



Guelph Minor Baseball Association Inc.

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Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, May 7th, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Meeting was held virtually, using Zoom Video Conferencing.

Present: Jeff Hoffman, Cory Hanley, Richard Elmes, Vicki Marshall, Libby Malott, Ryan Herron, Jim Price, Heather MacPherson, Rob Robinson, Dave Shapka, Sean Staniforth, Iain Durk, Koko Gillis, Kevin Caron, Adam Fanjoy, Erik Tremblay

Absent: Stefanie Mocuik

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Richard. Seconded by Adam. Approved

Approval of Minutes from April 2nd, 2020

Moved by Jim. Seconded by Vicki. Approved.

Declaration of Conflicts

None received

Guelph Youth Sports COVID-19 Working Group

Jeff organized a call with 16 representatives from multiple youth sports organizations across Guelph

All organizations expressed that they are impacted financially by COVID-19 and they expressed interest in helping each other out.

Group discussed the potential to create a joint video from all the organizations

There is potential to keep this group going beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Mayor and the Parks and Recreation Supervisor for the City also joined the call.

City could not make any promises on when sports would open again, still targeting July 6th, but City noted they could open sooner if province provides the go ahead.

COVID-19 Impact

Financial Update

Jeff provided an update on the financial implications of COVID-19

If a baseball season can be played, we will be OK financially

If a baseball season cannot be played, there is a significant financial impact to the organization

We are currently not paying rent, but are paying utilities for Crimea Street location.

Gov't CERCA program could allow for 75% rent forgiveness from April – June.

Landlord must apply for this. Jeff has asked Landlord to apply.

Rep Teams would be charged for their portion (26%) of the fixed costs and 100% of the Coaching Clinics.

With the operationalization of the GIC, Rent & Insurance Deferrals and Rep Teams Revenue, we are still short \$18,940 cash for this fiscal year

In total we will be looking at about a \$40,000 loss. This includes deferred payments for rent, insurance and property taxes which would have to still be paid next fiscal year.

Refunds & Registrations

No Season Refund Draft Statement was read to the board by Jeff:

“If we are not able to operate as a result of COVID-19 and government restrictions, your full fees will be refunded with the option to make a donation or defer your baseball payments to 2021. If you defer your payment to 2021 you will be guaranteed the 2020 rate. If you are moving up a level, i.e. from Peewee to Bantam. You will need to pay the price difference between the two levels”

The wording of this statement is to be reviewed prior to next month board meeting based on feedback by various members during the meeting. The final statement will be confirmed at the next board meeting.

Adam provided a registration update:

As of May 7th, House League had 756 kids register, of which 14 have requested refunds, leaving House league with 742 registered players. All Divisions still have available spaces.

Refunds have been available for 3 weeks, with the standard refund policy in place.

Heather noted that there is still interest in playing and that we should be prepared for an influx of registrations if we are allowed to play. Additional Convenor/Equipment Manager Support may be needed to handle the influx.

Question was raised on how our fees compare to other centres.

ACTION: Adam to find out cost of comparable programs for other regions.

Adam noted that we are approximately \$10 less than Kitchener in all divisions.

Eliminations

Update provided by Adam

Baseball Ontario is still waiting on May 31st deadline to make a decision

Canceled in Other Provinces

Nationals are canceled

Tournaments

Update provided by Sean

Tournaments have been cancelled

Refunds are in progress.

City Update

Libby provided an update

Libby spoke with Patty (City Parks and Rec Supervisor)

City is currently monitoring and collecting information from all sources while they are waiting for further guidance from Public Health

City asked that we share the Baseball Canada/Baseball Ontario standards to ensure they are in alignment.

Action: Libby to share the Baseball Ontario Safe Sport Update with the City

House League Reopening

Jim provided an update on the reopening plan

A July 6th Schedule has been worked out (City fields closed to July 5th)

Schedule is 7 weeks long and includes extra games on weekend to make up a 12 game schedule.

Accommodations are expected and may include

- No mound meetings, huddles or handshakes
- Designated Catchers (no sharing equipment)
- Defensive balls (each team provides balls for their half inning)
- Umpires to not carry balls.
- Board Members at every game to prevent violations

Was noted that many of these accommodations may be mandated by the governing bodies

Iain asked Vicki if we can clarify what the insurance implications would be with the broker. Player, coach, fan, etc. insurance is provided by Baseball Ontario. The 2020 policy is still being finalized.

Jim noted we may need a waiver from all Players/Guardians to be able to play.

Select Program

Koko noted that Guelph is ahead of others, most centers have not had tryouts yet. Would have a shortened season, similar to House League Provincials would occur Labour day or later.

Adam raised the question if diamond availability would be an issue for Select with compressed House League schedule.

Heather noted that we could lose a group of players if select is canceled, questioned if we could turn it into a skills development opportunity.

ICBA Update

Survey on season length was sent to all Rep coaches on behalf of ICBA 19/20 coaches responded, consistent message that they are willing to play into Sept/Oct to try and get in as many games as possible.

Rep Program

Jeff provided an update on behalf of Stephanie
Financial Update has been requested from all teams.

Need to assess impact of teams that fundraised more than their total expenses now that cancellations have occurred.

Iain noted that some parents have reached out to ask about rep try-outs. Could the same team be floated for next year, or are tryouts required?

ACTION: Board requested Guidance from Rep Committee on 2021 Tryouts process if the 2020 season is canceled.

Question was raised on how teams are making out with plate extension for 9U/10U divisions.

ACTION: Iain to ask how other teams are making out with plate extensions for 9U/10U at next ICBA meeting

Equipment Needs to Reopen

Vicki provided an update on the equipment status
House League pants are all ordered and paid for.

2-3 Weeks notice is required to get shirts printed, they are on hold from the supplier. A supply of nets are available if we need to move forward without catchers.

Concern on the supply of Baseballs, if the Defensive Ball accommodation is needed, we could be short balls by mid season. Balls could be reused if sanitized.
More catching gear would be needed if existing gear cannot be shared.

Guidance would be required on the sanitization of equipment during/after games
Would need guidance on who provides sanitization resources
Iain noted that Guidance will com from the governing bodies on sanitization

CONFLICT: Cory noted that a future conflict may exist, as he is personally affiliated with a company that sells sanitization equipment.

Risks Needs to Reopen

Ryan updated that the 2019 Insurance Coverage was extended, but the 2020 policy has not been finalized yet.

Authorizations for Police Checks has expired, Ryan is working to have it reactivated.

Next Steps (Opening, Revenue Generation, Expense Reduction)

Jeff will send out an E-mail requesting Board members participate in one of the 3 work streams over the next 6 weeks

1. Opening/Return to Play - What is required in the next 6 weeks to return to play
2. Revenue Generation – What can be done to increase revenue (outside of fee increases)
3. Expense Reduction – what can we do to reduce expenses

Technical Update

Rob provided an update

Looking into how to connect House League Players and Coaches

Fall Ball (Sept/Oct) – May run a clinic in the fall (potential conflicts with basketball/hockey)

Open Items

Investigation Process

Investigation Process Document was circulated prior to meeting and is ready for peer review.

ACTION: Board members are review and provide any feedback to Cory in the next 2 weeks.

Finalized Document will be shared for the next Board meeting

Diamond Improvements

No Update

Extended Fences at Eramosa 3

No Update

Clothing to identify board members

No further updates

Ribfest Donation

No further update

GMBA Inventory

Can resume

Was noted that we can go back into the office

Must follow social distancing guidelines

Board of Directors Code of Conduct

Deferred

Injuries and Return to Play

Heather compared the website vs the rules under risk section.

Only thing missing is components for player returning from concussion

ACTION: Heather to share next month.

Motion to adjourn at 9:20pm by Kevin. Seconded by Heather.

Motion Carried.