



Baseball PEI Annual Presidents' Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 10 March 2016, 6 pm

Room 212, Sport PEI

In attendance:

- Don LeClair, President, Baseball PEI
- Walter MacEwen, Director of Administration and High Performance, Baseball PEI
- Allison Macdonald, Director of Bantam and Midget Competitions, Baseball PEI
- Darrel Kirev, Director of Mosquito and Peewee Competitions, Baseball PEI
- Allan Kelly, Director of Provincial Teams, Baseball PEI
- Andrew Cameron, Cornwall
- Nora Dorgan, Western
- Kevin MacLean, Charlottetown
- Steven Noonan, Bedeque
- Bob Doyle, Sherwood/Parkdale
- Jeff McGrath, Northside
- Joe Carroll, Stratford
- Carl Picketts, Kensington
- Kris O'Brien, Cardigan
- Randy Byrne, Executive Director, Baseball PEI

Associations Unable to Attend:

- Summerside and Area Minor Baseball Association
- Souris Minor Baseball Association

Meeting:

- 1) Don called the meeting to order at 5:56 pm.
- 2) A roll call was done for the purposes for everybody to introduce themselves to the group and to be highlighted on the roll call for the meeting. All but two Associations had representatives present, and six members of the Baseball PEI Board of Directors were in attendance to make the total meeting attendance at fifteen (15) people.
- 3) The minutes of the 2015 Presidents' Meeting were reviewed. Carl Picketts moved a motion for the adoption of the 2015 minutes; it was seconded by Kris O'Brien. **Motion passed.**
- 4) Baseball PEI's strategy of grassroots player development was discussed, with those in attendance agreeing it was very beneficial to baseball on PEI. The need for increasing the compliment of clinicians was also discussed, and for one of them – with significant baseball experience - to focus on assisting younger/inexperienced coaches. The hope is that for the Summer Clinics Program in 2016 that there will be four clinicians: a clinician hired through government post-secondary student programming, a clinician hired through RBC Learn to Play grant money, the Technical/Executive Director, and a clinician hired on a contract basis to work with coaches. The Baseball PEI financial situation was discussed, and it became clear that in order to carry out these changes, more money was required. All in attendance agreed that all Associations must pay Baseball PEI \$10 per each 8U/Rally Cap player in their Association (some Associations have not in the past). To increase funds for the coach clinician, it was suggested that the split in proceeds from the Baseball PEI/Blue Jay Fundraiser be changed from 80% team/20% Baseball PEI to 60% team/40% Baseball PEI in hopes to garner more money to fund the coaches' clinician position. All presidents agreed to work hard to sell that change within their Association, and the matter of a Baseball PEI membership rate increase would be examined at the 2016 Fall Forum. Kevin MacLean put forth the motion to change the split in proceeds from the Baseball PEI/Blue Jays Fundraiser to 60% to the individual club team and 40% to Baseball PEI in lieu of a per player rate increase; it was seconded by Steven Noonan. **Motion passed.**



- 5) The format of the league meetings was discussed, and it was agreed to have the meetings on a Monday night (“AAA” meeting on 16 May, “AA” meeting on 30 May, and “A” meeting on 6 June). As well, these meetings should include a league meeting plus a coaching orientation session to would discuss topics such as coaching decorum, running and deal with a team, and offer an ideal practice plan. As well, all coaches will have to sign a Code of Conduct; without that, they cannot coach in 2016.
- 6) The format of Provincials and Eliminations were discussed; specifically, the issues with different rules in Eliminations and Provincials as opposed to league play. Allison Macdonald put forth a motion that there be Bantam “AA” Eliminations to determine the PEI representative at the Bantam “AA” Atlantics in 2016 – despite them not being in Newfoundland and Labrador - so that teams wishing to compete to earn the right to play at the Atlantics may play under the same rules as the Atlantics, and Provincials can follow the same rules as the Bantam “AA” league; it was seconded by Andrew Cameron. **Motion passed (one vote in dissent by Nora Dorgan).**
- 7) The group reviewed the potential 2016 Baseball PEI Calendar. From that, two motions came forth. Walter MacEwen made a motion that the deadline for all Player, Team, League, Provincial and Eliminations fees except Junior Mosquito and Rally Cap should be 20 June, while the deadline for all Player, Team, League and Provincial Fees for Junior Mosquito and Rally Cap should be 15 July; it was seconded by Kevin MacLean. **Motion passed.** Carl Picketts made a motion that a deadline of 1 August be established for teams wishing to withdraw from Provincial Championships without penalty of losing their Provincial Fee, and a deadline of 30 days prior to the Elimination tournament for a team to withdraw from Eliminations without penalty of losing their Eliminations fee; it was seconded by Walter MacEwen. **Motion passed.**
- 8) The schedule for all NCCP Provincial and Regional Clinics was given to those in attendance. Baseball PEI will not schedule any games during these days in order to allow all coaches that need these clinics to attend. The schedule is as follows:
 - o Saturday, 4 June: Pitching and Catching (9 am - 12 pm); Strategies (1 pm – 4 pm)
 - o Thursday, 23 June: Initiation (6 – 9 pm)
 - o Friday, 24 June: Teaching and Learning (6 – 9 pm)
 - o Saturday, 25 June: Planning (9 am – 12 pm); Absolutives (1 pm – 4 pm)Baseball PEI made it clear that all coaches listed on the Provincial roster must have their proper certification in order to be on the bench for Elimination and Provincial Championships. If a team does not have any coaches on their roster with proper certification, they will be ineligible for Eliminations or Provincials. There will be no exceptions or “rubber-stamped” certification in 2016.
- 9) Allan Kelly reported to those present the happenings in Provincial teams since the AGM.
- 10) There was a brief discussion on the PEI Junior League. It appears that there will be teams from Morell/Cardigan, Freetown and Summerside. The PEI Midget All-Stars will play a partial schedule after their team is selected in mid-July. The presidents from Charlottetown, Sherwood/Parkdale, Stratford and Cornwall are going to discuss a few names to ask about taking charge of a Junior team in the capital area.
- 11) Don told those present at the meeting that two new Awards were created; the J. Vernon Handrahan Trophy in honour of Vern Handrahan – who started his organized baseball at the Midget level and went on to become the first Islander in modern times to play in the Major Leagues – to be given to the champions of the Provincial Midget Champions, and the Ken “Trix” Dunn Award to be given on merit to outstanding builders of baseball on PEI.
- 12) Andrew Cameron put forth a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 pm.