      - a. Seeding for Provincials



- b. Male Ball
  - c. Skills and Drills
  - d. Playing Rules
  - e. Coach Development
- ii. Paul Bedford inquired if we should consider doing the roundtables at a regional level instead. Get a better turnout, rather than doing a provincial level one where more people need to travel
- 1. Scott Willis agrees that it is a good suggestion for the future. At this point, use their own regional meetings as that opportunity to do a roundtable and bring concerns to Cameron for topics for the Provincial level roundtable

**12. Provincial Championship Supervisor Fee**

- a. Table to October meeting

**13. Next meeting - October 5th Fredericton Inn**

- a. **Motion to adjourn**
  - i. First: France Bourque