



Guelph Minor Baseball Association Inc.

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Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, June 18th, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 8:02 pm.

Meeting was held virtually, using Zoom Video Conferencing.

Present: Jeff Hoffman, Cory Hanley, Stefanie Mocuik, 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: None

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Sean. Seconded by Cory. Approved

Declaration of Conflicts

None received

Guelph/Wellington Public Health Update

Jeff provided key highlights of discussion with Public Health

- Public Health is comfortable with following provincial mandates
- Masks are not required for outdoor activity
- Did not have an opinion on number for people on a baseball diamond.
- Recommended contacting City Bylaw office for questions.

Follow up discussion occurred with Guelph Bylaw. Bylaw said they would consider separate groups in the infield / outfield as a mass gathering.

City Update

Meeting is scheduled for Jun 19th with the City of Guelph, Libby hoping to get an update from them on reopening status.

City is currently hiring back staff, outdoor recreation spaces were identified as the 3rd priority after Lyons pool and splash pads

City of Kitchener has offered to provide 1 practice/ 1 game slot weekly for each team. This would include baselines and some diamonds offered have lights. Stefanie is waiting on a costing breakdown from Kitchener. Kitchener diamonds are targeted to open July 6th.

Rep Update

Stefanie discussed results from the two rep surveys sent out. On the 2nd Survey, 199/225 responded in favor of playing. Of the 26 who responded no, 3 teams are significantly impacted. 10U T2, 11U T2 and 13U T2

Stephanie will create FAQ document for families addressing key questions raised and include additional information from Baseball Ontario. Will be sent to all families before we get on a field.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) and sanitization supplies will likely be supplied by GMBA to coaches along with guidance on how to use them as this would ensure consistency across the organization and reduce workload on coaches.

Currently planning for the season to run in August/September with 1-2 games per week (pending gov't approval to play), this would equate a 12 game schedule.

Baseball Ontario has not communicate a decision on OBA Playoffs yet.

Option of equipment loans from House League to for payers without access to equipment, as shared equipment will not be permitted.

If a player is identified by Public Health as at risk, the whole team may need to self isolate for 14 days.

ICBA Update

Iain provided an updated on ICBA call. Motion was raised at ICBA to cancel the season, motion failed with a 5-7 vote. Stratford has pulled out of the season at all levels (Rep, Select, and House League). OBA hasn't sent out any info on Provincials. ICBA will be meeting weekly moving forward.

Baseball Ontario Return to Play Guidelines- Board Discussion

Roundtable discussion on the Baseball Ontario Return to Play Guidelines

Key items that emerged from the discussion are listed below.

Rule Changes

- Umpire positioning may impact ability to call balls/strikes
- No Lead-offs will be different, but is needed to reduce impact on the hot corner.
- Game times. 45 minutes between games will mean we may need to be prepared with hard cut-off times for games.

Education

- Adam suggest an online module or training session may be needed for coaches / assistant coaches (possible 150 people).
- We should leverage existing Baseball Ontario training where available
- Cory recommended that our focus be on training the head coaches and the coach should train his team.
- Recommendation was made that we consider having a board member sit in on all initial team meeting to answer any questions that may arise.

Accountability

- Enforcement of the rules will be difficult.
- Existing process should be followed – raised to Rep/Select and escalated to grievance if required.
- On field enforcement should be up to the coach.
- Need to give opportunity to correct, this will be new for everyone.
- We need to share implications of not following process.
- Cory pointed out that larger cleaning stations/centralized stations would need to be manned to ensure proper use, recommends personal stations for each player.

GMBA Additions to Return to Play Guidelines- Board Discussion

Round table discussion on any additions GMBA would like to see added to our own Return to play Guidelines. Key items that emerged form the discussion are listed below

Rules

- Rules provided by Baseball Ontario are comprehensive
- No Additional Rules identified for addition.

Operational items – Where to Practice

- Identifying space for training may be an issue.
- City of Guelph has asked that GMBA not use city diamonds or greenspaces without a permit. City is not currently issuing permits.
- If practicing on private property, owners should be aware of insurance liabilities
- Teams should not be practicing without permission of the property owner,
- Insurance coverage is applicable to all sanctioned GMBA events

Operational items – Safety & Adherence to Protocols

- Masks are not required for outdoor activity.
- Masks are still required for indoor activity.
- Mandate PPE & Sanitization
- Consider have person on each team the monitors PPE/social distancing.
- PPE Training for head coaches is mandatory before for return to practice
- Need to identify clear consequences of not following rules
- Spectators must follow OBA guidelines.

Motion: All GMBA events must have a permit or have owner permission to use a facility.

Moved Stefanie

Seconded Adam, Motion Carried

Action: Stefanie to add to GMBA rulebook.

Adopt Baseball Ontario Return to Play Guidelines

Motion: Guelph Minor Baseball Association adopt the Baseball Ontario Return to Play Guidelines.

Moved by Jeff

Seconded by Vicki, Motion Carried

Resumption of GMBA in-person Baseball Activities

Stefanie walked us through the draft Return to Practice Checklist for Coaches.

Cory recommended additions on how to use PPE

Koko recommended additions on impact of someone is not following instructions

Stefanie walked through the draft Return to Practice Checklist for Players and Parents

Vicki recommended moving the additional equipment requests to the Coaches Checklist to streamline requests.

Motion: Effective June 22nd 2020 at 12:01 AM the Guelph Minor Baseball Association suspension of in person activity is lifted.

Moved by Jeff

Seconded by Cory, Motion Carried.

Other Business

13U Tier one coach has stepped down. Assistant coach has requested to run the team. Rep Committee has reviewed the request and is in favour.

Motion: To instate Mel Melehes as head coach of the 13U Tier 1 team to replace Josh Stevenson who has resigned

Moved by Stefanie

Seconded by Adam, Motion Carried.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 10:49PM

Moved by Jeff

Seconded by Adam. Motion Carried.