

**Annual General Meeting  
November 23, 2022**





## **AGENDA**

St. Albert Minor Baseball Association  
2022 Annual General Meeting  
November 23, 2022 – 7:00 pm

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome by President and Introduction of SAMBA Board Members
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of 2021 AGM minutes
5. Call for Open Executive Board Members
6. SAMBA Executives and Directors Reports
  - President's Report
  - Questions/Comments from any of the Directors reports
7. Financial Report
  - 2022 Financial Review and Approval
  - 2023 Budget Review and Approval
8. New Business
9. Adjournment



## Meeting Notes

Annual General Meeting – 2021

Date: November 24, 2021

Place/Time: Virtually via Google Meetings at 7:00 pm (COVID-19 Restrictions in Place)

Attendees: See attached sheet

### Item

#### 1. Call to Order

- Kurtus Millar called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm
- Brenda Bourassa, Secretary, explained the virtual meeting format as well as the voting procedures.

#### 2. Welcome by President and Introduction of SAMBA Board Members

- President Kurtus Millar welcomed all SAMBA Members and Guests to the 2021 Annual General Meeting and stated that this is the largest AGM he recalls.
- Kurtus acknowledged Tara Feser, our City of St. Albert liaison.
- Kurtus then introduced the current Board of Directors and non-Board members. Kurtus noted that Brian Hartman, Technical Director, was not in attendance as he has stepped down as Technical Director. Kurtus thanked Brian and his family for their time on the board.

#### 3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Neil Neary to Approve the 2021 Agenda as presented, seconded by Rob Hardy. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 4. Approval of 2020 AGM Minutes

Motion by Tony Golab to Approve the 2020 AGM Minutes of Meeting as presented, seconded by Jackie Colville. Motion carried unanimously.

Brenda Bourassa led the AGM through the special resolutions (amendments) to the SAMBA Bylaws.

#### 5. 2021 Proposed Amendments to SAMBA By-Laws

**Special Resolution #1:** to accept the following corrections throughout:

- change “chairman” to “chairperson”
- change any and all references to Rookie to read 9U, Mosquito to read 11U, Peewee to read 13U, Bantam to read 15U, and Midget to read 18U
- fix references to Association to read Society and vice versa where applicable
- minor grammar, formatting, and capitalization edits

Motion by Neil Neary to accept Special Resolution #1 as presented, seconded by Nicole Langlois.

Motion carried unanimously.

## **Item**

### **Special Resolution #2:** to amend 2.1 Definitions

Motion by Danielle Moffat to accept Special Resolution #2 as presented with above noted edit, seconded by Rob Hardy. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #3:** to amend 4.4 Meetings of the Members

Motion by Brian Bourassa to accept Special Resolution #3 as presented, seconded by Tony Golab. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #4:** to amend 4.7 (d, e) Termination of Membership

Motion by Neil Neary to accept Special Resolution #4 as presented, seconded by Darren Kirstiuk. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #5:** to amend 4.8 (a) Appeal Procedure Applicable to Termination of Memberships

Motion by Pat Sullivan to accept Special Resolution #5 as presented, seconded by Cori White. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #6:** to amend 5.4 Election and Term of Directors and Officers

Motion by Rob Hardy to accept Special Resolution #6 as presented, seconded by Jackie Colville. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #7:** to amend 5.7 (j) Meetings of Directors

Motion by Tony Golab to accept Special Resolution #7 as presented with above edit, seconded by Brian Bourassa. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #8:** to amend 5.10 Remuneration of Directors and Officers

Motion by Neil Neary to accept Special Resolution #8 as presented, seconded by Jackie Colville. Motion carried.

### **Special Resolution #9:** amend 6.3 Duties and Responsibilities of Officers

Motion by Mark Brisson to accept Special Resolution #9 as presented, seconded by Jackie Colville. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #10:** to make the amendments to 7.1 (d) under Article 7 Committees

Motion by Tony Golab to accept Special Resolution #10 as presented, seconded by Pat Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously.

## Item

### **Special Resolution #11:** amend 7.1 (a) Nominating Committee

Motion by Jackie Colville to accept Special Resolution #11 as presented, seconded by Tony Golab.  
Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #12:** amend Article 8 Appointment of Volunteers

Motion by Neil Neary to accept Special Resolution #12 as presented, seconded by Brian Bourassa.  
Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #13:** to amend 10.6 under Article 10 Books and Records

Motion by Nicole Langlois to accept Special Resolution #13 as presented, seconded by Pat Sullivan.  
Motion carried unanimously.

### **Special Resolution #14:** to amend Article 10 Books and Records, subsection 10.10 Distribution of Assets on Dissolution of a Team

Motion by Mathieu Brisson to accept Special Resolution #14 as presented, seconded by Rob Hardy.  
Motion carried unanimously.

## **6. Call for Open Executive Board Members**

### Open Executive and Board Positions:

Vice President – Darren Kirstiuk

Treasurer – Jackie Colville

Sr House League Director – Cori White

Sr Rep Director – Tony Golab

Marketing/Fundraising Director – Vacant

Special Events Director – Danielle Moffat

Technical Director – Vacant; open for a one year term as Brian Hartman has stepped down

### Call for Nominations for the Position of **Technical Director**

Neil Neary nominates Shayne Courtorielle for Election as a 1 year term  
Shayne Courtorielle is elected by acclamation as the Technical Director.

### Call for Nominations for the Position of **Special Events Director**

Pat Sullivan nominates Danielle Moffat for Re-Election as a 2 year term  
Danielle Moffat is elected by acclamation as Special Events Director.

### Call for Nominations for the Position of **Marketing Director**

Corey Nestmann nominates Candace Sloan

Tommy Jenkins nominates Sophia Jenkins

Sophia Jenkins is elected as Marketing Director as a 2 year term.

## Item

### Call for Nominations for the Position of **Senior Rep Director**

Darren Kirstiuk nominates Tony Golab for Re-Election as a 2 year term

Tony Golab is elected by acclamation as Senior Rep Director.

### Call for Nominations for the Position of **Senior House League Director**

Tony Golab nominates Cori White for Re-Election as a 2 year term

Cori White is elected by acclamation as Senior House League Director

### Call for Nominations for the Positions **Treasurer**

Brenda Bourassa nominates Jackie Colville for Re-Election as a 2 year term

Jackie Colville is elected by acclamation as Treasurer.

### Call for Nominations for the Position of **Vice President**

Rob Hardy nominates Darren Kirstiuk for Re-Election

Melissa Logan nominates Byron Whittall

John Bressler nominates John Robinson

Darren Kirstiuk is elected as Vice President for a 2 year term.

### **Elected In-Coming Non-Board Members:**

Will be formally appointed at the December 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

## 7. **SAMBA Executive Repots**

### 7A. **SAMBA President's Report**

Kurtus' full report is in the AGM packet. He shared some key points verbally and took several questions.

- Darren thanked Kurtus for all his time and effort throughout the 2021 season and the entire time he has been part of SAMBA. Looking back it feels like the last 2 years has been a blur but due to Kurtus' leadership and the strength of the board we were able to get through COVID. On behalf of myself (Darren Kirstiuk), the board, and the membership I want to thank you, and thank you is not enough to justify what you do.
- Mark Brisson echoed Darren's comment and recognized the work of the board. Having been on boards, he noted the work you do and how much you volunteer.
- Kerri Groff wanted to acknowledge the development program; it is about St Albert kids, around St Albert kids and they benefit from it, great program and the organization should support it. Great job Kurtus.
- Brian Bourassa acknowledged Mike Fitka and Eng-Con and the help they gave SAMBA with the water line fix and working with us on sponsorship to rename the 18U field to Eng-Con Field.

Q: Has there been any discussion on running anything in the winter for the younger players.

A: Yes, definitely planning something at Servus Place and using the Millar Field House; will offer winter camps and goal is to have details posted before Christmas.

## **Item**

### **8. Financial Report**

#### **8A. 2021 Financial Review**

Jackie Colville, Treasurer, provided an overview of the Financial Statements for 2021, and verbally took several questions.

- Jackie described normal process would be a motion to approve the financials which have been certified by two members
- One of the members asked to assist was not comfortable certifying the financials. Her concerns are included in the finance report.
- The Board agreed that a reassessment of whether individuals who provide services to SAMBA should be considered employees should occur.
- A discussion ensued about whether directors can be paid for services provided to SAMBA. The Board responded that it believed the bylaws only restrict directors from being paid for their volunteer director duties, but does not prevent the payment for other services. SAMBA considers paying for those other services the directors provide to SAMBA to be both reasonable, acceptable, and necessary.
- For transparency, the Board noted that there are two directors compensated for their work in the development program: Kurtus Millar and Danielle Moffat. Kurtus also in the last year received an honorarium for coaching a Rep team. Those are believed to be acceptable under our bylaws.
- Byron Whittal spoke as he did the second review and was very comfortable with what he reviewed; this is something he does for a living. The financials statements are in good standing. Byron does not foresee any issues.

