



Softball New Brunswick Board Meeting
December 13th, 2022 - 8:00pm
Meeting Minutes

Attendance – Voting Members:

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

Vacant Positions:

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

Agenda:

- 1. Presidents Welcome**
 - a. President Willis called the meeting to order
- 2. Land Acknowledgement**
- 3. Sport Law Complaint Decision**
 - a. Hillary Pineau updated the BOD that she sought out services of Sport Law to serve as an independent third party and review/rule on an appeal submitted to Softball New Brunswick related to an incident back in June 2022.
 - i. Appeal was dismissed by Sport Law
 - ii. Hillary is waiting on the invoice and will update the BOD on cost
 - b. Going forward, complaints and appeals will fall under the Safe Sport NB partnership with ITP Sport at no charge to the PSO.
- 4. Winter Board Meeting**
 - a. Scheduled for February 4-5th, 2023
 - b. Via Zoom
- 5. Eastern Canadian Implementation of DP/Flex at U15**
 - a. Hillary Pineau updated the BOD that Softball Canada will be implementing the DP/Flex rule at U15 Canadian Championships beginning in 2023 on a 1 year trial.



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- b. Hillary also noted the ECSC committee considering the same implementation in 2023 at U15 championships
- c. Hillary proposed to the BOD to consider implementing the DP/Flex rule at the U15 'AA' level Provincial League and Provincial Championships
 - i. This is in an effort to help to teach coaches how to use the rule earlier and be better prepared for Eastern Canadian Championships and Canadian Championships
 - ii. Board was all in agreement to implement the rule beginning in 2023.
 - iii. Ron Campbell did outline some concern of implementing the rule from the perspective of officials and coaches, indicating there will be a significant learning curve for all parties.

6. 2023 Registration Fees

- a. RAMP update
 - i. Hillary Pineau provided the BOD an update regarding the new website/registration platform Launch
 - 1. Website and registration platform is currently under development
 - 2. Intending to launch to membership end of January 2023
 - 3. Standard messaging going out to clubs start of January to let them know of change in platforms
 - 4. Training sessions will be scheduled
 - ii. Registration Fees
 - 1. Hillary Pineau made a proposal to the BOD regarding reviewing the registration fees for the 2023 season
 - a. Over the month of November, Hillary conducted a cost comparison to softball PSO's across the country
 - 2. 2023 Registration Fee Proposal
 - a. Players
 - i. U5-U9 - \$15.00/each
 - ii. U11-U20 - \$25.00/each
 - b. Coaches
 - i. Remain \$10.00/each
 - c. Adult Teams
 - i. Remain \$75.00/team
 - d. Minor Teams
 - i. U5-U9 - \$30.00/team
 - ii. U11-U20 - \$50.00/team



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3. **Motion to accept the proposed price increases for the 2023 season. Softball NB Membership will run from February 2023 to January 31st, 2024**

a. **First: Angela Sanford Second: Ron Campbeel**
Carried: 6-0

7. Launch of New Softball NB Logo

- a. Hillary Pineau informed the BOD she had been working with Valley Graphics, and they are in the final stages of developing the new organization logos
 - i. Valley Graphics are making a few edits to the current logos and will have finalized by the end of December
 - ii. Hillarys recommended timeline to unveil the logo to membership is the end of January 2023, to which the BOD agreed.

8. 2022 Softball Canada AGM Recap

- a. Hillary Pineau and Scott Willis presented a recap and the financials from the Softball Canada AGM to the BOD
 - i. Event was very well attended and ran well on our behalf.
 - ii. Softball Canada and delegates had several positive comments

b. Softball Canada AGM Financials

- i. SNB did overspend on the event by approx \$2,900
 1. Increased costs (based on initial 2020 budget) was attributed to the following:
 - a. Changes to the Room Rebate from the Fredericton Inn (\$20/room to \$10/room) due to the changes in the economic landscape post Covid 19.
 - b. Inflation of food costs
 - c. These 2 factors accounted for the overspend of \$2900.00.

9. Provincial Team Coaching Interviews

- a. Scott Willis & Dan Mersereau left the call at 8:35pm prior to the BOD discussing Provincial Team Coaching Interviews
- b. The hiring committed conducted three interviews for the Head Coach positions of the U15 Girls, U17 Girls, and U17 Boys program
- c. Committee reviewed and evaluated each interview and are recommending the following to the Board of Directors:
 1. U15 Girls - Rob Scott
 2. U17 Boys - Scott Willis
 3. U17 Girls - Dan Mersereau

- d. **Motion to accept Rob Scott (U15 Girls), Scott Willis (U17 Boys), and Dan Mersereau (U17 Girls) for the head coach positions of the 2023 Provincial Team Programs**

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- i. **First: Mark Gough** **Second: Angela Sanford**
Carried: 6-0

- e. U15 Boys / U19 Women's programs
 - i. Committee did receive applications for the U15 Boys and U19 Women's programs
 - 1. Will be conducting interviews in the new year
- f. Scott Willis & Dan Mersereau returned to the call at 8:44pm

10. Regional meeting voting procedures

- a. Hillary Pineau outlined to the BOD that there are currently no set voting procedures for regional meetings.
- b. Hillary recommended that there is a need to develop some criteria around regional meeting voting procedures to be consistent across the province.
- c. BOD indicated that while there needs to be consistency across the province, the needs of each region is vastly different. A set voting procedure may not work for all regions
 - i. BOD suggested perhaps instead SNB supports the regions and provides a set agenda to the regions to go over
 - ii. Hillary indicated she will take this feedback away and come back with a proposal at a later date

11. 2023 East Coast Showdown

- a. Hillary Pineau recapped to the BOD that the 2022 East Coast Showdown was a very successful tournament and was well received by all teams that participated and the officials. Recommending it is held again in 2023 for the U5 B/G and U17 B/G Provincial Teams

12. Umpires Program

- a. Ron Campbell provided an update regarding the umpiring program in NB
 - i. 2023 is going to be a very busy year
 - 1. He is currently assessing how many umpires will return in 2023
 - 2. Clinics are beginning to be scheduled
 - 3. 2023 will be costly for the umpires program
 - a. Events
 - i. Blue Convention
 - ii. Canadian Championships
 - b. Umpires program cannot continue to cover the cost of travel to provincial tournaments for hosts. It is the hosts responsibility to cover mileage, accommodations, and meals for umpires travelling from outside the zone



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- i. Ron Campbell is recommending to each Regional Director to put in an application for funding for officials development

13. Timbits Program

- a. Angela Sanford provided an update to the BOD regarding the Timbits program
 - i. In 2023, the focus of the Timbits program need to be put on areas where we are currently seeing growth (Woodstock, Miramichi, Moncton)
 - ii. Need to make better use of the students' hours and hold more day time sessions.
 - iii. Angela indicated that she would like to do gym sessions in February and some coach educations for Timbits
 - iv. Angela also indicated that our approach in developing a growing relationship with the Indigenous communities needs to shift.
 1. SNB needs to be a support of Indigenous leaders
 2. Consult Chiefs and get their support prior to scheduling events
 - v. Angela indicated that she will have a detailed proposal in February for the BOD to consider regarding the program
 - vi. Hillary Pineau will look into reapplying for the Leadership Development Grant through GoNB in January.

14. New Business

- a. No New Business

15. Motion To Adjourn

- a. First: Mark Gough



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