



Guelph Minor Baseball Association Inc.

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Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday October 1st, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 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, Rob Robinson, Sean Staniforth, Iain Durk, Koko Gillis, Kevin Caron, Adam Fanjoy, Erik Tremblay, Heather MacPherson, Dave Shapka

Absent: None

Approval of the October 1st agenda

Moved by Richard, Seconded by Kevin. Approved

Approval of the September 3rd meeting minutes

Moved by Libby, Seconded by Adam. Approved

Approval of the September 22nd meeting minutes

Moved by Richard, Seconded by Rob. Approved

Declaration of Conflicts

Kevin declared a conflict with the Diamond Coordinator Position.

President Update

Jeff shared a 2020 Reflection Presentation he is preparing for the AGM.

Jeff offered his appreciation to the board for all of their efforts this year.

Noted that the hard work put in this year had positioned us well for the 2021 year.

Jeff acknowledged Libby, Vicki, Jim & Koko are not seeking re-election and will be departing the Board of Directors at the AGM.

Grievance Case Debrief

Cory provided a summary report from the grievance committee on an 18U Assistant Coach who has been suspended from all GMBA activity for 2 Years.

- The suspension is effective Aug 28th, 2020, with an opportunity to appeal after 1 year.

- The Assistant coach threatened an underage player from London after being insulted by that player.
- When ejected from the game by the umpires, the assistant coach refused to leave and continued to disrupt the game.
- 8 people were interviewed and feedback was consistent.
- Decision on suspension was based on current incident with threatening a minor and disrupting the game after ejection
- Prior incidents were not included in the review
- On day of suspension, multiple offensive messages were sent to the various board members.
- Notes will be handed to next grievance chair for review.

Diamond Coordinator Position-

Further discussion on the merging of the Umpire and Diamond Coordinator position occurred, Libby offered to help the transition process.

Motion to merge the Diamond coordinator and Umpire coordinator roles in to one role was moved by Adam, Seconded by Heather. Motion Carried.

Motion to appoint Fiona Caron as Diamond and Umpire coordinator was moved by Iain, Seconded by Adam. Motion Carried

AGM Motion regarding Constitutional Changes and the GMBA Constitutional Review

Further discussion occurred on the 13 proposed constitutional changes brought forward by Adam as a private member motion for the membership voting at the AGM. Motions were previously discussed in the Sep 22nd special board meeting. Today's focus is on identifying if they will be supported or opposed by the board during the AGM.

Constitutional Change for Section 5.1.1

Motion: The GMBA Board of Directors supports the motion to reduce the number of directors from 18 to 12.

Motion was moved by Jeff, Seconded by Adam, upon voting by the board, it was carried with a 10-7 vote.

Constitutional change for section 9.2 & 9.2.1

Motion: The GMBA Board of Directors supports the motion to remove sections 9.2 & 9.2.1 from the Constitution.

Motion was moved by Jeff and Seconded by Jim. Motion Carried.

Adam has elected to withdraw all remaining motions.

Question raised on what the next steps would be if motion on 5.5.1 is passed?

Through discussion, consensus is that dissolving the board may be the only course of action. If motion passes, recommendation is that every board member resigns, and puts their name up for re-election.

Consideration must be made on how to address terms if this course of action is followed. Section 6.6.1 of the constitution states that members are elected for 3 year terms. One option is to elect members for specific, shorter terms for the initial elections process to ensure annual rotation and then move forward with 3 year terms in subsequent AGMs.

Action: Erik to nominate all existing board members with term remaining by end of day to ensure compliance with Constitutional requirements in section 6.1.2.

Rep Update

Stefanie provided an update on Rep Tryouts

Tryouts had 327 registered players, on par with prior year.

GMBA will be fielding 2 teams at all levels, except 11U which has 3.

As of 8:00pm today, all tryouts are now complete

Marden Update

Rob updated us on the status of Marden contracts.

New contracts are in, at Marden's request we gave back 1 hour on Tuesdays. This will save us about \$1,500 at Marden's request

Rob is currently working with Heather on options to run house league clinics.

Reserving time for house league is a priority as it is the base for both select and Rep programs.

Heather is looking for a 6 week window for 4 different levels.

Adam asking on cost of total booking, Rob confirmed weekdays from Oct – May run us about \$7,200, while weekend bookings run us \$25,400.

Iain asked about alternatives to Marden now that school gyms are closed.

Rob noted both the University and Guelph Dome are available as well, but the Dome does not allow baseballs.

Koko requested that the Select tryout windows be reserved as well, Koko and Rob to connect via email with specific dates.

ICBA Update

Iain brought forward a request from ICBA to discuss the potential implementation of a policy to stop player releases from 13U and under. This would be applied to all ICBA locals.

ICBA asked him to bring back to the local affiliations for discussion, no votes are planned just yet

Cory noted that we should afford kids right to play where they want. We should not be preventing children from playing baseball.

Stefanie noted that the rational is to keep kids in their center as smaller locals are struggling to field competitive teams. It would also prevent the influx of pass-through release during tryout season.

Vicki agrees with the proposal, but also noted that if it doesn't not pass, we should consider lifting our self imposed ban on import players.

Vicki also noted that this does prevent players who are cut from one center applying in a different center.

South End Recreation Centre Construction

Libby noted that a recent news article from GuelphToday.com discussed that proposed south end community center build. As part of the construction plan, access to Pearson may be prevented for all of 2022 & 2023.

There is a need to confirm with the City on where kids can play if Pearson is closed. We are scheduled to host eliminations during that window and it could present a problem if we lose access to the Pearson diamonds.

It was also noted that we may lose Eramosa Diamonds presently due to York road construction.

Libby believes a committee should be struck with the next board and/or the City to try and ensure we have diamonds to play with. We need a group that can put together a plan for a long term diamond strategy.

Jeff noted we may need help from politicians to help ensure success.

City of Guelph Motion Regarding Non-Profit Organization Funding

Jeff noted that city councillor Caron recognized the challenges faced by non profit organizations during the pandemic.

Jeff noted that this leads into a conversation around budgets, and that we need to work with other organizations to try and prevent increase in user fees.

Any increase in user fees by the city will be passed directly on to families in our organization.

Other Business

Adam questioned the lack of open items listed on the agenda.

Takeaways from some of the COVID working groups are missing, including the review of the rep fee structure.

Jeff noted that we do not currently have a cash flow issue and the rush is not there.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was moved by Vicki, Seconded by Heather. Motion Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm.