



2015 Baseball PEI Annual General Meeting Minutes

23 November 2015

Sport PEI

1. Meeting called to order by Don LeClair at 6:31 pm.
2. Roll call and verification of voting delegates:
In attendance: Don LeClair, President, Baseball PEI
Walter MacEwen, Baseball PEI
Ken Gaudet, Baseball PEI
Mikael Thomas, Summerside
Bob Doyle, Sherwood/Parkdale
Steven Noonan, Bedeque
Dave Benton, Cornwall
Carl Picketts, Kensington
Jeff McGrath, Northside
Pius Walsh, Cardigan
Mark Jones, Charlottetown
Randy Byrne, Baseball PEI (E.D.)
Darrel Kirev, Baseball PEI
Allison Macdonald, Baseball PEI
Allan Kelly, Baseball PEI
Joe Ryan, Sherwood/Parkdale
Kevin MacLean, Charlottetown
Andrew Cameron, Cornwall
Terry Laporte, Cornwall
Joe Carroll, Stratford
Lewis MacDonald, Northside
John Munro, Cardigan
Kent Walker, PEIBUA
- Associations with no representatives in attendance: Souris, Western.
3. Approval for 2015 Baseball PEI AGM Agenda:
- Motion by Walter MacEwen, seconded by Kevin MacLean. **Motion Passed**
4. Approval of 2014 Baseball PEI AGM Minutes:
- Motion by Joe Ryan, seconded by John Munro. **Motion Passed.**
5. Business arising from the Minutes:
- **None.**
6. Items to be ratified from the Board:
- **None.**
7. Reports from Board of Directors, MLF for NCCP on PEI, and PEIBUA:
 - a. President's Report: Don LeClair gave a summary of his thoughts of the past year, and spoke to Baseball PEI's very successful summer of 2015. He also spoke to the need to restructure the Policy and Procedures Manual, coaching orientation for new and grassroots coaches, and the need for coaches and umpires to work as a leadership team on the field.
- Motion to Approve Report by Darrel Kirev; seconded by Dave Benton. **Motion Passed.**
 - b. Finance Report: Walter MacEwen spoke to the drain of the 2014 National Convention on our finances, how we have rebounded, and the good shape we are in heading in 2016. He submitted the finances for 2014-2015.
- Motion to Approve Report by Steven Noonan; seconded by Kevin MacLean. **Motion Passed.**



- c. High Performance Report: Walter MacEwen spoke to the previous year in regards to Baseball PEI's Winter Program, the Canada Games Development Camp going on this winter, and the preparations for the Canada Games 2017. He also spoke about the Jason Dickson pitching clinic in May, and the opportunity for coaches to attendance clinics in Ottawa, especially featuring pitching coach Tom House.
 - Motion to Approve Report by Dave Benton; seconded by Mark Jones. **Motion Passed.**
 - d. Provincial Teams' Report: Allan Kelly gave a synopsis of the performance of the Provincial Teams in 2015, the coaches of these teams, and his recommendations heading into 2016.
 - Motion to Approve Report by Allan Kelly; seconded by Kevin MacLean. **Motion Passed.**
 - e. Mosquito and Pee wee Competitions Report: Darrel Kirev informed the group of successes at the Mosquito and Pee wee levels, and spoke to the need to shorten games at the "A" levels and to educate coaches on the game to avoid troubling instances with umpire.
 - Motion to Approve Report by Darrel Kirev; seconded by Mikael Thomas. **Motion Passed.**
 - f. Bantam and Midget Competitions Report: Allison Macdonald spoke to the season for PEI Bantam and Midget Leagues, and noted that changes need to be made to the Midget League after some difficulties in 2015
 - Motion to Approve Report by Allison Macdonald; seconded by Mark Jones. **Motion Passed.**
 - g. Coaching/NCCP Report: Randy discussed this report in place of Desi Doyle, who was unable to attend. Coaching certification numbers were high this year, but coaches must start to get their PD points by 2018 or lose "certified" status.
 - Motion to Approve Report by Bob Doyle; seconded by Jeff McGrath. **Motion Passed.**
 - h. Umpires' Report: Kent Walker gave his report on umpire numbers across the Provinces, things that have taken place throughout the year, and the PEIBUA's desire to work with Baseball PEI to improve numbers and relationships between umpires and coaches.
 - Motion to Approve Report by Pius Walsh; seconded by Steven Noonan. **Motion Passed.**
 - i. Executive Director's Report: Randy Byrne gave a report on his first full year as Executive Director. He highlighted the good year for baseball on PEI, and preparations that are necessary for Associations heading into 2016.
 - Motion to Approve Report by Jeff McGrath; seconded by Walter MacEwen. **Motion Passed.**
8. Walter MacEwen submitted the financial forecast for the rest of the 2015-2016 fiscal year and a purposed budget for 2016-2017.
 - Motion to Approve by Walter MacEwen; seconded by Kevin MacLean. **Motion Passed.**
 9. Thirteen (13) resolutions were passed by those in attendance:
 - a. Resolution # 1: The roles on the Board of Directors of Baseball PEI will be changed so that the position of "Member-at-Large" will no longer exist; the position of "Director of Mosquito and Pee wee Competitions" be split into two positions – a "Director of Mosquito Competitions" and a "Director of Pee wee Competitions."
 - Motion to Approve Resolution by Allison Macdonald; seconded by Andrew Cameron. **Motion Passed.**



- b. Resolution # 2: The “AAA” zone concept used in 2015 – all Associations on PEI belonging to one “AAA” zone, and each zone required to have a minimum of one “AAA” team in each of the Mosquito, Peewee and Bantam “AAA” leagues – will be adopted for 2016 and beyond.
- i. Four zones are Cardigan (Souris, Northside, Cardigan, Stratford), Charlottetown (Charlottetown, Sherwood/Parkdale), Mid-Isle (Cornwall, Bedeque, Kensington) and Egmont (Summerside, Western).
- Motion to Approve Resolution by Carl Picketts; seconded by Joe Ryan. **Motion Passed.**
- c. Resolution # 3: In order to help strengthen the Prince Edward Island Midget Baseball League and Midget baseball on PEI, the following rules will be passed for 2016 and beyond:
- i. Each team must have a minimum of fourteen (14) players on their roster, which does not include Affiliated Players.
 - ii. No overage players will be permitted to play any Midget baseball on PEI (including exhibition, season or Provincial Championships).
 - iii. If an Association is fielding two Midget teams, there must be at least two nights set aside for Midget games. If a team does not have a regulation field within their own Association, they cannot have a home field in another Association where other teams use it as a home field.
 - iv. Only Midget-aged players on a team’s roster can pitch; no Affiliated Players are permitted to pitch.
 - v. Midget players on PEI can only affiliate with one Junior team, regardless if it is in either the PEI Junior Baseball League or the New Brunswick Junior Baseball League.
- Motion to Approve Resolution by Allison Macdonald; seconded by Mark Jones. **Motion Passed.**
- d. Resolution # 4: Mosquito “A” games will have each batter start with a one strike count – as walks are not possible in this league. Peewee “A” games will have each batter start with a one ball and one strike count, and no lead-offs will be permitted.
- i. This is to improve the pace of game – which are far too long – and will force batters come up to the plate ready to swing the bat.
- Motion to Approve Resolution by Steven Noonan; seconded John Munro. **Motion Passed.**
- e. Resolution # 5: All Peewee “A” games will last six (6) innings.
- i. This is down from seven (7) innings previously used; change is to improve length of game.
- Motion to Approve Resolution by Carl Picketts; seconded by Steven Noonan. **Motion Passed.**
- f. Resolution # 6: If a game in the Junior Mosquito league hits the one hour, thirty minute mark, the inning the game is currently in will be finished and no new innings will start. If a game in the Mosquito “A” league hits the one hour, forty-five minute mark, the inning the game is currently in will be finished and no new innings will start.
- i. This is to ensure games don’t last too long, leading to players and parents losing interest.



- Motion to Approve Resolution by Bob Doyle; seconded by Kevin MacLean. **Motion Passed.**
- g. Resolution # 7: Tryouts for the Youth Selects/Canada Games 2017 teams will be held in each of the four “AAA” zones of PEI in order to try and attract as many of the best players possible.
 - i. This could/would also be the case for some practices and games after the team is finalized.
- Motion to Approve Resolution by Mikael Thomas; seconded by Steven Noonan. **Motion Passed.**
- h. Resolution # 8: The Midget All-Star team will be selected from players within the Midget League – there will be no tryouts or conditioning camps to select the team.
 - i. This will allow players to concentrate on playing for their Midget club team as opposed to placing the All-Stars at a priority, to the detriment of their Midget club team and the Midget League.
 - ii. A tournament/jamboree will be held in late June to help this coach see all players and for them to speak to individual team coaches. A panel including the Head Coach and independent persons will create a list of players to be invited to play on this team.
- Motion to Approve Resolution by Dave Benton; seconded by Mark Jones. **Motion Passed.**
- i. Resolution # 9: All teams representing Baseball PEI at National Championships must arrive on-time and not leave before the time designated by Baseball Canada.
 - i. i.e. if Baseball Canada designates a rain date to be Monday, the Provincial team shall not book return flight for Sunday evening or Monday morning/afternoon unless approved by the Baseball Canada tournament rep.
 - ii. There is a sizable fine from Baseball Canada for teams that leave National Championships early/without permission. Baseball PEI will not be paying any fines for this type of situation.
- Motion to Approve Resolution by Darrel Kirev; seconded by Mark Jones. **Motion Passed.**
- j. Resolution # 10: All teams representing Baseball PEI at National Championships are encouraged to take the maximum number of players designated by Baseball Canada.
 - Motion to Approve Resolution by Steven Noonan; seconded by Walter MacEwen. **Motion Passed.**
- k. Resolution # 11: That a Performance Bond be in place for 2016 to help reduce instances of teams/Associations not attending League meetings, forfeits, improper cancellations, not submitting pitch counts and scores, and other issues. The details of the Performance Bond is as following (see appendix*):
 - Motion to Approve Resolution by Ken Gaudet; seconded by Andrew Cameron. **Motion Passed.**
- l. Resolution # 12: Prince Edward Island will send two (2) teams to the Baseball Canada 15U National Championships, being held in Summerside, PE, in 2016.
 - i. The Provincial rep (the team that wins the 2016 Baseball PEI Bantam “AAA” Eliminations) will attend, as well as a host team.



- Motion to Approve Resolution by Mikael Thomas; seconded by Mark Jones. **Motion Passed.**
- m. Resolution # 13: All players registered with Baseball PEI must play in the age category in which they belong to, and are not permitted to be on the roster of a team in a higher age category – unless an Association deems it necessary in order to field a team at the “A” level. In rare and extraordinary circumstances, the Board of Directors of Baseball PEI may agree to allow a player to request a hearing to make his/her argument that he/she should be allowed to play in a higher age category/division. In no instance can a team have more than one player from a younger age category on their team. This rule does not apply to rosters submitted to Baseball Canada for National Championships, but it does apply to the rosters of any teams playing in a league on PEI or elsewhere.
 - i. An example of a situation in which the Board of Directors would grant a player permission to play in a higher age category would be if a player was chosen to represent the National Junior team and wish to play for a Senior team. In that instance, the Board of Directors would entertain a request for that player to play Senior.
 - ii. Players, if any, that were on the regular season rosters (as of 30 June) that were submitted to Baseball PEI or Baseball NB in 2015 would be exempt from this rule.
- Motion to Approve Resolution by Steven Noonan; seconded by Kevin MacLean. **Motion Passed.**

10. Election of Directors:

- President: Don LeClair – **Passed (Two Year Term)**
- Direction of Administration/High Performance: Walter MacEwen – **Passed (Two Year Term)**
- Director of Mosquito Competitions: Darrel Kirev – **Passed (Two Year Term)**
- Director of Peewee Competitions: Ken Gaudet – **Passed (Two Year Term)**
- Director of Bantam and Midget Competitions: Allison Macdonald – **Passed (Two Year Term)**
- Director of Provincial Teams: Allan Kelly – **Staying (One Year Left in Term)**
- Executive Director: Randy Byrne – **Passed (Indefinite Term)**

11. New business arising from the meeting:

- One resolution was not covered due to time restraints:
 - o *Resolution # 14: No Affiliated Player (AP) may pitch at a distance which is greater than the pitching distance designated for the division in which he or she is registered (i.e. a player registered in 13U cannot pitch at a distance greater than 48 feet, a player registered in 15U cannot pitch at a distance greater than 54 feet, et cetera.*
- This motion will be voted on electronically via email by those in attendance at the meeting.
- A motion from the floor from Joe Ryan, on the subject of from what divisions can an Affiliated Player be called up from, was not voted on due to time constraints. It will be submitted to the Executive Director and then sent out to all in attendance electronically via email to be voted on.



- Randy Byrne wished to briefly speak to the group about social media, preparations for growing registration numbers, and girls' baseball. Due to time restraints, he will send his talking points out to all Associations electronically via email.

12. Don LeClair called this meeting to adjournment at 9:47 pm.



Appendix

Performance Bond

Preamble: The Executive of Baseball PEI believe that a Performance Bond is necessary going forward to reinforce the necessity that Associations adhere to meetings and deadlines. We appreciate the co-operation we get from the majority of teams and we are proposing this Performance Bond as a response to the frustration expressed to us by many of the conscientious teams. We strongly believe that the organization and effectiveness of all leagues at all levels will be greatly enhanced when all associations support the structure that is put in place.

- 1) All Associations will submit a **Performance Bond** of **\$500** due on **April 30** to Baseball PEI, or risk not be allowed in any Baseball PEI Leagues or Provincial Championships.
 - If an Association wishes, the \$500 submitted by April 30 may be a post-date cheque for September 30.
- 2) The Performance Bond will be returned in full by **September 30** if there are no infractions of performance by the Association (Infractions listed below).
- 3) For those who incur infractions, the remaining balance of the Performance Bond will be returned to Associations by September 30.
- 4) Infractions include:
 - No representative at **Start-up League Meeting - \$100 fine.**
 - **Cancel a scheduled game** without just cause - **\$25 fine.**
 - The team judged to be at fault by the League Director will be fined. In some cases, if it is determined that both teams are equally at fault then they will be both fined.
 - Cancelled games are to be rescheduled within **72 hours** through the appropriate Baseball PEI League Director. As well, cancelled games are to be scheduled no later than **3 weeks** from the regularly scheduled date. Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in a **\$50 fine.**
 - All **game results** including pitch counts are to be submitted to the Baseball PEI Executive Director within 24 hours. Failure to adhere to this deadline will result in a **\$25 fine.**
 - Scheduled games that are **forfeited** as determined by the Baseball PEI League Director will result in a **\$100 fine.**
 - If a player is ejected and a team is no longer able to field nine players, this type of forfeit will not result in a \$100 fine.
 - Participation in **Elimination and Provincial Tournaments** have deadlines. Miss the **first deadline - \$25 fine**; miss the **second deadline - \$50 fine** and **exclusion** from the tournament. The tournament registration fee will not be refunded.

The appropriate Baseball PEI League Director will determine if there is an infraction of the Performance Bond and notify the offending team coach/manager and the Association President within one (1) day of the decision.