British Columbia Minor Baseball Association



BC's Largest Youth Baseball Organization Since 1963
Rally Cap - 9U - 11U - 13U - 15U - 18U - Junior Men's
Girls Baseball - Challenger Baseball
www.bcminorbaseball.org

BCMBA Board of Directors Meeting - July 14, 2020 - Minutes Meeting done by conference call

Board of Directors:

Conference Call: G. Butler, J. Braaten, A. Hayes, V. Greenwood, A. Wong-de Leon, S. McCann, M. Kelly, R. Puri, J. Raymond, R. Wearing, D. Garton, N. Dhaliwal,

Absent: None: T. Baker-Cornett, R. Miciuk, H. Gurney, C. Martin, and M. Hall, D. Crone,

Call Meeting to order: 7:03 pm

President's Opening Remarks:

• Thank you to all the Directors and specifically John and James, for your efforts in regard to RTP

Adoption of Minutes

- Amend Dan Williams noted The Challenger Jamboree was cancelled, Mission did not withdraw.
- MOTION:
- Motion to accept June 23 minutes as amended.

M/S/C

Additions to the Agenda:

None

Correspondence:

- Secretary Noted under Secretary's report
- Notices and communications with Baseball BC
- June 18, 2020: Question regarding releases from South Burnaby see Player eligibility

Business Arising:

- a) Releases see Eligibility Committee Report for recommendations
- b) Scholarships for 18U players that did not play this year see Scholarship Committee Report

EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

1) President – Grant Butler

- As posted om the website, we welcome the incoming President of Baseball BC, Chris Balison and showed our appreciation for the body of work of the outgoing President and Past President, John Berry.
- The change in the RTP regarding the number of practices sent out yesterday was well researched and done
- The insurance issue from last month is being addressed

2) 1st Vice President – John Braaten

- Report will be noted under "Risk Management" as most all issues this past month have fallen under that committee.
- 3) 2nd Vice President (Open) No Report
- 4) Treasurer Anne Hayes

MOTION: D. Garton / V. Greenwood

Motion to accept Treasurer's Repot as distributed.

M/S/C

5) Secretary – Val Greenwood

- General questions on when season will start, why does our RTP differ from the governments etc.
- League Registrations: Tsawwassen, Kamloops, Greater Victoria, Oceanside
- Affiliation: Cloverdale, Burnaby, Kamloops, North Shore, Vernon, Campbell River, Vancouver Minor
- Executive Roster: Vernon, Campbell River
- Single Season Affiliation: Campbell River

6) Administrative Director – James Raymond

Website and Social Media

- Continued sourcing and promotion sport-related training and educational opportunities (NCCP/Coaching Live Streams/Athletic Performance Webinars/ etc.)
- o Updates and posts to inform and educate on Covid-19 RTP status
- Real-time updates to BCMBA Member Resources page for RTP process
- https://www.bcminorbaswball.org/page/show/5788253-bcmba-covid-19-resources
- Continued website resources and content audit (update and/or delete documents as needed)

BC Travel Teams

Seattle Elite has refunded tournament fees less a \$150 Admin fee. Upon further negotiation
 Seattle Elite has agreed to apply a \$150 credit to our tournament bookings in 2021

Administrative Support

- Detailed review of Baseball BC/viaSport RTP guidelines to clarify areas where we can look to adjust restrictions
- o Attend conference call with Baseball BC regarding proposed amendments and next step
- Research and prepare amendments case arguments for submission to viaSport (see summary attached - Addendums)
- Support communications for the Board of Directors
- Continued work on the Procedures segment draft complete. Currently updating and adding meeting agenda templates, forms, and miscellaneous document samples

Marketing Committee Report

 Marketing committee to meet and discuss revenue opportunities and area that we can assist member associations in recovering membership over the next 6 – 18 months

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Rules - Dave Garton (Chair) - Ray Wearing

- If no affiliation in 2020 will they have a vote at the AGM?
- Anne Hayes: We discussed that, for associations not fielding any programmes in 2020, an
 affiliation form must be received, with no player numbers shown, as well as an executive roster in
 order to meet the requirement of an affiliated association operating during the previous year. We
 were going to send messaging out to all the Presidents
- Need guidelines for 2021

2. Eligibility - Tina Baker-Cornett - Neal Dhaliwal - Abigail Wong-de Leon

- If no program is offered in the home association, player can go anywhere provided that association will accept them
- Notification must be given to the President of their association and to the eligibility committee
- Will basically be rubber stamped
- Could possibly overlap with fall ball
- 3. Discipline Ray Wearing (Chair) Ron Miciuk Hugh Gurney Abigail Wong-de Leon No Report
- 4. Female Baseball Val Greenwood No Report
- 5. Umpire Liaison Dave Garton Neal Dhaliwal Grant Butler No Report
- 6. High Performance Mike Kelly (Chair) Hugh Gurney Ron Miciuk Marty Hall Ray Wearing John Braaten James Raymond No Report
- 7. Boundaries (Chair) John Braaten Abigail Wong-de Leon No Report
- 8. Coaching Development/NCCP Mike Kelly John Braaten (Co-Chair) Ron Miciuk, Raj Puri, Doug Crone, Marty Hall
 - NCCP not needed for this year but will need to be done for 2021

- 9. Marketing James Raymond (Chair / Admin) John Braaten Sanda King Ron Miciuk Hugh Gurney Tina Baker-Cornett
- 10. Grass Roots John Braaten (Chair) No report
- 11. Risk Management / Insurance John Braaten (Chair) Anne Hayes
- As of July 14th the following associations have paid affiliation fees and were respectively contacted regarding their website posting of RTP Safety Plans and waiver compliance: Burnaby, Campbell River, Chilliwack, Cloverdale, Coquitlam Moody, GVBA, Kamloops, North Delta, North Langley, Oceanside, Port Coquitlam, Richmond City, Surrey Canadian, Tsawwassen, Vernon & West Kelowna.
- Effective July 10th as per Baseball BC's Phase 2 RTP teams could expand to full rosters and coaches for practice only. Also effective the week of July 13th team practices could be increased to more than twice per week as per Baseball BC.
- Effective July 13th individual association teams may expand to more than two (2) practices per week under Phase 2 RTP.
- No games permitted at this time. I have contacted multiple associations regarding scheduling of games and rumours thereof. Again, we ask that all member associations comply with the Baseball BC reopening of baseball guidelines and protocols (currently Phase 2). All it takes is an instance of RTP non-compliance for the sport to be stalled in Phase 2. BCMBA Board of Directors fully understand and appreciate everyone's efforts to take this slowly and carefully for the safety of all.
- 12. Challenger Steve McCann (Chair) No Report
- 13. Web Site James Raymond (Chair) John Braaten Anne Hayes
- See Administrative Director's report
- 14. Human Resources Anne Hayes (Chair) Val Greenwood Raj Puri Tina Baker-Cornett
 - Request for mew wage subsidy
- 15. Awards Val Greenwood (Chair) Mike Kelly Raj Puri No Report
- 16. Scholarship Abigail Wong-de Leon (Chair) Raj Puri Ron Miciuk
 - See Report in Addendum reports
 - Steve McCann: Recommendation to continue even though no season
 - Change playing years to (four) from the current three (3)
 - Just no funds to support granting scholarships this year
- ➤ MOTION: M. Kelly / J. Braaten

Motion to accept applications for 2020 and award in 2021.

M/S

Amending MOTION: A. Wong-de Leon / A. Hayes

- Motion to include 2021 applications.
- M/S/C

Amended Motion:

- Amended Motion to accept applications for 2020 and award in 2021 and include 2021 applications.
- AM/S/C

17. Baseball BC - Grant Butler - John Braaten

- Lots of communication going on regarding RTP
- Question from Board Member With everything that is going on why is Baseball BC's Board still
 only meeting every three (3) months?

DIVISIONAL REPORTS:

- a) 25U Chair -(Jr. Men's) Anne Hayes
 - Season has been cancelled
- b) 18U Chair Ray Wearing No Report
- > 18U AAA Hugh Gurney
 - Not much to report. I've emailed all the teams in the 18U AAA league to see who was still planning on playing a shortened season. Had good feedback (heard from all but 2 teams).
 - Teams that are still wanting to play:
 - Chilliwack, Cloverdale, COMBA, North Island, North Shore, Prince George, SOMBA, South Fraser, Vernon, Victoria.
 - Kamloops is unsure currently they are running practices but are not planning on playing games yet.
 - Have not heard back from Richmond or Ridge Meadows.
- > 18U AA Raj Puri No Report
- c) 15U Chair Anne Hayes No Report
- > 15U AAA Ron Miciuk No Report
- > 15U AA Abigail Wong-de Leon See Report in Addendum reports
- 15U A Doug Crone No Report
- d) 13U Chair John Braaten
 - Will look to send out communication shortly to associations to gauge interest in Fall Ball structured Interlock play for "A" and "AA" in the Fall. Still looking to host John Main tourney in the Fall.
- > 13U AAA Marty Hall –No report
- 13U AA Steve McCann

- Can a web page be set up for each division listing coaches contacts coaches can contact one another to do schedules
- > 13U A Open No Report
- ➤ John Main John Braaten No Report
- e) 11U Chair Mike Kelly No Report
- f) 9U Chair John Braaten No Report
- g) Island 15U / 18U Dave Garton / Tina Baker-Cornett No Report
- h) Island 11U / 13U Dave Garton / Tina Baker-Cornett No Report
- i) Interior 11U / 18U Neal Dhaliwal No Report
- j) Interior 13U / 15 Ron Miciuk No Report
- k) North Carmen Martin
 - Prince George is still trying to get a meeting with the city- who have just finalized user agreements and let all sports users know that they will re-open sports parks, and allow users back on fields once all the documentation is finalized.

I) NEW BUSINESS:

- Should we go the fields to monitor associations or should they do it themselves?
- No, it will be up to each association
- Due to virtual meetings, the reservation at the Sandman Hotel for Sept 1 has been cancelled.

Motion to Adjourn meeting – 8:07 pm – D. Garton

Next meeting July 28th - Conference Call at 7 pm

ADDENDUM REPORTS



British Columbia Baseball Association

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Administrative Director's Report

July 14, 2020

Website and Social Media

- Continued sourcing and promotion sport-related training and educational opportunities (NCCP/Coaching Live Streams/Athletic Performance Webinars/ Etc.).
- Updates and Posts to inform and educate on COVID-19 RTP status
- Real-time updates to BCMBA Member Resources page for RTP process https://www.bcminorbaseball.org/page/show/5788253-bcmba-covid-19-resources
- Continued website resources and content audit (update and/or delete documents as needed)

BC Travel Teams

• Seattle Elite has refunded tournament fees less a \$150 Admin fee. Upon further negotiation Seattle Elite has agreed to apply a \$150 credit to our tournament bookings in 2021.

Administrative Support

- Detailed review of Baseball BC/viaSport RTP guidelines to identify areas where we can look to adjust restrictions
- Attend conference call with Baseball BC regarding proposed amendments and next steps
- Research and prepare amendments case arguments for submission to viaSport (See summary attached)
- Support communications for the BoD.
- Continued work on the Procedures segment draft complete. Currently updating and adding meeting agenda templates, forms, and misc. document samples.
- Ongoing communications with BCMBA Member associations regarding RTP details

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BCMBA RTP AMMENDMENT LOGIC AND SUPPORTING REFERENCES - Updated Jun. 30, 2020

Preamble

On June 24th, 2020 BC Minor Baseball met with Baseball BC to discuss proposed amendments to the current Baseball BC RTP plan. During that call it was identified that there are two key concerns viewed as having the potential to have a significant long-term negative impact on youth sports access in BC communities. Failing to address these concerns could result in the loss of access to organized youth sports in our Province and specifically in our smaller more remote communities where access to youth sports is a challenge in general. (It should be noted that other issues, not mentioned in this document, are considered to be resolved at this time)

While a core policy with standardized measures is absolutely essential, it is important to not stop there. It is our duty of care as governing bodies to go the extra distance, view each sport individually and explore means in which we can provide safe access to as many BC youth as possible.

We understand that this is a monumental task and consider it to be our responsibility to act in cooperation to identify challenges and develop potential solutions. In putting together the following requests and logic, careful study of the viaSport RTS plan, Baseball BC RTP plan, BCCDC reporting and data, BC PHO reporting and guidelines, viaSport RTHPS framework, and numerous Provincial, National, State, and International baseball programs RTP plans.

Key Question – With Premier Horgan announcing the Province entering Phase 3 of its COVID-19 restart plan why doesn't this include viaSport Phase 3?

Concerns

Inter Community/Inter Region Travel

There is a significant need to travel from one community to the next for programs to exist and in many cases, for youth to access organized sports period. This is highlighted primarily in areas such as Vancouver Island and other regions outside of the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley. However, it is also common in those regions as well depending on the type of programming offered in each community. This is particularly important this year as due to the COVID-19 crisis many associations are offering fewer program options with some associations unable to offer any programming at all. In 2020 youth sports programming within the community is increasingly difficult to access.

Travel as it pertains to baseball would primarily include regional travel (Island, Interior, Lower Mainland, Fraser Valley, North being described as the regions) with a small percentage of travel between regions for the Single Season teams (15U AA/AAA, 18U AAA/College Prep). Inter-regional travel would entail a day out, overnight stay, and a day of return. Travel can also be modified to same day travel *only* in the early stages and modified to overnight should data support it. Travel within home regions would not require overnight stays.

Travelers in the above cases are governed and monitored far more comprehensively than a traditional traveler or Phase 3 traveler. Unlike travelers from out of Province or out of community; Baseball players, coaches and their parent(s) who have strict guidelines they must follow, are being monitored, and are being contact traced.

Given Premier Horgan's recent call to help support the tourism industry, given the important role sports tourism plays in the BC economy, given the population demographic represented in youth sports and their families, given the stringent measures already in place, it stands to reason that the travel restrictions for youth sports be reconsidered. We are

confident that smart, safe, respectful travel as it relates to youth baseball can be done far safer than travel to the beach, the Provincial campground, or even the local grocery store. We believe that it is essential for travel to be permitted to support the physical, mental, and emotional health of our youth athletes who have exhibited remarkable resilience and patient trust for the past three months.

Examples:

- 1.) BC Parks opened for overnight stays as of June 1st. This includes parks that offer shared washroom facilities, cooking areas, and other shared amenities. The majority of visitors are traveling from another region or Province.
- 2.) Citizens who reside in neighbouring communities are traveling to play pickle ball, tennis, and golf. Specifically, in cases where clubs are not offered in their home community.
- 3.) Children can register for and attend a recreational day camp in their neighbouring community. These day camps are often hosted indoors in groups of 10-20 youth.
- 4.) Travelers are currently invited to BC and encouraged to participate in the re-start of our tourism economy. While groups are recommended to be small (2-6 people), there is no restriction on the number of groups who can attend an event other than the venue capacity of less than 50.
- 5.) As of July 4th in Canada; BC and Nova Scotia are the only Provinces that are not permitting travel for youth baseball. Nova Scotia is currently in Phase 1 with travel and game play introduced in Phase 2

Competitive Game Play

Baseball is the most socially distant youth team sport on the list with a competitive playing area between 30,000 – 100,000 sq. ft. depending on the age division. Or, 1700 – 5500 sq. ft. of outdoor space per participant. Social distancing guidelines requires approximately 154 sq. ft. per person (2M distance 360°). For these calculations I have included both base coaches, two umpires, bases loaded, batter in the box and one in the on-deck circle. We have also, ONLY calculated the square footage area between the foul lines and outfield fence (ONLY fair territory).

In comparison you have sports like Pickleball with a playing area of 880 sq. ft. or 220 sq. ft. per participant in doubles matches. Tennis with a much larger playing area 2800 sq. ft. or 700 sq. ft. per participant. In calculating the playing area square footage, we only included the players as often officials are not needed to play the game competitively. Both Pickleball and Tennis participants are of the demographic presenting significantly higher risk of transmission and infection than those participating in youth baseball.

Social distancing is inherent in the game of baseball. Risk of transmission or infection playing Baseball is significantly lower than attending a summer day camp, skate park, beach, mini golf, amusement centre, restaurant, school, church service, and the majority of all other activities involving a group setting. As a game, baseball is a game of coverage vs. convergence. This means when the ball is in play players do not converge on the ball as a group unlike most team sports.

We acknowledge that there are some areas of concern when it comes to the actual game play. However, they are few and they can be addressed.

Shared Baseballs - Shared by all players, officials, coaches.

Shared equipment - Shared by all players

Shared facilities - Shared by all in attendance

Person to person contact - Tag plays and incidental contact between players

The areas of concern listed above can be addressed with effective modification to the game play. Suggestions like ONLY the defensive team touches the ball (there is no need for a runner, hitter, or official to touch the baseball with their

hands). Baseballs can be sanitized between uses similar to the drying baseballs in games with rain. Shared equipment can be sanitized between uses. Players can sanitize between innings or more frequently if needed. Dugouts and Clubhouses can be designated as off limits. Concessions can remain closed. There are a number of other steps we can take to make the competitive game of baseball safe to play. Ultimately, we know it can be done. It is being played across Canada and around the World.

There are so many more examples and statistical references that support the adjustments to our current RTS plan to allow modified travel and game play. Should more be wanted in the process of consideration, we are happy to provide them. we assume that these sources are already available to you.

The youth of BC have been nothing shy of superstars. They have lost their physical network, their educational structure, their celebrations of achievement, the sports and many activities they love. For most, their home environment has been under duress or impacted in a severely negative manner. The physical, mental, and emotional toll on them has been significant. Safe and fair competition is a critical aspect of personal development for youth. Baseball game play can deliver that safely. How are we to expect them to believe that Baseball is not safe enough to play when they see examples of far more risky activities, authorized and encouraged, happening all around them. What credibility would we have to have to sell that?

The hundreds of thousands of voting constituents that these families represent are counting on Provincial and Federal officials to do everything in their power to help build the model of recovery. Youth athletes are bright individuals who are learning as we proceed, they are confused by the evident double standards and conflicting messaging. They know we can do better, and they are willing to help. The COVID-19 crisis is a moving target and requires us to do as we preach to our players, adapt and find a way to success. Failure to do so will cause irreparable damage to the volunteer member associations across the Province resulting in fewer youth having access to sport in a critical time of need. It will be the youth and their families that pay if we don't do better.

A considerable amount of time and energy has been invested in exploring the viability of the requested amendments presented above. We encourage you to verify and review any of the provided information. We also encourage further discussion as we believe we are part of the solution.

Reference Links

Baseball Alberta RTP Phase 2 with modified game play Jul. 1st moving to expansion with Phase 3 and regional travel Jul. 15th https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/baseballabertav3/files/RTP%20June%2029th%20UPDATE.pdf

Baseball Ontario Jun. 26, 2020 Zone travel permitted as of Jun. 16th no competitive play at this time https://www.baseballontario.com/Admin/SideMenu/DispSideMenuContentMain.aspx?TopMenuID=10009&menuID=73 4&dipIds=undefined

Baseball Quebec regional and inter-regional competitive play as of Jul. 4th moving from Phase 4 to Phase 6 https://www.baseballquebec.com/fr/publication/federation/bientot_des-matchs_dans_la_province.html

Baseball Manitoba RTP Phase 2 – Competitive play permitted http://www.baseballmanitoba.ca/sites/default/files/Baseball%20Manitoba%20COVID-19%20Return%20to%20Play%20Document.pdf

Sask Baseball RTP Phase 2 – Travel and competitive play permitted within Province https://www.baseballsask.ca/phase-2-return-to-play-to-open-june-29

Baseball NB RTP Phase 2 – Competitive play within Zones https://baseballnb.ca/en/news/on-the-field

Baseball NS RTP Phase 2 – Competitive play within 50KM of region and no overnight travel http://baseballnovascotia.com/clientuploads/RTP%202020/BNS Return to Play 2020 Final Version UPDATED June 3rd.pdf

Baseball Newfoundland and Labrador RTP Phase 2 – Competitive play within region https://s3.amazonaws.com/my.llfiles.com/00284409/COVID-19-7.pdf

Comparison by Province of recorded cases¹:

BC - 2916

Alberta - 8108

Ontario - 35068

Quebec - 55458

Manitoba - 325

Saskatchewan – 785

New Brunswick - 165

Nova Scotia - 1062

Newfoundland and Labrador - 261

¹As of June 30, 2020

Government of Canada COVID-19 Dashboard https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html?topic=tilelink



BRITISH COLUMBIA BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

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July 12, 2020

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Minor changes have been made on the Scholarship application package. See attached. The information is not set in stone at this point, eg. Deadline date, scholarship amount, and if we are opening the application this year, even though there might NOT have a season or extend this year's application to next year.

Let us not table this anymore -

I would like to proceed and have the board vote on whether or not -

- We open the 2020 scholarship application for the 2020 graduates regardless if there is a season or not.
- If there is no 2020 season, we extend the 2020 scholarship application for the 2020 graduates to the 2021 year.
- If there is no 2020 season, there will be no scholarship.

Total money allotted -? Last year was \$3,000.00; the prior year was \$2,500.00.

BOUNDARIES REPORT

NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS - NO REPORT AT THIS TIME.

15U AA Division Abigail Wong-de Leon, Director

POR BC YOUTH

BRITISH COLUMBIA BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

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July 12, 2020

15UAA REPORT

On June 24, 2020, I sent an email to all Fraser Valley, Interior and PG 15UAA teams. Reminded everyone that baseball is still in Phase 2; therefore, no more than 10 players and 2 coaches to start-on-field social distancing training and no games or internal scrimmages allowed. They should follow the protocols as stated on the 'Return to Play Guidelines' from Baseball BC and utilize the BC Minor Covid19 resource page for other information and documents they need.

I also canvassed how many teams are ready to play when the season opens. Advised them that there will be no 'regular' provincial championship, but instead, it will be a Final Four/Five Game – just like the College Prep format.

NOTE: Dave Garton (Interior Director) was cc'd on the email.

The feedback as follows:

YES THEY ARE READY	NO, THEY ARE PULLING OUT
Burnaby	Vancouver Community – Stark
North Shore	Vancouver Community – Langley
Richmond	Vancouver Minor
Surrey/Newton	
Tricity/Ridge	NO RESPOND
Tsawwassen	COMBA
North Delta	
North Langley/Aldergrove	
White Rock	
Cloverdale	
Chilliwack	
Ladner	
West Kelowna	
Kamloops	
Prince George	

15U AA Division
Abigail Wong-de Leon, Director