

**Baseball BC  
Board of Director's Meeting  
April 8, 2015  
Baseball BC Office  
Surrey, BC**

**DRAFT**

**Attending:** John Berry, Steve Gustavson, Peter Stoochnoff, Ted Hotzak, Tim Clarke, Doug Kelly, Andrew Grant, Patrick Poyner and Larry Seminoff

**Regrets:** Mike Sarai, Mike Kelly and Orville Germaine

**Staff:** David Laing

**Call to Order:** 7:20 pm

**Presidents Opening Remark:** A heavy agenda in front of us. While we are in a period of transition, we are working to better the sport

**Minutes from past meeting:** A few changes from the originally circulated minutes are reflected in this updated draft. Moved by Larry S. and seconded by Peter S. Unanimously approved.

**Financial Report:**

**YTD:** Attached and presented. Forecast to FYE is also included.

**2014/2015 Budgeting Approval:** As previously circulated and voted on electronically. Andrew G. moves to approve the Budget as presented previously. Tim seconded. Unanimously approved.

**Program Support:** As previously circulated and voted on electronically. The 2014/2015 Program support awards will be \$1 per player for BC Minor, Little League and Babe Ruth.

**Funding Updates:** David advised the board that our contribution agreement has been renewed at the same funding levels as last year from viaSport.

**Gaming Application:** David advised the board that Patty and David would begin to craft the Gaming Application with the application asking for the same financial support as we have received in the last two years. Andrew and John will be involved and approve before submission. John spoke to possible Gaming requirements changes.

**Annual Audit:** David advised that Jerry Berkson and his company are on board and preparing for the 2014/2015 fiscal year. David will be the contact at our end.

**Championship Travel:** David advised the board that we will be engaging with both national airlines to secure quotes for upcoming travel needs. We will pay the deposit required and pay remaining amounts later as outline in the contract. This will be a significant expense this fiscal year.

**Howard Report:** David updated the board on the accounting of the Howard Chapman Celebration of Life and offered thanks to the board and all organizations that helped with the costs. We were able to properly sendoff someone who gave his life to our sport and we should all be proud.

**Strategic Plan Update:** An updated strategic plan is required as our old one has expired. Given the changes with BC Minor leaving and our want to continue to serve the sport as a whole regardless of provincial affiliation we will be looking to craft the plan with our new reality in mind. John will work with staff on the plan before it is tabled for the board as a whole for approval.

**In Camera (If needed):** In Camera session held.

**Staff Recognition:** The board expressed its confidence in Baseball BC's staff and appreciate their efforts in the past difficult year.

**BC Minor Transitional Issues:** John updated the board on the Baseball BC offer to BC Minor local associations the ability to participate in our Insurance Program if they wanted to for 2015 given some of the concerns surrounding the new BC Minor policy. John also spoke to the current use of the Baseball Canada logo on the BC Minor website. The Board decided that John will ask BC Minor, and copy Baseball Canada, to take down the Baseball Canada logo from their website and any other visible locations as they are no longer affiliated with them. John also spoke about some of the current BC Minor organizations who are getting their season started before they look at setting up plans for the 2016 season and beyond. Andrew asked Ted about the Prep teams and asked if we couldn't do something to stop the migration toward Prep leagues. Consensus: it is likely difficult to prevent unless BC Minor is willing to work together to find solutions.

**AGM Date / Venue / Agenda / Approach:** Monday June 15. Baseball BC Office (Guildford Recreation Centre, if necessary). 7pm start. Andrew spoke to Board composition and recruiting to allow for succession planning. Possible names for consideration were discussed. Open invitation for the AGM will be sent out to inform people from the baseball community who wish to attend.

**Baseball Canada Update:** A board meeting last night (April 7) saw the budget approved. An issue was also advanced that relates to the payment of Affiliation Fees payable to Baseball Canada. With the By Law changes that equaled the voting structure for each province, it was expected that the Fees would also be equaled for each province. The smaller provinces are concerned about this reality. Baseball Canada had built the expected revenue into the budget tabled. John presented the option to pay the full fee from last year of 10K if need be but will consider the additional monies a donation as opposed to the Affiliation Fee while Baseball Canada settles that issue to ensure equity amongst the provinces. John was authorized to commit up to the 10K

**WCBA Update:** John updated the board that the 2015 BC Directors of the WCBA board are **John Berry and David Laing**

**Elimination Tournaments / Western Regional Update:** David updated the board on the Elimination Tournaments and where we are at in the process including the deadline for interested hosts, entry forms and informational packages. The selection process was discussed as we want to turn the host announcement around ASAP. It was established that John will work with staff to formulate recommendations for the board regarding hosts locations. Eligibility was discussed from a team composition standpoint as well. It is suggested that eligibility within a provincial level organization could qualify for our event and serve as vetting. Further discussion ensued and it was decided that further work would need to be done and if necessary, circulated to the board for ratification. The entry form was also discussed and the possible need for a deposit for non member teams that would be returned should they not win. We also decided that we would consider a request on the application that asked non member teams to advise whether or not they will travel. David also advised the board that he will be working with Coquitlam Moody Minor Baseball and Baseball Canada to ensure the Western Regional event goes off without a hitch.

**Umpires Update:** John updated the board on umpire issues including the BC Minor provincials. Rob Allan and Rhonda Pauls have been named to work the Pan Am Games this summer. John also advised that BCBUA Secretary George Smith is having some health issues.

### **Committee Updates:**

**Girls Baseball:** David spoke to the current evolution of the Girls programming.

**High Performance:** 2015 Schedule will be finalized and posted in the next day or two. Coaching application window closes on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April and 2015 staffs will be announced shortly thereafter. Some rumblings are starting to surface that BC Minor is advising their coaches and athletes not to participate in Baseball BC High Performance programming

### **Member Updates:**

**Little League:** CABA partnership has been mainly finalized and announced.

**Senior:** Larry advised that PWB has reexamined the sponsorship package with BCSBA. Senior is waiting to hear back in regards to a restructured package.

### **Programming Updates:**

**Grass Roots Tour:** We are actively recruiting local organizations who would like to work with us on grass roots programming and plan to bring the Baseball BC Grass Roots tour to communities near you in the coming weeks and months. An update will be provided at the next meeting on this initiative.

**Summer Camp Partnership:** We are about to send out an open invitation to partner with Baseball BC for all member organizations interested in bringing a Baseball BC Summer Camp to your community. We will fill the schedule with our own set up camps if space remains but as always, our preference is to work hand in hand with community associations.

**Vancouver Canadians:** We will have tickets for any board members interested in going to the games. BC Minor has taken the lion's share of this in recent years so please be sure to take what you would like if available as we do have 50/50 responsibilities to address each game as well.

**New Business:** A discussion on posting our meeting minutes on our webpage ensued.

A question about Mike Sarai and Mike Kelly and their health issues...We do wish them a speedy recovery.

A question about 2015 Membership Fees was asked.

Peter advised from Babe Ruth that they are fielding several questions about dual chartering from Little League associations.

**Adjournment:** 10:03pm