



SOFTBALL CANADA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

November 9, 2024
Saskatoon, SK

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

Saturday, November 9 – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of the 2023 Annual General Meeting minutes
4. President's Report
5. May 31, 2024 Auditor's Report and Financial Statements
6. Appointment of auditors for May 31, 2025 yearend
7. Constitution and Bylaws (none for 2024)
8. Special Operating Rules
 - a. Canadian Championships
9. New Business
 - a. Elections
 - b. Hall of Fame
 - c. 2025 Softball Canada Congress
10. Other Business
11. Adjournment

President Neiles called the meeting to order. He acknowledged that Softball Canada respects and acknowledges that the meeting is taking place on Treaty 6 Territory in the homeland of the Métis people, and reaffirms our relations which we are bound to by our ancestors through our treaty to steward this land and seek mutual benefit on this land for as long as the grass grows, the sun shines and the river flows.

President Neiles welcomed everyone and announced the Credentials Committee. He appointed Guy Jacobson (SK) and Don Klym (MB) as official scrutineers for the voting process, and Angela Ballantyne as the Secretary to record the minutes. The credentials report of votes is as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Provincial/Territorial Associations | 35 votes |
| Board of Directors | 7 votes |
| Total | 42 votes |

Rules of Procedure

The Softball Canada Rules of General Assembly as indicated in the 2024 AGM Book and the parliamentary authority for the meeting is Robert's Rules of Order, Edition 12-1.

Section 7.1.d. of the Softball Canada Bylaws state, "Quorum for a meeting of members shall be those delegates and Director members representing a majority of votes eligible to be cast at the Meeting". President Neiles declared there is a quorum and that the Meeting of the Softball Canada members was in session at 2:02 p.m., Saturday, November 9, 2024 in Saskatoon, SK.

The meeting was expedited in order to make it more efficient. For Notices of Motion #1 (Agenda), #2 (Previous Minutes), #3 (President's Report), #4 (Auditor's Report & Financial Statements), and #5 (Ouseley Hanvey Clipsham Deep LLP appointed as auditors for the year ending May 31, 2025), voted via consent agenda meaning one motion to approve all of them.

MOTIONS – AS MOVED FROM THE FLOOR

One motion

Moved by: Gary MacDonald (SK)

Seconded by: Debbie Malisani (ON)

NOTICE OF MOTION #1

As moved from the floor

That the 2024 Softball Canada Congress agenda be adopted with the powers to add.

NOTICE OF MOTION #2

As moved from the floor

That the Minutes of the 2023 Softball Canada Congress in Niagara Falls, ON be accepted.

NOTICE OF MOTION #3

As moved from the floor

To accept the President's Report on behalf of Softball Canada's Board of Directors.

NOTICE OF MOTION #4

As moved from the floor

That the Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for the year ended May 31, 2024 be accepted as presented.

NOTICE OF MOTION #5

As moved from the floor

That Ouseley Hanvey Clipsham Deep LLP be appointed as auditors for the year ending May 31, 2025.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **Carried**

MOTIONS – SPECIAL OPERATING RULES

NOTICE OF MOTION #1

Submitted by: Softball Canada Board of Directors

Moved by: Jackie Dugger (BOD)

Seconded by: Neil Teague (BOD)

REFERENCE : (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part One, Art. 2.1 c) ii) (p. 214)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

ii)The hosting fee schedule is as follows:

Fast Pitch

Men's \$25,000

Women's \$6,000

U23 Men's \$12,500

U23 Women's \$4,000

U20 Men's \$6,000

U19 Women's \$8,000

U17 Boy's \$4,000

U17 Girl's \$8,000

U15 Boy's \$4,000

U15 Girl's \$8,000

Slo-Pitch

Men's/Women's \$5,000

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

REVISION

Fast Pitch

Men's \$25,000

Women's \$6,000

U23 Men's \$10,000

~~U23 Women's \$4,000~~

U20 Men's \$6,000

U19 Women's \$10,000

U17 Men's \$6,000

U17 Women's \$10,000

U15 Men's \$6,000

U15 Women's \$10,000

Slo-Pitch

Men's/Women's **\$8,000**

RATIONALE

Softball Canada's costs (flights, accommodations, per diem) to send Supervisors, UICs/DUICs and officials to Canadian Championships have increased due to inflation so a revision of the hosting fees is in order.

