

## Minutes of the Wetaskiwin Ball Club 2021 Board Meeting February 21, 2021

Call to Order Stephen Hawkes at 8:01 pm

**Approval of the Agenda**                      **Bryana/Derek**                                      **Carried**

**Approval of the minutes of the Jan 22, 2021 Meeting**                      **Melissa/Dennis**                                      **Carried**

**Stephen Hawkes stated that he received a message from Karen Rotvik saying that she could not commit to the position of U14/U16 Fastball Coordinator this year. For now Michelle Renes can cover and she and Blair will see if they can come up with a recommendation for this position from the parents involved.**

### Business:

#### **Covered dugouts at Centennial:**

Lose participants when it rains. Discussed last year. We have funds. We should make this a priority. Brian Hogg head of maintenance at WRPS was called for a consult re: cost? WBC is willing to pay or pay partially for this if the WRPS is willing to get this done.

In addition, Kinsmen does not have covered dugouts. If someone knows who is in charge of these diamonds, please let us know. Blair has contacted Natasha at the COW to get a name to discuss this with. Ang D says her uncle may be a Kinsmen contact who would know who is in charge. She will text him. Blair left his message on Wed last week. All involved will bring forward their information next meeting.

#### **Rebranding the Nationals:**

We are keeping the logo (curly W) but are looking to do a community contest to engage the community in renaming and thus, rebranding the association. **Everyone is in favour of the rebranding contest. Subcommittee headed by Ang Dearing includes Nancy Fischer and Derek Johnson to set up the contest.** Deadline for submissions should be end of March. Final name by mid April. Also Bryana Mardy suggested: Another idea to help get the registration advertised it to have a social media contest of kids showing a video with their skills with baseball and tagging our social media to win free registration. This will be discussed next meeting.

#### **2021 Season:**

If games, we expect them to be within our health region (ex. Camrose, etc). 9U will be house and so we can set that up as 6 per side. Plan on others getting development. U11 and up. We have to be ready for teams and games, we can be ready for house play as well. If things do not allow league play, **Millet has asked to cohort with Wetaskiwin .Jeff Coates, head of Millet ball, has requested to do this.**

Question: Where do we sit with Covid Protocols? We are still in Stage 1, normal league play is Stage 4 which would be in about 6 weeks, so late April, early May CUB/ERRBL/Rally Cap program starts. If we can't play games, we think we should still plan for May 1 start re: just training/practicing/development.

The City Of Wetaskiwin follows the stages. We, as an association, need to come up with scenarios for Return to Train, Return to Play and normal season. We also need to be sure to discuss refunding if the season gets cancelled. **We can offer registration without fees at this point. Ang Dearing to get website**

**set up to take registrations this week.** Costs from last year. May be adjusted for Return to Train situations.

**Nancy moves to keep the registration fees at 2020 levels. Bryana seconded. Carried.**

We will make sure we state that we will have ball in this town this year. With a caveat that we may be just training/may be playing modified/may be having a regular season, depending upon Alberta Health Regulations at the time when play starts on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Bryana asks if the Association will pay for Team Snap for each team to have the Health Check for Covid protocol. Everyone agrees.**

Question if Softball and Baseball both want to be involved in the renaming. Softball has been the Wild but could also be part of the new name as well. Positive points: Starting fresh with a new name and a new brand! Most appear to be in favour of the whole association going with the new name, once it is chosen.

#### **Developmental Resources:**

Stick and Ball TV: Stephen has bought this personally, as a developmental resource with drills and skills for both baseball and fastball put together by college coaches, etc. Levels from 9U to advanced. The WBC could look at it as a communal resource for coordinators and coaches to use. Costs about \$130/year. Softball and baseball are covered. There are also free resources through Baseball Alberta.

**Motion by Derek Johnson to get this app for a year to try and make sure it is distributed to all coordinators and coaches. Seconded by Ang D. Carried.**

Stephen spoke with Scott Galenza (Fastball) who could do a pitching clinic for Softball. He was also a catcher so he could cover that as well. He is from Camrose but is in Red Deer now. He could cover pitching and catching in a clinic for Softball and maybe cover more communities than just Wetaskiwin. He has done some in Camrose. Also another individual from a Red Deer Academy (Mrs Chatwood) has said she would be willing to run a clinic as well. Probably best on weekends. Fastball is looking at booking Drill Hall time to see if they can host this type of clinic. Scott would want a cap on attendance of 8-10 at his sessions. He maybe could run multiple sessions per day for different age groups.

**Baseball development:** Stephen could work with some other coaches/coordinators to run some clinics to the baseball kids in Wetaskiwin. Dates in March are booked at the Drill Hall that may be good to run clinics. Max 18 participants with 2 coaches at this point with current Covid restrictions. Maybe even set one night aside for RallyCap/9U and 11U Coaches to attend.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Jodi Archer: Need approval for moving the Softball Account from BOM to the Baseball Bank Account at the Credit Union. The BOM charges fees b/c both accounts are not there. The Credit Union will not charge fees as it is under a community account. We need a motion to move the Softball account to the Credit Union to be with the Baseball Account. We can have different signatories for Baseball vs Softball if they are separate accounts. If the Softball Account is under the baseball account, then the signatories have to be the same. Softball has had this account bc they do separate fundraising for tournaments/apparel etc. **Moved by Jodi to move the account for Fastball from BMO to the Credit Union as a subaccount of the Wetaskiwin Ball Club account. Seconded by Dennis. Carried.**

Scott Dewald has spent a lot of time updating the website. He is asking all of us to go onto the website to check it out and see what it needs and what it is missing.

He suggests that all coordinators have a login to the website to post their rosters and make edits through out the season. Ang D agrees.

Jodi: Was approached last week by Shannon Elgie to be taken under Ang Dearing's wing to train as a registrar. Good!

Melissa: What about introducing a Public Relations Position. Is that what Scott is doing? Do we need someone dedicated to this? SH posts all the time when he gets tweets or posts. SH and SD can work together on this. Scott website. Stephen Social Media.

**Next Meeting: Sunday March 7<sup>th</sup> 8 pm.**

Motion to Adjourn by Nancy at 9:18 pm.