A discussion ensued about approving the financials, and a member suggested that a vote be taken to approve the financial statements subject to the required two person review being completed. That motion was taken to the floor.

Motion by Neil Neary to Accept the 2021 Financial Statements subject to the Treasurer completing the required 2 person member audit; seconded by Rob Hardy. Motion carried.

#### **8B. 2022 Budget Review**

Jackie Colville referred to her report for detailed information on the upcoming year budget and verbally took sever questions.

Discussion between the members on how we as an association grow elite baseball in St. Albert. There was a healthy debate about how the Association does that while also staying true to the purpose of the Association being for all players at all levels.

Kerri Groff, who has a son in the Dev program, loves the program. Is that not the goal of the program? It would be a shame if the program did not exist.

The Board supports the dev program and has not considered stopping it.

Motion by John Bresler to Approve the Fiscal 2022 Budget, second by Tony Golab. Motion carried.

**Item**

**9. New Business - From Membership**

There was no new business.

**10. Adjournment**

Motion by Jackie Colville to adjourn the Meeting at 9:40 pm, seconded by Tony Golab. Motioned carried unanimously.

The foregoing is considered to be a true and accurate record of all items discussed. If any discrepancies or inconsistencies are noted, please contact the writer immediately.

St. Albert Minor Baseball Association

Brenda Bourassa  
Secretary

Kurtus Millar  
President



Bold - SAMBA Board of Directors

#	Name		#	Name	
1	Aileen Hartman	x	32	Lana Weeks	x
2	Angela Kramm	x	33	Mark Brisson	x
3	Angela Scoble	x	34	Marty Herron	x
4	<b>Blair Troock</b>	x	35	Mat Brisson	x
5	Brad Prostebby	x	36	Melissa Logan	x
6	<b>Brenda Bourassa</b>	x	37	Melita Herron	x
7	Brian Bourassa	x	38	Mike Fitka	x
8	Byron Whittal	x	39	Mike Good	x
9	Candace Sloan	x	40	Mike Poelzer	x
10	Colin Bergstrom	x	41	<b>Neil Neary</b>	x
11	Corey Nestmann	x	42	Nicole Hudson	x
12	<b>Cori White</b>	x	43	<b>Nicole Langlois</b>	x
13	<b>Danielle Moffat</b>	x	44	<b>Pat Sullivan</b>	x
14	<b>Darren Kirstiuk</b>	x	45	Paul Yusypchuk	x
15	Dean Liske	x	46	Raelene Liske	x
16	George Whyte	x	47	Renita Millar	x
17	Greg Reiniger	x	48	Rob Hardy	x
18	<b>Jackie Colville</b>	x	49	Sarah Foster	x
19	Jackson Moffat	x	50	Scott Fuhr	x
20	Jason Harley	x	51	Scott Karran	x
21	Jay Colville	x	52	Shayne Courtorielle	x
22	Jennifer Gibbens	x	53	Sherry Bokenfohr	x
23	Jodie McFadzen	x	54	Sophia Jenkins	x
24	John Bresler	x	55	Tara Feser	x
25	John Robinson	x	56	Ted Gibbens	x
26	Kerri Groff	x	57	Thomas Jenkins	x
27	Kevin MacLeod	x	58	<b>Tony Golab</b>	x
28	Kevin Millar	x	59	Travis Parker	x
29	Kim Lausch	x	60	Tyler Herron	x
30	<b>Kurtus Millar</b>	x	61	Victoria Neary	x
31	Kyle Schalk	x			



## **2022 OPEN EXECUTIVE AND BOARD / NON-BOARD POSITIONS**

Volunteer appointments to the following open positions are CRUCIAL to ensure SAMBA continues to function as one of the greatest Baseball Associations in Alberta.

**CONTINUED Executive and Board Positions** (some may be 1 year terms to align with the Bylaws):

Vice-President - Darren Kirstiuk  
Sr. House League Director - Cori White  
Sr. Rep Director - Tony Golab  
Marketing Director – Sophia Jenkins  
Special Events Director – Candace Sloan

### **OPEN / Re-Elected Executive and Board Positions:**

- President - Kurtus Millar
- Secretary - Brenda Bourassa
- Registrar - Pat Sullivan
- Jr. Rep Director - Neil Neary
- Jr House League – Nicole Langlois
- Technical Director – Shayne Courtorielle
- Facilities Director - Blair Troock
- Treasurer – Jackie Colville (will be a 1 year term to align with By-laws)

### **CONTINUED Non-Board Positions:**

- Bingo/Casino Coordinator – Candace Sloan
- Umpire Coordinator - John Bresler
- Senior Advisor – Brian Bourassa
- Challenger Baseball Coordinator – Brenda Bourassa

### **OPEN Non-Board Positions:**

- Equipment Coordinator
- Assistant Equipment Coordinator
- Grant Proposal Coordinator
- Girls Baseball Coordinator

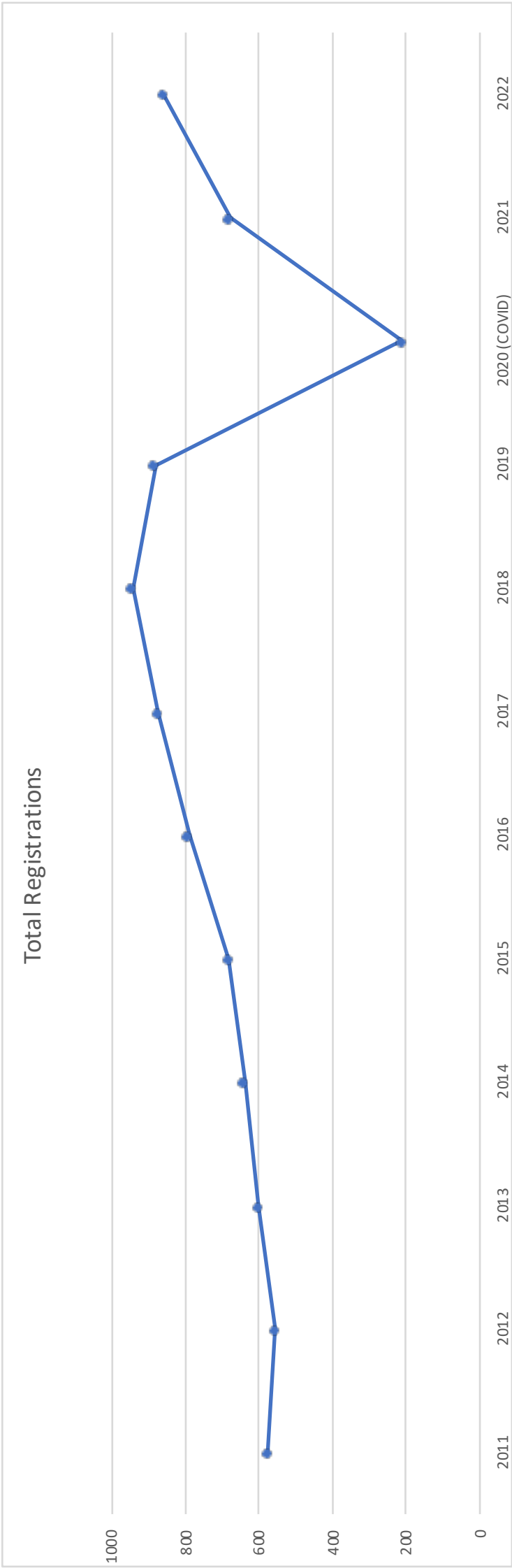
### **APPOINTED Members:**

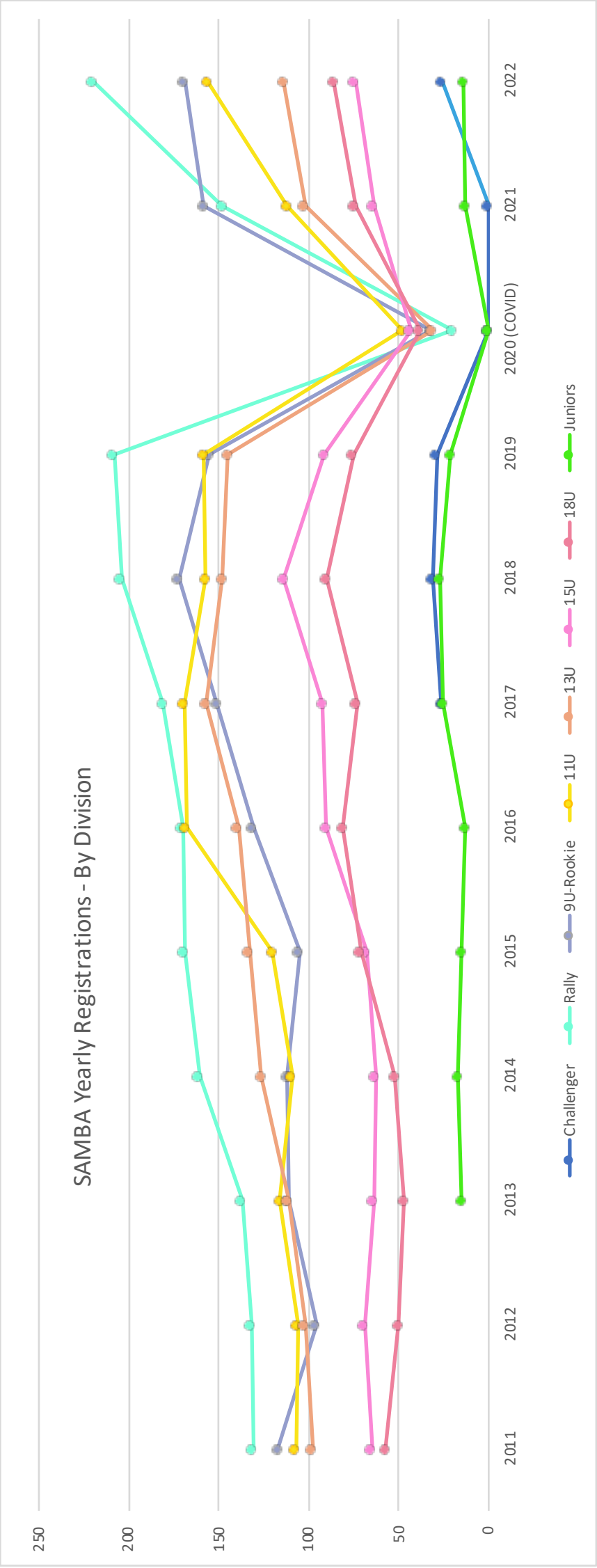
- SAMBA / Tigers Program Liaison - (Tigers Appointed)
- SAMBA / Sr. Cardinals Program Liaison - (Sr. Cardinals Appointed)
- SAMBA / Morinville Minor Baseball Association Program Liaison - (MMBA Appointed)
- SAMBA / Legal Baseball Program Liaison - (Legal Baseball Appointed)



SAMBA Yearly Registration Summary 2011 - 2022

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 (COVID)	2021	2022
Challenger							26	31	29	0	8 (no season)	26
Rally	131	132	137	161	169	170	181	204	208	20	148	220
9U-Rookie	117	96	111	112	105	131	151	172	155	32	158	169
11U	107	106	116	109	120	168	169	157	158	48	112	156
13U	98	102	111	126	133	139	157	148	145	31	102	114
15U	65	69	64	63	68	90	92	114	91	43	64	74
18U	57	50	47	52	71	81	73	90	75	38	74	86
Juniors			15	17	15	13	25	27	21	0	13	14
TOTAL	575	555	601	640	681	792	874	943	882	212	679	859
Total Male	515	507	542	567	617	710	788	848	801	200	618	784
Total Female	60	48	59	67	64	82	86	95	81	12	61	75







## 2022 President's Report

### GENERAL COMMENTS

The 2022 season was my 8th season as SAMBA president and I was very excited to have a full season after the Covid pandemic. We did our best to offer programs and keep SAMBA in a strong financial position throughout Covid but I think it's fair to say that we'd all had enough and were very much looking forward to some normalcy. Budgeting for the 2022 season was a little tricky. In 2019, we had 882 registrants, down a little from the 943 registrants in 2018. We tried to budget conservatively at around a 20-30% decrease in all programs. Fortunately, we saw numbers bounce back close to 2019 at 859 athletes. With some bumps in the road, I'm happy to report that SAMBA was able to offer programs at all age divisions in both Rep and House League, as well as Challenger Baseball.

### PROGRAMS

As previously mentioned, SAMBA did offer a full roster of programs in 2022.

- A hybrid version of our Winter/Spring Camp was offered for a month before evaluations began. Coaches from the Cardinals Dev Program and SAMBA Rep program offered instruction to an 11U/13U group and a 15U/18U group.
- Evaluations began in late February in Millar Field House and Servus Place. I believe this process ran very well. All teams were selected by a group of coaches who genuinely cared and tried their very best to place each athlete fairly on a team where the athlete would be able to play and compete.
- The Cardinals Development Program ran its 3rd season and went very well. We saw 74 athletes in the 7 month program run by a great group of coaches. We continued to look at ways to make the program better and give those athletes the best possible training to prepare them for their seasons and help develop them to the next level. We are currently running our 4th season of the program and I'm proud to say the program is stronger than ever. A great group of coaches and athletes are working hard towards the 2023 season. We have partnered with Acumen Clinic to offer our strength and conditioning, which we're already receiving great feedback on. Thank you to all the coaches and our families for another great Dev Program season.
- House League - Rally Cap to 18U - A full season of HL baseball was offered in 2022 with mid-season and year end tournaments. Our directors had to be creative this season, and put in some long hours with their scheduling to make sure all teams were able to practice and play games. Thank you to Legal Minor Baseball for their help hosting tournaments.
- Rep Programs - 11U to 18U - We saw some challenges this season with coach certifications which we believe were a product of coaches not requiring those certifications through the Covid pandemic but we are pleased to report that all teams competed very well and showed well in Provincial Championships across our Province. Congratulations to our 18U AAA Red Cardinals for winning gold for the 10th time at the 18U AAA Tier 1 (BAEL) Championships and moving onto National Championships in Fort McMurray, Alberta. SAMBA hosted the last chance NCCP clinics again this season, thank you to Baseball Alberta for their help in providing these clinics.
- Challenger Baseball - Always great to see our Challenger athletes back on the field! Thank you to Jays Care for their continued support. Thank you to all our coaches and buddies for another great season.

- Fall Ball ran at the 11U and 13U age divisions this season. Thank you to the coaches who stepped up to run these programs and get the kids back on the field. SAMBA and Baseball Alberta are looking to make some changes to offer a stronger Fall Ball program in 2023.
- NUCP Certification continued to show strength and positive growth again this season. A special thanks to John Bresler for his hard work in training and retaining young umpires while coordinating thousands of assignments throughout the season.
- Larry Rindero Memorial, formally known as Early Bird, saw its 3rd season and ran with great success. Teams from around the province and every SAMBA AA Rep team, competed in this tournament. Thank you to Matt Rindero and his family for being heavily involved in the tournament.

## **FACILITIES**

- Facilities is always one of the areas where I believe SAMBA takes tremendous pride. Kevin and his team did a great job again this season to provide a top notch facility for our players and players around the province. A season without much rain definitely offered some challenges but our crew did a great job!
- Millar Field House continues to be a huge benefit to all our members. Both Rep and HL teams used the facility throughout the season and helped take some pressure off our fields. Some repairs are required to the nets and some equipment needs to be replaced but I'm very grateful to have that building which gives our athletes another great experience. We added a second pitching machine to the facility which will also really help.
- Our clubhouse received a new roof last spring. Thanks to Karen Millar and Ella Fystro who provided all our cleaning services. We received many compliments on the cleanliness and well keeping of our clubhouse. We are once again partnered with St. Albert Nature School [SANS] preschool who operate their programs 5 days a week and paying SAMBA a monthly rental rate.
- Thank you to Leanne and Tony Arlia who ran the concession again this season. Nothing but good reviews to them as they provided delicious food and refreshments to all our members and visitors at a fair price.
- A big thank you to Jeannette Sullivan who continuously worked very hard at planting and maintaining the beautiful flower pots and beds throughout our facility.
- Big thank you to Steve Cummings and his company Super Save for donating and maintaining ports-potties throughout our facility saving SAMBA \$1000's in expenses. Steve has also provided us with a unit for the winter months and donated a large garbage bin to help us with fall cleanup. Super Save fence banners have been placed on all 4 fields. We should definitely add Super Save to our website and social media shoutouts.
- Another big thank you to Martin Deerline who once again sponsored us with a high speed mower, SAMBA exchanged advertising at our facility and on our website. This partnership was very beneficial to our grounds crew team. The mower cut maintenance times down and took a lot of pressure off our other machines. We hope to continue this partnership for years to come.
- Thank you to Chris Sowa who donated the upgrade to our east entrance sign and provided the upgrade to our west entrance sign which was donated by the Legion. The Sowa family have been longtime SAMBA members and we are grateful for their support.

## **MARKETABILITY AND IMAGE**

- Our Website continues to receive thousands of hits and we are going to update a lot of the information posted on there. Thank you to John Robinson who has built and maintained our website for years. Unfortunately John is stepping down from the position this year but we are very grateful for his time over the years.
- Facilities Sponsorships: Thank you to all our facility sponsors for their continued support. Eng-Con, Active Physioworks, Martin Deerline, Super Save, and Source for Sports continue to invest in SAMBA and we are very grateful. We are excited to bring in dozens of new sponsorships to other areas of our program and will have a complete list of those companies on our website.
- Social Media Exposure was good again this season. We continued to use Instagram, Twitter and Facebook; SAMBA is looking to grow our social media presence even more in 2023.

## **CHALLENGES**

- Getting back on our feet and offering full programming did have its challenges but we were excited to face them head on. Finding volunteers will always be a challenge but I feel that SAMBA is very fortunate to have many really great families who continually step up to provide baseball for our kids.
- Finances will continue to be a focus point for SAMBA. As costs rise in all areas, SAMBA will continue to look at ways to keep our fees and rates as affordable as possible. We will continue to run Bingos and should see our Casino in the 3rd quarter of 2023.
- Coach training and certification will be another focus point in 2023. Proving our athletes with a more consistent and structured development plan is one of our many goals. We are working with Baseball Alberta and Baseball Canada to look at improving coach certifications and communications.

## **2023 OBJECTIVES**

### **Administration:**

- SAMBA will continue to work tirelessly to provide top notch programs and facilities to all our athletes. New house league programs are being discussed to allow membership growth. Rep programs are always being carefully monitored and tweaked to help provide support to our volunteers and better experiences to our players and coaches.
- Bylaws, policies, procedures and league rules: Review Update desperately required. Proper documentation and publishing of these would decrease a large amount of issues brought up during our season. Also looking into a SAMBA handbook like the BA handbook.

### **Program:**

- Early coach selections and mentorship throughout the season. Coaches need to be selected even earlier in the season to allow them participation in our winter camps. The number of “new coaches” in SAMBA has grown significantly in past years. A coaching mentorship program would greatly enhance the chances of these coaches success and sticking with the game.
- Umpire Mentorship Program. The number of baseball players is rising significantly and the number of umpires decreases every year. Thank you to John Bresler who brought in many new and young umpires into our system and provided very good support to them. Members, players, coaches, and parents need to understand that without these officials, we cannot play the great game of baseball.

- Tigers, Sr. Cards and Jr. Cards. SAMBA will schedule private meetings with each program to ensure all costs and needs are covered. Better and more clear terms from all parties should make life a lot easier on all members.

#### **Facilities:**

- Continue focus on a regular and efficient field and equipment maintenance program due to aging and mature trees and equipment. SAMBA is always striving to keep our fields at a very high level and I believe getting better every season to maintain our new fields and improve daily routines to cut costs and maintenance times.
- Light usage. Agreements towards the cost of running our 18U field lights needs to be implemented. The hourly cost of \$200+ / hour will only continue to increase and as such should be covered by the teams using them.
- A big thanks to Tara Feser from the City of St. Albert who time and time again, does whatever she can to support SAMBA and our growing demands.

#### **Marketing and Image:**

- Continued sponsorship programs/grants: These are crucial to the costs of running all our programs at a high quality. The number of programs we deliver and the condition of our facilities rely heavily on these programs. SAMBA is always looking to grow fundraising opportunities and grant applications to support all our financial goals and requirements.

#### **CLOSING COMMENTS**

- Thank you to all our members, families, umpires, coaches, grounds crew, Board of Directors, and sponsors who came together once again to offer another successful season for St. Albert Minor Baseball. We could not provide the programs and experiences we do without any of you. We are excited to build on all our programs and better the experience for all our members.

#### **Executive and Board Members**

- Kurtus Millar - President
- Darren Kirstiuk - Vice President
- Brenda Bourassa - Secretary
- Jackie Colville - Treasurer
- Pat Sullivan - Registrar
- Tony Golab - Sr Rep Director
- Neil Neary - Jr Rep Director
- Shayne Courtorielle - Technical Director
- Cori White - Sr. HL Director
- Nicole Langlois - Jr. HL Director
- Danielle Moffat / Candace Sloan - Special Events Directors
- Sophia Jenkins - Marketing Director
- Blair Troock - Facilities Director

#### **Appointed Members**

- Ryan Deren - SAMBA/MMBA Program Liaison
- Trevor Sheehan - SAMBA/Legal Program Liaison
- Dave Edwards - SAMBA/Sr. Cardinals Program Liaison
- Lorie Runnalls - SAMBA/Tigers Program Liaison



**Non Board Positions**

- Brian Bourassa - Sr Advisor
- Blair Troock - Equipment Manager
- Vacant - Assistant Equipment Manager
- Brenda Bourassa / Erin Fisher - Challenger Baseball Coordinators
- John Bresler - Umpire Coordinator
- Danielle Moffat - Grant Proposal Coordinator
- Karen Millar / Ella Fystro - Clubhouse Janitor Services
- Leanne & Tony Arlia - Clubhouse Concession
- Danielle Moffat / Melissa Logan / Candace Sloan - Bingo/Casino Coordinators
- John Robinson - Website Administrator



## 2022 Vice President Report

Darren Kirstiuk  
Vice President

First off, I wish to thank Kurtus Millar for the great leadership he has shown not only in 2022, but the previous years he has served as President for St. Albert Minor Baseball. Without his guidance, it would be hard to imagine where SAMBA would be today. Many tough decisions have to be made, but at the end of the day, SAMBA has always come out ahead.

From this past season, there were many positives, having a normal baseball season was the first! Navigating through Covid-19 the last few years has been a challenge but I feel SAMBA has come out of this on the right track. Some tough decisions had to be made but in the end, I feel we are in a good place.

The teams that SAMBA put on the field were very competitive. Teams showed great determination not only from the coaching staff but also from the players who realized they had to compete at a higher level than previous years. Great job by all those involved.

Successes through-out 2022:

- 859 Players and 87 Staff registered in 2022.
- Completed all document submission with regards to the 2022 AGLC audit of SAMBA.
- Executed the SAMBA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.
- Implemented a successful upgrade to the SAMBA Google Workspace.
- The use of the RAMP APP and Slack to communicate with House League teams.
- Negotiated an updated sponsorship agreement with Active Physio Works.
- Development Program Financial tracking spreadsheet.
- Updated Facilitation of grounds crew time submission and approval process.
- Congratulations to the following for winning awards in 2022
  - Carter Liske – Carl Linden Bursary
  - Jason Serafinchon – EIBF Ron Hayter Bursary
  - Kurtus Millar – Ted Rudd Minor Coach of The Year

I would like to thank our current Executive & Board for their commitment and efforts to deliver a well-organized, enjoyable, and successful season of baseball. Very few realize the tremendous amount of volunteer hours some of these Executives & Board Members contribute, especially those who assume multiple roles or go beyond their current role to ensure SAMBA maintains its reputation as a first-class organization and our entire membership remain very satisfied with the results of the overall program that we deliver.



## 2021 / 2022 Facilities Report

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2021 / 2022 was our first year back to normal operations following the Covid restrictions of the previous years. It was great to welcome everyone back to the park on our normal schedules. In addition, it was awesome to put our park on display to the greater public at our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations in September. It was great to see so many past players, presidents, and volunteers show up for the celebration.

As per any typical year in Alberta we saw extremes in weather from torrential rain and flooding in the spring to drought in the summer. As always our great facilities team worked through all the challenges providing some of the best fields to play baseball on in Alberta. Our long-term renters, the St Albert Nature School returned again this year. Great to see them using the facilities in our off hours.

SAMBA welcomed back our longtime sponsors Martin Deerline and Greendrop. Martin Deerline provided SAMBA with use of a zero-turn mower for the season, and Greendrop provided weed control and fertilizer services at a discounted rate. Without these two important sponsorships the fields at Legion Memorial Ball Park would not look as great as they do today.

SAMBA would like to thank Steve Cummings and the Super Save Group for their sponsorship through the provision of porta-potties at the 11U, 13U and Fieldhouse as well as the disposal bin prior to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

SAMBA would like to thank the St Albert Legion for providing funding for the signage on the Clubhouse and the Major Tournament Sign at the entrance to the park. Legion Memorial Park was created with the help of the St Albert Legion, SAMBA will always be grateful for the support the Legion has provided over the years.

SAMBA would also like to thank Chris Sowa for the replacement of the main entrance sign. It looks great.

A few projects were completed this year:

- Top Dressing of the 18U – Eng-Con Field outfield;
- Installation of security cameras;
- Installation of new Starlink satellite internet services (special thanks to Jackie and Jay Colville);
- Installation of new WiFi in Millar Fieldhouse and the Clubhouse (special thanks to Jackie and Jay Coville).
- New walkway to Millar Fieldhouse

Kevin Millar returned as our head groundskeeper this season. As always Kevin was at the park almost continuously keeping the facility in top notch condition year round. We welcomed some returning grounds crew as well as some new members. Thanks to the following crew members for their efforts:

- Logan Colville
- Marc Brisson
- Mike Brisson
- Carter Moffat
- Jackson Moffat
- Keenan Parker
- Nathan Baumle
- Jack Hudson
- Ethan Charlwood
- Carter Liske
- Sam MacKenzie
- Thomas Golab
- Jake Osolinsky
- Evan Bourassa

SAMBA would also like to acknowledge Ella Fystro for her work in keeping our clubhouse looking clean. This thankless job is one of the most important parts of the facilities team that gets overlooked. SAMBA would also like to thank Karen Millar for all her years of service filling this role and continuing to assist. We could not open our clubhouse without all these efforts.

