



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 – 9:00 AM - HAMPTON INN BY HILTON  
2869 GIBFORD DRIVE, OTTAWA ON**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Scott Neiles, President

**Directors:**

Brooks Penrod  
Jackie Dugger  
Kareena Zanolli

Bob Stanton  
Scott Searle

Ryan DeBelser  
Robb Andison

**Staff:**

Mike Branchaud, CEO  
Gilles LeBlanc, Mgr. – Operations  
Emma Lindblad, Mgr. – Communications

Donna Ozarko, Mgr. – Officials and Publications  
Angela Ballantyne – Mrg. Sport Development  
Cassidy Burton – Program Coordinator

**1) Welcome and Land Acknowledgement**

President Neiles opened the meeting at 9am and thanked all for taking the time to join. He acknowledged that the meeting originated on the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe people. He also noted that Saturday was “Truth and Reconciliation Day” and for Board Members to wear orange shirt.

**2) Acceptance of the June Board Minutes**

***Motion # 1 - Move to approve the June 2023 Board Minutes***

***Dugger/Andison CARRIED***

**3) Approval of Agenda with power to add  
6.3 SP committee**

***Motion # 2 - Move to approve Agenda with addition***

***DeBelser/Penrod CARRIED***



#### 4) Men's National Teams

##### 4.1 U18 MNT

###### Pan American Championship

- Event was planned extremely last minute. Six teams participated with the top four earning World Cup berths (plus fifth-place team Colombia who ended up with a wild card entry)
- Team held a two-day training camp in Mississauga August 28-29 and played three exhibition games prior to Pan Ams. This was important for team building.
- It took a few games for our team to start "clicking", but the last three games were their best.
- Playing in this event was an important build up for the World Cup.

President Neiles thanked LeBlanc and Penrod for their hard work and heard positive feedback.

###### World Cup

- The same coaching staff and trainer will return.
- Four roster changes among the athletes.
- Travel arrangements and team preparation is in progress.

##### 4.2 U23 MNT

- Anticipating a Pan American qualifier in 2024, no dates/locations.
- Doug Allin scouted the U23 Men's Canadian Championship in Saskatoon to start identifying potential athletes.
- Preliminary discussions have been held with Saskatoon to submit a bid to host the 2026 U23 Men's World Cup.

##### 4.3 MNT

- Pan American qualifier is possible in early 2024. Canada is hosting a World Cup Group Stage in July 2024 and the World Cup Finals in 2025 and has automatic berths to both.
- The MNT Coaching Staff scouted several events this summer (ISCs, ASAs, Canadians, etc.) to develop an athlete pool.
- The Board discussed the intent of the athlete pool – whether it is a reward for having a good season or if it should focus on current and next generation National Team athletes. Consensus is that it should be for the current/next generation.
- Discussion about having too many players in the athlete pool (and thus subject to CCES drug testing). Consensus was that drug testing should have no bearing on the size of the athlete pool. Softball Canada and the CCES is providing all the required education/support.

#### **Motion # 3 - Move to approve MNT Report**

**Zanolli/Stanton CARRIED**

#### 5) Canadian Championships

##### 5.1 2023 Canadian Championship participation numbers

- 160 teams participated at the 2023 Canadian Championships, increase of 5 from 2022.
- The Board discussed the lack of participation in the U23 Women's/Women's division. This topic will be discussed with the P/T's at the AGM.

##### 5.1 General Comments/Recap

###### Participation

- U15/U17 Girls both had maximum of 24 teams; U15/U17 Boys increased to 10 (from 8).
- Record number of teams in Men's and Master Men's (high participation from BC)

###### Streaming/Scorekeeping



- New streaming solution was fairly consistent at all events. Some issues with the new platform, improvements were made on the fly and will be better for 2024. Branchaud/LeBlanc will meet with them in October.
- GameChanger also went through significant changes and that partnership will be reevaluated.

#### Supervisors

- Welcomed some new supervisors in 2023.
- OPL/UCCMS process was extremely time consuming – will be simplified/online for 2024.
- Also looking at solutions to enter scores/generate standings with our tie-breaking criteria to reduce math/confusion.
- Appendices/forms/reports from Supervisors Manual and Host Guide will also be moved online.

