



Guelph Minor Baseball Association Inc.

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Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday February 6, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Richard Elmes, Koko Gillis, Sean Staniforth, Cory Hanley, Ryan Herron, Stefanie Mocuik, Vicki Marshall, Adam Fanjoy, Kevin Carron, Heather MacPherson, Jim Price, Jeff Hoffman, Libby Malott, Dave Shapka, Iain Durk

Absent: Jessica McKinnon, Rob Robinson

Agenda- Motion to approve- Adam Fanjoy Moved. Richard Elmes Seconded. Approved.

Minutes-

- Friendly Amendment to Grievance Committee approval. That motion is now moved by Adam Fanjoy with Cory Hanley added to the Grievance committee
- Brian Holly should be spelt Brian Hawley
- Motion to approve with amendments- Vicki Marshall moved, Seconded by Iain Durk. Approved.

Declaration of Conflicts:

Honorarium- Kevin Carron and Libby Malott

Board of Directors Code of Conduct- Jeff Hoffman

- Background- this started at the beginning of the new board being formed for the 2020 season with discussion about things that would outline duties, conflict of interest, confidentiality, legal liability. Declaration should be signed on a yearly basis.
- Board review code of conduct and suggested some editing and changes to some of the wording. Jeff to update and bring back to the board for further review in March

Secretary Position- Jeff Hoffman

- Heather Sutcliffe has resigned her Board of Directors position with GMBA.
- No directors currently interested in the role
- Adam Fanjoy will reach out to Erik Tremblay who did apply to join the board in the Fall of 2019 to see if he is still interested in joining the board.

Rep Rule Changes- Stefanie Mocuik

- Stefanie presented the Rep Rule changes for 2020. See attached.
- Stefanie moved a motion for the board to accept the rule changes. Adam Fanjoy seconded the motion. Passed.

ICBA update- Iain Durk

- There was some discussion about having 12U and above levels having an alternative playoff format in 2020. Some centres would prefer to do best of 3 series based on seedings after the regular season (i.e. season would end Aug long weekend) as opposed to a 3 day weekend double knock-out tournament. There was a committee that was created to explore this possibility further.
- **April 30th:** Mandatory ICBA Rep Coaches meeting in Brantford.
- **10U and 11U Coaches ONLY:** There are many new rules (i.e. larger plate, dropped 3rd strike, etc) that are introduced at this age groups specifically. There was a discussion about potentially "grand fathering" these rules (except for the arm care rules) for the U11 teams only so that these teams would NOT have to follow these new OBA rules for the 2020 season. The argument was that they will only play with these new rules for 1 year until they will have to go back "regular" baseball rules. Both GMBA coaches at the U11 level are in favour of "grand-fathering" these new rules in (so they would not have to comply in 2020).
 - The Board of Directors discussed this option, and feels that makes most sense to keep this rule for all teams (U10 and U11) as they will need to play with the new rules at all tournaments and at the OBA's as well.
- Finally, all interlock teams will be allowed back in the ICBA. For example, Hamilton will be back in the league and will have around 20 teams playing at all age levels. The only change is that if they only enter 1 team at an age level, they MUST play at the Tier 1 level.

Honorariums- Jeff Hoffman

- a. Diamond Coordinator
 - i. 1 application received by Libby Malott. Libby has been the Diamond Coordinator for the past four years.

- Motion moved by Jeff Hoffman to appoint Libby Malott to the role of Diamond Coordinator for 2020. Seconded by Vicki Marshall. Approved.
 - b. Umpire Coordinator
 - i. 1 application received by Fiona Carron. Fiona has been the Umpire Coordinator for the past three years.
 - Motion moved by Jeff Hoffman to appoint Fiona Carron to the role of Umpire Coordinator for 2020. Seconded by Adam Fanjoy. Approved.
 - c. Webmaster
 - i. Recruitment is currently in progress. Vote will come to the board via electronic method in February.

Registration Update: Adam Fanjoy

- 667 registered Rep and House League
- Playing Up Requests:
 - Escher Bowhuis- Family has requested the Escher play up in to Minor Rookie. Strong player, should be able to handle that level of ball recommended to play-up.
 - Moved by Adam Fanjoy, Seconded by Ryan Herron. Approved.
 - Thijs Bowhuis- Family has requested the Thijs play up a level. **Motion:** Moved by Adam Fanjoy. Not seconded. Motion defeated.

House League Playing Up Requests: Jim Price

- Jim presented a draft policy.
- Goal would be to have a policy approved by the board, tests would be updated annually by the house league committee.
- Arm care was discussed by the board. Having restrictions on pitching limits would be encouraged for players that are playing up a level.

House League Rule Changes 10U/11U Home Plate: Jim Price

- Jim presented a motion to update the 10U/11U rules to match Baseball Ontario's plate size. The new rule will read:
 - Home base shall be marked by a five-sided slab of rubber. It shall be a 21-inch square with two of the corners removed so that the front edge is 21-inches wide and the back of the plate comes to a point at the intersection of the lines extending from home base to first base and to third base.
- Moved by Jim Price, Seconded by Adam Fanjoy- Approved

House League Player Development Clinics: Jeff Hoffman for Rob Robinson

- Jeff updated the board that GMBA is not able to offer it's own house league player clinics this winter as almost all space at Marden has been used by our Rep teams not leaving a consistent day/time for GMBA to run winter clinics. This has not been an issue in the past.
- To address this void, GMBA has informed our house league families that there are two winter clinics being offered by Sandlot Baseball. Families were emailed this information and it was shared on GMBA's website.
- For 2021, GMBA will reserve Marden space ahead of time for clinics.
- Adam Fanjoy asked that the Board be informed of such decisions prior to the email being sent to families so that they are in the loop.

House League Program Marketing- Jim Price/Adam Fanjoy/Libby Malott

- a. **Mall Event-** Adam Fanjoy
 - i. Application received and approved by Stone Road Mall. Mall Event will be on February 29, 2020. Schedule to be circulated to the Board for their help staffing the event.
- b. **Signage-** Libby Malott
 - i. Libby creating a sign that can be used at the Mall event and other promotional opportunities.
- c. **Information sent to schools to be sent home with students-** Heather MacPherson
 - i. No luck pursuing this opportunity.

House League Uniform Update- Vicki Marshall

- 2020 House League Jerseys will have the Royals logo on the front of the shirt, sponsor names on the back. Teams will be separated by colour.
- Existing inventory to be donated
- Order is on track and on budget. Hometown Sports coordinating house league uniform purchase and pick-up this year.

Equipment Update- Vicki Marshall and Kevin Caron

- 2020 Equipment has been ordered and is within budget.
- **Action Item:** Kevin Caron to organize inventory of GMBA equipment

City of Guelph 2020 Diamond Plans- Libby Malott/Jeff Hoffman

- a. Guelph Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 - Libby and Jeff attended the City of Guelph Parks and Recreation Master Plan user group open house and provide input to the City regarding future needs and expectations. GMBA ask was to continue the positive, open dialogue that the City and GMBA have. Looking at future needs, facilities that are accessible, with amenities and that are constructed to maximize drainage opportunities are encouraged.
 - GMBA also completed a user group survey providing GMBA data as part of this project.
 - Diamonds- City plans to resize Joe Kaine to 90 foot bases and 60 foot 6 inch mounds. University Village will be resized to 75 foot bases and a 50 foot mound. City will also add a bullpen at University Village and is considering a walking path from the parking lot to the diamond.

- There is a meeting with Rep, House League and Select to review 2020 diamond needs and allocation.

Select Loop- Jeff Hoffman

- Cambridge is bringing a motion to the February ICBA meeting to have ICBA establish a Select Loop. Cambridge's President Matt Durocher has spoken with all the locals to explain the vision and plan. GMBA's board supports this direction for our Select Program.

Select Loop- Koko Gillis

- 11U tryouts have begun. Good turn out to the first tryout. There is enough interest to have two teams at this level.
- Still looking for a 2nd 13U Select Coach and a 15U Select Coach

Grievance Committee Nomination- Cory Hanley

- Motion to add Luke Jones to the Grievance Committee and Remove Marc Scignoli & Melanie Pastorious from the committee
- Moved by Cory Hanley. Seconded by Vicki Marshall. Approved.

Eliminations Update- Adam Fanjoy

- Plans are moving forward.
- Potential for over 30 teams in attendance. GMBA will need lots of volunteers and help.

Tournaments Update- Sean Staniforth

- Minor Rookie has 10 teams
- Minor Bantam A has 18 teams. We added 2 extra from 16 because it was 2 teams from the Windsor area. That brings in more hotel revenue and having Windsor teams enhances the quality of Tournament which maintains reputation. As well, Minor Bantam teams tend to return for up to 4 years based on a good experience, so it's good to get them in.
- Bantam A is at 13
- Midget is at 14
- Minor Midget is a 6. It grew by 5 in a month, which is a good sign. We may not get to 12 for this one and 8 might be more realistic.
- **Action:** Sean Staniforth to present a plan for tournaments that are under the breakeven point at the March meeting

Photo Day- Libby Mallott

- Photo day is May 23 at Exhibition Arena.
- Recommendation is to use Edge Imaging again in 2020. Best price and good service/product.
- Photo packages to arrive at GMBA in time to be distributed to House League coaches at Coach Meeting

Open Items:

- 1) Unclaimed 50/50 from 2019 - Jeff Hoffman
 - a. ACTION from January Meeting- Jeff Hoffman to connect with the Children's Foundation of Guelph/Wellington re: donation options.
 - i. GMBA will donate funds to the Children's Foundation of Guelph Wellington Free to Grow Program.
 - b. Investigation Process - Cory Hanley
 - c. Diamond Improvements - Koko Gillis
 - i. Koko to work with Libby for costs to extend fences at Eramosa 3.
 - d. GMBA Insurance
 - i. ACTION ITEM: Vicki will reach out to Mike Inglis with St Andrews with a request to attend a future board meeting for an insurance overview.
 - e. Ribfest Donation- Jeff Hoffman
 - f. Clothing to identify board members- Vicki Marshall

Motion to adjourn Moved by Vicki Marshall. Seconded by Sean Staniforth.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm.