



Annual General Meeting

October 18, 2025

Virtual Conference Call

1. Land Acknowledgment

Lisa Parkes provided a brief land acknowledgement and welcomed all delegates and guests.

2. Opening Remarks, Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

L. Parkes thanked the Board and those coordinators and district UICs who submitted reports before the AGM. The information is a valuable reflection of the past year and provides data that will inform future benchmarks as we start operationalizing our new strategic plan. She introduced and thanked the Board of Directors for their work this past year - Vice-President Baukje Edamuar, Treasurer Rachel Allan and Directors Lavaughn Larson, Kevin Langley and Scott Wheatley. She also acknowledged Terri Boizard, who resigned from the Board on October 8th.

L. Parkes announced that Haili Sinclair will function as the recording secretary for the meeting. H. Sinclair confirmed that the notice of meeting was duly served.

She confirmed that seventy-seven (77) delegates had registered for the meeting, of which sixty-one (61) were present at the meeting. Quorum for this general meeting is thirty-five (35, based on having one-third (1/3) of the eligible voting members, which is set at 106.

3. Meeting Procedure

L. Parkes provided an overview of the procedures for speaking and voting. Voting delegates were reminded of the email sent by the office containing the link to the voting ballot for the election. She confirmed that D. St-Denis and Haili Sinclair were overseeing this process. They will share the results on screen once the voting window has closed.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Theresa Allen, seconded by Rachel Allan, to approve the agenda as circulated. CARRIED

5. Approval of 2024 Annual General Meeting & Extraordinary General Meeting Minutes

Moved by David Maandag, seconded by Kevin Langley, to approve the 2024 Extraordinary General Meeting minutes. CARRIED

Moved by Diane McPherson, seconded by Calvin Holman, to approve the 2024 Annual General Meeting minutes. CARRIED

6. Business arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the last meeting.

7. Financial Report

a. Auditor's Report

R. Allan introduced Winnie Lai & Marleen Wong from WL & Company, the new auditors for Softball BC. She informed the membership of the RFP process. She



noted that other PSOs highly recommended WL & Company for their high level of service and value for the financial investment. This was the first audit with WL & Company. IT was extensive but overall went smoothly.

Highlight from the Report:

- Gordon MacDonald & Margo Thomas Fund – invested portion (\$15K) in GIC in the hopes of self-funding through interest revenue
- Unearned Revenue – recognizing fund contributions on receipt rather than deferring
- New look to Statement of Operations, aka Income Statement
- Switched from Sage to QBO, which allowed us to overhaul GL accounts to make the report more intuitive. Can now report based on projects (ie, Events)

EXPENSES:

- Affiliation Fees – Softball Canada, WCSA
- Governance Expenses – AGM, BOD, Councils & Committees
- High Performance – Canada Summer Games
- Membership Services – Insurance/RAMP
- Player Development Programs – BC Summer Games, CanPitch, LTPD
- Grant revenue: Via Sport one-time grant \$67,864.58 in FY2024
- Programs – high performance: Canada Summer Games
- Governance: AGM in Kelowna last year (out of town, always more expensive due to travel costs)
- Professional Fees: strategic plan, transition to new accounting program, outsourced accounting services (will save money on salary & wages moving forward to be reallocated to the new Sport Development Director position)

M. Wong (WL & Company) highlight that they received full support from the management team, D. St-Denis, R. Allen and the accounting firm, Xango. They have provided communication to the Board of Directors regarding the process and noted that the audit report was clean.

b. Appointment of Auditors

R. Allan noted that the members authorized the Board to conduct an RFP and select the auditors. She confirmed that Softball BC has entered into a three-year agreement with WL & Company for auditing services and will conduct, if necessary, another RFP in 2027.

Moved by Calvin Holmes, seconded by Teresa Allen, to receive the financial report. CARRIED

8. Reports

a. Annual Report

The office compiled an annual report that includes data related to our membership, provincial events, and umpire and coach development programs, as well as reports from our district coordinators and umpire-in-chief, and information put together by our staff. She once again thanked the coordinators, the DUICs, and everyone who contributed to this report.

Moved by Calvin Holmes, seconded by Thomas Bell, to receive the annual report. CARRIED



b. 2026-2030 Strategic Plan

L. Parkes noted that the board has recently completed a new strategic plan for Softball BC. That extends from 2026 to 2030. She highlighted that while having a plan is a requirement of our funding partner, it also serves as a tool for the association over the next four years.

She noted that the Board used TOA Consulting to complete the strategic plan. TOA and the Board consulted with members through questionnaires and interviews to revamp our vision, mission, and values and to identify priorities and strategic initiatives for the next 4 years.

The plan was distributed with the meeting materials posted on the website.

9. Extraordinary General Meeting

L. Parkes noted that the Board approved, at its September meeting, to host an Extraordinary General Meeting, to be held virtually in March, to approve bylaw revisions related to the feedback received following the completion of the Organizational Effectiveness Initiative.

The Governance Committee will be tasked with setting the exact date.

The spring EGM will provide the Governance Committee with sufficient time to review the new bylaws, along with the additional documents being developed (see chart and below), as some of these are tied to specific elements in the bylaws.

- Terms of Reference for all councils and committees.
- Board Position Descriptions
- Nominations Documents
- Board Evaluation Templates
- Safe Sport Policies

She confirmed that a copy of the Operational Effectiveness Initiative report is available upon request from the office, if anyone has an interest in reviewing the entire report. The Board will be reporting back on the findings and the changes all at the Extraordinary General Meeting, and of course, the materials circulated in advance of the meeting.

10. Election of Directors

L. Parkes confirmed that members would be electing three directors to a 3-year term, and two directors for a 1-year term due to Scott Wheatley's & Terri Boizard's resignation. The directors will join Lisa Parkes and Rachel Alan, who are entering 2nd year of a 3-year term.

She reminded the voting delegates of the email they received from the office that contained the link to the voting ballot for the election. Candidates were provided with a three (3) minutes window to speak - Rick Benson, Jack Hawes, Kevin Langley, Lavaughn Larson, Darcy MacKenzie, Darren Simpson.

Elected to a 3-year term

- Rick Benson
- Kevin Langley
- Darren Simpson



Elected to a 1-year term

- Lavaughn Larson
- Darcy MacKenzie,

L. Parkes thanked all of the candidates for their interest in joining the Board of Directors.

11. Adjournment

Before adjourning the meeting, L. Parkes offered a closing comment celebrating a few highlights from the past season.

- Minor membership stayed consistent at 13,500-ish. Our coaches also remained consistent at around 3,000.
- Women's and men's fastpitch numbers were down just slightly, 2-3%, but women's were at about 1400, and men's at about 350. Slow pitch down a little bit, about 1,160.
- Umpires were at 894 for this past season—an impressive number. Up from the year before, and almost two-thirds of those umpires are female, with a considerable percentage under the age of 25 being female, and then increasingly male as you get older, which you can see on the fields. A lot of the people umpiring young games are minor players, and a lot of the older umpires tend to be men.
- We hosted 24 championships, or year-end events, this season. From U11C right up to adult events, with almost 8,000 participants in those events.
- We held 35 coaching clinics and 55 umpire clinics.
- On the subject of membership, we welcomed four new associations this year, or over the past year, Fort Nelson, Logan Lake, and, more recently, Peachland and Mission. So, a big welcome to those four associations. We're thrilled to have you on board. And staff are currently working with Revelstoke in the hopes that they will be our next new association in the next 6 months or so.
- The board recently established a rural participation group, which will increase our support of and involvement in these less populated and more remote areas. They've already identified some initiatives they want to bring forward, so we hope that will increase the feeling of welcome and involvement of those areas that may not be as close to us geographically, and also increase member associations as we move forward.
- Championships outside of BC, we had a great deal of success again this year. We had our Fusion 2010 team got gold at the U15 Canadian Championships. The U17, that's girls, U17 girls, Fusion took silver, and Renegades took bronze. The U-19 Women's, gold for Fusion 06, and silver for Renegades 06-07.
- For fast pitch, we did not have a women's team attend this year, unfortunately. We did have a men's team attend. The Soukloggers went to the Canadian Championships and did not medal, but finished 4th and competed well.
- In slow pitch, we had two men's teams compete, not as successful hardware-wise as they were the previous year, but a good showing, and our women's, slow pitch, Canadian Championships, we had four teams attend, with Adrenaline taking the silver medal.
- We also had success at Westerns with Central Saanich Extreme taking gold at the U17 girls, and Ridge Meadows taking bronze at that same Western Canadians. The U-19 Ladysmith Chargers taking bronze at the U-19 Women's Western Canadians.
- It was also a Canada Summer Games year, lots of work for everyone involved there, the staff, our staff, and the team staff, so thank you to all of them.