#### Coach Certification

- 67 assistant coaches listed on OPLs in U20 and below did not meet the NCCP Standard listed in our SORs (Comp-Intro: Trained) to be allowed on the field. There will be discussion with the P/T's at the AGM about this issue.
- A checkbox will be added to the OPL for teams to identify which coaches will be on the field.

#### Survey and Reports

- Participant Survey Summary was provided and will be shared at the AGM Workshop.
- Supervisor Reports have been received and Host Reports are slowly coming in (due in October).

#### Protests

- Very few protests, only received two (\$350) that will go towards our bursaries.
- Ejections were also relatively low.

### 5.3 2024 Location

Event	Location	Dates
U15 Girl's	Île-Perrot, QC	August 14-18
U15 Boy's	Bid pending*	TBD
U17 Girl's	Calgary, AB	July 31 - August 4
U17 Boy's	St-Gervais, QC	August 6-11
U19 Women's	Saskatoon, SK	July 31 - August 4
U20 Men's	Carp, ON	TBD*
U23 Women's	Open	TBD
U23 Men's	Kitchener, ON	July 30 - August 4
Women's	Open*	TBD
Men's and Master Men's	Saskatoon, SK	August 28 - September 1
Men's and Women's SP	Leduc, AB	August 11-17



- U15 Boy's was previously awarded to St-Leonard-d'Aston, QC but removed since QC did not send a team in 2023. Will be re-awarded to St-Leonard-d'Aston if no other bids are received.
- We have received interest from a potential host for Women's. No interest for U23 Women's.
- U20 Men's dates are being reviewed to avoid potential conflict with U21 ISCs.

#### 5.2 College / University Championships

The 2023 Canadian Collegiate Softball Association (CCSA) National Championship will be hosted by the University of Victoria October 5-9 in Langford at the same facility that hosted the U19 Women's Canadian Championship. Softball Canada provided medals, Safe Sport hats, lineup cards, scorebooks and technical support for this event.

#### 5.3 Championship Committee Meeting / Motions

- Motions due October 1. Once all received, Board to review in November.
- Canadian Championship Committee met September 28<sup>th</sup> and discussed SOR Motions to put forward.

### **Motion # 4 - Move to approve Canadian Championship Report**

**DeBelser/Penrod CARRIED**

## **6) Slo-Pitch**

### 6.1 Border Battle 2024

#### Pre-Border Battle

Preceding the Border Battle, some changes were made within player rosters for both the men's and women's teams. To support athlete commitment in future instances, it is recommended to institute an earlier deadline for player fee submissions or a required down payment within the agreement. This strategic measure aims to mitigate the challenges associated with securing replacement players in the event of dropout. It is noteworthy that each team successfully assembled a roster of 15 individuals, fostering a positive and cohesive team dynamic.

#### Border Battle

Our goal was achieved to complete the full seven innings against USA Softball for both the men's and women's team. Both teams showed notable opportunities to pull ahead within the competition but in the end fell short. Final score graphics were posted after each game, coupled with the release of a couple of reels and a press release to recap the weekend's events. Robb Andison was the representative for Softball Canada. Looking ahead, the Border Battle for the forthcoming year is anticipated to be scheduled around the same timeframe as the previous year, July 24-28 in Oklahoma City, OK.

It was noted there were no issues with the Border Battle Coaches and was recommended to bring back the existing head coaches and have them involved in selecting the assistance coaches.

### **Motion # 5 - Move to retain the current coaches from 2023 to 2024**

**Zanolli/Andison CARRIED**

### 6.2 SPN Update

### **Motion # 6 - Move go in camera**

**DeBelser/Andison CARRIED**

### **Motion # 7 - Move go out of camera**



6.3 SP committee

It was discussed that a terms of reference and objectives would be created first for the working group followed by the application process for selecting the working group committee.

**Motion # 8 - Move to approve SP Report**

*Zanolli/Andison CARRIED*

7) **CSG 2025/2029**

7.1 2025

Age categories have been confirmed to be U20M and U19W. The final submission for the 2025 Eligibility Restrictions was completed on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Within the scope of these eligibility restrictions, Softball Canada requested to the Canada Games council for a shift in the certification level for assistant coaches, transitioning from requiring assistant coaches to be competition development certified to being COMPDev trained. This decision has been justified by various factors, including historical precedent with regards to exemptions during past Canada Games, where 12 coaches from 7 different provinces sought exemptions. Additionally, the intent is to widen the pool of qualified coaches while fostering heightened interest among coaches to progress along the coaching pathway.

7.2 2029 Sport Selection Application

Moving forward, we have recently submitted the 2029 Sport Selection Application for both women's and men's softball on September 8<sup>th</sup>. This application was structured into three distinct sections, each contributing to the overall evaluation:

1. **Provincial/Territorial Assessment** (50% of overall score): Based off the questions provided by CGC, Softball Canada solicited input from Provincial/ Territorial entities via a designated Google Form. Their responses were integral to our assessment process and encompassed a range of essential data points, including past Canada Games involvement, financial support from Provincial/ Territorial sport organizations, youth participation statistics, and the number of actively progressing coaches within the competition introduction and competition development categories. Furthermore, insights into any initiatives or policies implemented within the past 5 years aimed at increasing participation among Indigenous youth, racialized individuals, and newcomer youth.
2. **National Sport Organization Assessment** (40% of overall score): The NSO section comprehensively portrayed the alignment between softball and the Canada Games. It underscores the tangible benefits and return on investment that softball would bring if selected for participating in 2029. This section was meticulously crafted, providing substantiated evidence across key domains such as, LTPD, Coaching, Officials, historical performance in previous Canada Games, Safe Sport initiatives, and effective communication strategies.
3. **Host Jurisdiction Assessment** (10% of overall score): This component examines the hosting capabilities of the province (New Brunswick) and evaluates the sustainability of venues and participation prospects for the future of softball within the province.

**Motion # 9 - Move to approve CSG Report**

*Zanolli/DeBelser CARRIED*

8) **LTPD**

A Competition Pathway Graphic was designed to effectively convey the High-Performance Pathway to our primary stakeholders, namely players, coaches, and umpires. The primary objective behind the development of this visual representation is to portray the principal opportunities accessible at each stage of development, thereby emphasizing the progression



toward subsequent stages. Upon examination of the graphic, stakeholders can also discern the proficiency levels of their counterparts within their respective developmental stages, serving the purpose of assessing the knowledge and experience possessed by the key parties involved. It is worth noting that this graphic has been strategically conceived to complement the overarching framework of Softball Canada's Athlete Development Matrix (ADM) and Gold Medal Profile (GMP). The end goal is to provide a holistic and simplified depiction of the competitive landscape, encompassing available training programs and certification opportunities.

### **Male Gold Medal Profile**

Following deliberation on the establishment of a male gold medal profile, a notable challenge has arisen, primarily stemming from the inconsistent skill assessment practices observed in male softball as compared to their female counterparts. Several factors have been identified, underscoring the complexities associated with the implementation of standardized skill assessment methodologies within male softball. However, a decisive course of action has been reached, advocating for a focused approach initially targeting a specific age group for comprehensive skill assessment. The objective is to gather high-quality and dependable data, including statistical measures such as mean, median, mode, and top-performing individuals, both within each P/T and across Canada.

The proposed strategy entails the introduction of mandatory skill assessments within Canada Games teams. Softball Canada will provide a comprehensive scoring and recording system for the evaluation of each skill under consideration. This initiative serves a dual purpose: not only does it initiate the process of standardized skill assessment, but it also facilitates the monitoring of prospective National Team candidates. It is imperative to underscore that the confidentiality of the individual athlete identities, as well as the performance data of each P/T, will be maintained in-house during the Canada Games team training period. It is important to acknowledge that not all P/Ts, specifically Male Softball PEI, NT, and YT, may not have representation in the Canada Games. Nevertheless, it is imperative to note that the skill assessment program will be extended to these P/Ts as well. This ensures that athletes falling within the relevant age category from these regions have the opportunity to partake in the skill assessment process if they express an interest in doing so.

It was discussed that an identification/ data collection event would be created for U15 boys.

### **Skill Assessment Program**

The comprehensive framework for the skill assessment program has been developed, encompassing a total of five distinct skills contingent upon the developmental stage of the team, spanning from U7 to U15. The next phase of this program involves the formal presentation of the program at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). This presentation serves as a platform for in-depth discussions regarding program implementation and its tailored effectiveness within each specific province or territory (P/T).

Furthermore, the AGM will be leveraged as an opportunity for collaborative brainstorming to identify specific local organizations and teams willing to engage in the pilot phase with the revised program. Concurrently, baseline data will be collected to inform future enhancements. Presently, the skill assessment program is situated at stage 2 of its development, with the goal being to advance to stage 3 following the AGM.

