



# Men's and Women's Advisory Council Meeting

January 21st, 2026

Conference call

## Minutes



### 1.01 Territorial Acknowledgement & Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 pm by Al Groff (Chair), who delivered the territorial acknowledgement and provided opening remarks.

### 1.02 Motion to approve the agenda

Moved by L. Hayton, Seconded by S. Parker to approve the agenda.

**Carried Unanimously**

### 1.03 Motion to approve minutes

D.MacPherson moved to approve the minutes of the board meeting held on Nov, 27th 2025. Motion was seconded by B.Riva.

**Carried Unanimously**

## 2. Business Arising

### 2.01 2026 Provincial Championship Calendar Update

- Master's Men's - July 3 - 5, 2026 (tentative)
- Women's A - July 17 - 19, 2026, Saanich, BC
- Women's B - July 17 - 19, 2026, Richmond BC
- Women's D - July 17 - 19, 2026, Richmond BC
- Women's Intermediate A - July 24 - 26, 2026 , Richmond BC
- Women's C - July 24 - 26, 2026, Richmond BC
- Men's Intermediate A & B - August 21 - 23, 2026 (tentative)

**Discussion Notes:** J.Ullock provided a brief update on his ongoing discussions with the men's teams. No further updates for men's provincials at this time

### 2.02 2026 Western Canadians Update

**Discussion Notes:** Discussion took place regarding the removal of adult divisions from Western Canadians due to a continuous lack of interest.

### 2.03 Rule Changes

**Discussion Notes:**

- J. Ranchoux provided clarification on fastpitch rule changes approved at the Softball Canada AGM.
- Articles identified for review from August 2025 remain under consideration.

### 2.04.1 Women's Registration & Game Timing

**Motioned by L.Hayton, Seconded by T.Sherlock**

**Motion:** That Article 10.6.3.2 remain unchanged, and that Article 10.6.4.2 be amended to define game start time as the first warm-up pitch.

**Current SOR Wording:**

- **10.6.3.2 (Qualifying Round):** Game time starts with the first warm-up pitch.
- **10.6.4.2 (Elimination Round):** Game time starts with the first pitch to the first batter of the game.





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### Proposed Amendment:

- **Revise Article 10.6.4.2** so that elimination round game time also reads "Game time starts with the first warm-up pitch." Aligning with the Qualifying round.

**Discussion Notes:** No discussion

**Decision:** CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 2.04.2 Return to Lower Classification Timeline

**Motioned by T.Oye, Seconded by D.Hipwell**

**Motion:** That teams be permitted to return to a lower classification after one (1) year at a higher classification, subject to Men's & Women's Coordinator approval.

### Current SOR Wording:

- **10.4.3 & 11.4.3** - A team may return to a lower classification after competing for at least two (2) years at the higher classification with their Men's & Women's Coordinator approval.

### Proposed Amendment:

- **10.4.3 & 11.4.3** - A team may return to a lower classification after competing for at least one (1) year at the higher classification with their Men's & Women's Coordinator approval.

**Discussion Notes:** No discussion

**Decision:** CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 2.04.3 Definitions – Women's & Men's Fastpitch

**Motioned by D.Hipwell, Seconded by D. MacPherson**

References:

- Women's: Articles 10.2.1–10.2.7
- Men's: Articles 11.2.1–11.2.7

**Motion:** That the above articles be deleted, as they duplicate Softball Canada rules.

**Discussion Notes:** No discussion

**Decision:** CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 2.04.4 Prohibition Clause – Women's & Men's

References:

- 10.2.8 – Women's
- 11.2.8 – Men's
- Softball Canada Rulebook SOR Fastpitch 3.3

**Motion:** That Articles 10.2.8 and 11.2.8 remain unchanged.

**Discussion Notes:** No discussion

**Decision:** CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 2.04.5 Provincial Championship Promotion Policy

Reference: 10.4.2

**Motioned by T.Sherlock, Seconded by T.Oye**

**Motion:** That promotion criteria (1st–3rd place) remain in effect for the 2026 season, and that member teams be consulted regarding a first-place-only promotion model for potential implementation in 2027, with feedback to be reported at the September Men's & Women's Meeting.





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**Discussion Notes:** Insufficient feedback was available to determine consensus. Concerns included division size, competitive balance, and objective criteria for assessing team strength.

**Decision:** Tabled. Coordinators to consult teams and report back at a future meeting.

### 2.04.6 Women's Intermediate A – Post-Season Pathway

**Motioned by D.MacPherson, Seconded by A.Kennedy**

Reference: 10.1

**Motion:** That Women's Intermediate A teams be permitted to attend either a Western Canadian Championship or a Canadian Championship, subject to qualification criteria.

#### **Current SOR Wording:**

- 10.1 - Intermediate A Leads to a Canadian Championship

#### **Proposed Amendment:**

- 10.1 - Intermediate A Leads to a Western or a Canadian Championship

**Discussion Notes:** Council reviewed eligibility requirements following the dissolution of Western Canadian Championships. A Provincial play-down remains mandatory for National eligibility.

**Decision:** Tabled to a future meeting.

**Action:** S. Gilbert to confirm financial obligations and deadlines with Softball Canada.

### 2.04.7 Graduation from Minor Categories – Women's

**Motioned by A.Kennedy, Seconded by B.Riva**

Reference: 10.4.4

**Motion:** That U20C teams be permitted to register in Women's C or Women's D, at the discretion of the Men's & Women's Coordinator.

