



## Stratford Minor Baseball Meeting Minutes

January 16th, 2018 6:30 PM

Location: Crabby Joe's Stratford

**In Attendance:** Dave Graff (Bantam T1), Steve Vaters, Jeff Keller (Bantam T2), Barry Grasby (Junior) Kyle Priestap (Minor Mosquito), 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), Ryan Kunder (Peewee), Allan Wilker

**Regrets:** Jamie Frey (Junior Rooke), Don Grasby, Mark Hall, Aly Godina,

### 1. Call to Order – Dave Graff

Meeting was called to order 6:31 pm

Quorum of over 50% declared

### 2. No conflicts declared

### 3. Approval of minutes

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

*Motion: Bruce Grasby. Second: Allan Wilker. Carried*

### 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: Steve Vaters. Second: Barry Grasby*

**6. Fundraising Committee: Brian Hawley**

- a). Taco night. Queens Inn is in discussions to hold a taco night for SMBA. Lead on this is Barry Grasby and Brian Hawley. Board was in approval
- b). Summertime Bash slo-pitch tournament date set for July 20<sup>th</sup>. Coaches were reminded NOT to schedule any tournaments or games for that weekend.
- c). Barry discussed a “painting night” for a fundraiser. The person they are talking to needs hard numbers. A team made \$1,000 with 30 people in the past. Weeknights were discussed as being the best time. Silent raffle would work well with it too. We can also run a bar. Price is \$75 and SMBA would make \$25 per person. Bruce Grasby is going to get more information on this.

**7. Umpire Committee: Barry Grasby**

- a.) Clinic is set for April 7<sup>th</sup> at Stratford Central Secondary School. 8:30 am to 5:00pm.
- b.) Allan Wilker asked if the umpire fee increase happened. It was confirmed. Detail on amounts can be found in the December minutes.
- c.) We will remind umpires that they need to have a bank account in order to get paid. This can also be the parent’s account. Will be done through Plooto. Steve will send an email out to all umpires after the clinic.

**8. Tournament Committee: Dave Graff**

- a). All tournaments are gardening interest and numbers are increasing already

**9. League Committee**

**Emily:**

- a.) ICBA wanted feedback on awards and AGM meetings being separated. General discussion unanimous on separating them. Stratford is host to the 2018 AGM.
- b.) ICBA wanted feedback if the “guest” teams or “inter lock” teams should qualify for awards. SMBA was against this. Motion: SMBA requests that any ICBA inter-lock teams not qualify for awards. Brice Grasby, 2<sup>nd</sup> John MacIntosh. Carried

- c.) Discussion on the best way to get nominations to the ICBA for awards. ICBA wants input. Some centres not sending in nominees. SMBA proud to be nominating individuals for all awards for the past few years. Emily got some ideas to take back after discussion
- d.) Coaches need to get Rosters in to Emily asap – they know their teams, there should be no problem getting rosters to her. Reminder that she needs birth certificates for newly rostered ICBA players. Once all rosters are posted, Emily will let us know who requires a birth certificate.
- e.) ICBA would like ideas for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary (2019). For example, an inter-county all star day. Dave asked the board to go to Emily with ideas to pass onto the ICBA. The ICBA will be handing out crests for jerseys as well.
- f.) TOM: New rules on Days of Rest for pitching. Baseball Canada has significantly lower pitch counts than OBA. OBA will be adopting these new rules. They can be found at [www.baseball.ca](http://www.baseball.ca). Coaches told to be prepared to take on a LOT of pitchers. These rules to come into play in 2019.
- g.) The OBA added a Minor Rookie “B” division.

#### Sports Council:

- a) Nominations are due for Sports Council awards night. Julia Wilkinson is the guest speaker. SMBA agreed to the following nominations:
  - a. Boy Athlete of the year – Hunter James. Motion: Ben Ehgoetz, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jeff Keller. Hunter won the ICBA Player of the year in 2017. Carried.
  - b. Girl Athlete of the year: Brian Hawley - Nominated Payton Dias. Soccer player. Dave will check with Minor Soccer. Anne nominated Ally McLeod (Hockey). Kennedy Fountain (Fastball and Volleyball). All were nominated. Dave will send emails out to these and they will write the essay. However, the names are needed before January 31st. Emily will talk top Murray to see if we can have more time. Once Dave gets essays together, he will send an email out for the members to vote on.
    - a. ANNE MOTION: Nominate the Kennedy Fountain. 2nd Mackey. Carried. Kennedy Fountain will be our nomination.
  - 1. Sports Person of the year - last year's volunteer of the year is no longer on the board. (Dave Gould). Anne nominates Barry Grasby. Brian 2nd. Barry has accepted. Carried.

## **10. Facilities/Equipment Committee: Steve Vaters/Barry Grasby**

- a.) Dugouts roofs have been started.
- b.) Lease for the stadium was signed. SMBA no longer has to pay for Hydro. Dufferin Park was added to the lease.
- c.) Steve is ordering House League hats and jerseys. Hats are 11.95 and jerseys will be \$12.95. They are going with Blue hats this year. The jerseys will stay the same. Last year we had 340 hats ordered.
- d.) Need new L-Screen for SERC. This falls under facilities maintenance budget and Steve will get the L-Screen.
- e.) Dave showed everyone the jerseys that will be used for next season. Home will be blue this year and away will be red (away jerseys are optional and at the expense of the team). Sizers are in at Dunnys and coaches are urged to get the players sized asap so they can be ordered and we are not waiting on them when the season starts.
- f.) Joh MacIntosh looking into hats for rep. Looking at multi-colour peaks. Board agreed to proceed with new design.

## **11. Coaches Committee: Dave Graff**

- a.) Dave handed out coaches requirements and asked coaches to ensure all of their staff is up to date. They all need to be fully certified by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- b.) SMBA reimburses course fees. Copies of paid invoices can go to [treasurer@stratfordminorbaseball.ca](mailto:treasurer@stratfordminorbaseball.ca).
- c.) We have a lot of new coaches this year, so it was recommended to Tom Valcke that we host clinics 2 through 5. Tom will work out dates.
- d.) A reminder that new coaches only need to get the first 5 done

## **12. Registration Committee: Heike Reiche**

- a.) Deadline for House League online registration is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Dave will put something in sidelines.
- b.) Jeff will make up a new registration form for the in-person registration dates.

### **13. New Business: Dave Graff**

- a) Dave confirmed that there will be a Minor Peewee Tier 2 team coaches by Bruce Grasby. 16 players have signed up for tryouts. Bruce will have tryouts at the Fieldhouse. There will be no cost for tryouts, but each tryout will go towards the 12 indoor sessions that SMBA pays for.
- b) Rebecca Myer from "Juiced Up" emailed Jeff and asked if she can sell smoothies at SMBA tournaments. The board has a discussion and did not have any issues with it. However, a fee would have to be charged to be there.
  - a. Summertime Bash tournament would be good to have here there as well.
  - b. Heike is finding out what she is interested in doing.
- c) Indoor Facility – Dave
  - a. Teams have been out and are enjoying it. Dave thanked all of the volunteers who helped get it up and running. Barry Grasby and Brian Hawley especially.
  - b. Jason Byer wanted a guarantee of \$20,000 per year from SMBA which would give each team 12 indoor sessions for free. It was agreed that SMBA would pay this fee May 1<sup>st</sup>. SMBA also gets a discount to rent - \$75 per hour.
  - c. Pinnacle is looking for \$10,000 now due to the unexpected high initial outlay of the facility.

**MOTION: Barry Grasby, second by Brian Hawley: That \$10,000 be paid out to Jamie Byer for ½ of our commitment to the facility. Defeated.**

**MOTION: Corey Brigdes, second by Emily Priestap: That SMBA make a \$5,000 payment now, \$5,000 March 15<sup>th</sup>, \$5,000 April 15<sup>th</sup>, and \$5,000 May 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Carried.(discussion below)**

- d. Treasurer had concerns as there have been many cash outflows already this season and registration money does not start coming in until March 15<sup>th</sup>. This could cause a significant cash crunch. Much discussion ensued.
  - e. Brian Hawley mentioned that a "good-will" gesture should be made.
  - f. Corey Bridges discussed the possibility of paying "something" over the next couple of months.
  - g. Tom worried that Jason Byer will be very upset.
- d) Clarity on Pinnacle Fieldhouse discussion. Tom is running the day-to-day of the Fieldhouse. This is not owned or operated by SMBA. SMBA are renters of the facility. Security issues are being figured out.
  - e) Tom is planning a few open clinics and some open time on Saturday afternoons in April – open times for players to come in for some practice. Pitching clinics, etc.
  - f) Insurance for Pinnacle Fieldhouse: It was confirmed that insurance through the OBA covers anywhere REGISTERED players play. Tom and the Pinnacle have coverage as well. Amy Brightwell is going to follow up with Tom to make sure that what we have is OK.
  - g) Players MUST be registered before being allowed to use Fieldhouse

- h) Emily asked about zoning from the city – concerns that if the Fieldhouse is not zoned properly, it could be forced to close. Tom will look into this, but was sure it was.
- i) Rules of the Fieldhouse will be posted at the facility. Tom explained a few of them:

14. **MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Allan Wilker, Second: Brian Hawley.

**Next Meeting: February 20th, 6:30 at The Queens Inn.**