### **B5 Implementing B5 In Your Practice Plan**

As Softball Canada persists in its efforts to promote B5, a prominent facet of our marketing strategy centers around positioning B5 as a valuable training tool for teams during their offseason. In alignment with the Athlete Development Matrix, a comprehensive graphic has been created to highlight the skill sets reinforced by engaging in B5 gameplay. Each graphic has been structured to cater to the three distinct developmental stages: FUN, L2T, and T2T.

Moreover, a devised practice plan has been created to explain how B5 can be integrated within an offseason training regimen. The overall objective of this initiative is to augment the visibility and recognition of B5 throughout Canada, and secondly, to facilitate coaches in the effective implementation of this game. Further insights and details on this initiative will be unveiled during the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM).





**9) Timbits / Canpitch**

**Timbits** As the commencement of the offseason approaches, preparations for Timbits T-shirts are already underway, with intentions to have P/T plan to place orders during the AGM. The strategy remains consistent with last year, where each P/T will submit a bulk order and shipment will go directly to the P/T. The primary objective is to ensure that all P/Ts receive their shirt deliveries well in advance of the season.

**Canpitch** Simultaneously, the ongoing update of the Canpitch curriculum remains an active priority. With the Canpitch season on the horizon, the strategic plan entails re-establishing communication with the P/Ts to ensure seamless integration and uniform delivery of the update material. Furthermore, this outreach effort aims to provide individualized support to each P/T, facilitating their effective implementation of the program.

**Motion # 10 - Move to approve LTPD/Canpitch report**

**Dugger/Penrod CARRIED**

**10) Communications**

**Website Analytics (Monthly Breakdown)** The numbers below represent our website analytics from the past three months. As the data indicates, our web presence continues to grow and fluctuate based on Softball Canada events.

Month	Page Views	Bounce Rate	% Page views Difference vs prev. Month	% Bounce Rate Difference vs. prev. Month
June	108,364	52.6%	↑ 24.7%	↑ 5.6%
July	170,400	54.3%	↑ 57.2%	↑ 3.4%
August	658, 621	41.9%	↑ 286.5%	-22.9%

\*Page Views: The total number of pages viewed.

\*Bounce Rate: The % of single-page sessions in which there was no interaction with the page.

**Top Landing Pages on Website**

Month	Top 2 Landing Pages per month	Sessions
June	1. /resources/2022rulebook 2. /programs/Canadian championships	1. 4,650 2. 2,278
July	1. /programs/Canadian championships 2. /	1. 7,606 2. 6,474
August	1. / programs/canadianchampionships 2. /	1. 34,934 2. 22,642

\*Sessions= when a user either opens their app in the foreground or views a page or screen and no session is currently active. This section paints a picture of our marketing impact. By knowing this, it allows us to prioritize our focus on webpages based on the month. E.g., July and August are heavily focused on Canadian Championships, which then shows a heavy traffic volume for each event on our website.

**Social Media Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**



Social media continues to be the most effective and critical way to communicate with our members, fans and to promote the sport of softball. We continue to expand our brand further by using different types of content to tell our brand story and the story of our athletes. By using different formats of content such as graphics, videos, and photos, this allows us to appeal to different audiences and to increase our engagement across all our platforms. To continue to reach a wider audience on different social media platforms, we need to continue to create different types of content. By tracking the below KPIs, these analytics allow us to measure and prove the success, or failure of our campaigns in a reliable way.

### Facebook

Month	Followers	Posts	Reach	Engagements	Change from prev. 90 days
June	16,870	30	71,368	18,719	↑ 44.5%
July	16,870	31	169,556	23,623	↑ 75.3%
August	16,870	119	147,106	69,518	-13.2%

**Followers as of September 1: 16,893**

### Twitter

Month	New Followers	Posts	Impressions	Engagements
June	1	52	161,051	3,809
July	35	73	361.6K	6,769
August	109	96	125K	3,385

**Followers as of September 1: 16,921**

### Instagram

Month	Followers	Growth Overall (Follows, Unfollows)	Posts	Reach	Impressions	Engagements	Change from prev. Month
June	15,275	119	32	11.8K	376,201	2,057	↑ 32.9%
July	15,275	388	54	19.6K	459,435	3,274	↑ 41.5%
August	15,274	478	118	18.2K	412,322	3,023	-7.1%

**Followers as of September 1: 15,310**

**Most active time for our users: 9am – 9pm, Monday - Sunday**

This is important to note because it can help increase impressions/engagement if we post during peak times.

**Followers:** Number of accounts that follow us.

**Posts:** Content sent through the channel (posts, pictures, videos, etc.)

**Reach:** Number of unique accounts that have seen the post.

**Impressions:** Total number of times posts have been seen.

**Engagements:** Number of likes and comments on posts.

**Explanations for negative changes:** If engagements are lower, the algorithm won't prioritize it on the main feed. The higher the engagement, the more likely people will see the content. Seasonal changes also affect content reach (e.g., people spending less time on social media during the summer, holidays, etc.)





Our reach was down in August across all platforms, not because of the amount we were posting, but because of the type of content. Continuing to post the same content, like graphics, does not allow our followers to engage, and ultimately does not show up in the algorithm due to the lack of engagement/impressions.

### **Canadian Championships Host Features**

We continued with the Canadian Championships Host Features, posting the remaining seven features on social and on our website. According to the analytics, these were among our top performing social media posts, with an average 5,678 reach. This is something that we should continue to incorporate moving forward into next year's Canadian Championships planning,

### **Summary / Opportunities**

In summary, our content and KPIs are all headed in a positive direction. Our followers enjoy it when we highlight our national team events and any domestic events. There are always opportunities to think outside of the box when it comes to creating content, and not just posting graphics. The goal is to continue to increase our follower count, impressions/engagements, and overall buzz surrounding our brand as we approach the fall events (Pan American Games and U18 Men's World Cup).

### ***Motion # 11 - Move to approve Communications report***

***Penrod/Zanolli CARRIED***

## **11) Women's National Teams**

### **11.1 Results**

The Women's National team enjoyed yet another successful summer, embarking on a journey that took them from open identification camps in BC, SK, and ON to an exhibition series in Clarksville, TN. This served as a warm-up for the 2023 Canada Cup, where they would face formidable international competition. Their homecoming in Surrey was exciting, playing in front of enthusiastic hometown crowds and winning six out of ten games, ultimately securing a commendable 3rd place finish in the tournament. The journey continued as the team set its sights on Udine, Italy, where they participated in the WBSC World Cup Stage 1 Qualifier. A highlight of this event was the team's victory over Japan, marking their first win against them in eight years. This triumphant opening round performance solidified their position in the upcoming WBSC World Cup in 2024. Looking ahead, the team now gears up for the Pan American Games, set to be held in Santiago, Chile.

ATHLETE SURVEYS Surveys have been distributed to athletes via Jenna Cairra (Athlete Rep). A summary will look to be presented at the November board meeting.

### **11.2 U18 WNT**

As preparations for the upcoming WBSC Americas Qualifier continue, Softball Canada has secured its coaching team, with Head Coach Keith Mackintosh and Assistant Coaches Melissa Basilio and Trevor Ethier. We are currently awaiting confirmation of the dates and location for the qualifier event. In the meantime, Coach Mackintosh, along with Coach Ethier and Coach Rafter, actively scouted potential talent during the U15, U17, and U19 Canadian Championships in addition to the open ID camps held earlier this year.

### ***Motion # 12 - Move to approve WNT report***

***Dugger/DeBelser CARRIED***

## **12) Coaching**

### **12.1 Coaching Development Committee**

A call for applicants was distributed via social media, to the P/T's, and various other networks, with a deadline for applications being the end of July. There were 30 applicants



for the CDC representing 8 different P/T's. Ballantyne to update Coaching TOR for November AGM Board Meeting.

12.2 NCCP update

NCCP Clinics Over the past year, Softball Canada has achieved significant successes in its coaching clinics, hosting a remarkable 320+ NCCP events, including clinics and evaluations, which drew in a substantial audience of over 2700 dedicated coaches. A notable achievement has been the integration of Hybrid clinics, accounting for one-third of the total offerings. More than 2100 coaches successfully completed FOCS Part 1, and 1170 coaches successfully completed Part 2.

12.3 CAC Alignment

Softball Canada is committed to decentralizing the delivery of the NCCP to the greatest extent possible, entrusting this responsibility to Provincial/Territorial organizations. Below outlines the approved cost table based on information provided by the P/T's and other NSO's.

Context	Manual Cost	Proposed Training and Education Development Fee	Notes	Average Clinic Fee (based on 2022 table)
Learn to Coach	\$10.00 (TS Manual)	\$10.00	Some P/T's do not charge for this clinic	\$46.00
Community Softball Coach	\$21.00	\$15.00		\$111.00
Comp Intro	\$36.00	\$30.00		\$265 (for both weekends)
Comp Intro Hybrid	\$36.00	\$30.00	Only 4 P/T's currently offering this version	\$180.05 (online & in person combined)
Comp Dev	Included in cost of clinic	\$40.00		\$250.00 (per weekend)
PIB	Included in cost of clinic	\$40.00		\$150.00

12.4 HRS Coach of the Year

Three nominations were received for this Year's Home Run Sports coach of the Year award.

**Motion # 13 - Move to approve HRS Coach of the Year – Scott Aquanno**

**Penrod/Dugger CARRIED**

**Motion # 14 - Move to approve Coaching Report**

**DeBelser/Andison CARRIED**

**13) Safe Sport**

During the 2023, participants in the Canadian Championship were asked to sign the UCCMS, this was a large and administrative heavy process. As OSIC remains committed to enhancing its resources and support for NSOs, it is actively developing several key additions, including an updated consent form, a centralized consent form platform, and supplementary reporting tools. These enhancements are anticipated to be helpful in optimizing our internal procedures; nevertheless, a reassessment will be conducted upon their official release.

Softball Canada has successfully executed a Safe Sport Self Assessment Tool for the Abuse-Free Sport Program, with a specific focus on the organization's website. Softball Canada has



either met or will meet, following the implementation of the new website, all the stipulated requirements outlined in the audit. An identified area for improvement pertains to the incorporation of straightforward and visually informative graphics and charts to effectively educate our members on the complaint resolution process.

**14) DEI**

Notable highlights from the committee's accomplishments in recent months encompass a spectrum of activities, including:

- The dissemination of informative and engaging social media posts that spotlight numerous DEI initiatives, events, and outstanding community members.
- The committee successfully organized an Indigenous Design contest, with Rachelle Vilness of Kitimat BC emerging as the deserving winner. With commemorative buttons shared with Canadian Championship participants, and P/T members as well as t-shirts available for purchase through Home Run Sports. Proceeds from the sale of the shirts will be donated to Hazelton to support Indigenous softball within their community.
- The committee focused its productive work through dedicated subgroups, addressing three specific action plan items (Indigenous Logo, DEI Data Collection, & Umpire Equity & Diversity)
- Softball Canada continues to foster relationships with key organizations such as the Aboriginal Sport Circle, Sport for Life, Jays Care, and Inclusion Incorporated.
- Recognizing the importance of inclusivity, Softball Canada has generously contributed to Wheelchair Softball by way of equipment donations and it extended support to the Eeyou Itchee Sports & Recreation Association through a grant program, working in conjunction with Softball Quebec.

**Motion # 15 - Move to approve Safe Sport/DEI Report**

**Dugger/DeBelser CARRIED**

**15) Umpires**

15.1 Canadian Championships

**Motion # 16 – Motion to go in camera**

**DeBelser/Andison CARRIED**

**Motion # 17 – Motion to go out of camera**

**Penrod/Zanolli CARRIED**

15.2 Registrations:

Back to pre-pandemic numbers. Still missing QC and YT.

Province	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Alberta	401	83	263	330	410
Manitoba	244	146	141	168	208
Saskatchewan	383	128	194	342	433
Newfoundland	133	33	62	140	139
Ontario	1,273	380	354	713	1,402
British Columbia	766	366	405	505	625
Nova Scotia	88	18	71	80	85
Quebec	301	207	285	255	
Yukon	0	0	0	16	
PEI	28	25	35	39	40
NWT	22	15	22	27	30



New Brunswick 109 39 118 109 111

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**TOTAL 3748 1440 1950 2724 3483**

15.3 ODC Selections

**Motion # 18 – Motion to go in camera**

**Stanton/Andison CARRIED**

**Motion # 19 – Motion to go out of camera**

**DeBelser/Zanolli CARRIED**

Seven applications were received in 2023 for four positions (2 full two-year terms and 1 one-year term). Interviews were carried out with each of the applicants by Billingsley, Whipple, Andison and Ozarko. This is a relatively new process and something to definitely continue with. With Scott McLaren and Don Farr with one-year terms remaining, there are four vacant positions on the ODC, three of them for two years, and one for one year to complete Frankie Billingsley's term as she assumes the position of NDU October 1st.

