



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

8:30 am November 9, 2023
Crowne Plaza, Niagara Falls, ON

MINUTES

1. Call to order, Land Acknowledgement and President's opening remarks

2. Adoption of agenda, with powers to add

Moved by Andison, Seconded by Penrod, CARRIED

3. Items arising from and acceptance of the September 29, 2023 minutes

Moved by Zanolli, Seconded by Dugger CARRIED

4. Timbits Softball

(Burton/Searle)

4.1 Tim Hortons sponsorship update

- TH in the process of reviewing all sport partnerships/budget for 2024.
- Softball Canada awaiting a decision.

Moved by DeBelser, Seconded by Penrod, CARRIED

5. Slo-Pitch

(Burton/Andison)

5.1 Working Group review/plan from Zoom meeting

- Slo-Pitch Committee met and has started identifying people of interest.
- Terms of Reference need to be developed by the Slo-Pitch Committee.
- The Board needs to determine/approve objectives of committee before putting the group together.
- Objectives: Growth, adding Co-Ed, safety, landscape is changing in other organizations
- Important to involve P/T's, which will be done at the AGM workshop.
- AGM Workshop will help identify the issues and determine the objectives.

Moved by Zanolli, Seconded by Stanton, CARRIED



6. Women's National Team

(Ballantyne, Dugger)

6.1 Olympic Announcement

- Softball added to LA 2028, huge opportunity for softball.
- Qualification process and funding details to be determined after Paris 2024.

6.2 Athlete Survey Results

- Coach Rafter is a very good direct communicator.

6.3 Pan Am Games Recap

- Bronze in Santiago.
- Social media content was captured throughout the event.

Moved by Dugger, Seconded by Penrod, CARRIED

7. AGM

(all)

7.1 Motions

Bylaws:

- Indication there will be questions/amendments about:
 - o President not elected by members.
 - o Board voting on Rules/SORs.
 - o How the nominations committee is determined.
- P/T's were provided plenty of time (18 months) to discuss/review.

SOR Motions:

- The Board reviewed all the SOR motions and determined their position going into the AGM workshop.
- Will meet after the AGM workshops to discuss whether their position changes.

Rules:

- Concern about some WBSC-based rules that are specific Fast Pitch that are being proposed for Slo-Pitch. Amendments are likely to come.
- Board decided to meet again after the Rules Forum to determine their position after discussion at the workshop.

7.2 Review Agenda and Board Assignments



8. Canadian Championships

(Dugger/LeBlanc)

8.1 2023 Host / Profit loss

- 2023 Host Profit/Loss Chart was presented to the Board.
- Discussion on the reasons Women's & Slo-Pitch are showing a loss.
- Men's & Master Men's host was not able to provide Financials in time for the meeting.
- Healthy profit for U15 Boys & U17 Boys, brief discussion about increasing Host Fee for 2025 (motion to be prepared for 2024 AGM).
- Discussion about feasibility of U23 Women's & Women's categories.

8.2 2024 update

- All events have been awarded except for U23 Women's & Women's.
- Interest from two potential hosts but no bids yet, awaiting direction from the AGM.
- Bids are coming in for 2025.

Moved by Dugger, Seconded by Penrod, CARRIED

9. WBSC

(Branchaud)

9.1 WBSC Bids update – U18W / U23 M

- 2025 U18W World Cup Bid from Montreal has been withdrawn.
- 2026 U23M World Cup Bid from Saskatoon will be submitted to WBSC by the end of the year.
- No information about 2024 U18W Continental Qualifier, Group Stage or Finals.
- Information will be sought at U18M World Cup in Mexico.
- If Continental Qualifiers are not held, previous results will be used.

Moved by Penrod, Seconded by Dugger, CARRIED

10. Financials

(Dugger/Branchaud)

10.1 September statement- to follow

- Uncertainty of National Teams events has a significant effect on the current budget, and it will catch up in the next fiscal year.
- Will defer revenues to next fiscal to reduce large anticipated expenses next year if all events are held.
- The Board briefly discussed the possibility of increasing P/T funding in the future.
- Discussion about reviewing bursaries/awards (amount, announcements, criteria).

Moved by Penrod, Seconded by Stanton, CARRIED



11. Staffing

(Branchaud/Neiles)

- Board addressed the departure of the Manager – Communications.
- Plan to advertise for a new position in the New Year.

Moved by Stanton, Seconded by Andison, CARRIED

12. Strategic Plan Timing

(Branchaud/Neiles)

- The process will begin in 2024, timelines and people involved were briefly discussed and will need to be determined.
- Other NSO's will be approached to provide options for a facilitator.
- The Board/Staff will lead the process, P/T's will be consulted.

Moved by Andison, Seconded by Dugger, CARRIED

13. Other Business

(all)

- Review of DEI Survey distributed to AGM attendees.
 - o Survey administered internally instead of by an outside party.
 - o The goal is to distribute surveys to other teams/committees/groups to track internally over time.
 - o There is a need for more data, and education on how it will be used.
 - o Information about members is important.

Moved by Dugger, Seconded by Zanoli, CARRIED

14. Next meeting, February

- Tentatively set for February 22 (arrival), 23-24 (meetings), 25 (departure)
- Extra time will be used on the Saturday for Strategic Planning.

15. Adjournment

Moved by DeBelser, Seconded by Stanton, CARRIED