The U15/U17/U19 Championships on the Women's side each regularly attract 20+ teams and have been extremely profitable for the hosts, so an increase is warranted. These events receive multiple early bids.

The U15/U17 Championships on the Men's side were introduced at a lower hosting fee (\$4,000) to attract hosts. The Championships are now fully established and regularly attract between 8-12 teams.

The U23 Men's event regularly attracts 6-8 teams, so a reduction is in order.

The Men's/Women's Slo-Pitch Championships attract 32+ teams combined. While they typically don't charge a gate fee, there are plenty of other opportunities for the host to make money with that amount of participants.

The U23 Women's Canadian Championship is no longer being offered.

Finally, U15/U17 Championships will be renamed from Boy's/Girl's to Men's/Women's to be consistent with the terminology used for WBSC World Cups.

New hosting fees would come into effect for the 2026 Canadian Championships, as 2025 hosting agreements are already in place.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

Total increase of \$10,500 in hosting fees paid by hosts to Softball Canada.

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

NOTICE OF MOTION #2

Submitted by: Softball Canada Board of Directors

Moved by: Jackie Dugger (BOD)

Seconded by: Neil Teague (BOD)

REFERENCE : (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part One, Art. 2.1 d) i) (p. 214)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

d) Passes

i) Tournament passes will be issued up to the following maximums:

Players 17

Coaches and managers 5

Bat boy/girl 1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

REVISION

d) Passes

i) **Participant** passes will be issued up to the following maximums according to the Official Player List:

Players 17 **(20 for Women's Slo-Pitch and Master Men's)**

Coaches and managers 5

Bat boy/girl 1

RATIONALE

Housekeeping. Women's Slo-Pitch and Master Men's teams are now allowed up to 20 players on their Official Player List.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

Cost of up to three additional participant passes per team for Canadian Championship hosts in Women's Slo-Pitch and Master Men's categories. Savings to hosts from participants sharing their pass.

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

NOTICE OF MOTION #3

Submitted by: Softball Canada Board of Directors

Moved by: Brooks Penrod (BOD)

Seconded by: Robb Andison (BOD)

REFERENCE : (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part Two, Art. 2.6 d) (p. 218)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

d) No player of U20 category age, or under, may exercise Provincial Non-Resident (“import”) status.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

DELETION

RATIONALE

Some U20 aged import players could help teams attend and compete at the U23 and Men's/Women's Fast Pitch Canadian Championships. The Canadian Championship Committee has allowed it to happen in the past for the betterment of the tournament.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

NOTICE OF MOTION #4

Submitted by: Softball Canada Board of Directors

Moved by: Brooks Penrod (BOD)

Seconded by: Robb Andison (BOD)

REFERENCE : (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part Three (SP), Art. 2.1 a) iv) (p. 223)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

iv) If 20 or more teams are entered, teams will be split into 2 pools and each will play teams within their own pool. The top 2 teams from each pool will advance to the Championship Round with double life and the next 2 will have single life.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

REVISION

iv) If **18** or more teams are entered, teams will be split into 2 pools and each will play teams within their own pool. The top 2 teams from each pool will advance to the Championship Round with double life and the next 2 will have single life.

RATIONALE

With 18 teams entered, we would form two pools of 9 teams and each team would play 8 round robin games. Feedback from teams is they would prefer to avoid a modified round robin format when possible.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

NOTICE OF MOTION #5

Submitted by: Softball Canada Board of Directors

Moved by: Robb Andison (BOD)

Seconded by: Kareena Zanolli (BOD)

REFERENCE : (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part Four (FP), Art. 2.1 c) iii) b) (p. 235)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

b) The total runs scored in all games, with a maximum of 10 runs scored per game, will be used.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

REVISION

b) The total runs scored in all games, ~~with a maximum of 10 runs scored per game,~~ will be used.

RATIONALE

The maximum of 10 runs scored per game was put in when runs scored was the next criteria after plus/minus and teams were running up the score. Now that total runs against is ahead of runs scored in the tiebreaking criteria, teams place more emphasis on preventing runs and the maximum runs scored is no longer as important. Tiebreaking criteria should use the actual final score of games for runs for and against.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

NOTICE OF MOTION #6

Submitted by: Softball Canada Board of Directors

Moved by: Bob Stanton (BOD)

Seconded by: Kareena Zanolli (BOD)

REFERENCE : (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part Six, Art. 12 (p. 245)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

The annual limit shall be set at a maximum of five (5) selections, not including the Trailblazers category. Up to five (5) entrants to the Softball Canada Hall of Fame may be named each year. Except in special circumstances, nominations will only be considered for inductees from the region hosting the Annual Meeting that year. Trailblazers may be inducted any time at Softball Canada's discretion.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

ADDITION

NOTE: In special circumstances, the Board of Directors in conjunction with the Hall of Fame Committee, can add additional members beyond the annual limit of five (5) inductees.

RATIONALE

This will give Softball Canada the flexibility to add extra Hall of Fame Inductees in the event there is a backlog of deserving inductees to be recognized.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

Possible costs to Softball Canada related to having additional inductees (travel, hotel room, tickets, etc.)

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

As he was not running for election, President Neiles chaired the elections.

In accordance with the newly adopted bylaws, the elections were as follows:

- 3 Directors-at-Large (3 year terms)
- 2 Directors-at-Large (1 year terms)

It was noted the gender representation clause within the newly revised bylaws stating a maximum of 60% of directors can identify as one gender based on the current gender composition of the remaining directors and candidates up for election would not exceed the gender threshold if all candidates were to be elected.

The five candidates for the five available positions were presented via one written ballot and each candidate required 50% + 1 of the votes cast to be elected.

Jackie Dugger and Vanessa Kosteroski indicated their willingness to serve the 1 year terms and were elected for those Director positions.

Brooks Penrod, Bob Stanton and Kareena Zanolli were elected as Directors and will serve a three (3) year term.

NEW BUSINESS NOTICE OF MOTION #1

New Business
As moved from the floor

Moved by: Gary MacDonald (SK)

Seconded by: Hillary Pineau (NB)

To accept the names of the following individuals inducted into the Softball Canada Hall of Fame at the 2024 Softball Canada Congress in Saskatoon, SK.

ATHLETE – Trevor Ethier, SK
ATHLETE – Dean Holoien, SK
ATHLETE – Keith Mackintosh, SK
BUILDER – Bryan Kosteroski, SK
COACH – Don Bates, SK
OFFICIAL – Gary Skjerven, SK

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

NEW BUSINESS NOTICE OF MOTION #2

New Business
As moved from the floor

Moved by: Chris Hopewell (NS)

Seconded by: Jeff Ellsworth (PEI)

That Softball Nova Scotia host the 2025 Softball Canada Congress and AGM in Halifax, NS to be held from November 5-8, 2025

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

CONCLUSION

Following the AGM was recognition and awards to the following:

- Vanessa Kosteroski – Volunteer of the Year
- Darryl Helmer – FP Umpire of the Year
- Gary MacDonald and Guy Jacobson from Softball Saskatchewan were presented with a plaque to recognize them for organizing a successful 2024 Softball Canada AGM and Congress

With all matters of business on the approved agenda concluded, President Neiles declared the 2024 Softball Canada Congress adjourned at 2:40pm.