**Motion # 20 – Motion to approve Genevieve Gaudreau, Brent Chadwick and Tonya Ribalkin-Zanon to two-year terms and Jason Clark to a one-year term on the Officiating Development Committee, effective October 1, 2023.**

**Andison/Dugger CARRIED**

15.4 Ed Bitz Scholarship

It was noted we will move some funds to offer 2-scholarships for 2023. ODC will need to score the tie breaker and this name will be pre-approved by the Board. Post Board – tie was broken with Zoe Prizzon as second.

**Motion # 21 – Motion to approve the Ed Bitz Scholarship be awarded to Kelsey Nasasdi (ON) and Zoe Prizzon.**

**Andison/Perrod CARRIED**

15.5 Umpire of the Year

Only 1 nomination was received for each of the National SP and FP Umpires of the Year.

**Motion # 22 – Motion to approve Mark Gough (AB) as the HRS National Slo-Pitch Umpire of the Year and Kearney O'Keefe (NL) as the HRS National Fast Pitch Umpire of the Year.**

**Andison/Perrod CARRIED**

15.6 Level IV/V Appointments

There were 18 candidates eligible for Level IV certification in the Fast Pitch, and 6 more were eligible on the Slo-Pitch side. The following were successful. This is for information purposes only and does not need Board approval.

**Fast Pitch**

	Prince	
Guy Lafreniere	Albert	SK
Heather Doupe	Napanee	ON
Mack Walske	Morden	MB
Dennis		
Marchiori	Yellowknife	NWT
Josh	Fredericton	NB



Humphrey	Abbotsford	BC
Paige Cross	Lacombe	AB
Erin Fuller	St.	ON
Cameron	Catharines	ON
Woodcock		
Kevin		
DiDomenico	Hamilton	ON
Carlos Avila	Saint John	NB
	St-	
Pat Chiquette	Hyacinthe	QC

**Slo-Pitch**

Marc Decosse	Komoka	ON
Rodney		
Juniper	Chatham	ON

**Motion # 23 – Motion to approve the appointment of Jocelyn Lacroix (QC) as a Level V Fast Pitch Umpire and David Pritchard (ON) as a Level V Slo-Pitch Umpire within Softball Canada’s NOCP.**

**Andison/Dugger CARRIED**

15.7 Rule Change Proposals  
To follow at a later date.

**Motion # 24 – Motion to approve ODC Report**

**Zanoli/DeBelser CARRIED**

**16) WBSC / WBSC Americas**

16.1 U18 Women’s Pan Am Championship  
As discussed in Agenda Item 4. Potentially may not happen or it may be in March 2024.

16.2 U23 Men’s Pan Am Championship  
As discussed in Agenda Item 4.

16.3 Men’s Pan Am Championship  
Potentially March 31 2024.

16.4 Men’s Stage 1 Prince Albert  
As discussed in Agenda Item 4. Will be 6 teams.

15.8 Women’s World Cup  
Will be in Italy in July at the same facilities as previous.

**17) Budget and planning**

17.1 Ending May 31 for audit (to follow)  
Will be presented at a later date.

17.2 Current Year  
Reviewed

**Motion # 25 – Motion to approve current year budget**

**Andison/Stanton CARRIED**

**18) Staffing update**



Will be hiring an intern to take over the reception position. This is only a short term solution. May only need to have someone 10-15 hrs a week.

**19) Bylaws/Governance Final Approval**

Will be sent when Motions go out pre-AGM.

**20) Other Business**

It was noted the ED in BC has resigned.

AGM Schedule was reviewed. Will invite Jeff Whipple to the AGM for Friday evening/Saturday as a farewell. Hall of Fame when a team is nominated, will cap at 20 for the banquet tickets.

**21) Next meeting and adjournment**

November AGM. February TBD

***Motion # 26 – Motion to Adjourn***

***Penrod/DeBelser CARRIED***



223 Colonnade Road, Suite 212, Ottawa, Ontario K2E 7K3  
Tel.: (613) 523-3386  
info@softball.ca \*\*\* www.softball.ca

