



Nov. 5th, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.
Tilbury Ice
7187 Vantage Way, Delta, BC V4G 1K7

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Delta Fastpitch Association held on Wednesday, November 5th, 2025.

ATTENDEES

Chris Roper
Ashley Reynolds
Shaun Dadd
Ashli Owen
Amanda Davenport
Greg LaBounty
Graham Arnold
Shelley Turnbull

Julie Herndier
Stefanie Vandermeer
Annie Perez-Leon
Chelsea Mitchell
Scott Newitt
Laura LaBounty
Gord Johnson
Megan McGillveray

Amanda Lister
Lindsay Bochen
Paula Kolisnek
Jen Reed
Kevin Herndier
Tiffany Gentleman
Matt Gentleman
Megan Simpson

Call to Order Chris Roper, DFA President, called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Chris welcomed everyone to the meeting and the executive introduced themselves. Attendees of the meeting also introduce themselves.

Land Acknowledgment Julie Herndier, DFA Vice-President, provided a brief land acknowledgment recognizing the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Tsawwassen, Musqueam, and other Coast Salish Peoples.

Adoption of the 2025 Agenda Motion to adopt the 2025 DFA Annual General Meeting Agenda as circulated. MOVED: Ashley Reynolds; SECONDED: Julie Herndier. **CARRIED.**

Adoption of the 2024 AGM Minutes Motion to adopt the 2024 DFA Annual General Meeting Minutes as circulated. MOVED: Ashley Reynolds SECONDED: Shaun Dadd. **CARRIED.**

2025 President’s Report Chris Roper, DFA President, provided the 2025 President’s Report that included the following highlights:

- **Acknowledgments:** Chris expressed his gratitude and provided recognition of our DFA executives, coaches, umpires, players, parents and families for all of their support and volunteerism throughout the season.
- **Membership Growth:** DFA is now the second largest softball association in the province. We are second to Ridge Meadows. This growth reflects the strength of our programs and community engagement.
- **Coaching Strength:** Our coaching base continues to expand, providing players with strong mentorship and skill development opportunities.
- **Facilities & Parks:** With membership growth comes an increased demand for parks and facilities. DFA is actively working with the City of Delta to address these needs.
- **Park / Field Fees:** In 2024, the City of Delta increased our park usage fees by \$10,628. These additional costs were absorbed by the league last season. Beginning in the fall of 2025, player registration fees will be adjusted to cover these expenses.
- **Umpire Recruitment:** We continue to see a shortage of umpires and are committed to ongoing recruitment and training efforts to strengthen officiating across all levels.
- **Gaming Grant Funding:** DFA has successfully secured a gaming grant for this season, which will be invested in coach and player development as well as the replacement of team and field equipment.
- **Rep Program Success:** The September try-outs produced 10 Inferno teams, including a U11 team at U11 level. We remain committed to developing all U11 players, rep or not, with the goal of offer A, B, and C levels at every age group that have the numbers to support it.
- **C-Level Growth:**
 - Last season, DFA fielded 44 teams C level teams from U7-U17, with several teams advancing and representing Delta at Regionals and Provincials.
 - The plan is to continue to invest in coach and player training at C level throughout the winter.
- **Volunteer Needs:**
 - Similar to last year, DFA faces a shortage of volunteers to run the executive. This year we are seeing some turnover on the executive and are lucky to have some members stepping up to fill these vacant positions.
 - There is still a great need for more volunteers to help run the executive.
- **Organizational Strength:**
 - DFA is in good shape heading into 2025 as far as solid registration numbers, stable finances, and positive partnership with the City of Delta.
 - An increased focus on player and coach development is key to improving our players, coaches, organization, and reputation within the community.

