Board of Directors Meeting

June 3, 2026

Minutes

In Attendance

- Rachel Allan, President
- Kevin Langley, Vice-President
- Darcy MacKenzie, Treasurer
- Rick Benson, Director
- Jack Hawes, Director
- Lavaughn Larson, Director
- Darren Simpson, Director
- Kelli Tibbles, Member Services & Communications Manager
- Shaquille Gilbert, Umpires & Championships Director
- Diane St-Denis, Executive Director

1. Call to Order

1.01 Land Acknowledgement and Opening Remark
R. Allan called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and provided a brief territorial acknowledgement.

1.02 Approval of agenda
Moved by K. Langley, seconded by R. Benson, to approve the agenda as circulated. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.03 Approval of the minutes
Moved by R. Benson, seconded by J. Hawes, to approve the minutes of April 14, 2026. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.04 Email Votes
April 23, 2026
Motion to approve the proposed 2026-27 budget.
CARRIED 5-0-2 (Benson & Larson opposed)
April 23, 2026
Motion to move $30,000 in unrestricted funds to the Board Designated Reserve effective immediately. CARRIED6-0-1 (Larson opposed)

April 27, 2026
Motion to cancel the following Region 1 events for the 2026 season:
- **U11C Celebration of Softball - June 26-28**
- **U13C Regionals - June 26-28**

CARRIED 5-0-0 (Langley & Simpson did not vote)

May 25, 2026
Motion to approve Burns Lake Minor Softball Association's membership application. CARRIED 6-0-0 (Benson did not vote).

1.05 Business arising from the last meeting

Business arising from the last meeting has been added to the agenda below.

2. Board Business

2.01 Insurance Update

D. St-Denis provided a brief verbal update:

a. Civil Suit - Written update was provided to directors on May 21st
b. Renewed Policies
    i. Commercial General Liability (Markel)
    ii. Abuse Liability (Markel)
    iii. Participant Accident (Markel)
        Loss runs reports as of Feb 26, 2026, were shared with Directors.
    iv. Directors & Officers Liability (Hub)
    v. Cyber/Privacy/Network Security Liability (Hub)
c. Work to be done
    i. SafeSport Policy Review - Governance Committee
        1. Policy, flow chat and discipline guidelines/matrix
        2. Education (tools and sessions)
    ii. Waivers and consents will include a CASL compliance review
        1. Liability waiver (for adults)
        2. Assumption of Risk Agreement (for minors)
        3. Acknowledgement of policies, highlighting the code of conduct
        4. Media & Photo Release Form
        5. FOIP/FIPA Consent
        6. Consent to receive newsletter and updates on Softball BC activities
        7. Consent to receive promotional materials from Softball BC Partners

2.02 Committee Updates

a. Finance & HR Committee

The committee met on May 27th.

i. 2025-2026 audit

D. St-Denis shared the final board financial report for the year ending April 30, 2026. Pending any adjustments the auditors may make, she projects a surplus of approximately $75,000.The surplus is primarily due to significant savings in the staffing area (sport dev portfolio), savings in the championships area due to event cancellations, and increases in revenue in the coaching development portfolio and partnerships. She expects the audit to be completed by the end of June.

ii. Fees

- Membership Fees for 2027

  Directors discussed Softball Canada's National Participant Registration System and Fee Increase Proposal. Directors acknowledged that Softball Canada has not altered its membership fee structure since 2011, and that an adjustment is needed, especially in light of the recent 21% cut in federal funding, keeping in mind that some NSOs have yet to understand how the recent Carney announcement will impact funding to NSOs.

Directors agreed to reconvene on June 23rd once R. Allan and D. St-Denis have had the opportunity to speak with their counterparts in Quebec, Ontario, and western provinces. At a minimum,

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by K. Langley, to reduce the League/Association Executive fee from $25 to $5, effective the 2027 season. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Umpire fees - pushed to a future meeting.
- Coaching Development and Umpire Clinic Fees - pushed to a future meeting.
- Regional and Provincial Championship Entry Fees - pushed to a future meeting.

iii. 4-year Budget & 4-year Operating Plan
Pushed to a future meeting

iv. Human Resource Update
See the management report

b. Governance Committee
The Committee's next meeting is on June 29th. Will Russell of Sport Law will attend to walk the committee through the new SafeSport policies. The goal is to have the new policies on the Board's September agenda.

c. Nomination Committee
D. St-Denis confirmed that a call for volunteers to sit on the committee will be going out this week. She asked a volunteer from the Board. She also requested assistance from the Board in identifying potential candidates to serve on the committee.

d. Minor Advisory Council
The Council's next meeting is on June 7th.

e. Minor Development Fund Committee
The intake window is currently open and closes on July 2nd. D. St-Denis noted that she, along with R. Allan, P. Berkcerton (D13 Coordinator) and A. Ferguson (D12 Coordinator) will be holding a video conference call on June 16th with the presidents of the minor association located in our northern districts to hear their concerns and pain points as it pertains to their membership with Softball BC.

f. Men's & Women's Advisory Council
The Committee met on May 31st. They are working on several motions which will be brought forward at a future meeting.

g. Slo-Pitch Advisory Committee

S. Gilbert presented an interim report on alternative qualification processes for Slo-Pitch Nationals. The report suggested that teams would be amenable to eliminating the medals, championship banner, and prizes, and to increasing the team registration fee to reduce Softball BC's cost of holding the event in September of 2026. The report also recommended an option to reduce transportation costs for qualified Softball BC-registered umpires attending the event.

D. St-Denis noted that she would like the Board to review the possibility of having the 2026 event by August 1st at the latest to allow teams sufficient time to register and plan for their participation. Staff will continue working on a final proposal for the Board to review.

h. Umpire Advisory Council

i. Council feedback on Assignr - Pilot Evaluation Approach

D. St-Denis reported that the Umpire Advisory Council was asked for feedback on the evaluation approach previously shared with the Board. Staff are meeting next week to review the limited feedback it has received. The Evaluation Approach will be shared at the next meeting. The evaluation will be conducted at the end of the season. Findings will be shared with the Umpire Advisory Council for review and the formation of a recommendation to the Board.

ii. Umpire Game Reports and Oversight

D. St-Denis reshared the brief notes she created regarding oversight on managing. umpire and coach reports submitted online.

i. Ad Hoc Committees

i. Awards Committees

No update at this time.

ii. Hall of Fame Committees

No update at this time.

iii. Coaching Development Committee

The Committee met on May 21st and is working on the Congress. Details will be made available once we have a clear concept and costs to share with the Board.

j. Working Groups

i. District Review Working Group

The Committee is still gathering data. They are meeting on June 17th.

ii. Rural Participation Working Group

No update - evaluation will be completed in August for a report in May

- U15C Regional Pilot was cancelled due to a lack of interest

iii. Boys & Men's Fastpitch Working Group
No update at this time.

iv. Tournament Working Group
The Working Group met on June 1st. A report will be made available for the next meeting.

v. Culture and Ethics Task Force TORs
No update at this time.

2.03 Softball Canada

a. Update on Fee and National Registration Database
Refer to item 2.02 a. ii. above

b. Update on DEI project - All Native Canadian Championships
Softball Canada is not responding to emails for an update.

c. Update on U18 Development Camps
The BC Camp will be hosted in Langley on August 20th and 21st.
Softball Canada is leading in advertising development and registrations.

d. Update on post Canada Cup U11 event
Monday, July 13th
- LOWER MAINLAND - Port Coquitlam Fastball Association
- ISLAND - The Langford Minor Fastball Association
- OKANAGAN- Enderby Minor Softball

Softball Canada is leading in advertising development and registrations.

2.04 Western Canadian Softball Association
No update at this time.

2.05 Board Meeting Schedule
- The board agreed to meet at noon on Tuesday, June 23rd, to discuss messaging to the membership regarding the 2027 fees.
- Directors were asked to confirm whether they plan to attend either of the events being held during the Canada Cup.

3. Operational Business

3.01 Management Report
- Staff provided a written management report.
- Revised Policy - Promotion 3rd party. Pushed to a future meeting.
- Update on Articles 1 and 2. Pushed to a future meeting.

3.02 Strategic Plan / Operational Plan
Pushed to a future meeting.

3.03 OEI Implementation Update
Staff shared the task tracking chart for the project.

3.04 Championships
Staff recommended the Board discuss cancelling the U11 Celebrations and U11R Showcase at the conclusion of the 2026 season due to the lack of host interest. This will be addressed at a future meeting.

3.05 Membership
Logan Lake has withdrawn for this year. Burns Lake was approved for membership

4. New Business

4.01 Alcohol at Softball BC Adult Events
Waiting on feedback from the M&W Advisory Council and the Slo-Pitch Advisory Committee.

4.02. Future of Sport in Canada Commission
D. St-Denis prepared a chart listing all 98 recommendations from the Future of Sport in Canada Report. She flagged a few of the recommendations that apply to Softball BC and should be reviewed in the next few months, for us to consider in the upcoming months, as we believe they

- May impact Softball Canada Expectations
- Will impact the funding requirements in BC (aka, viaSport expectations)
- They are being identified as best practices.

4.03 in Camera
Moved by L. Larson, seconded by K. Langley, to move in camera.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to move out of camera.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Adjournment
Moved by K. Langley, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 pm.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY