



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes February 24, 2026



In Attendance

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

1. Call to Order

1.01 Territorial Acknowledgement & Opening Remarks

R. Allan called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and provided a brief territorial acknowledgement.

1.02 Approval of agenda

Moved by D. MacKenzie, seconded by L. Larson, to approve the agenda as circulated. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.03. Approval minutes from January 27, 2026

Moved by D. MacKenzie, seconded by J. Hawes, to approve the minutes of January 17, 2026, as circulated. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.04 Email Votes

The Board was asked to vote electronically on the following motion before February 16, 2026

Motion 1:

To approve the South Surrey White Rock Minor Softball Association as the host for the U13C Region 3 (Districts 7,8,14) @ Sunnyside Park on June 26-28.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 2:

To approve the Terrace Minor Softball Association as the host for the U13, U15, U17 & U20 Boys Provincial Championship on July 24-26.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 3:

To approve the Canadian Amateur Sport Society (aka Softball City) as the host for the U11R Showcase on June 12-14.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: We only received one bid for the Showcase. At this time, priority will be given to the first 24 U11R teams to register. We will provide advance notice to all minor associations about the date/time registration will open for this event.

Motion 4

To cancel the U11C Celebration for Region 3 (Districts 7,8,14).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



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Note: Staff consulted with the minor coordinators, who confirmed there has been no interest from their associations in hosting this year.

Motion 5

To cancel the U11C Celebration for Region 5 (Districts 12,13).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: Staff consulted with the minor coordinators, who confirmed there has been no interest from their associations in hosting this year. They will focus on ramping up U11 interest for 2027.

Motion 6

To cancel U13C Regionals for Region 5 (Districts 12,13).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: Staff consulted with the minor coordinators, who confirmed there has been no interest from their associations in hosting this year. They have confirmed interest from a couple of teams to attend the Region 4 regionals in Merritt, pending space after the Region 4 teams have registered.

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 Committee Updates

a. Finance & HR Committee

i. Projections to Year End

The Q3 report projects a year-end surplus of \$34,969.40. D. St-Denis noted that there are still several projects happening that could impact these figures, including but not limited to coaching and umpiring clinics, purchases for new clubs (Fort St-John) and decisions being made at this meeting.

ii. Beacon HR Proposal

Recommend approving the expenditure of \$6,650 + GST to hire Beacon HR to complete the HR manual, review employment and contractor agreements, job descriptions, ED performance review and staff performance reviews. The detailed proposal was included in the Board package.

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by K. Langley, to approve the expenditure of \$6,650 + GST to hire Beacon HR to complete the HR manual, review employment and contractor agreements, job descriptions, ED performance review and staff performance reviews.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

iii. 2026-2027 Budget Preparation

The Finance Committee will meet in March and bring the budget to the in-person meeting on March 28th & 29th.



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b. Governance Committee

- Bylaw revisions - February 17, 2026
Moved by K. Langley, seconded by J. Hawes, to approve the latest version of the bylaws for presentation to the membership at the March 11th Extraordinary General Meeting. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- These terms of reference will be presented at the in-person meeting in March.
 - Umpire Advisory Council
 - Provincial Officials Development Committee
 - Minor Development Fund Committee
 - Awards Committee
 - Hall of Fame Committee
 - Coaching Development Committee

c. Minor Advisory Council

8.3.2. Registered Minor Player

Moved R. Benson, seconded by D. Simpson, to replace 8.3.2 with the following rewrite

8.3.2 REGISTERED MINOR PLAYER is a player listed on a team roster approved by their District Minor Coordinator. The player remains affiliated with that team until competition for their age category and classification has concluded at the highest level of play, including Regionals, Provincials, Western Canadians, or Canadian Championships, even if their own team has finished competing earlier.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.5.2 District Minor Coordinator Duty

Moved L. Larson, Seconded by D. Simpson, to approve the following edits to 8.5.2.

8.5.2. DISTRICT MINOR COORDINATOR DUTY - A form will be provided for District Coordinators to notify the Softball BC Office of **their his/her District Teams' intent to participate **in the provincials if they secure a berth via district qualification. in each category of Provincial Championships. Failure by a coordinator Failure** to submit the form **seven (7) business days before districts prior to the deadline** will result in **the** disqualification of that District in further Provincial play**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.5.12 Coaches Meeting

Moved D. MacKenzie, Seconded by R. Allan, to replace "8.5.12 Coaches Meeting" with this NEW section

In-Person Meeting Protocol

The head coach from each team must provide the following to the Softball BC Representative at the designated pre-Provincial Championships coaches meeting:



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- a. A copy of your Approved Softball BC Team's Roster (from RAMP).
- b. A copy of the Team's Roster for Provincials, which reflects the players attending provincials.
- c. Provide NCCP qualifications for all coaches.
- d. The signed Softball BC Minor Provincial Player Pick-up Approval form for each pick-up. **EFFECT: Pick-ups without documents are ineligible.**
- e. Proof of age in the form of a photocopy of birth certificate, baptismal certificate or other recognized government identification for all players and pick-ups. **EFFECT: A player is ineligible until suitable proof of age is provided to the**
- f. Proof of participation of each player or pick-up in a minimum of three league, exhibition or tournament games with their Registered Minor Team, in the form of game score sheets, on request. **EFFECT: disqualification of a player or team following a review by the appointed protest committee. EXCEPTION: National Team Players**

Virtual Meeting Protocol

Should the Coaches Meeting be held virtually in the week before the championship, coaches will be required to provide the following information in electronic format within 24 hours of the meeting having concluded:

- a. A copy of your Approved Softball BC Team's Roster (from RAMP).
- b. A copy of the Team's Roster for Provincials, which reflects the players attending provincials.
- c. Provide NCCP qualifications for all coaches.
- d. The signed Softball BC Minor Provincial Player Pick-up Approval form for each pick-up. **EFFECT: Pick-ups without documents are ineligible.**
- e. Proof of participation of each player or pick-up in a minimum of three league, exhibition or tournament games with their Registered Minor Team, in the form of game score sheets, on request. **EFFECT: disqualification of a player or team following a review by the appointed protest committee. EXCEPTION: National Team Players**

Note: Proof of age, in the form of a birth certificate, baptismal certificate, or other recognized government identification, must be provided in person to the Softball BC Representative no less than 3 hours prior to the start of the first game for all players and pick-ups.

EFFECT: A player is ineligible until suitable proof of age is provided to the Softball BC Representative.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



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8.3.4 Minor Registration

Moved by J. Hawes, seconded by L. Larson, to edit 8.3.4 Minor Registration Deadlines with the addition of 8.3.4.3.

8.3.4. MINOR REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

8.3.4.1. 'A' team rosters must be uploaded and marked confirmed by the registrar by May 1st of the current year. Additions/deletions under extraordinary circumstances will be determined by the designated Minor Coordinator up to and including June 1st of the current year. After June 1st, only the Programs & Championships Director may authorize additions/ deletions to an approved roster.

8.3.4.2. All "B" classification team rosters and Executive rosters are to be uploaded and marked confirmed May 15th of the current year. All "C" classification team rosters are to be uploaded and marked confirmed by May 31st of the current year. Additions/ deletions under extraordinary circumstances will be determined by the designated Minor Coordinator up to and including June 5th of the current year. After June 5th, only the Programs & Championships Director may authorize additions/deletions to an approved roster.

8.3.4.3 The Executive Director can, on an annual basis, extend the above deadlines for an association or district due to exceptional circumstances. When possible, the application for an extension must be made by the association or, in the case of the district, by the Minor Coordinator, 7 days before the deadline in question. Deadlines cannot be extended beyond 7 days before the first provincial event, including the U11 Celebration of Softball, U11 Showcase, 13C Regionals, or Provincials. The approval of an extension will be communicated to the member associations, including the Minor Coordinator, with the district where the extension has been granted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SOR 8.4.1 Minor on M & W team

Moved by D. Mackenzie, Seconded by D. Simpson to edit to 8.4.1

8.4.1. A player 18 years of age or younger ~~A minor player other than a second year U19A or B player or a second or third year U20C player~~, may only play with or against Men's or Women's teams as a pickup or registered player with the written consent of the player's parents and the District Minor Coordinator.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Staff were directed to update the forms on the website.



