



Stratford Minor Baseball Meeting Minutes

February 20th, 2018 6:30 PM

Location: Queens Inn Stratford

In Attendance: Dave Graff (Bantam T1), Steve Vaters, Jeff Keller (Bantam T2), Barry Grasby (Junior) Kyle Priestap (Minor Mosquito), Emily Priestap, Brian Hawley, John McIntosh (Minor Bantam), Anne Vaters, Tom Valcke (Midget T1), Scott Siebert (Mosquito), Corey Bridges, Heike Reiche, Don Barber (Midget T2), Bruce Grasby (Minor Peewee Select), Allan Wilker, Amy Brightwell (Minor Peewee T2), Mark Hall

Regrets: Don Grasby, Aly Godina, Ryan Kunder (Peewee)

1. Call to Order – Dave Graff

Meeting was called to order 6:31 pm

Quorum of over 50% declared

2. No conflicts declared

3. (a) Approval of minutes

Motion: *To approve the minutes from the January regular board meeting*

Motion: Emily Priestap. Second: Amy Brightwell. Carried

(b) Business Arising from minutes

Emily Priestap, Amy Brightwell and Tom Valcke confirmed that the zoning and insurance for the indoor training facility is current.

4. President's Report – Dave Graff

- a. Covered in new business

5. Finance Committee – Jeff Keller

a). Jeff presented financial statements and budget report.

Motion: *to approve financials as presented: Tom Valcke. Second: Mark Hall. Carried.*

6. Fundraising Committee: Brian Hawley

a). Summertime Bash slo-pitch tournament date set for July 20th. Brian Hawley has ordered the alcohol and applied for the liquor licence. Letters to City are all done. Another meeting is being set up to discuss prizes. Security is booked. Coaches were once again reminded NOT to schedule any tournaments or games for that weekend.

Recommendation was made to look into a Debit Machine (POS system) for SMBA to use at the hitman tournament and registration nights. We can also rent it out to other organizations. K to get details and report back to the board. Treasurer given authority to go ahead if cost is reasonable. Will report at next meeting.

Corey mentioned that we should get a separate bank account to use it with, especially if we are renting it out to other organizations.

Motion to approve debit machine rental: Mark Hall. Second Emily Priestap. Carried

b). Barry discussed a “painting night” for a fundraiser at our January meeting. The board decided not to proceed due to lack of interest and the work involved for the funds. Mark Hall described their experience with it as a hockey team. It did not go well.

c). Taco night update by Dave Graff. He is in discussion with BH regarding details.

7. Sponsorship Committee:

a). Jeff reported that all rep teams now have sponsors. Will be sending out info and requests for house league sponsors late March.

8.) Release Committee

Dave Graff reported that one release was granted since the last meeting.

9. Umpire Committee: Barry Grasby

- a). April 7th is the Umpire Clinic at Stratford Central High School. Date and notice has been put on website. Also, coaches are asked to email their players to see who is interested.
- b). Jeff reminded everyone that umpire rates went up.
- c). Jeff is using Plooto to pay the umpires. Steve requested JK to put something together to explain payment system and new rates.

10. Tournament Committee: Dave Graff

- a). Dave went over numbers for tournaments. At the time of the meeting there were 24 teams signed up for the mega weekend (Mosquito and Minor Rookie)
- b). Could use more mosquito teams.
- c). Reminder that SMBA will require a LOT of help over that weekend. Board members asked to volunteer if able. High School students can also get volunteer hours
- d). Minor Bantam has 8. Bantam has 7. Midget is at 6
- e). Board gave permission to "Juiced Up" to sell smoothies at the tournaments. In return, we would charge \$150. However, we are flexible. They are to get back to us.

11. League Committee

Emily: ICBA

- a.) Looking for someone to be Website Admin
- b.) AGM in Stratford for November 9th. Dave thought the 8th – he will confirm. Jk to book country club when date is finalized
- c.) MANDATORY Coaches meeting for all ICBA coaches April 25th in Brantford.
- d.) Midget Elims and OBAs are being held the Civic Holiday weekend making for a very busy season. Midget Tier 1 is 9 innings
 - a. Tom mentioned that the teams are down to 13 players each.
- e.) Aaron Grasby is the convenor for the Midget ICBA's. Jeff Keller and Steve Vaters doing Peewee Tier 1
- f.) SMBA will be hosting Midget Tier 1 and Peewee Tier 2 ICBA tournaments. Both will be August 17th weekend. Barry asked Dave to look into splitting them up so we do not have to worry about umpires.

Sports Council:

- a). Resumes have been received for awards. Dave will pass to Emily
- b). If you want Banquet tickets, please see Dave. We get 10. Not including our nominees
- c). Banquet April 28th

OBA:

- a) Tom reminded everyone that pitch count rules are changing significantly in 2019. Everyone will need to know how to pitch.

12. Facilities/Equipment Committee: Steve Vaters/Barry Grasby

- a.) SMBA Lawsuit:
 - a. Woman suing SMBA and city for a fall in 2011
 - b. Cathy Graver was president and will be attending a discovery meeting
 - c. Jeff, Steve and Dave are helping with it. Conference call with lawyer
 - d. Insurance company through OBA is covering all costs
 - e. Amy, due to the experience in insurance industry reminded ALL coaches that injury forms MUST be completed after ANY injury at a ball park during game or practice. This includes spectators. K reminded everyone that these forms are posted on our website.
- b.) Equipment Surplus donation – Barry and Brian. Held up currently.
- c.) Steve is ordering a first aid kit for all team bags
- d.) City was contacted by the Ontario Electricity safety inspector. Complaint was filed by an anonymous person regarding the stadium. They now have to inspect the Stadium. City will let us know the outcome. It will happen late in Spring.
- e.) Dugout Roofs are now on at Dufferin. Dave to ask city if we can put mesh on the sides.

13. Coaches Committee: Dave Graff

- a.) We are running 5 clinics. Saturdays starting March 24th. Tom to call OBA and book them. Initiation Module, Infield Clinic, Hitting, Teaching, Pitching and Catching
- b.) Dave has list of NCCP numbers. It is the responsibility of the coach to determine what they need. OBA will not longer share that info with SMBA.
- c.) A reminder that new coaches only need to get the first 5 done

d.) Tom Valcke

- a. Tom is leaving middle of March for Hong Kong for a job.
- b. Cleaning at Pinnacle has been great.
- c. Open time will be posted like open ice.
- d. PA day clinics went very well
- e. Tom asked about Pitch Talk money – K informed him that we did not receive anything. Tom to follow-up.
- e.) Reminder that ALL rep coaches must attend (or a representative from their team) all board meetings. Failure to do so results in SMBA not paying for tournaments.
- f.) Dave reminded that they must at least show an EFFORT to get a representative from the team to the meeting.
- g.) K apologized for mistake on the Agenda. Also reminded people that the agenda and minutes are sent out in advance for people to look at. If they see an issue, please let me know. Same goes with website.

14. Registration Committee: Heike Reiche

- a.) Deadline for House League online registration is April 15th. Dave will put something in sidelines.
- b.) In person registration March 9th and 21st at Rotary.
- c.) Numbers for HL seem lower – but still early.

15. New Business: Dave Graff

a). Hawley - Pitch, hot and run. Brian wants to bring it to Stratford. We have had some success in Stratford. Brian has been talking to MLB "Junior Home Run Derby". U14 competition. No cost. Use a little league stadium. Dufferin - can move plate. Can set up any distance. Winner goes to regionals in Philli and Chicago. Could be a good fundraiser. Pitch hit and run has regional comp at Rogers Centre. All are 7 - 14. They have each individual age groups. Home Run derby has to happen in May. Pitch hit and run is in Toronto. More realistic. No downside beside volunteers. HOF likes to run it due to promotional. Local, Regional, Rogers Centre, 7:00 am on a Saturday am.

Barry thinks we are stretched for volunteers – especially since they are mostly coaches. Weekends are already taken up by other events (Mega tournament, Hitman, etc.) May be tough to plan so late. Brian will put something together for our March Meeting

- b). Minor Peewee T2 – Team not made yet. Have had 5 tryouts. One release to make. 12 players.

c). House League Jr. Rookie Fees. Dave brought up discussion of lowering fees for Jr. Rookie HL. Allan Wilker (HL Rep) reported that he has not had any complaints about the fee. Emily commented that these players are wanting to move up to mosquito anyway. We need a convenor to run this league and figure this out. Board decided to keep the fees the same.

c). Booth Rental

Jeff to contact last year's tenant to see if they want to rent the booth again. K to make sure we get payment for the booth.

d.) K reported on the new 100 year logo for Kitchener next year. K wanted to know if there was interest in making a special logo for SMBA as it will be our 100 year anniversary in ICBA as well. K will talk to Mackey about this.

e.) Team game times/locations discussed. Dave to send a spreadsheet to JK to set up website
Dufferin - Monday night MP2, Tues MM, Wed P, Thurs MP1, Fri open, Saturday am - RMHL, Sunday Open

Optimist - Monday MRook, Tuesday HL, Wed MMosq, Thurs Open, Friday JR HL, Sat RM HL

SERC Softball - Friday night JRHL, Open All night but Tues, Thursday HL

SERC HB - PWHL Monday, B2 Tues, MB Wed, Thurs HL, Friday/Sun Open

Stadium MB1 Monday, Jr Tues and Fri, Midget 1 Wed, Midget 2 Thurs.

16. **MOTION TO ADJOURN:** 8:46 pm. Barry Grasby, 2nd Mark Hall. Carried

Next Meeting: March 20th, 2018 Location TBD.