2025 Treasurer Report

Amanda Lister, DFA Treasurer, provided the 2025 Treasurer's Report. While the finalized financial statements are not yet complete, the report included a detailed summary of DFA's financial activity and overall position in 2025, as well as the following highlights:

- **Financial Statements:** Not finalized as the fiscal year is ongoing; preliminary results indicate a stable financial position.
- **Revenues:**
 - Primary sources: player registration, community grants, clinics, and tournaments.
 - Revenues are consistent with last year, with increased registration offset by a reduced community grant.
 - For fiscal 2026, DFA received \$22,500, which is half of what was received in 2025.
- **Expenses:**
 - Categories: field usage, gym rentals, uniforms, equipment, umpire fees, field maintenance, Softball BC fees, tournament costs, and clinics.
 - Expenses are trending higher than last year due to increased field usage costs (new requirement to pay for Delta fields), umpire fees, and field maintenance. Additional emphasis on player development resulted in higher clinic costs.
 - Average cost per player: Rep @ \$602/player; House @ \$280/player.
- **Fund Allocation:** Tryout fees from 2025 have been set aside to support players requiring financial assistance and future player development.

- **Key Actions for 2025/26:**
 - Maintain prudent financial management and oversight.
 - Introduce a fee increase for the 2025/26 season to offset rising costs and ensure continued access to safe facilities, quality equipment, and organized programs.
 - Continue improving financial record-keeping and reporting processes.

- **Review of 2025 Year-to-Date Financial Statements**
 - Statements not completed as the fiscal year is only halfway through.
 - Association remains in a stable financial position, consistent with last year.
 - Reduced gaming grant (\$22,500 for 2026 vs. \$45,000 in 2025) requires budget adjustments.
 - Expenses trending higher due to uncontrollable costs (fields, umpires, maintenance, clinics).
 - Funds from tryouts earmarked for financial support and development.
 - Commitment to prudent cost management and improved financial processes.

- **Acknowledgements:**

Amanda expressed gratitude to the Executive, coaches, volunteers, and all members for their continued support and dedication, which make it possible for players to enjoy a successful season, both on and off the field.

- **Gaming Grant Discussion:**
 - Question raised regarding the reduction in the 2025 gaming grant vs 2024.
 - Explanation: Tournament revenues were received in December, requiring proof of allocation and utilization. This change in timing and reporting impacted the grant amount. Other associations are experiencing similar challenges

2025 Director of House Report

Paula Kolisnek, Director of House, provided the 2025 House Development Report that included the following highlights:

- 2025 marked record participation and strong progress across all age groups.
- The key drivers of progress: structured practice formats, expanded pitching instruction, extended seasonal play, and coach development.

- **Growth and Recruitment:**
 - There has been strong growth in the House Program. Registration has increased from 297 (2021) to 499 (2025); an impressive 68% increase.
 - There has been a surge in the U9 (14 teams) and U15 age groups; Paula commended all DFA coordinators for their excellent organization.
 - Recruitment supported by early registration incentives, refer-a-friend discounts and “Try-Softball” events.
 - Enhanced coach support through training, engagement events, and DFA-branded apparel.

- **U7-U9**
 - Introduce Jamboree-style practices for U7 (8 teams) and U9 (14 teams), ensuring consistent instruction.
 - Hired Jamboree Coordinator; added pitching sessions at U9 level with strong participation.
 - Recommendation: Continue jamboree format in 2026, expand free pitching sessions for U9 players.

- **U11**
 - Nine teams in 2025; pitching development remains a priority.
 - Hosted a successful Fall Ball program (4 teams, 5 weeks)
 - Hosted a successful off-season development for 17 players.
 - Introduced U11 Selects team (20 players) with exhibition games and Rep Showcase participation. This was also a successful endeavor.
 - Recommendation: Expand pitching support, adopt jamboree-style practices early in season, continue preseason development, and maintain U11 Selects program.

- **U13**
 - Four teams competed at Regionals in Coquitlam.
 - Coaches organized a summer scrimmage program to extend season.
 - Recommendation: Subsidize pitching support, maintain team cohorts, explore preseason development, and consider U13 Selects team.

