



BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

MINUTES

BASEBALL NL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31st, 2021

CAPITAL HOTEL – ST. JOHN’S

1. ROLL CALL

Delegates:	Ken Curtis	St. John’s Minor Baseball	
	Susan Skiffington	Mount Pearl Minor Baseball	
	Todd Powell	CBS Kiwanis Minor Baseball	
	Nick Mercer	Baseball CBN	
	Sam Oliver	Paradise Minor Baseball	
	Michael Burns	Grand Falls Windsor Minor Baseball	
	Jason Mosher	Pasadena Minor Baseball	
	Darren Hancock	Corner Brook Minor Baseball	
	Kerry Chaisson	Bay St. George Minor Baseball	
	Mark Healy	St. John’s Amateur Baseball	
	Greg Williams	Mount Pearl Junior/Senior Baseball	
	David Coates	CBS Junior Baseball	
	Justin Kelly	Gander Junior/Senior Baseball	
	Chris Davis	Grand Falls Windsor Junior/Senior Baseball	
	Brian Sansome	Corner Brook Junior/Senior Baseball	
Executive:	Kevin Legge	President	
	Kevin McCarthy	Vice President	
	Joe Fowler	Treasurer	
	Kristyn Coley	Metro Director	
	David Coates	Eastern Director	
	Kevin Higgins	Central Director	
	Jason Mosher	Western Director	
Staff:	Ryan Garland	Executive Director	
Observers:	Mark Jones	Jamie Jenkins	Melissa Flynn
	Christine Rowe	Bob Morgan	Leon Ledgister
	Fred Zillman	Aaron Flood	Heather Russell

2. PRESIDENT’S WELCOME

President Kevin Legge welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for making the effort and commitment to attending the meeting. He also noted particular thanks to everyone in attendance for making 2021 successful given the challenges that COVID-19 once again brought everyone. He particularly highlighted the changes from 2020’s COVID season, and noted that he hoped 2022 continued in the same positive trend toward a true return to normal that 2021 offered.

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3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Kevin Legge asked for a review of the minutes from the November 1st, 2020 Annual General Meeting and, if there were no objections, asked for a motion to adopt the minutes as presented.

MOTION: Higgins/Mercer

To adopt the minutes from the November 1st, 2020 Annual General Meeting as presented.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes to address.

5. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Treasurer Joe Fowler then gave an update on the financial situation for the 2021 season

- Joe noted the overall expected net income for the fiscal year – approximately \$58,000
 - o Joe also noted that in a normal year, this would likely be closer to \$40,000 but with the cancellation of many travel events, including the Baseball Canada Convention, this was the reason for the increase in the income projections.
- Joe also noted that there were some monies held in Baseball NL accounts for various provincial teams and programs, and that the chequing account balance of \$324,472.05 should be about \$105,000 lower to reflect the true “cash on hand” balance
- Leon Ledgister asked about future investments given the five (5) GIC’s Baseball NL opened in 2018. Joe noted that another was set to mature next year. Once this matures, Joe mentioned that it would be reinvested at a new value of \$25,000. This would give Baseball NL three GICs valued at \$25,000 and two GICs valued at \$15,000

As there were no further questions, a motion was made to accept the financial statement.

MOTION: Mercer/Higgins

To accept the financial statement as presented.

CARRIED

6. REPORTS

Ryan Garland then briefly ran through the Registration and Challenger Baseball reports and offered each Baseball NL committee chairperson the opportunity to recap anything in their report that was not covered during either of their Workshop sessions from Saturday. All committee chairs did not wish to elaborate further.

7. AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

There were several amendments to the Articles of the Constitution. These amendments were made a result of changes to the operations of Baseball NL in recent years that were not updated in the Constitution. These changes also included changes to the constitution that

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were necessary after the structural changes to Baseball NL following the Strategy and Planning Committee's review and changes from 2019.

Ryan reviewed each of the amendments with attendees and, after some brief discussion and changes to certain amendments, a motion was asked for to adopt the changes as presented (note – as a special motion this required a two-thirds majority vote from delegates and current executive members).

MOTION: McCarthy/Mosher

To adopt the changes to the Baseball NL Constitution as presented.

CARRIED

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

For the Election of Officers, Ryan noted the three (3) positions that were up for election in 2020 – Vice President, Western Director and Metro Director. Kevin Legge (President), Joe Fowler (Treasurer), David Coates (Eastern Director), and Kevin Higgins (Central Director) all accepted the second year of their two-year terms voted in 2020.

Prior to the Election of Officers taking place, it was noted that incumbent Vice President Kevin McCarthy would not be seeking re-election. Kevin Legge thanked Kevin McCarthy on behalf membership for his 19 years of service to Baseball NL and wished him well in the future.

As there were no other questions, the Election of Officers then took place:

President – Kevin Legge

Vice President – Jason Mosher

Treasurer – Joe Fowler

Metro Director – Kristyn Coley

Eastern Director – David Coates

Central Director – Kevin Higgins

Western Director – Darren Hancock

9. NEW BUSINESS

Coaching

There was no new business to discuss

Umpiring

Umpire Chairperson Mark Jones noted two changes that were coming to the Level I and II umpire clinic program for the 2022 season. The first would see a pre- and post-clinic online session coupled with an on-field session in between both online sessions.

