



**Stratford Minor Baseball Association  
September 2024  
Meeting Minutes**

**Monday September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Stratford Army Navy @ 18:30**

**Attendees:**

Chris Redfern  
Kyle Priestap  
Emily Priestap  
Ashley Mathieson

Steve Vaters  
Kathy Hansen  
Jon Paola  
Jaimie Serf

Ben Ehgoetz  
Barry Grasby

**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**

Approved by A. Mathieson , 2<sup>nd</sup> by K. Hansen.

**Acceptance of Minutes from May 2024 meeting**

Accepted by J. Serf, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Mathieson

**Business Arising from Minutes**

None

**Addition to Agenda**

A. Mathieson – adding bylaws instead of constitution

J. Paola suggested e-mailing Kim Ruston regarding lawyer for bylaw information.

A. Mathieson stated that government regulations are stating we will require bylaws. Lawyer is attending ICBA meeting on Thursday.

**Finance Report**

Approximately \$5000 to be paid out, and on pace for what was budgeted for the 2024 season.

### **ICBA**

Next meeting Thursday night.

Any rule changes need to be submitted to ICBA. B. Grasby proposing 4 outfielders for 10/11U. B. Ehgoetz would like to know if 18U will be 7 innings again next year. Jeff Morris also suggested dropping tournaments to 6 innings. B. Grasby to bring it up at ICBA for discussion, for 10/11U.

Awards banquet is October 10<sup>th</sup>. 10 tickets to SMBA. A. Mathieson will send out e-mail to see who is interested.

### **Registrar**

Want to see about getting docusign for rosters.

### **Coaches**

All coaches have been selected and given diamonds and codes. Tryouts have begun starting tonight, and they know they have until the end of the month to complete tryouts. C. Redfern will put Barry Grasby's name as head coach on website. Kyle will update the new 8U coach on procedures. D. Grasby also wondering about the 15U playing at the stadium.

Chris to send out e-mail for tryouts.

### **Uniforms**

K. Priestap asked about 2 uniforms for next season. It was discussed that it should be added to registration. This will be referred to C. Bridges for registration fees. 3 different companies contacted to have samples ready for October. Suggested that they can be creative with uniforms for different options. Discussed that 2<sup>nd</sup> jersey has to be the same. Discussed that November would likely be a better time for them to present because October is the AGM.

### **Tournaments**

Ashley thanked everyone for their help. Discussion took place suggesting that Stratford doesn't get in for free anymore as that money can be used for paying a convener. Discussed it can be put out to families if they want to pay for the tournament or help out to convene. Sundays, head convener will be required to be present.

It was also discussed giving an umpire additional money if they convene the game they are umpiring.

Discussion that there are already e-mails getting sent about tournaments for next year and wondering if the same tournaments are happening next year. Discussed that the 14/15U tournaments need to be separated.

Barry discussed that a coach has to be at every meeting.

B. Grasby made a motion that one coach, or coach representative, is required to be at every meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Serf. All in favour. Carried

Team fine, if a coach doesn't show up, to be determined.

It was discussed that tournaments will be maxed out at 12 teams/ division.

Barry will discuss with Mitchell the possibility of getting extra diamonds and umpires if we go up to a 16 team tournament. 12 was the recommended number, but 16 possible if we can get Mitchell.

Coaches required to come to the next meeting. Chris Redfern going to send e-mail regarding convening tournaments.

### **House league**

No update, will be meeting in the winter.

### **Fundraising**

Will be presented next meeting to determine what we want to do next year.

Banquet – will need to sit down to talk to Subway about issues. Everyone loved the food and was a success. Issues with engraver. Barry going to speak with him. 20 sub platters and 30 pizzas. Need more pizza next year (suggest 5 cheese, 6 Hawaiian, 15 pepperoni, 14 meat lovers). Need labelled subs next year. Prizes were a hit.

### **Umpires**

Barry suggested price increase and suggests increasing \$15 plate, \$10 base increase for all. Suggested 9U only need 1 umpire for bases who does both and get paid 1.5 for both. Will have to be brought up at next meeting. Chris will discuss with treasurer to see if there's a faster way for giving payment.

### **Facilities**

Barry discussed complaints about shed. Suggested moving shed to far end of 3<sup>rd</sup> base bench. Screen home plate. Move bleachers between bench and light standard. Will have Don Grasby to contact City to move shed and bleachers. Don to contact Barry to discuss exactly where he would like it placed.

### **Sports Council**

Need to give Murray the list for the OBA winners.

### **New Business**

22U – Brian Hawley intentions with this team. He wants to take the team out of SMBA with a 5-year contract but under our insurance.

Barry suggested SMBA discussing with the City first, and then have a panel of approx. 4 people to question his intentions. Panel of 4; Jon Paola, Ben Ehgoetz, Ashley, and Chris to set a zoom call with Brian Hawley to discuss intentions. Will arrange for a meeting prior to the next meeting.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

J. Paola, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Mathieson.

Next Meeting October 21<sup>st</sup> followed by AGM.