- **U15-U17**
 - Five U15 teams and two U17 teams competed at Provincials and in various tournaments.
 - Continued success is linked to teams staying together over multiple years.
 - Recommendation: Subsidize pitching support and encourage cohort continuity across the U15-U20 age groups.
- **Future Focus:**
 - Continued investment in pitching.
 - Consistent coaching structures.
 - Team continuity to sustain growth and strengthen DFA's leadership in grassroots fastpitch development.

2025 SBBC Report

Gord Johnson, Minor Coordinator District 15, provided the 2025 SBBC report that included the following highlights:

- **Leadership:** Rachel Allen has been appointed as the new President of Softball BC. Shaquille Gilbert is serving as the Umpires & Championships Director, responsible for managing umpires and overseeing championship events.
- **Operations:** Softball BC no longer maintains a physical office; all operations have transitioned to an online format.
- **Coaching Requirements:** The organization is reviewing coaching certification requirements and exploring ways to make completion easier for coaches.
- **Townhall Meeting:** A virtual Townhall will be held on December 17th, focusing on Boys Fastpitch and the recruitment of new players. Northern and Indigenous teams are looking for players between the ages of 15-21. Attendance includes entry into a raffle for two Vancouver Canucks tickets.
- **Tournaments:** The U17 Celebration of Softball tournament has been eliminated due to financial losses and low attendance.
- **Insurance:** Clarification is pending regarding insurance coverage for teams traveling to the United States.
- **Voting Delegates:** Possible amalgamation of Delta and Richmond.
- **Provincial Qualification:** Consideration is being given to using playdowns and tournament qualifiers for Provincials.
- **Registration System:** Registration continues through RAMP, with a transition planned from a per-team fee structure to a per-player fee structure.
- **District Boundaries:** Movement of district boundaries is under review. Changes could affect automatic berths to Provincials, requiring some teams to participate in playdowns within new districts to determine qualification.

Motion to receive all of the 2025 reports as presented and circulated. **MOVED:** Julie Herndier. **SECONDED:** Ashley Reynolds. **CARRIED.**

2025 New Business

Question: Is there an update on the Field Crew for this season?

- No update finalized; DFA will not pursue parent/team-led field maintenance.
- Previous crew will not be retained due to logistical challenges.
- Discussions are ongoing with an experienced manager.
- Concern raised about reliance on Chris and Shaun for issues despite paying for a field crew.
- Options under review: bringing field crew in-house to save approx. \$16,000, appointing a “park boss” for each of our 3 parks to ensure that we are one of the only organizations who does not ask parents to help maintain the fields., or engaging with retired coaches/ex-players to see if there is interest.

Question: Is DFA hosting Canada Cup again this year?

- DFA has been invited back to host; it cost the organization \$0 to host last year.
- Improvements needed: pay for a field crew; schedule opening and closing, a more streamlined volunteer schedule, and coordination with the city (ie: fencing).
- Canada Cup raised DFA’s profile internationally; NDCP was the only park that was fully operational during a full day of rain cancellations.

Question: How do recommendations for U15-U17 get put into action and how early can teams from this age group start practicing as a team?

- C. Roper advised that the Executive meeting take place once per month and items are discussed and put into action fairly quickly.
- P. Kolisnek is a U15/U17 coach and put forward a detailed proposal. The Executive will have an in-depth conversation at our next meeting to discuss.
- C. Roper shared that we have discussed opening registration earlier; all players register at the same time to form teams earlier.
- We typically use the school gyms but as of now the school board does not want us using any balls (including softies, tennis and whiffle balls). This was due to another association damaging a gym with hardballs; unfortunately, this is affecting DFA.
- We have access the Cromie Barn practice facility, it’s expensive at \$125/hr for half of the facility. Gyms in Delta cost \$27/hr.
- House teams could realistically start practicing in January 2026.

Question: Is there a financial benefit to having players register early?

- A. Lister: will ensure that all registration will be recorded in the year it took place.
- Early registration will not benefit us fiscally in terms of the gaming grant.
- It is a lot of work accounting wise for DFA to open registration in but seeing as it benefits our membership, Amanda advised that she is willing to put in the extra work to make this happen and ensure things run as smoothly as possible from an accounting perspective.

Questions: Can DFA buy into the Cromie Barn?

- No, we can only pay as other associations do; ie: rental fee and usage of facility.
- The Cromie practice times will be reset in January 2026.
- Julie H. confirmed that DFA is not paying for the Cromie facility for any teams; if an Inferno team is in there, they are paying for it out of their own team funding.
- The Clinic prices include the facility cost; we try to charge the costs only in order to ensure that all programs remain affordable for our membership.
- All costs are being built into the price of the clinic, DFA is not paying to any teams/players to train at Cromie.
- DFA would like to potentially work with North Delta Baseball to build a facility, similar in functionality as Cromie but not necessarily as elevated.

Question: Is there any potential to use the turf at NDCP to practice now that additional turfs are being built in Delta (ie: Mackie Park)?

- Julie H. advised that the city will be operating to ensure that there is space for softball now and in the future.
- There are bases that can be used on the turf at NDCP.
- If we wanted to use the turf on a regular basis we would have to invest in fencing - the city is not overly interested in investing in this at this time.
- We are hoping that the 2 fields at Brandrith Park, that have been closed due to destruction from a schaffer beetle infestation, can be re-opened and utilized.
- There is an ongoing discussion; we may need some advocacy as the city is willing to partner with the Delta School District to help ensure that all fields can be attended to as needed to ensure that all available fields are in usable and working condition.

2025 DFA Election We opened the elections with nominations for directors and received nominations and the nominees accepted for the following roles:

- Director of Coaching: Shaun Dadd (*nominated by Julie Herndier*)
- We did not receive nominations for the following roles therefore, as per constitution, incumbent directors remain in their current positions.
 - President / Chair: Chris Roper
 - Vice-President / Vice-Chair: Julie Herndier
 - Treasurer: Amanda Lister
 - Secretary: Stefanie Vandermeer
 - Director of Player Development: Lindsay Bochen
 - Director of Player Experience: Ashley Reynolds
 - Director of Communication: Annie Perez-Leon
 - Director of House: Paula Kolisnek

- C. Roper announced that Ashley Reynolds and Stefanie Vandermeer have traded their current Executive roles. The change has been noted above.
- Non-Voting Roles
 - Inferno Liaison: Jenine McLean
 - Sr. Women's Coordinator: Lindsay Bochen
 - Equipment and Uniform Coordinator: Chelsea Mitchell and Jenine McLean
 - Marketing Coordinator: Ashli Owen
 - Clinic Coordinator: VACANT
 - Field Manager: VACANT
 - Registrar: Kelly Wilson
 - UIC: Jefferey Scott
 - Tournament Director: VACANT
 - Scheduler: VACANT
 - Umpire Coordinator: VACANT
 - U7 Coordinator: VACANT
 - U9 Coordinator: Jordan Chambers
 - U11 Coordinator: Jen Reed and Amanda Davenport
 - U13 Coordinator: Megan McGillverary
 - U15 Coordinator: VACANT
 - U17 Coordinator: Laura LaBounty
 - U19 Coordinator: Lee Vandop

Motion to approve the 2025/26 DFA Executive as presented. MOVED: Julie Herndier;
 SECONDED: Amanda Lister. **CARRIED.**

Draw A draw was held to award one free player registration to on AGM attendee.
 Congratulations to Chelsea Mitchell, who was the winner of the draw.

Terminate Motion to terminate the 2025 DFA Annual General Meeting. MOVED: Ashley Reynolds.
CARRIED.

The meeting was terminated at approximately 7:54pm