



**Stratford Minor Baseball
Association
February 2025
Meeting Minutes**

**Monday February 10th, 2025
Stratford Army Navy @ 18:00**

Attendees:

Chris Redfern
Barry Grasby
Jeff Morris
Bevan Mathieson
Ashley Mathieson
Jon Paola

Corey Bridges
Jon Paola
Kathy Hansen

Ben Ehgoetz
Don Grasby
Dan Patterson (13U)
Tyler Marshall (9U as well)
Jamie Antonio

Call to Order

C. Redfern called the meeting to order.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts reported.

Additions to Agenda

None.

Approval of Agenda

Motion A. Mathieson by , 2nd by J. Paola

Acceptance of Minutes from November 2024 meeting

Motion by D.Grasby 2nd by A. Mathieson

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Finance Report

C. Bridges informed \$134,000 in the account. Not a lot going out other than coaches being reimbursed for tournaments.

Uniform Update

Discussion on whether SMBA allows coloured pants. B. Grasby motioned to stay with grey pants for all teams for 2025. 2nd by A. Mathieson. Carried.

J. Paola motioned to approve the jerseys as presented with SMBA logo on one sleeve and sponsor logo on the other. 2nd A. Mathieson, carried.

B. Ehgoetz motioned to go with the flat brim, fitted hats with red beak as presented. 2nd C. Bridges. Carried.

Discussion on coaches being able to choose a hoodie or jacket instead of jerseys. D. Grasby to ask ICBA about coaches wearing jackets and not jerseys and whether or not that is allowed.

E. Priestap to send roster charts to Janis Antonio who will check off each player as they come in to get fitted.

C. Redfern to send email to coaches informing them they need to email J. Paola with their jersey numbers by Feb 14th. Players are not to choose numbers when going in for fitting.

B. Grasby motioned that every team within SMBA will go with the Nationals crest containing the baseball if we give coaches the option. 2nd D. Grasby. All in favour. Carried.

Coaches Update

C. Redfern reminded coaches of meeting April 16th at Army/Navy and ICBA meeting in Cambridge. Also coaching certifications need to be completed. Roster sheets with signatures need to be sent to E. Priestap.

Tournament Update

All tournaments are full, with the exception of 8U. No complaints so far from teams registered. One team dropped out at 10U. Looking for one more team at 15U.

SMBA was awarded the 18U OBA A tournament. B. Mathieson has reached out to Mitchell to see if we can use their diamond as a 3rd diamond. Otherwise we have St. Mary's.

B. Hawley would like to run an A and below tournament June 21. Hoping to get help running the tournament. B. Hawley said his parent group would help convene. There are no tournaments in this area for 22U. B. Hawley said going rate for 22U tournament is \$650. B. Mathieson asked if we need a lottery license to give cash prizes. B. Hawley said a tournament in Mississauga gave out \$2,000 in prize money. \$1400 to the winner and \$600 to the second place. B. Mathieson asked if we would have enough umpires that are certified level 3. B. Hawley said is SMBA is okay using our umpires then he is okay with that. B. Hawley says D. Graff will be involved in scheduling and organizing tournament, as well as main contact during the tournament. D. Grasby asked how much umpires would cost for the weekend. Discussion on how much money would be left over after paying umpires. Potentially breaking even with current umpire rates after all is said and done. B. Hawley to speak with his parent group and confirm he has convenors for each game. It was discovered that Mitchell is hosting a 22U tournament June 28th weekend. B. Hawley to find out if Mitchell is a go and if it is SMBA will not host the weekend before.

ICBA

D. Grasby informed that it was passed that 10U and up do not have to wear chin straps.

Registrar

No update.

Facilities

C. Bridges informed that the City has approved \$50,000 for Optimist Park lights. \$100,000 approved for National Stadium for 2025.

House League

C. Redfern informed that there are 85 registrations in so far. HL final day is July 26th and Blastball final day is July 26th. Discussion on not doing a BBQ to make sure we aren't spread to thin with help.

Fundraising

C. Redfern informed that banners are being renewed and sold, HL sponsors are coming in. Discussion on Elmira Chicken fundraiser. Concern that some coaches did not send sheets out to their team. SMBA will decide whether or not to bring back mandatory fundraising for families once numbers are in for this fundraiser.

Umpires

Once a clinic is available, A. Mathieson will register.

Sports Council

D. Grasby will confirm amount for cheque needed for insurance and dinner tickets.

New Business

Blue Jays clinic went live today.

C. Redfern informed that we are waiting on by laws to be confirmed. We are hoping to create a Policy and Procedures committee where any rules changes or motions that are passed will go. C. Bridges discussed protocol for changing policies and procedures.

A. Mathieson suggested having one CPR certified coach on each bench for each team in 2026. Board to discuss implementing a requirement of each team to have someone CPR certified.

T. Marshall informed that first aid kits that have been provided in the past have not been adequate. A. Mathieson informed that coaches need to inform the equipment committee when they are low. A. Mathieson to see options for more robust first aid kits.

Motion to Adjourn

D. Grasby. 2nd A. Mathieson.

Next meeting March 17th Army/Navy.