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The second change is to the eligibility requirements for an interested participant to take the Level I clinic for the first time. Currently, interested participants must be 14 years old (or turning 14 years old in that year) in order to be eligible. In 2022, the age will be lowered to 11 years old (or turning 11 years old in that year). After successful trials in Ontario, this is being done to increase retention rates as umpires continue to get older. Baseball Ontario found that the age change means prospective umpires are progressing through the Level I and II programs faster, meaning that when they turn 15 and 16 years old, they are more advanced in the umpire clinic program and find it more interesting and, as a result, tend to stay with the program and wish to achieve their Level III certification.

Junior/Senior

Junior/Senior Chairperson Nick Mercer then briefed everyone on the discussion from the Saturday workshop for both Junior and Senior divisions. In the Junior division, there were three work items for the new committee to take and review:

- Host rotation for the 22U Provincials
- Roster eligibility
- Tournament format

In the Senior division, Nick noted that it was decided there would be an independent review of Senior baseball, including format, roster eligibility, hosting, etc. Though this review was agreed upon by all delegates, there was one motion brought to the floor from the meeting

MOTION: Mosher/Williams

Any junior player that is on a junior roster for that association is automatically protected at the Senior level for that same association

After the wording of the motion was agreed upon, Mark Jones asked what the necessity of the motion was given the Senior baseball review that was to come. Through discussion and agreement between Jason Mosher and Greg Williams, it was decided that this motion would be **WITHDRAWN** and any motions pertaining to Senior baseball would wait until the Semi-Annual Meeting once the review was completed.

Minor

There was no new business to discuss

Female

Female Chairperson Mark Healy noted that while there were no motions from the Saturday workshop, there were two work items from the workshop that the new committee would be tasked with looking at

- Compiling and analyzing the feedback from the workshop's facilitated activity

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- Reviewing the gap between the 16U and 21U Provincials and investigating the feasibility for another Provincial Championship in between both ages.

Mark also mentioned a Gender Equity toolbox from Baseball Canada that he would be making available to all female baseball stakeholders.

High Performance & Provincial Teams

There was no new business to discuss

Baseball Canada & Baseball Atlantic

Ryan Garland noted that the 2021 Baseball Canada Convention was cancelled as an in-person event, but similar to 2020, a virtual workshop would take place over November 9th and 10th that was available to anyone in the country. If anyone is interested, they can contact register via Baseball Canada.

Ryan also discussed Baseball Atlantic events and informed attendees that the 2021 Annual General Meeting for Baseball Atlantic had been postponed until April 2022.

Hall of Fame

Ryan Garland noted that nominations for the Baseball NL Hall of Fame Class of 2021 were now being accepted with a deadline of Friday, November 26th, 2021

Other Business

David Coates requested that Baseball NL research the process of team composition for the three Atlantic Provinces – NS, NB and PEI – for their representatives at Baseball Atlantic events.

Mark Healy asked for background on why the Hall of Fame class of 2021 was not included in the Awards Night and then noted that the Hall of Fame should be accepting nominations earlier in the year so inductees could be a part of the Awards Night festivities.

Greg Williams asked if it was still necessary for the 18U Qualifier and Provincial to be held as separate events. Greg noted that while the initial desire for two events was to increase baseball at the 18U level for smaller associations, there were no attendees from smaller associations at either of 2021's events. Kristyn Coley mentioned that while this was true, COVID-19 was still a factor and that prior to the onset of the pandemic, there was representation from eight teams at 2019 18U events. The new Minor Committee was then tasked with reviewing the 18U competition structure for 2022, with the goal of keeping two tournaments but possibly altering the meaning of the tournaments.

Ken Curtis then asked if it was possible to add the Extra Hitter (EH) rule to 18U play, along with the Designated Hitter (DH) that is already used at the 18U level. It was noted that the Minor Committee would review this, as well.

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10. ADJOURNMENT

As there was nothing else to address, Kevin Legge called for a motion to adjourn the 2021 Baseball NL Annual General Meeting

MOTION: Oliver/Mosher
To adjourn the 2021 Baseball NL AGM

CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

At the 2021 Baseball NL Awards Reception on Saturday, October 30th, 2021, the annual award winners for the 2021 season were announced as follows:

Minor Male Player of the Year – Hudson White (St. John's)

Minor Female Player of the Year – Jaida Lee (St. John's)

Minor Coach of the Year – Mark Healy (St. John's)

Minor Umpire of the Year – Jamie Hillier (St. John's)

Senior/Junior Player of the Year – Dylan MacKenzie (St. John's)

Senior/Junior Coach of the Year – Sean Gulliver (St. John's)

Senior/Junior Umpire of the Year – Dave Buckingham (St. John's)

Les Noseworthy Memorial Award – Colin Rose (Paradise)