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Transfer, Release and Abandon (2nd vote)

Moved by R. Benson, Seconded by J. Hawes to replace 8.3.2.3 Release/Abandon, 8.3.2.4 Release and 8.3.5 Transfer with a new 8.3.2.3. Release

8.3.2.3. Release

8.3.2.3.1. Prior to the Team Roster Being Approved by the District Minor Coordinator

A release for a player who has been duly registered by an association and has paid their registration fees shall only be considered if:

- a. The player submits a written release request to the District Minor Coordinator, which must include a rationale for the release.
- b. The player's team will not be jeopardized or put in a position of collapse due to the player's release, as confirmed by the player's head coach.
- c. And the District Minor Coordinator agrees that a release is in the player's and their association's best interests.

Once approved, the District Minor Coordinator shall instruct the Association's registrar to strike the player's name from the team's Softball BC Team Registration form. The Coordinator shall also inform the Softball BC Member Services & Communication Manager of the player's release.

8.3.2.3.2. After the Team Roster Has Been Approved by the District Minor Coordinator

A release for a player who has been duly registered by an association, has paid their registration fees, and whose Team Roster has been approved by the District Minor Coordinator, shall only be considered if:

- a. The player submits a written release request to the District Minor Coordinator no less than seven (7) days before the start of any District playdown. The request must include a rationale for the release.
- b. The player's team will not be jeopardized or put in a position of collapse due to the player's release, as confirmed by the player's head coach.
- c. The player's head coach agrees to the request to remove them from the team's roster, and the player's association registrar agrees to strike the player's name from the team's Softball BC Team Registration form.
- d. The coach and association's registrar from any other team agree to accept the player's registration on their team without affecting the registration of any other player already listed on the approved roster of that team.
- e. And the District Minor Coordinator and Umpires & Championships Director agree that a release is in the player's and the association's best interests.



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Once approved, the District Minor Coordinator shall instruct the Association’s registrar to strike the player’s name from the team’s Softball BC Team Registration form. The Coordinator shall also inform the Softball BC Member Services & Communication Manager of the player’s release.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.1.9 Minor Girls - Definition - Footwear (2nd vote)

Moved by L. Larson, Seconded by J. Hawes, to edit to 8.1.9 as follows:

8.1.9. FOOTWEAR - Players may choose to wear metal cleats beginning in the U15A, U15B, U17A, U17B, U19A, U19B, and U20C age categories and classifications. ~~Not C players, U13A or U13B.~~ Metal cleats are not permitted in any other category or classification.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SOR 8.5.14 Pick-Ups

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by D. Simpson, to edit 8.4.14 PicUps as follows

8.5.14.1 Teams may use up to three pickups for Provincial Championships, one or more of which may be coaches, provided that **the** total number of registered players and coaches on the **approved** team **roster**, together with **their** pickups, **does** ~~may~~ not exceed the maximum number permitted in these Special Operating Rules.

8.5.14.2 Pickup players are not position specific. If a team needs to pick up a player, it must first ask everyone in its district who is eligible whether they are willing to be picked up. This means all players must be asked to be a pickup, not just for a specific position, before a team can go out of district. ~~The Programs & Championships Director may authorize out of district pickups under extreme and unusual circumstances.~~

8.5.14.3 “A” teams may pick up from any District **for Provincial Championships.** ~~n~~No priority is given to teams within a given District. **However, “A” teams must refrain from contacting “B” or “C” players until they have completed their district playdowns.**

8.5.14.4 The following **applies** to “B” and “C” teams picking up players for Provincial Championships:

- a. Within a given District, teams will be permitted to pick up in the following order:
 - i. The team that places first at District Championships.
 - ii. The team that is hosting the Provincial Championships.
 - iii. Teams that earned pro rata spots in the Provincial Championships, in the order in which they **finished at Districts** ~~earned those spots.~~



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- b. Each team will be given 48 hours to select their pickups before the next team is given their turn.
- c. In-District pickups must be approved in writing by the District Minor Coordinator.
- d. Teams must pick up from within their District where there are players available ~~in the same category and classification or one lower category or classification (but not both)~~ **as defined in the Pick-Up Chart located in Annex E.**
- e. A player that declines an invitation to be a pickup for a team within her or his ~~her or his~~ **their** District may subsequently accept an offer to be a pickup for another team within her or his ~~her or his~~ **their** District, but may not be a pickup for any team outside her or his ~~her or his~~ **their** District for any Provincial Championship that season.

8.5.14.5 In “C” Provincial Championships, only one of a team’s pickups may be a pitcher, and such pickup will be declared at the commencement of the Championship. No other pickup may be used as a pitcher once this declaration is made.

8.5.14.6 Out-of-district pickups, where permitted by this section, must be approved in writing by the Minor Coordinators of the District of the team picking up the player and the District of the player.

8.5.14.7 As per 8.5.1.2, the head coach must provide a copy of all approved pickup forms to the Softball BC Representative at the coaches' meeting held prior to the Provincial Championship. Teams are not required to add their pickup players or coaches to their official team roster.

8.5.14.8 A player who is requested to be a pickup and whose team is participating in a Western or National Championship after the Provincial Championship for which they are being picked up must have written permission from their coach before they ~~agree to may~~ be picked up. Permission may be indicated by providing a copy of the team’s approved Softball BC roster to the coach of the team picking the player up.

**CARRIED (6-0-1)
K. Langley abstained**

D. St-Denis reminded directors about the townhall on Rep Tryout Proposal - March 25th.

d. Men's & Women's Advisory Council

2.04.1 Women’s Registration & Game Timing

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by K. Langley, to revise 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.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



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2.04.2 Return to Lower Classification Timeline

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by J. Hawes, to amend 10.4.3 & 11.4.3 to read - 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.

**DEFEATED (0-6-1)
R. Allan abstained.**

The Board is directing the council to review Review 10.4.2 and 11.4.2 and consider only requiring the first-place team move up. Pending the outcome of this decision, review 10.4.3 & 11.4.3.

2.04.3 Definitions – Women’s & Men’s Fastpitch

Moved by R. Benson, seconded by R. Allan, that these articles be deleted as they are duplicates of Softball Canada Regulations.

Women’s: Articles 10.2.1–10.2.7

Men’s: Articles 11.2.1–11.2.7

**CARRIED (6-0-1)
R. Allan abstained.**

2.04.7 Graduation from Minor Categories – Women’s

Moved by K. Langley, seconded by R. Benson, to approve the following amendment to 10.4.4.

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. Subject to approval from the Men’s & Women’s Coordinator:

- 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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2.04.8 Graduation from Minor Categories – Men’s

Moved by D. MacKenzie, seconded by J. Hawes, to delete Article 11.4.4.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



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2.04.10 Provincial Championship Run Differential Rules

Moved by R. Benson, seconded by J. Hawes, to delete these articles as they are duplicates of Softball Canada rules.

- **10.6.2.3 – Women’s**
- **11.6.2.3 – Men’s**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Slo-Pitch Advisory Committee

S. Gilbert will present motions at the next meeting.

f. Umpire Advisory Council

i. Townhall on adhering to Softball Canada Rules

D. St-Denis presented a high-level overview of the work that needs to be completed to implement this strategy for 2026.

- Article 7
 - To be rewritten and add U13A and U13B.
 - Notation that the rules apply to all regular seasons and postseason
 - Post-season-specific regulations will be clearly marked as applying only to the post-season. Consideration will be given to revising Article 13 to include all post-season information, therefore removing it from this section.
- Article 8 / 9 / 10/ 11/ 12
 - Will be reformatted to cluster items together
 - Items which are rules will be reviewed by the working group from the umpire advisory council to determine if they should be removed as they are (i) already in the Softball Canada Rule Book or (ii) in conflict with the Softball Canada Rule Book.
 - Post-season-specific regulations will be clearly marked as applying only to the post-season. Consideration will be given to revising Article 13 to include all post-season information, therefore removing it from this section.
- Request for exemptions
 - A form will be developed for leagues and tournament organizers to request an exemption from the rules in sections 7-12.

R. Allan questioned whether it was realistic to press forward with this item for 2026 vs taking a step back, which would allow for more consultation and better communication to allow leagues and tournament directors to



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adjust/change. R. Allan agreed to speak with the umpires first and aim to have an update out to the membership shortly thereafter.

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by K. Langley, to postpone mandatory adherence to Softball Canada Rules in all sanctioned play to the 2027 season.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- ii. Women in Blue Symposium
Happening Saturday, March 14 from 3:30 to 8 p.m. at Softball City.

g. Ad Hoc Committees

- i. Nominations Committee
Nothing to report
- ii. Awards & Hall of Fame Committees
 - Annual awards have been distributed. We will start seeing stories on our website starting this week.
 - Board recommendations well received by the HofF Committee. Staff need to update the policy. J. Dugger is attending the meeting at the end of March and will be bringing forward changes to the policy.
- iii. Coaching Development Committee
Met on Jan 29th. Waiting on minutes.

j. Working Groups

- i. District Review Working Group
Postponed to the next meeting
- ii. Rural Participation Working Group
Postponed to the next meeting
- iii. Boys & Men's Fastpitch Working Group
Lower Mainland Men's Fastpitch League (LMMFL) Announcement - Postponed to the next meeting
- iv. Tournament Sanctioning Working Group
Postponed to the next meeting
- v. Culture and Ethics Task Force TORs
Postponed to the next meeting

- 2.02 Softball Canada
Postponed to the next meeting



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2.03 Western Canadian Softball Association

Request for reconsideration of the U13 representative - Postponed to the next meeting

2.04 Board Meeting Schedule

- Thursday, March 19th, at 6:30 p.m. for SOR only if needed - virtual
- Saturday March 28th & Sunday the 29th - in person

3. Operational Business

3.01 Management Report

- Promotion 3rd party - Revisions are required based on Softball Canada policy on points - Postponed to the next meeting
- Article 2 and Article 17 - insurance -Postponed to the next meeting

3.02 Strategic Plan / Operational Plan

Postponed until the in-person meeting

3.03 OEI Implementation Update

Postponed to the next meeting

3.04 RAMP

Postponed to the next meeting

3.05 Championships

Staff will do an email vote on Richmond for the Region 2 U11C Celebration.

3.06 Membership

a. Fort St-John Application

Moved by Darcy, seconded by Kevin, to approve Fort St-John's application for membership effective immediately. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Peachland - Request for extension of probationary status

**Moved by L. Larson, seconded by K. Langley, to extend Peachland's conditional membership until September 30th and allow them to register all programs effective immediately. The Association is still required to register at least thirty (30) U7/U9 or Learn to Play participants prior to September 30th. Failure to meet this requirement will result in immediate termination of the Association's membership, without the possibility of reapplication with the same leadership group. Should the Association's membership be terminated, the club executive will be responsible for returning to Softball BC all equipment, purchased and used, that was provided to your Association before the start of the season, with the return being completed within 30 days of notification. CARRIED (6-0-1)
R Benson abstained**



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c. Port Coquitlam Fastpitch Association

D. St-Denis noted that transition work continues. She is requesting a final transition report from the new club for the March in-person meeting.

4. New Business

4.01 Alcohol at Softball BC event

Postponed to the next meeting

4.02 AGM / Banquet / Symposium

Postponed to the next meeting

4.03 Renegades Age Change Motion

Postponed to the next meeting

5. In Camera

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by J. Hawes, to move in camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by J. Hawes, to move out of camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Adjournment

Moved by D. MacKenzie, seconded by D. Simpson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 pm

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Softball BC Strategic Priorities (2026–2030)



Grow the Game

Expand participation, retention, and access across all regions and levels of play.



Develop Our People

Train, mentor, and recognize coaches, umpires, and volunteers to strengthen leadership.



Build Safe & Welcoming Environments

Ensure inclusion, equity, reconciliation, and psychological safety for all participants.



Build Club & Association Capacity

Support strong governance, leadership development, and accessible tools



Build a Resilient Organization

Modernize governance, diversify revenue, and strengthen operational excellence.