#### **Current SOR Wording:**

- 10.4.4 - Teams graduating from minor categories shall use the following chart based on their previous year's registration and/or participation at their Provincial Championship.
  - U19A to Women's Intermediate A or Women's A
  - U19B to Women's B
  - U20C to Women's C

#### **Proposed Amendment:**

- 10.4.4 - Teams graduating from minor categories shall use the following chart based on their previous year's registration and/or participation at their Provincial Championship.
  - U19A to Women's Intermediate A or Women's A
  - U19B to Women's B
  - U20C Subject to Men's and Women's Coordinator's consent, to Women's C or Women's D

**Discussion Notes:** Coordinators discussed the minor U20C teams transitioning to the women's C or D pathway, as well as who takes on the responsibilities of the approval with an emphasis on confirming the approval before registration & the accurate wording that they would like to see adapted.

**Decision:** CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY





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### **2.04.8 Graduation from Minor Categories – Men's**

**Motioned by B.Riva, Seconded by D.Tidy**

Reference: 11.4.4

**Motion:** That Article 11.4.4 be deleted, as Minor Boys teams are now classified as "C".

**Discussion Notes:** The change was confirmed as having no impact on the men's division.

**Decision:** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **2.04.9 Minimum Games Requirement – Men's**

Reference: 11.4.5

**Motion:** To consult Men's teams regarding whether the four (4) game minimum requirement restricts Provincial participation.

**Discussion Notes:** Concerns noted regarding declining participation and uncertainty among teams.

**Decision:** Tabled for a future meeting.

### **2.04.10 Provincial Championship Run Differential Rules**

References:

- 10.6.2.3 – Women's
- 11.6.2.3 – Men's

**Motion:** That Articles 10.6.2.3 and 11.6.2.3 be deleted, as they duplicate Softball Canada rules.

**Decision:** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **2.05 Vacant MaW Coordinator Positions**

Vacancies identified in:

- North Vancouver
- Squamish
- Kelowna area
- Kamloops (District 11)
- Terrace (District 13)

Discussion focused on outreach strategies to fill positions.

### **2.06 Onboarding**

The Chair inquired about the potential return of Work Now Facilitation workshops in the future.

### **3. Round Table**

- S. Parker inquired about hard copy availability of the Softball BC and Softball Canada handbooks; it was confirmed that both are available online only.
- Masters Weekend was confirmed for August 14–16 in Fleetwood, with four games scheduled.
- No update was available regarding Harv's absence.
- D. Hipwell reported historically low participation in District 10 and indicated teams are unlikely to attend Provincials this season.
- D. MacPherson noted uncertainty regarding U20C teams transitioning to Women's divisions due to executive changes. One U20C team confirmed it will remain at that level for the upcoming season, with no additional teams confirming movement at this time.





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- B. Riva noted that hosting a Minor Provincial Championship assists in offsetting future Women's Provincial hosting costs.

#### 4. Next Meeting

- Scheduled for the week of February 16–19. @ 8:00pm (tentative)
- Action: Mindi to circulate a poll to confirm the date.

#### 5. Adjournment

L.Hayton Motioned to adjourn, S. Parker Seconded  
Meeting adjourned at 9:23pm PT





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### **TIMELINES MEN'S & WOMEN'S FASTPITCH 2026**

JANUARY 1ST – 2026 SEASON REGISTRATION OPEN

MARCH 1ST – LETTER OF INTENT FOR 2026 CANADIAN AND WESTERN CHAMPIONSHIPS OPENS

JUNE 1ST – LETTER OF INTENT FOR 2026 CHAMPIONSHIPS CLOSES

JUNE 1ST – CONFIRMATION OF TEAMS ATTENDING POST-PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUNE 6TH – REGISTRATION DUE FOR MEN'S MASTERS PROVINCIALS

JUNE 11TH – REGISTRATION DUE FOR WOMEN'S A, B AND D PROVINCIALS

JUNE 15TH – ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR WOMEN'S TEAMS CLOSES

JUNE 20TH – DRAW FOR MEN'S MASTERS PROVINCIALS

JUNE 27TH – DRAW FOR WOMEN'S A, B AND D PROVINCIALS

JUNE 27TH – REGISTRATION DUE FOR WOMEN'S INTER A AND C PROVINCIALS

JUNE 30TH – FINAL APPROVAL OF TEAM ROSTERS FOR WOMEN'S TEAMS

JUNE 30TH – ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR MEN'S TEAMS CLOSES

JULY 11TH – DRAW FOR WOMEN'S INTER A AND C PROVINCIALS

JULY 15TH – FINAL APPROVAL OF TEAM ROSTERS FOR MEN'S TEAMS

JULY 18TH – REGISTRATION DUE FOR MEN'S INTER A AND B PROVINCIALS

JULY 30TH – WOMEN'S CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS OPEN

AUGUST 1ST – DRAW FOR MEN'S INTER A AND B PROVINCIALS





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### Attendance

District	Coordinator	Attend	Regrets	Not Known
SBBC Staff	Shaquille			
Chair	Al			
1	Ashley			
2	Lindsay			
3	Lisa			
4	Vacant			
5	Tracy			
6	Suzy			
7	Tracey			
8	Harv			
9	Vacant			
10	Derek			
11	Vacant			
12	Joe			
13	Vacant			
14	Diane			
15	Mindi			
Regional Rep	Merv			
Regional Rep	Deb			
Regional Rep	Barry			
Regional Rep	Vacant			
BOD Guest	Lavaughn			
President (Guest)	Rachel			
SBBC Staff (Guest)	Jim			
PUIC (Guest)	Jason			

