



Board of Directors Meeting April 14, 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
- 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 In Camera

Moved by D. MacKenzie, seconded by D. Simpson, to move in camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by D. Mackenzie, seconded by J. Hawes, to move out of camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.03 Approval of agenda

Moved by K. Langley, seconded by L. Larson, to approve the agenda as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.04 Approval of the minutes from March 28 & 29, 2026

Moved by J. Hawes, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to approve the minutes of March 28 & 29, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.05 Email Votes - n/a

1.06 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. Revised 2026-2027 Budget

The Board discussed version 5 of the budget with a deficit of \$44,993. After some discussion:



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Seeing as the qualifying teams for the 2026 Canadian Championships were identified at last year's provincial it was

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to cancel the 2026 Slo-Pitch Championships, and direct the Slo-Pitch Advisory Committee to prepare a recommendation to the Board, no later than September 1, 2026, on an alternative means to identify the teams who will qualify for the 2027 Canadian Championships. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board agreed to approve a revised version of the budget via email once the following modifications are applied.

- Remove the Slo-Pitch Provincials
- Remove Congress
- Correct the error in the Umpire Trave Tab - Line 8
- Review membership worksheet for errors (i.e, umpires in district 1)

Staff will work with the Treasurer to prepare recommendations for the next meeting on the following.

- Membership Fees (for 2027)
- Coaching Development and Umpire Clinic Fees (for fall 2026)
- Regional and Provincial Championship Entry Fees (for 2027)

ii. 4-year Budget & 4-year Operating Plan

Pushed to a future meeting

iii. Revised Terms of Reference for Reserve Funds

- Board Designated Reserve Fund
- Umpire Development Fund - Revised
- Minor Development Fund
- Gordon Gordon McDonald/Margo and Dorene Thoms Fund

Moved by R. Benson, seconded by K. Langley, to approve the terms of usage for the Umpire Development Fund, Minor Development Fund and Gordon Gordon McDonald/Margo and Dorene Thoms Fund

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A copy of the Board Designated Reserve Fund terms of usage was included in the meeting package for reference only, as it was approved at a previous meeting.

iv. 2025-2026 audit

For information only.

- May - prep work
- June - audit
- July - statements ready



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iv. T4A's

D. MacKenzie explained that directors receive T4As because they are receiving a stipend for expenditures without submitting receipts. If Directors wish not to receive T4As, their only option is to submit a monthly expense claim that does not exceed the stipend they currently receive.

b. Governance Committee

For information only. The date for their next meeting has yet to be set. Work to be completed by the committee and/or staff from the last Board meeting

- Consult with UAC on Provincial Officials Development Committee TofR.
- Develop a flow chart to guide councils as it pertains to handling motions
- Review the use of proxies on councils in light of Bylaw 3.10, which allows the appointment of a temporary replacement (subject to conditions).

ii. Revised Terms of Reference

- Finance, HR & Risk Management Committee
- Governance Committee
- Nominations Committee
- Minor Advisory Council
- Men's & Women's Advisory Council
- Slo-Pitch Advisory Council
- Umpire Advisory Council
 - Provincial Officials Development Committee
- Awards Committee
- Hall of Fame Committee
- Coaching Development Committee

Moved by R. Benson, seconded by L. Larson, to approve the terms of reference for the Finance, HR & Risk Management Committee; Governance Committee; Nominations Committee; Minor Advisory Council; Men's & Women's Advisory Council; Slo-Pitch Advisory Council; Umpire Advisory Council; Provincial Officials Development Committee; Awards Committee; Hall of Fame Committee; and Coaching Development Committee. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Nomination Committee

No update

d. Minor Advisory Council

Moved by J Hawes, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to approve the following changes to the SORs CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.5.13. CLASSIFICATION CHANGE - Any team placing 1st in a Provincial Championship must move ~~s~~ up ~~on~~ in classification, if playing in the



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same category and having six (6) or more returning players to the team in the following year.