- Our men, it was not expected going in that they would take, you know, be in the medal contention, compared to some provinces that have more robust boys and men's programs currently. But they got a couple of wins, and it was a good development year for them. And the women's team took gold for the 7th consecutive time, so congratulations to them.
- Umpires. Besides their usual amazing work at all of our regular-season games and tourneys, and those 24 championships and year-end celebrations I mentioned, our BC umpires were also much in demand across the country.
- Thanks to Jason for the stats in his report. =
 - 17 BC umpires at national championships. Nine were in medal games, with 5 doing plate gold medal games, and two on the plate for bronze medal games.
 - At Westerns, we had 10 BC umpires, including a UIC and a deputy UIC. We had five medal games, with two on the plate for gold medal games at Westerns, and one on a plate for a bronze medal game.
 - Canada Summer Games, Tanya Rabalkin-Zanin was the UIC for the women's side of the Canada Summer Games. Kira Hamm was also at the women's BC Summer Games, representing BC, and was on the plate for the bronze medal game.
 - And Mark Webster was on the plate for the men's side for the Canada Summer Games gold medal game.
 - We also had 20 umpires evaluated for advancement within the umpire system at those major events this year. So yeah, great, great work for the umpires, and I know that Jason set out in his report that
 - We're doing a terrific job with recruitment. Retaining first-year umpires for a second year is a real challenge. As Jason said in his report, the main reason for that is that they feel intimidated, attacked, questioned, or criticized by parents and coaches. It doesn't seem like something they want to continue doing as teenagers when they have other options. I was really taken with a quote in Jason's report, from one of the umpires - "It would be nice if the coaches and parents were told we were just learning, too, because some were very hard on us, and we could hear the insults in making fun of us from the stands. I hate the thought of that. And I hope we'll all take that and take it to our associations and remind them and ask them to please, please treat our umpires better.

L. Parkes also spoke to the Board's decision to move the AGM to a virtual format. She noted that last year's AGM cost the association a little over \$58,000, and about 40% of that was the awards banquet. After some review, the board was of the opinion that our funds, and especially large portions of our funds, should be going to our mission and purpose, as set out in our strategic plan, and that we really needed to scale back those costs. So the decision was made to have the AGM virtual, moving forward and set up a Congress in the spring or fall, which would be geared more towards development and growth of the game and allowing people to get together. The details of that are to be finalized, but we anticipate that there would be some cost to the attendees, with the ability to have travel subsidized for those coming from further away.

In terms of the annual awards, those will be given out to the winners at their home associations or in their home communities, so that their friends, family, and the people that they work with in softball can celebrate them. They'll also be celebrated on our social media. And that will happen in the spring.



Parkes highlighted the first Hall of Fame ceremony held at the Canada Cup this past year. She thanked the staff for their work in pulling together the event. She noted that the new format allowed recipients to witness the unveiling of their name on the Wall of Fame with family and friends, and for current members of the Hall of Fame to gather and celebrate.

She spoke of the Operational Enhancement Initiative (OEI), which was first mentioned at last year's AGM. Participation in the OEI was a requirement from viaSport. The project is an opportunity to enhance and modernize our governance structures and operations. Staff are currently working on implementing the recommendations and mandates that they need us to change. We anticipate there'll be a sector evaluation in 2026, so these modifications are timely. Changes to the bylaws will be brought forward to the EGM in March, as mentioned earlier.

L. Parkes once again noted the development of the new Strategic Plan. Creating the new plan was a requirement by viaSport. She highlighted the five main strategic priorities.

- Grow the Game - Participation, retention, and access across all levels of play and regions in BC.
- Develop Our People – Training, mentorship, and recognition of coaches, umpires, and volunteers.
- Build Safe and Welcoming Environments – Inclusive opportunities for all participants to participate, develop and thrive.
- Build Capacity among Clubs / Associations – Build strong associations, deliver quality programming, and model good governance.
- Build a Resilient Organization – Strengthen Softball BC's operational excellence, financial health, and system partnerships

She shared that viaSports was pleased with the content of the plan, noting the alignment of our strategic priorities with theirs.

L. Parkes to a moment to thank Jackie Dugger, who is stepping down from the Softball Canada Board of Directors.. She thanked her on behalf of the Softball community BC for her extensive contribution in BC and in Canada.

Parkes announced that she would not be pursuing the presidency of Softball BC, as she has put her name forward to run for a position on the Softball Canada Board in November. She referenced an easier transition out of the Board as director vs President if she is successful and needs to step down from the Softball BC Board. She noted that there was another highly qualified person from BC running for the position.

She thanked the Board and staff, along with the many volunteers and umpires, for their work this past year, along with their support during her presidency.

Move by Calvin Holman, seconded by Shawn Brandt, to adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED



Appendix A - Attendees

Voting Delegates

District 1

1. Umpire-in-Chief - Teresa Allen
2. Minor Coordinator - Bill Hawkins
3. Girls/Mix Rep - Lori Zehr
4. Men's & Women's Coordinator - Ashley Vukovic
5. Women's Rep - Paddy Strandlund

District 2

6. Umpire-in-Chief - Shawn Brant
7. Minor Coordinator - Al Charlesworth

District 3

8. Girls/Mix Rep - Kirk Routledge
9. Men's & Women's Coordinator - Lisa Hayton

District 4

10. Minor Coordinator - Houtan Maleki
11. Girls/Mix Rep - James Lawson

District 5

12. Umpire-in-Chief - David Maandag
13. Girls/Mix Rep - David Yam
14. Men's & Women's Coordinator - Tracy Sherlock
15. Men's Rep - Al Groff
16. Women's Rep - Barry Riva

District 6

17. Umpire-in-Chief - Tyler Warren
18. Minor Coordinator - Elizabeth Lee
19. Boys/Mix Rep - Jen McCulloch
20. Girls/Mix Rep - Kelli Tibbles
21. Men's & Women's Coordinator - Suzy Parker
22. Women's Rep - Deb Tidy

District 7

23. Umpire-in-Chief - Jeffrey Vanzella
24. Minor Coordinator - Shannon Maion
25. Boys/Mix Rep - Thomas Bell
26. Girls/Mix Rep - Greg Timm
27. Men's & Women's Coordinator - Tracey Oye
28. Women's Rep - Kelly Daugherty



District 8

- 29. Umpire-in-Chief - Paul Muirhead
- 30. Minor Coordinator - Kathy Weston
- 31. Boys/Mix Rep - Phil Saw
- 32. Girls/Mix Rep - Jeff Clegg
- 33. Men's & Women's Coordinator - Harv Wiens
- 34. Women's Rep - Bill Cox

District 9

- 35. Umpire-in-Chief - Lucas Crosby
- 36. Girls/Mix Rep - Nancy Kolt

District 10

- 37. Minor Coordinator - Margaret MacDonald
- 38. Girls/Mix Rep - Catherine Carreiro
- 39. Men's & Women's Coordinator - Derek Hipwell

District 11

- 40. Umpire-in-Chief - Kaleb Hutchinson

District 12

- 41. Umpire-in-Chief - Ken Edwards
- 42. Minor Coordinator - Andy Ferguson

District 13

- 43. Umpire-in-Chief - Kevin Hortle
- 44. Minor Coordinator - Patrick Beckerton
- 45. Girls/Mix Rep - Noelle Bulloch

District 14

- 46. Umpire-in-Chief - Josko Dujmovic
- 47. Boys/Mix Rep - Kate Doucette
- 48. Girls/Mix Rep - Lesley MacPherson
- 49. Men's & Women's Coordinator - Diane MacPherson
- 50. Women's Rep - Dani Gerber

District 15

- 51. Umpire-in-Chief - Calvin Holman
- 52. Minor Coordinator - Gord Johnson
- 53. Girls/Mix Rep - Chris Roper
- 54. Men's & Women's Coordinator - Amanda Kennedy
- 55. Women's Rep - Missy (Coghill) Thornton



Board of Directors

- 56. Lisa Parkes, President
- 57. Baukje Edamura, Vice President
- 58. Rachel Allan, Treasurer
- 59. Kevin Langley, Director
- 60. Lavaughn Larson, Director
- 61. Scott Wheatley, Director

Other Attendees

Nick Allen
Herbie Atwal
Rick Benson
Sally Clayton
Sabrina Clegg
Joni Frei
Jack Hawes
Evan Kelley
Brittany Lorteau
Darcy Mackenzie
Jason MacPherson
Bronwen Marchant
Rhiannon McMillan
Jason Ranchoux
Darren Simpson

Staff & Contractors

Diane St-Denis, Executive Director
Haili Sinclair, Member Services & Communications Manager
Marlene Wong, WL & Company, Auditors