

BoniVital Baseball - AGM
7:00 pm at Winakwa Community Centre
October 18th, 2016

Attendance - Kevin Crellin, Marc Bissonnette, Dawn Glays, Clare Dickinson (Winakwa), Kim Teffaine, Don Neusitzer, Jen Ducharme, Keith Guay (Norberry)

Regrets - Glen Agar, Luc Jubinville (Dakota), Jared Hall, Brian Turner (ChAMPLAIN), Ken Goodwin (Greendell)

Commence - 7:10 pm

Approval of Agenda – Moved by Marc Bissonnette, 2nd by Dawn Glays, passed

Minutes of 2015 AGM

MOTION - Made and passed to change date of Bonivital AGM prior to Manitoba Baseball AGM

Business arising from minutes

- No new business from 2015 AGM minutes.
 - ❖ Kevin moved to accept agenda and minutes as presented, accepted by Dawn Glays, 2nd by Marc Bissonnette, passed

President's report (Kevin Crellin)

A huge thank-you goes out to all board members for helping make this past season a success. It is important to note that we are one of the larger most successful associations within Manitoba baseball and the winds of change are blowing.

I want to take a few minutes to cover some of the below... are all interrelated...

- Great working relationships with our community clubs
- Increased numbers – at all ages
- Financials (controls in place)
- A better registration process - that works efficiently and simple
- A plan for our diamonds at all ages moving forward, heavy focus on U15 and U18 diamonds
- Player development plans for the whole year
- Website

Accomplishments

1. Website all the work behind the scenes that will be the benefit of the future
2. Tryouts at U of W – big win
3. Financials
4. Team results
5. Coach background checks
6. Strength of our area
7. What do people think of inside and outside of our area when you mention BV baseball.

I think it is time to take a fresh approach to how we do things or at least talk about them. Our AAA program – how can we make it better and more enjoyable as changes are coming to WABA. Our AA program –which took the first step to identifying the top players and putting them on teams away for the Community club model to evolving to maybe only 1 team at each age level. We need to address volunteers and how to get more involvement. Now that we have our website ready to go live I am going to go with two themes for 2017 – Volunteers and Facilities – and will make it our goal to have initiatives under way so that BV baseball is getting stronger and healthier for the future.

Competition meeting in Portage tomorrow

MB Baseball AGM and Awards – Nov 19-20 in Wpg (nominations for awards)

Treasurer's Report (Kim Teffaine)

- Bank balance as of October 18, 2016 is \$31,575.12
- At beginning of the year we set a goal to increase our revenue/net income in order to aid in the process of applying for grants in effort to obtain more facilities. We have achieved this goal, net income for 2016 is \$10,032.38
- Some outstanding 2016 receivables/payables that will net to approximately \$400.
- Marc and Taras are collecting jersey/hat funds from Midget A players.
- \$25 NSF was implemented, fewer NSF cheques this year and collecting fee was not an issue.
- Looked into offering payment for tryouts and AAA registration by credit card.
 - Kim will negotiate and look into various companies as to what is available, including lowest fees, contractual obligations, etc. First findings indicated a \$55 fee per portable machine, and 1.25-1.65% fee per transaction.

VP High performance (Don Neusitzer)

2016 was the first year that the tryouts were held at the U of W Rec-plex. From all accounts of the surveys for the AAA program the facility and the tryout process were well received. I am hoping that we can continue to have this relationship with Wesmen Baseball. All of our AAA teams had very good seasons in 2016. The Peewee AAA were a middle of the road team in the WABA city league and managed to finish 4th in the Provincials out of 10 teams. The Bantam AAA were the class of the WABA league during the regular season. They won the WABA League Championship for 15U and their 3rd place finish at the Provincials earned them a trip to the Western Canadian Championships in Spruce Grove AB. Unfortunately, their bats fell silent at Westerns and the results were not as good. In between Provincials and the Western Canadian Championships several of our players also participated in the Manitoba Summer Games held in Steinbach this year. Several of our Bantam AAA players have been participating in the 15U prospects program. The Midget AAA did surprisingly well for a very young team in 2016. They won the WABA tournament. Were competitive in their city league. They finished 2nd in their pool at Provincials but could not advance any further. In 2016, one of BoniVital's own, Victor Cerny, was selected to the Team Canada Junior National Baseball team and participated in the Cuba Summer Series and the Dominican Summer League Camp

VP City/Grassroots (Marc Bissonnette)

Overall, the 2016 season was a successful one for Bonivital Baseball. We had a total of 23 teams at the A and AA level. 2 AA teams at every level and all had successful season. At the A level, we had 7 mosquito teams, 4 peewee, 2 bantam and 2 midget teams with a bantam and a midget team losing in the city finals.

We had one Mosquito team at AA provincials and both midget teams qualifying as the Red Sox finished 2nd at cities and the White Sox finishing 3rd at Provincials in Neepawa.

At the Rally Cap, we had 21 teams, and for the Grand Slam, we had 22 teams.

There was a fairly major change that took place at the Mosquito level as the base path which were at 60 feet have been pushed to 70 feet. The rationale behind it is that it will give more time to the infielder to make plays. It was implemented at the AA level and the feedback is very positive so it will likely stay like that.

The Peewee and Bantam program will need to be discussed as the coaches feel that to be more competitive we may have to go to a single AA team at those level.

We were responsible for the Mosquito AA and one pool of the Peewee A playoffs. The mosquito AA was a great success, thanks to Jared Hall, Tom Thiessen and their group of volunteers. The Peewee A was a bit more difficult as the weather didn't cooperate and we had a lack of volunteers. That will need to be addressed.

One last thing, Manitoba will be hosting the 2017 Canada Summer Games and the Baseball section is headed by our own Cal Hawley who asked me to ask you to start thinking about volunteering for the event which will take place from July 28th to August 4th 2017.

Thanks to all our volunteers for a great season, I'm already looking forward to 2017.

VP - Tournaments and Player Development (Jared Hall)

Tournaments:

- U11 AA City's were hosted by BV. Host sites were Winakwa and Southdale. The tournament ran well by all accounts. Facilities were excellent and it was appreciated by myself and Tom (and the BV White Sox);
- The only issue was only one umpire at both the 5/6 playoff, as well as the Championship game. Both BV teams were in the 5/6 so it was not an issue, but it was for the teams in the Championship game. Thanks to Fuzzy who was there and worked the game.
- I will be convening U11 AA next year and will look to have the same set up for City's.
- A weekend tourney was run out of Southdale at the end of June. That was an AA Bantam (?) team and run event. Claire's son was involved, as was he, so he may have more details.

Player Development:

- I had one person interested in convening RC and GS next year. I will follow up and see where they stand. With convening U11 AA next year, plus coaching, and the rest of life in general, I cannot do it next year so we will need to find someone.

Registration and Branding (Dawn Glays)

REGISTRATION REPORT 2016

The team registration format from Baseball Manitoba changed again this year, the 3rd time in 3 years. The process this year did not run smoothly at all, with many coaches not submitting team rosters in proper format, leading to many frustrations for coaches and me. Some rosters were rejected more than once for not being completed properly, and many of them were late, one as late as 14 days. It was a simple word document. I found last year's format much easier for people to submit, but after discussion with Baseball Manitoba, it seemed to be the majority of associations preferred this new format and odds are it will be the same next year. If that is the case, I will be purposing changes and involving the convenors a lot more in the process. It is a simple document and really shouldn't be as difficult as it was this year. I will stress again that this needs to be addressed at any coaches meeting being held in the preseason. Coaches and convenors need to understand the importance of this document, why we need it and what gets affected if we don't have it on time.

BRANDING REPORT 2016

Team branding was much smoother this year, than it was last year, but it was still not as perfect as it could have been. This year, coaches were given the option of letting their players pick numbers and sizes and it worked well, for all but 2 teams. We stayed with the same set of jerseys as last year to help offset the \$1000 expense from only having one Bantam AA team last year, it worked well in some regards, but there was some disappointment from some families that wanted "something different". The biggest problem is ordering the hats in sizes that work. I had proposed this year switching to a different hat, but that was not passed as the players like the New Era hats. While I respect that it is something they like, unfortunately, it is just not practical when trying to order. Feedback I received was that many kids had hats that didn't fit and there was just nothing I could do about it. Next year, we will be going with hats that are more of a flexible fit when it comes to sizing.

In previous years, the White Sox teams had "Sox" written on the caps. We did change the logo on the White Sox hats to be a white "B" in order to match and be all "branded" the same. I had the best feedback from this, with people really liking it.

Going forward, if there is to be changes in the team formation for AA and the decision is made to only form one AA team, I respectfully request the board make this decision in January as jersey choices and ordering for 2017 will have to be made in February.

There was a great response to the team gear. I set up a time at the community centre for players to come try things for sizing and AA and AAA orders were almost double from last year. AAA is using their credit, but AA has a credit with Home Run for the future that we will have to make a decision how and when to use it.

- In response to Dawn's comment about late registration and improperly submitted rosters Kim suggested that there be a small fee charged to the community for each team roster that is not submitted by the deadline provided. Will discuss more at upcoming meeting when fees are set.
- Decision needs to be made whether or not the association will order rally cap shirts and caps going forward

VP – Policy and Infrastructure (Glen Agar)

- Absent, no report submitted prior to meeting

Umpire in Chief (Phil Habeck)

- Absent, no report submitted prior to meeting

MOTION - Kevin Crellin made a motion to accept all reports as presented, 2nd by Marc Bissonnette, approved/passed

Website Committee (Kim Teffaine)

- Few things outstanding, which will be submitted to Office Smarts in next couple of days.
- Schedules and Standings - will be linked to WSMBA (we pay \$50 for upkeep of this site)
- Kim and Marc will go for training on how to maintain website once it goes live
- Once live – need to get the website address to all community centres, distribute to existing baseball families.
- Dawn has requested the logo in a .jif for Embroidery purposes, Kim will ask Mary-Jane (Office Smarts)

MOTION – Kim made motion to accept as presented, 2nd by Dawn Glays, passed

CC reports

- Winakwa – Clare Dickinson – season went well, look into running another tournament next year, Maginot North and Maginot South diamonds have been acquired, looking in to portable mounds
- Dakota - Luc Jubinvile – absent, no report
- Glenwood – absent, no report
- Greendell – Ken Goodwin – absent, no report
- NGCC – Keith Guay (attending for Mike) - no report
- Champlain – Brian Turner, absent, no report
- Southdale – Role is vacant, no report

Resolutions – Constitutions and By-law Amendments

- No changes

MOTION – Kevin moves to leave open motion until next board meeting to review and possibly create new board positions, 2nd by Marc Bissonnette, passed.

Nominations from the Floor and Election of Officers

- President, VP of High Performance, VP of Grass Roots and Cities, VP of Tournaments and Player Development, VP of Policy and Infrastructure, VP Registration and Branding, and Treasurer will stay on in their respective positions.
- Secretary is currently a vacant position
- Umpire in Chief – Phil Habeck to confirm his intentions

Nominations from the Floor and election of additional board members

- None
- Individuals are always welcome and efforts will be made to find a position/role individual is interested in.
- May be interest from an individual to assist Marc in upcoming season

New Business

- U of W Wesmen are hosting a fundraising event, “Wine and Dine World Tour” on November 5, 2016. Tickets are \$100 and proceeds from the event will support the operating expenses of the Wesmen Men's Baseball team for the 2016/2017 season. For more information <http://uwinnipeg.ca/kinesiology/events/2016/11/wine--dine-world-tour---wesmen-baseball-team-fundraiser.html>

MOTION – Kevin moves that if a Bonivital Board member would like to attend the event, Bonivital will cover the cost of the ticket, 2nd by Clare Dickinson, passed

Adjourned at 8:45 pm

Next meeting will be held in January, time and place tbd