Exception:

The following applies only to the women's U20C category.

Any team placing 1st in a Provincial Championship returning the following year with six (6) or more returning players, must either

- a. Move to the women's division;
- b. Move to the U19B; or
- c. Remain at U20C and be ineligible for districts and provincials for the first year they return as a U20C team.

8.5.6. PRO RATA SYSTEM

- a) If a Championship specified to contain 16 teams (one per District plus Host Team) is not filled to 16 teams by District Representation, then each District shall be allocated by weighted lottery, with each District receiving one opportunity for each team placing second or lower for the Pro rata spot. This determination process will repeat in multiple rounds until all Provincial Championship sports are filled.
- b) The pro rata draw for a given classification and category will take place five (5) business days before the first scheduled districts are held for said classification and category, and no earlier than the first Friday in June.
- c) Per 8.5.2, District Coordinators will submit the list of teams that intend to participate in the provincials if they secure a berth via district qualification.
- d) Once completed, the pro rata list will be confidentially shared with the District Coordinators, who in turn may share the information with district members at an agreed-upon time/schedule.

8.1.24. FIELD OF PLAY

The field of play includes all of: the area on the playing field side of the backstop fence bounded by the backstop fence, side fences, extended to the outfield fence of the Playing Field, including the Dugouts.

At Softball BC District Playdowns, Regionals (including Celebrations and Showcases) and Provincials:

- a. Playing Field: The playing field is defined as the fair territory within which the ball may be played and fielded. **Only those individuals listed on the Approved Softball BC roster and approved pickups may access the playing field.**
- b. Dugout: The dugout is dead-ball territory for ~~those who are registered~~ **those individuals listed** on the Approved Softball BC



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roster and approved pickups only.

Regular Season Play:

- a. **Playing Field:** The playing field is defined as the fair territory within which the ball may be played and fielded. Only individuals listed on the team's roster and pickups may access the playing field.
- b. **Dugout:** The dugout is dead-ball territory for those individuals listed on the team's roster and pickups.

Girls Fastpitch Rules

- 8.1.19. **MALE PLAYER – Male players may play in the female programs, but must adhere to the following limitations.**
 - i. **LTP to U13C categories, excluding U11R:** The number of male players must not exceed 50% of the roster; however, this can be reviewed by the Minor Coordinator and Umpires & Championship Director on a case-by-case basis.
 - ii. **U11R category:** Up to 2 male players are permitted on the roster.
 - iii. **U13B & U13A:** Male players are not permitted in female programs.
 - iv. **U15C category:** Up to 2 male players are permitted on the roster.
 - v. **U15B above:** Male players are not permitted in female programs.
- ~~8.1.19. MALE PLAYER – A minor male player may play in the girls program at LTP up to and including U15C. The U15C category will be permitted to have up to 2 male players on a girls team. LTP to U13C categories, no limit to the number of boys on a girls team.~~

Boys Fastpitch Rules

- ~~9.1.17. MALE PLAYER – A minor male player may play in the girls program up to and including U13C. Two male players may play at U15C on a girls' team.~~
- 9.1.25. **FEMALE PLAYERS may play on a boys male team. The number of female players must not exceed 50%; however, this can be reviewed by the Minor Coordinator and Umpires & Championship Director on a case-by-case basis.**

8.3.6.1 Maximum Players

- i. For teams U17 and under, a maximum of 15 players.
- ii. For U19 A & B and U20C teams, a maximum of 17 players. Exceptions may be granted **for the regular season only** under extraordinary circumstances with the approval of the District Minor Coordinator and the **Umpires & Championships Director.**



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8.4.4 A team of Minor Players wishing to play ~~league or exhibition games~~ against Men's or Women's teams must have written consent from the Appropriate Minor and Men's & Women's Coordinators

