



Softball New Brunswick Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 17th via Zoom @ 7:30pm

Attendance – Voting Members:

Scott Willis – President (Vote only if tie)
Gracelyn Kaine - Adult Coordinator
Charlie Chaisson - Region 1 Coordinator
Craig Clarkson - Region 3 Director
Matt Whipple - Minor Male Coordinator
Stacy Blois - Minor Female Coordinator
France Bourque - Region 5 Coordinator
Darleen Sobey - Region 6 Coordinator
Dan Mersereau - Vice President (Arrived at 8:29pm)
Ron Campbell - Provincial Umpire in Chief

Non-Voting Members (Staff):

Hillary Pineau – Executive Director
Cameron Rogers - Technical Director

Vacant Positions:

Slo Pitch Coordinator
Timbits Coordinator
Region 2 Director
Region 7 Director
Region 8 Director

Absent Voting Members:

Paul Bedford - Region 4 Director

1. Presidents Welcome

2. [Land Acknowledgement](#)

3. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

a. Motion to accept the minutes of the March 18th, Board Meeting

i. First: Charlie Chiasson Second: Gracelyn Kaine

Carried

4. Updates

a. Financial

i. Hillary Pineau circulated updated financial statements as of April 15th, 2024

1. [Balance Sheet](#)

2. [Profit and Loss](#)

ii. Credit Card Update

1. Softball NB has been approved for a credit card with a limit of \$7,000.

We are just waiting for it to arrive in the mail. It will be used for the payment of invoices, equipment orders, travel, accommodations, etc.

b. Registration

i. Hillary Pineau presented the registration numbers broken down by region as of April 17th.



- ii. Registrations are coming in steadily and are on track to surpass 2023 minor numbers. Adult team registrations have not yet started coming in, but are expected to begin coming in early May.
- iii. [By Region](#)
- c. **Umpire Update**
 - i. Ron Campbell provided an umpire update
 - 1. Registrations are coming in now. Expected to see the bulk of registrations mid May.
 - 2. Clinic registration is currently open. Planning for late April and throughout May. Will need Board to really promote the benefits of becoming an official
 - 3. It is going to be a very busy summer. Losing a few senior umpires that are retiring.

5. Programs

- a. First Nation Update
 - i. Darleen Provided an update on her progress with the First Nations Communities
 - 1. She has attempted to connect with several communities to develop relationships and begin the process of getting some new first nations teams registered for the upcoming season.
 - a. She has not received any responses and is unsure of where to go from there. She is planning to continue following up to see if she can make some progress
 - 2. Darleen is recommending giving this initiative another few weeks until approximately mid May to the first of June to see if communities are interested in getting involved. If no progress is made by that time, we will table until the fall of 2024.
- b. Provincial Championship Hosts
 - i. Cameron Rogers outlined that Provincial Championship host applications were accepted until March 31st. She has filled select tournaments with hosts; however, there are still several holes to fill. She has outlined that she has connected with Regional Directors to attempt to fill them manually and is continuing to do so until complete.
 - ii. Cameron noted that the boys tournaments tend to get filled a bit later in the year
 - iii. Softball New Brunswick does not have the capacity to run all the tournaments as a PSO; therefore, clubs need to step up and consider hosting, otherwise tournaments will be unfortunately cancelled.



- c. U17 / U20 Boys Provincial Team
 - i. U17 Boys
 - 1. Registration has been open the last several weeks for this program. Registration numbers remain very low currently, and therefore the first ID camp will have to be postponed. The staff will be focusing on recruitment of new athletes after the completion of the AGM weekend.
 - 2. The Board is encouraged to promote the program within their networks to generate new interest and increase registration.
 - ii. U20 Men's
 - 1. Bobby Despres continues to hold regular training sessions for the player pool. This team is in good shape in relation to the number of athletes.
 - d. Community Development Program
 - i. Hillary Pineau, Cameron Rogers, and Scott Willis have been diligently working on the promotion of the Community Development Program by circulating a program proposal document, promotional materials, and hosting several Zoom information sessions over the last several weeks to attempt to generate interest in starting new softball programs around several communities in the province.
 - 1. Progress has been made with the following communities
 - a. Hillsborough
 - b. Alma
 - c. Woodstock
 - d. Florenceville
 - e. Grand Manan
 - f. Gagetown
 - 2. The summer staff will be dedicated to assisting in the development of resources, pitching programs, community check ins, etc.
 - e. Students
 - i. Staff has undergone 5 recent interviews for two Provincial Program Director positions under the SEED program
 - 1. Hannah Walker (Fredericton) and Monica Bourque (Quispamsis) have been hired, starting May 6th
 - ii. Pending approval of additional Canada Summer Jobs funding, staff will be hiring 2 other students for later in the summer.
 - 1. Staff will undergo more interviews to fill these positions.
- 6. Annual General Meeting**
- a. Reports



- i. Scott Willis outlined that only 2 reports have been received from the Board members to be included in the AGM booklet. He indicated that those reports will be included in the booklet, but Hillary Pineau has developed an Executive Report that includes a full overview of what went on across the province this past season.
 1. Requested that all reports need to be submitted in a timely manner on an annual basis. He recommended that following the completion of the season (fall 2024), reports should be submitted, while information is fresh in everyone's mind.
- b. Motions
 - i. The Board of Directors reviewed and discussed the 6 notice of motions that will be presented at the upcoming Annual General Meeting.
 - ii. Notice of Motions
 1. [NOM #1](#)
 2. [NOM #2](#)
 3. [NOM #3](#)
 4. [NOM #4](#)
 5. [NOM #5](#)
 6. [NOM #6](#)
- c. Coach Professional Development Sessions
 - i. Hillary Pineau reminded the Board of Directors of the 2 Professional Development sessions happening on April 20th following the Annual General Meeting. Registration is currently low, but hope to see some last minute RSVP's come in
 - ii. Dan Mersereau requested that Hillary Pineau send out a final reminder email to all associations regarding the sessions to encourage Presidents to promote among their memberships.

7. Minor Rules

- a. Cameron Rogers presented the updated minor rules and regulations to the Board of Directors for the upcoming season. She summarized the changes from the past season within each age category and the reason for the recommendations.
 - i. [U9 Rules](#)
 1. Motion to approve the recommended updates to the U9 minor rules
 - a. First: Stacy Blois Second: Darleen SobeyCarried
 - ii. [U11 Rules](#)
 1. Motion to approve the recommended updates to the U11 minor rules