Our concession operators, Leanne and Tony Arlia and their family, provided the patrons of the park with their usual excellent food and service. Their efforts in supporting SAMBA during the summer often go unrecognized, on behalf of SAMBA and the board of directors thanks to the Arlia's!

As always, I am so proud to be a volunteer with this great organization. I can always count on the SAMBA family to help out in any means required. Special thanks to Kurtus and Kevin for their support throughout the year.

Brian Bourassa  
Sr Advisor



## 2022 Technical Director Report

This season was a success as it was the first season post the COVID-19 pandemic.

### SAMBA Player Evaluations

The 2022 season player evaluation process ran smoothly for each age group and all players were effectively evaluated. The Millar Field House and Servus Place were both utilized and teams were selected well in advance of the season beginning.

Table.1.1: Number of players registered for Rep tryouts at each age division

<b>2022</b>	
11U	38
13U	49
15U	31
18U	49
Senior AA (NCABL)	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>179</b>

Table.1.2: Number of rep teams (AA & AAA) for spring/summer at each age division

<b>2022</b>	
11U AA	3
13U AA	3
13U AAA	1
15U AA	1
15U AAA	1
18U AA	1
18U AAA	2
Senior AA (NCABL)	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

### **SAMBA House Leagues & Development (Rally Cap Program)**

Another successful year with 59 teams competing from Rally Cap through to 18U.

SAMBA had numerous parent volunteers to help coach at our House League Division and again, SAMBA appreciates all the efforts and time commitment.

### **SAMBA Representative Leagues (AA, AAA) & Development Program**

This year our Performance Teams had another outstanding year. We truly had an outstanding number of experienced coaches that led our teams to success. Success not only with results on the field but also in player and coach development.

### **SAMBA Off-season Programs**

#### **2022 Winter Camps**

- A three week program was offered in February 2022.

#### **2022 Spring Camp**

- Only the winter camp was offered this year.

#### **2022 St Albert Tigers' Summer Camp**

- No camp was offered this year.

### **2022 Fall Baseball Season**

Table.1.3: Number of Fall Ball players and coaches at each age division

2022 Fall Ball Season		
Age Group	Players	Coaches
11U	16	4
13U	11	2
15U	14	2
18U	0	0
Total	41	8

\*There was one team per age group.

This year marked the 12th consecutive Fall Ball season for SAMBA. It was another great success

## **Coach Development**

As per NCCP, all Rep coaches are required to complete mandatory courses prior to provincials so they are eligible to be on the bench. This year, there were only two teams that had coaches unable to coach during provincials. Fortunately, there were other coaches able to step in and assist. It should be noted that SAMBA hosted a weekend of courses, prior to the deadline, to allow any coaches that were missing courses, an opportunity to complete them.

For next season, the goal will be to have all coaches completely trained prior to provincial play. A spreadsheet will be created showing all the Rep Coaches and their qualifications and what is required of them.

Shayne Courtorielle  
Technical Director



## 2022 Jr House League Director Report

### **2022 Spring Baseball Season**

This was the first year in a few that we were able to run a regular baseball season.

The weather was not much of an issue this year. There was only 1 rain out day in May and 5 in June. Because of this, we added an extra week of games at the end of June. Unfortunately, this did not work out very well. There was very low participation. This will not be considered for next season.

Pictures were set up at MVP for the weekend of May 13th. Anyone who was unable to attend could call and go another time convenient for them. Pictures were once again included in registration fees.

This season the 11U teams were fortunate enough to utilize Millar Field House. Each team was provided 3 slots throughout the season. They were able to practice their hitting & pitching skills.

We did not utilize the Grosvenor pump house this season. All pitching machines were stored at the Legion Diamonds in the trailer in front of the clubhouse.

Unfortunately, there was not enough interest to run summer ball this year, we will look into this for next season.

With the high number of players (over 500), it was very time-consuming with all the tasks required to set up and run Rally Cap, 9U, and 11U. Next year a division coordinator will be required for each.

### **Partnerships**

This year we were able to renew our partnership with Morinville Minor Baseball and Legal Minor Baseball. There were a few issues with Morinville coaches that we were able to work through. Morinville also needs to do a better job of helping us provide umpires. Legal has requested not to share diamonds for practices in the future.

### **Diamonds**

House League diamonds continue to be an issue. The issues range from the condition of the diamonds to the lack of diamonds. We were able to utilize diamonds in both Morinville & Legal. We look forward to continuing to work with Tara and the City to find solutions to field conditions and our shortage of diamonds.

### **Coaches**

We had an in-person coach's meeting to kick off the season this year. Equipment was picked up after the meeting. We had a few issues with coaches not following the rules we had laid out for each division and with constant communication, we were able to resolve these issues. A huge thank you to all our coaches who put forth numerous hours of their time to help teach the kids this great game.



## Tournaments

Rally Cap had end-of-the-season games played against teams that they did not see all season. Due to unforeseen circumstances, we were unable to host a Rally Cap day this season. We will look into bringing this back next season.

There were mid-season & end of season games for all 9U & 11U teams, they were able to play teams that they otherwise would not see in the regular season. After the mid-season games, there were adjustments made for the end-of-season games to help run smoother.

Overall the season was a success and the kids had fun!

### Historical participant data from the 2017 to 2022 baseball seasons:

2022 Season Players					2019 Season Players				
	Male	Female	Total	Teams		Male	Female	Total	Teams
Rally Cap	182	38	220	22	Rally Cap	156	36	192	16
9U	160	9	169	14	Rookie	144	18	162	14
11U	108	12	120	10	11U	117	7	124	11
Total	450	59	509	46	Total	417	61	478	41
2021 Season Players					2018 Season Players				
	Male	Female	Total	Teams		Male	Female	Total	Teams
Rally Cap	129	19	148	14	Rally Cap	158	37	195	18
9U	137	21	158	13	Rookie	144	23	167	14
11U	79	7	86	8	11U	125	7	132	11
Total	345	47	392	35	Total	427	67	494	43
2020 Season					2017 Season Players				
	Male	Female	Total	Teams		Male	Female	Total	Teams
Rally Cap	145	36	181	17	Rally Cap	145	36	181	17
Rookie	134	15	149	14	Rookie	134	15	149	14
11U	119	13	132	11	11U	119	13	132	11
Total	398	64	462	42	Total	398	64	462	42

## **Recommendations/Insights to Future Seasons**

- Find new, fun and creative ways to continue to deliver our programs and develop skills in our youth.
- Designate funds to continue replacing existing SAMBA House League Equipment
- Look at creating a house league survey to determine SAMBA members' value of our programs and to highlight the areas we do well and need to improve.
- Continuing to foster and develop relationships with the City to continue to help improve our programs and our access to facilities for our programs.
- Continue to improve our working relationship with Morinville Minor Baseball and Legal Minor Baseball to strengthen our programs.
- Continue to find ways to recruit, support, develop and retain coaches.
- Find volunteers for division coordinator positions to help with the amount of work.

Nicole Langlois  
Jr House League Director



## 2022 Sr House League Director Report

### 2022 Spring Baseball Season

We hit the fields with so much happiness this season! After a couple years of baseball being interrupted and postponed, we are back!

Our weather was hit and miss all season, and we did struggle in the higher divisions to reschedule some of the ERRBL games, but that being said we did get a full season of baseball in the books!

SAMBA continues to grow our House League offering. In 2022 we were able to field 5 teams at 13U, 4 teams at 15U, and 3 teams at the 18U level, which is fantastic for this age group.

For the first time, teams were scheduled for 3 practice times through the season in the Millar Fieldhouse. Teams could spend the time focusing on their hitting and pitching skills despite the weather.

At the 13U level we were able to have 2 Legal teams and 1 Morinville team join into the league again this year, it allows our teams to have a bit more variety throughout the season with who they played against.

Legal Minor Baseball Assoc generously offered to host the 13U Midseason and Year end tournaments this year in Legal. Huge Thank-You to their volunteers who groomed the fields, kept the games moving through the weekend!

Our 15U and 18U teams were once again part of the ERRBL and allowed the players to travel to nearby communities such as Stony Plain, Fort Saskatchewan, and North Edmonton to play against a variety of teams!

### Recommendations/Insights to Future Seasons

- Continue to develop young players to build their skills for summer, fall and winter programs.
- Executing SAMBA survey to gather new ideas and volunteers
- Continuing to foster and develop relationships with the City to continue to help improve our programs and our access to facilities.
- Continue to improve our working relationship with Morinville Minor Baseball and Legal Minor Baseball to strengthen our programs.
- Continue to find ways to recruit, support, develop and retain coaches.

Below is a breakdown of our senior level teams over the years:

	2021				2022			
	Players		Teams		Players		Teams	
	Male	Female	SAMBA	Legal/MMBA	Male	Female	SAMBA	Legal/MMBA
13 U	54	8	6	n/a	60	5	5	2/1
15 U	38	0	4	n/a	44	3	4	n/a
18 U	27	1	2	n/a	39	0	3	n/a

	2019				2020
	Players		Teams		No Season
	Male	Female	SAMBA	Legal/MMBA	
<b>13 U</b>	98	8	9	1/2	
<b>15 U</b>	49	1	4	n/a	
<b>18 U</b>	25	1	2	n/a	

	2017				2018			
	Players		Teams		Players		Teams	
	Male	Female	SAMBA	Legal/MMBA	Male	Female	SAMBA	Legal/MMBA
<b>13U</b>	112	9	10	1/2	101	11	9	4
<b>15U</b>	49	1	4	n/a	68	5	6	n/a
<b>18U</b>	35	2	3	n/a	37	2	3	n/a

	2015				2016			
	Players		Teams		Players		Teams	
	Male	Female	SAMBA	Legal/MMBA	Male	Female	SAMBA	Legal/MMBA
<b>13U</b>	87	6	8	1/2	90	11	9	1/1
<b>15U</b>	39	3	3	n/a	44	4	4	n/a
<b>18U</b>	26	0	2	n/a	32	2	3	n/a

	2013				2014			
	Players		Teams		Players		Teams	
	Male	Female	SAMBA	MMBA	Male	Female	SAMBA	Legal/MMBA
<b>13U</b>	71	7	7	2	84	4	7	3
<b>15U</b>	35	3	3	n/a	33	3	3	n/a
<b>18U</b>	14	1	1	n/a	16	1	1	n/a

We are so thankful to all the coaches that gave their time and energy to make this season so much fun for all our players and their families.

Cori White  
Sr House League Director



## 2022 Junior Rep Director Report

After 2021 and the expected reduction in players at the 11U and 13U level post COVID, I am pleased to report that SAMBA was able to field three 11U AA teams, a 13U AAA team and three 13U AA teams in 2022. To my knowledge, SAMBA has never been able to field seven junior rep teams. Ensuring that our junior rep players have the opportunity to play ball at these levels is key to ensuring the ongoing success of our 15U and 18U programs.

Fielding this many teams did present its own challenges, and I commend the 13U coaches in particular for working so well together to manage practice time on a very busy 13U field. We also received a fair amount of feedback from families which I have shared with the board. In addition to the athletes, families and volunteers I want to especially thank the head coaches of the 13U teams: Shayne Courtorielle (AAA), Russ Patterson (AA Red), Scott Wilde (AA White) and Jim Sheasgreen (AA Blue) for all their hard work this year.

11U is always an exciting level and the board continues to work to help athletes, families and coaches transition to rep baseball, especially for the Blue and White teams that tend to have more new families. I was very pleased this year to personally watch a lot of games on the 11U field. The excitement and enthusiasm of the players is always great to see. It is also great to hear the reports from the teams on the improvements that are made throughout the year on these teams. Thanks to our 11U AA head coaches this year: Brad Letain (AA Red), Brett Davidson (AA Blue) and John Robinson (AA White).

From a competitive standpoint we have no gold medals to report from any of the provincial championships, but I can report that all our teams developed, bonded, and played the game with respect that makes me proud. As is usual, all the teams were competitive once they were tiered.

I also want to thank all the volunteers from all of these teams. The quality of the volunteers perhaps has the most direct impact on the experience of the players over the season. It takes a lot of commitment from the parent group to support a successful rep ball team, and as always our SAMBA families have stepped up and shown why we are the organization that all others look to as an example. A special thanks to the OFMs and the team treasurers who are always working behind the scenes in a way that is not always appreciated.

This being my last year with the SAMBA board I do want to thank all of the board members present and past that I have worked with for the last 7 years. It has been a privilege for me to help guide such a great organization and I look forward to handing the task to someone with a new perspective and energy to take SAMBA to even greater heights.

Neil Neary  
Jr Rep Director



## 2022 Sr Rep Director Report

### Introduction

2022 was a successful year for the Sr. Rep program. SAMBA fielded 3 teams in the 18U Division and 2 teams in the 15U Division. We placed in Provincials with 2 teams in our 18U Program. 18U AAA won provincials with a 6-0 performance at Provincials hosted by Sherwood Park and NEZ. They moved on to Nationals in Fort McMurray, AB. Our 18U AA placed silver in their Provincials. We had several new coaches join the program or move into new positions within the program.

Evaluations went well this season. 18U teams were selected and in place by the end of February with the 15U teams being named after the first week of March started. We ran evaluations this year starting with the 18U players and working down from there. This seemed to work well as we were able to concentrate on getting through each division at a time.

One overwhelming critique from teams this year was the apparel. Unfortunately due to Covid we had a lot of problems obtaining apparel for our teams. Most came in late in the season.

### 15U DIVISION

The 15U Division fielded 2 teams this year. One AAA Team and one AA Team.

#### 15U AAA

Head Coach: Brad Wolansky

Asst. Coaches: Ryan Marples, Tom Leatham, Cam Fischer

Team size: 14 players, 2 imports, 5 players will be graduating to 18U with 3 players moving to other organizations.

League play: 31-13 1st in the North division

Tournaments: Okotoks Wood Bat Classic over the July long weekend.

Provincial Results: They lost in the provincial semifinals to the Parkland Twins

The team did have a player conduct issue in regards to Social Media posts resulting in the suspension of 1 player by the SAMBA Board (Tech Committee).

#### 15 AA RED

Head Coach: [Cory Phillips](#)

Asst. Coaches: Jason Willmets, Kris Johnson

Team size: 13 players, 4 graduating up to 18U next year

League play: 7-15-2

Tournaments: Larry Rindero Memorial Tournament

Provincials results: the team did make it to the semis. It should be noted that the team hosted the 15U AA Tier 5 Provincials at Legion Memorial Ball Park. The OFM, Keri Groff, did an amazing job. It was one of the most organized Provincials that I have witnessed. Good job Keri!

This year's team had several first year players for 15U. All three coaches were new to the 15U Program as well and worked hard to bring the team together. They did lose one player this season after he chose to leave the team.

## **18U DIVISION**

This year we had enough numbers at our evaluations for 18U that we were able to field two AAA Teams (Tier 1 & Tier 2) as well as one AA Team. Once the teams were named we had several players choose not play AA which left us scrambling to get enough players for the AA Team.

### 18U AAA

Head Coach: Kurtus Millar

Asst Coach: Mark Brisson, Evan Bourassa, Liam Froment, Jackson Moffat

Team size: 18 players, 6 imports

Team results: The Cardinals had a great year going 31-15 overall.

Tournaments: Spokane American Legion Wood Bat Classic. The team traveled to Spokane for the first time since return to play after Covid. This was the first time for everyone on the team to play in this tournament. The team went 3-1-1 in their pool but it was not enough to move on. The boys played some great ball.

Provincial results: The team was in Tier 1 Provincials hosted by Sherwood Park and NEZ this year. The team went 6-0 in provincials to regain the title of Provincial Champions. Due to a storm that came into the region the NEZ and Sherwood Park fields were unplayable. SAMBA stepped up and the Grounds Crew & 18U Parents prepped the field for the final day of games. A big thanks to the parents and grounds crew who answered the last minute call to get this going.

Nationals: The Cardinals were now known as Team Alberta and jumped into preparing for Nationals in Fort McMurray. With community donations, assistance from SAMBA and Baseball Alberta the team was set. We unfortunately lost two key players, Jason Serafinchon and Jack Hudson for Nationals as they had to report to their University Teams in the United States, as well we lost one more player as the team was only allowed to have 2 overagers. 4 players were picked-up for the weekend and fit in well with the team contributing to some great games. Thanks to Luke Wilson and Luke Wheatley from the Calgary Bucks and Brendan Wabick and Zach Krukewich from the NEZ Padres.

Graduating players: The team graduated 9 of its players. 4 of these players signed with colleges in the states: Jack Hudson (State Fair Community College), Carter Liske (Southwestern Oregon Community College), Caedyn Colford (Southwestern Oregon Community College), Jason Serafinchon (McCook Community College); 3 with the Edmonton Collegiate Hawks Team: Logan Colville, Brayden Morris, Tristen Popik; and Andrew Neary, Ryan Norton. A special congratulations to Jason Serafinchon for receiving the Ron Hayter Bursary presented by the Edmonton International Baseball Foundation and Carter Liske for receiving the Baseball Alberta Carl Linden Bursary. Your hard work has definitely paid off.

Congratulations to Kurtus Millar for receiving the Baseball Alberta Ted Rudd Minor Coach of the Year Award!

## 18U AAA Blue

Head Coach: Ben Grabia

Asst. Coach: Blake Morris, Mickey Kahn

Team size: 17 players, 5 of which were first year players at the 18U level.

Team results: Team played in Tier2 with a 10-20 record in league play.

Tournaments: The team entered a mixed squad of two teams with the 18U AA in the Larry Rindero Memorial Tournament. The team also traveled to Saskatchewan to play in the Quinn Stevenson Memorial Tournament in Saskatoon. The team went 3-1 in their pool and lost in the semi final to the Saskatoon Braves.

Provincial Results: They went 0-3 in provincials and lost in the consolation semi-final.

This team experienced a major incident as the season was getting underway with one of their players having a tragic accident and almost losing his life. The team banded together to support their teammate but the emotional toll on a few players was significant. The coaches, players, and parents were able to persevere through this and continue to play while at the same time keeping their teammate in their thoughts.

Graduating Players: The team graduated 1 of its players this season. We wish Brennen Stewart the best of luck in his next chapter.

## 18U AA

Head Coach: Scott Fuhr

Asst. Coach: Mike Good, Joel Tauber

Team size: 12 players, 2 imports

Team results: The team struggled this season with fielding a full team on weekends. They ended with a 4-17 record in league play.

Tournaments: The team entered a mixed squad of two teams with the 18U AAA in the Larry Rindero Memorial Tournament.

Provincial Results: The team won Silver for provincials. This was no small feat considering the season and challenges they have faced.

As stated in the start of the report when Evaluations took place we had more than enough players to field 2 AAA Teams and a very competitive AA Team. 5 players chose not to play AA ball once the teams were announced. This had us scrambling to find players to field the team. We sat at 9 players with opening day only 1 week away. We were able to get the team to a roster of 12 but that still proved difficult to maintain pitching and get all the players out. Halfway through the season they experienced a difficult situation with two players while out of town on league play. As a result of the incident one player was removed from SAMBA permanently and the other was to be suspended for 2 games; however, he chose to quit the team before the suspension was handed down. This now left the team understrength. If not for the support from our House League players this team would not have been able to continue. We had several house league players step up and affiliate. This was not only great for the AA Team but a great experience for the House League players as well. At the conclusion of the House League season 3 players ended up



signing on with the team. This allowed the team to continue with Round 3 of play and move on to provincials. Thanks to all who had part in making this work.

### **Closing remarks**

Overall the Sr. Rep program had a good season. We fielded 3 teams in the 18U division and 2 in 15U, with one team moving onto Nationals! We have pretty good numbers remaining and coming up from the Jr Program for next season..

After the nature of a few incidents with teams this year it is recommended that we add a Social Media component into the Code of Conduct for players as well an information session to each team on Social Media and its impact on the organization at the start of each season. As well, we need to look at our numbers for 18U and possibly return to one 18U AAA Team, one AA Team and if numbers permit look at a second AA Team.

Thank you to our Coaches for dedicating your time, energy, and patience. Your efforts are what makes SAMBA the best association in the province. A big thanks needs to go out to our parents of the players. Your encouragement to your athlete, countless hours spent volunteering in the press box, and driving to games all over the province make it possible for these kids to play ball.

Without the work of Kevin Millar and the grounds crew we could not have had the best facility in Alberta to play ball at. Thank you for the dedication you put in for these kids to play ball.

On a final note, I'd like to thank our board of directors. Without the countless volunteer hours working hard to improve every aspect of our association we could not provide the programming we do for these kids to come out and enjoy the game.

Thank you all.

Tony Golab  
Sr Rep Director



## 2022 Special Projects & Fundraising Report

Since joining the board mid-April of this year, I've seen hard work and dedication from the Board of Directors to the many amazing parents and volunteers SAMBA has. I'd like to Thank everyone for their time and commitment supporting another successful year. You are KEY to our future.

This year started off with Rep Tryouts which lead to teams starting the 2022 season as early as April 30<sup>th</sup>. Rep teams did their own fundraising throughout their seasons.

Initiatives for the 2022 season include:

**Christmas tree sales** – while the greenery from Greenland Garden Centre was well received, a majority of the Christmas trees had to be sold via other methods, i.e. Facebook Marketplace. Unfortunately, there were issues with people not showing up on the pick-up date in turn expecting delivery in/around the greater Edmonton area. For the amount of work involved with this fundraiser this initiative was cancelled for 2022.

**50/50 Online Raffles** – There were 2 online raffles put on in early 2022. With a little money raised with this initiative, we found the market extremely competitive with online 50/50's since 2020. For now, online 50/50's will remain on hold for the foreseeable future.

**Flower Fundraiser** – Another rewarding Flower Fundraiser was hosted in the Spring bringing in \$1,700.00. Thank you to Victoria Neary for organising and continuing to the Neary and Colville Families for putting in their time and effort on another successful year.

**Larry Rindero Memorial Tournament** – once again SAMBA hosted teams from all over Alberta. I would like to thank Kurtus Millar for being Chairperson and working with the LRM Committee in putting on another outstanding tournament.

**Winning teams for the tournament were:**

11U B – Sherwood Park White  
11U A – Parkland Blue  
13U B – St. Albert White  
13U A – Red Deer Northstar Braves  
15U - Red Deer Silver Fox Braves  
18U – Parkland

**The 2022 Cardinals of the Tournament were:**

11U Kobi Jackson  
13U Pete Wilde  
15U Logan Sleno  
18U Liam Logan. Congratulations to everyone!

**St. Albert Tigers Tournament** – The tournament was cancelled this year as mother nature's weather had other plans in store for the June 17-19 weekend. The 13U and 11U's were fortunate enough to play games on Sunday June 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to the grounds crew and everyone else for putting in the hard work to get the fields up and running for Sunday.

**SAMBA Day at the Riverhawks** – The Riverhawks provided an opportunity to come out and celebrate being part of the SAMBA community by providing house league players from Rally Cap to 18U tickets to their game July 10<sup>th</sup>. Families were invited to join and could purchase tickets at \$7 per child and \$12 per adult. Representing SAMBA as the honorary 1<sup>st</sup> Base Coach was George Whyte. A huge Thank-you to Cori White and Nicole Langlois for selling 50/50's during the game. SAMBA was able to raise around \$1500 from the 50/50 sales at this game.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** – Thank you to Cori White for taking Chair to honor and celebrate 50 years for SAMBA. Cori put in a lot of time and effort to coordinate the gathering of information on all past presidents and founders and proceeded to go above and beyond to contact everyone. Including the families of late past presidents and founders, to be in attendance for the celebration.

Some of the festivities for the day included:

- Legion Color in Attendance
- Treaty 6 Blessings
- A presentation of Home Plate Plaques for all the Founders
- A presentation of a Framed Photo for all the past Presidents
- Announcing through the Community Foundation Endowment Fund, a President's Legacy Fund that will launch in 2023 that will be funded with the \$1500 proceeds from this event
- 50/50 Sales
- Celebrity vs. First Responder game coached by Kurtus Millar (Celebrities) and Darren Kirstiuk (1<sup>st</sup> Responders)
- Dunk-An-Ump and a variety of games for kids proving them an opportunity to learn baseball skills
- Food Truck
- Beer Garden

**Thank you to:**

- Tony Golab for coordinating the First Responders.
- Kurtus Millar and Darren Kirstiuk for coaching the Celebrity vs. First Responder Game as well as the many other ways you supported behind the scenes
- Cori White, Brenda Bourassa, Pat Sullivan, Nicole Langlois, and Sophia Jenkins for all your time and dedication on the Committee to making this 50th celebration not only Successful, but for proving a space for all past, present and future SAMBA members to gather and share their memories and stories marking an unforgettable and memorable day in St. Albert.

**Year End Parties** – A big shout out to The Canadian Brewhouse (both St. Albert locations) for providing pizza parties for all House League teams to celebrate their 2022 seasons.

I would like to say a special thank you to Brenda Bourassa and Jackie Colville for providing information on events prior to the commencement of me taking on my position. I appreciate your time and support.

It was great to see everyone out and about this year as we all adjusted to being open and back to “normal” from the 2020 season with Covid. I look forward to the many events and ways we can Fundraise and bring more awareness to the Community of St. Albert on the many attributes St. Albert Minor Baseball Association has to offer.

Respectfully,

Candace Sloan  
Special Project Director



## 2022 Marketing Report

Sophia Jenkins  
Director of Marketing

In 2022, we were optimistic to rebuild the member base after two years of pandemic-related declines. The pandemic showed us unequivocally that community is essential. SAMBA's success is directly proportional to community support. Taking this into consideration, the marketing goal was to focus on strengthening and expanding SAMBA's visibility within the community and reciprocating support to our partners. Our tactics included:

### **Increase Registration Awareness:**

- E-Flyers distributed to St. Albert's Public & Catholic schools
- Weekly ads in the St. Albert Gazette for the month leading up to registration
- St. Albert Chamber of Commerce electronic billboards at south & north ends of St. Albert Trail
- Umpire Training as an additional means to promote involvement in baseball

### **Expand Social Media Presence:**

- The sign of the times is all things virtual! SAMBA is alive on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. With 100% volunteer manpower, we post & tweet as many game schedules and SAMBA events as possible.
- Weekend home games and our two major field sponsors (Eng-Con & Active Physioworks) are actively promoted. Where possible, we tag visiting teams with their social media handles. The 2023 goal is to improve this process and build our following on all three platforms.
- Social media continues to grow as more teams, players and families join the various platforms. Our intention is to use all three to raise awareness of positive player development and community partnership.