- e. Minor Development Fund Committee
No update
- f. Men's & Women's Advisory Council
For information only. The next meeting is on April 23rd.
- g. Slo-Pitch Advisory Committee
For information only. The April 1st meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum.
- h. Umpire Advisory Council
For information only. Staff shared a draft Assignr Pilot Evaluation Approach, which they will be sending to PUIC and subsequently to the Umpire Advisory Council for feedback. Directors were asked to provide feedback by Sunday, April 26th.
- i. Ad Hoc Committees
 - i. Awards Committees
No update
 - ii. Hall of Fame Committees
No update
 - iii. Coaching Development Committee
For information only. Meeting April 8th. No motions brought forward. The Committee is preparing recommendations for the board on the initiatives they will focus on for 2026-27, specifically the Congress and coach recognition program.
- j. Working Groups
 - i. District Review Working Group
Update from Chair
 - ii. Rural Participation Working Group
Staff shared a draft of Pilot Evaluation Approach. This information was shared with the Minor Coordinators to ensure all were aware of the data to be collected and the timeframe.
 - o [Rural Overage Exemption](#)
 - o [Grassroots Classification](#)
 - o [U15C Regional Competition](#)



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- iii. Boys & Men's Fastpitch Working Group
For information only. ED met with R. Thompson on April 7th.
 - ICS - purely a marketing campaign - no formal governance
 - Insurance is their only need
 - Men's Fastpitch Summit - early September
- iv. Tournament Working Group
For information only. The group is meeting on April 14th.
- v. Culture and Ethics Task Force TORs
Pushed to a future meeting

2.02 Softball Canada

- a. Update on Fee and National Registration Database
None at this time.
- b. Update on DEI project - All Native Canadian Championships
None at this time.
- c. Update on U18 Development Camps
For information only. Staff are currently surveying clubs with the target age group on dates and hosting interest
- d. Update on post Canada Cup U11 event
For information only.
 - national team coaches and players
 - 3 locations (Island, Okanagan, Lower Mainland)
 - July 13th - 10 am to 2 pm
 - Working out
 - caps as they will vary pending # of available fields and LSO volunteers
 - Host requirements

- 2.03 Western Canadian Softball Association
For information only. WCSA meeting on May 12, 2026

- 2.04 Board Meeting Schedule
Next meetings - Wed. June 3rd, 7pm

3. Operational Business

- 3.01 Management Report
 - Revised Policy - Promotion 3rd party. Pushed to a future meeting



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- 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 tracking chart of the tasks yet to be completed.

3.04 Championships

- For Discussion - U11 Showcase

The Board discussed the feedback from the minor advisory coordinators regarding their March 28th decision on the format for the U11 Showcase. The Board directed the office to email the minor coordinators to confirm that the Board discussed their concerns. The Board recognizes that their proposed format is not ideal and that there are currently no good solutions to the issue due to the lack of a second host site. As such, the Board elected not to alter its decision of March 28th. The Board encouraged the Minor Coordinators to seek out a second host or co-host to ensure a second location is available should the number of teams submitting LOIs warrant it.

- U11 & U13 celebration - Region 1 - Oceanside has pulled out. S. Gilbert is consulting with the member associations in Region 1 to find a replacement. A recommendation will be sent to the Board to cancel the event if the host is not signed by Sunday, April 19th.

- U15C Regional Pilot

Moved by K. Langley, seconded by L. Larson, to approve Merritt Minor Softball Association as the host for the U15C Regional Pilot proposed for July 17-19.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.05 Membership

No update

4. New Business

4.01 Alcohol at Softball BC Adult Events

For information only. The task is currently with the M&W Advisory Council and the Slo-Pitch Advisory Committee.

4.02 Congress Proposal

Staff presented to the board an approach to delivering the congress. The document was not discussed in light of the Board's decision not to pursue the congress.

4.03 Vancouver Sun Story

Rick Benson's email regarding the April 1st Vancouver Sun article was not discussed. D. St-Denis shared the membership registration numbers as of April 1st, which would



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not have reflected positively if Softball had been included in the article. No further discussion.

6. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m. as the agenda was completed.