### **Build Community Partnerships – SAMBA & Community Partner promoting each other!**

- Revised **Community Partnership Package** (aka *Sponsorship package*)
  - Tells the SAMBA story, history, player & team stats, community impact and ways to get involved
  - Featured 2023 opportunities include:
    - House League Team sponsorship – Community partner's logo on team's jerseys. Team is named after the community partner and promoted on the weekly schedule
    - Driveway flags – partner logo is featured on a feather flag visible to all of the Legion's visitors for all weekend games.
- SAMBA video  
([https://drive.google.com/file/d/10qulgJ3rZBKkYvg5htS71\\_V64xor6vTs/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/10qulgJ3rZBKkYvg5htS71_V64xor6vTs/view?usp=share_link))
  - 1-minute video narrated by Kurtus Millar, describes SAMBA's history, programs and goals
  - Filmed & produced by @nhofilms

- New Sponsor Support 2022
  - Subway - 10% of all restaurant sales (pre-tax) from St. Albert locations
    - 500 coupons for a free 6" sub at all St. Albert locations.
    - Platter donations for 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
  - Best Western - \$5/room/night for the 2022 season
    - 500 bottles of water for LRM
    - Gift certificate for free night for 50<sup>th</sup>
  - St. Albert Inn & Suites
    - \$500 donation
  - St. Albert Source for Sports
    - \$10000 for a batting cage (\$2500/season x 4 years)
  - Canadian Brewhouse, St. Albert locations
    - Pizza party certificates for each HL & Rep team
- Confirmed House League Team Sponsors for 2023 Season
  - Body Polish
  - Canadian Brewhouse
  - Desjardins Insurance
  - Evolve Strength, North – 2 teams
  - Garry's Heating and Plumbing
  - Herc's Nutrition
  - Jiffy Lube
  - McDonalds
  - Play It Again Sports
  - Return on Wealth (formerly Wild Rose Insurance)
  - Select Equipment Rental
  - The Renovation Guy
  - Riverside Honda
  - Soul Mechanical
  - Source for Sports



## 2022 Umpire Coordinator Report

Once again, we had a successful year with regards to signing new umpires and working with the existing umpires so that they can improve their skills.

We had 21 new first year umpires and 16 returning umpires. The typical mix is 60% are players so their availability was sketchy at times, but we made do.

All our umpires worked SAMBA House League games and the 4 tournaments during the year. All but 3 of our first-year umpires had the opportunity to officiate Rep Ball, some showed great promise and worked some games for other Associations.

We had 14 umpires who worked some Baseball Alberta Provincial games, and did well; not too many complaints for their work. We had some issues covering some of the games in Morinville, very few of the umpires were keen to travel for a 6:30 PM game, but we got it done.

Our goal is to identify the 'committed' umpires and work with them to facilitate their growth. These are umpires who do not play but may have other jobs. We have around 8 young umpires coming through the ranks and show great promise.

This year we did not lose any umpires to 'bad' behaviour of coaches or parents, we did however have some umpires who refused to work in certain teams in other Associations.

At this time SAMBA lends equipment to all new umpires and once they work 5-6 house league games, we refund their NUCP registration fees. The expectation is that some of the returning umpires start purchasing some of their own equipment. The overall cost for the umpire fees gets larger and larger. I feel that it's time that we approach the overall cost implications with some changes. We try to get some new equipment every year discarding some old sets. I feel that once an umpire comes back for the second or third year we should offer him some equipment at a discount, this way they can start owning their own equipment.

Overall, I feel that we had a fairly successful year and looking forward to expanding our numbers and develop new umpires.

John Bresler  
Umpire Co-ordinator SAMBA



## 2022 Challenger Baseball Report

After a 2 year hiatus due to COVID-19 it was great to be back on the diamond and see some familiar faces and new faces.

Participants ranged in age from 4 to 18. We had 5 female and 20 male athletes with at least half being new to Challenger.

The program ran from 5 pm to 6 pm on Mondays starting May 2 with the last Monday, July 18 (no session was run on May 23 due to the Larry Rindero Memorial Tournament). Skills/drills and games were played on the 15U ActivePhysio Works diamond. We only lost a couple of Mondays due to weather.

Erin Fisher was back again to help out and two new coaches were added: Lori Gardner and Matt Woodland. Having 4 coaches allowed us to set up a hitting station and a catching/throwing station which the athletes then rotated through before breaking into games.

We added more batting tees and bats this year with having the dedicated hitting station.

New this year was having regular buddies for some of our athletes. We had six female buddies from our House League and Rep program for our female athletes. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for volunteering: Abby Scott-Dakin, Adeline Eaton, Anna Robinson, Hayden Richter, Kaylee Romanko and Sydney Romanko. Also rounding out our regular buddies was: Ryan Marples, Gemma Leathem, Tom Leathem, Josh Hutchinson, and Wanda Zatorski.

Recommendations for 2023:

- Build a regular buddy base to supplement the rotating Rep players as some athletes do better with a consistent buddy from week to week.

I would like to thank the SAMBA Board for their continued support of this program.

Brenda Bourassa  
Challenger Baseball Coach



## 2022 TREASURER'S REPORT

### LOOKING BACK: Fiscal 2022

As required by SAMBA Bylaws, the fiscal 2022 financial statements have been reviewed by two members, Bryon Whittal and Nicole Hudson. Their **CERTIFICATION** is attached. I appreciate their diligence and questions!

Fiscal 2022 saw things move closer to normal course post-pandemic. After not having tournament or camps for two years, the Larry Rindero Memorial tournament took place in May, and SAMBA teams also participated in a House League tournament. There was also a Winter Camp. The House League program registrations rebounded from 520 players in 2021 to around 640, which was significantly more than budgeted. The House League directors had to work hard to juggle teams and their efforts should be commended! 160 players joined the Rep League program, which was a slight increase. Development Program registrations grew to 76.

As a result, revenues totalled \$723,404, higher than both the budget and the prior year. Our gross profit also improved to \$273,962 mainly because higher revenues were available to apply against direct program costs which may be fixed (in other words, some costs stay the same regardless of the number of participants). Additionally, lower expenses by the Development Program in coaching hours, Servus Place facility rentals, and a strength and conditioning, contributed more to the bottom line than budgeted.

After operating expenses, which include things like utilities, insurance, maintenance, software, amortization, and other items not directly attributed to a program, we had a net profit of \$80,935. More detail on these figures is provided in the included **FISCAL 2022 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INCOME AND EXPENSE**.

We ended the year with cash balances totalling \$285,892, as identified in the **FISCAL 2022 BALANCE SHEET**. Where revenues exceed expenses and capital, SAMBA sees an increase in its bank balance. About \$36,000 of these funds are informally held to support the potential for future grants. Another \$75,000 will be used to fund capital projects in the upcoming fiscal 2023 year. More will be required for capital in the coming years.

### LOOKING AHEAD: Fiscal 2023

Looking ahead to next year, we have budgeted a year that will be relatively consistent with the fiscal 2022 year. In arriving at these projections, we have assumed 640 House League and 160 Rep League participants. It is our hope that we will exceed these registrations. Development Program registrations of 65 have been budgeted.

We have not assumed any player registration increases in the budget for any programs. There was an increase in the prior year, and while we continue to see the impact of inflation on our expenses, we believe we have sufficient cash reserves to weather any increases.

Development Program expenses in fiscal 2023 include \$49,140 for the Acumen Clinic, a sports performance clinic in Edmonton. This significant new expense will replace the strength and conditioning part of the fiscal



2022 program. It reduces the contribution to the rest of SAMBA's indirect expenses, but the Development Program underspent in fiscal 2022 and cash reserves will be used as required for the program to be delivered.

As I have communicated since the commencement of the Development program, the budget includes payments to Kurtus Millar and Danielle Moffat for their work in executing the program. Danielle stepped down from the Board this year when she became Executive Director of Baseball Alberta, and Kurtus remains President. The Board has previously been advised that such payments are acceptable, since they are not payments for duties as a Director. I highlight them here for transparency, as I have done in the past. To be clear, the revenues of the Development Program are set to recover all direct costs, including coaching and administration, to provide funds for a portion of SAMBA's operating costs and to contribute towards other future capital that may be required.

Our current projections show a net profit for fiscal 2023 of \$5,804. More details are included in the ***FISCAL 2023 INCOME AND EXPENSE BUDGET***.

There are several capital projects totalling \$75,000 being budgeted for the upcoming year, which are detailed in the ***FISCAL 2023 CAPITAL BUDGET***. The most significant include a portable mound for the 15U field, electrical and light replacements, and repairs to the warning tracks. The 13U field is planned to be redressed although more cost effective alternatives are being investigated. Other fields are planned to be redressed in future years according to greatest need.

Respectfully,

Jackie Colville  
Treasurer