January 22, 2025

AGM Meeting Minutes

**In Attendance:** Chris Brand, John Montgomery, Amie Morkin, Ariana Montgomery, Justin Skogstad, Donelle Young, Kim Kikernik, Bonnie Provencal, Melissa Beattie, Kyla Alderman, Amy Hill, Nathan Brown, Dan Horinek, Cody Miller, Adam Budgen, Greg Properzi, Jenna Weisgerber, Caylene Royea, Katelyn Miller, Leslie Dul, Andrea Gibson, Aimee Guy.

Call to Order at 7:01 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes –** Ariana Montgomery approves the AGM minutes from Jan, 2024. John M seconds.

**President Report:**

2024 was a highly successful year for the Westlock Minor Ball Association (WMBA). Our association experienced significant growth, increasing from 176 players in 2023 to 231 players in 2024. WMBA fielded a total of 20 teams in the Pembina Ball League. We also had three teams that participated in Provincial Play: 11U and 13U Baseball teams, as well as a U11 Softball team. All teams represented WMBA exceptionally well, with the 13U team securing the provincial championship, which was proudly hosted in Westlock.

This past year, we continued our partnership with the Westlock Red Lions to host a one-day clinic for softball and baseball athletes. Additionally, we brought in a pitching coach early in the season to work with our softball players, further developing their skills.

With the growth of our program, we are starting to encounter challenges, particularly the limited availability of fields in town. John and I have been in discussions with the town about the urgent need for additional fields in Westlock. To accommodate our Rally Cap teams, we also utilized diamonds at RF Staples and St. Mary School.

The increase in player numbers has highlighted the need for more support, particularly on the softball side of our association. To address this, we plan to introduce an additional position to help manage the workload more effectively.

The growth of our association also brings exciting opportunities for competitive play, such as additional tournaments and provincial participation. Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to reintroduce a 15U Baseball team. While logistics for this team will require creative solutions, we are committed to making it happen for the upcoming season.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of 2024. We look forward to another great year ahead!

**Vice President Report:**

* **Spent the first part of the year with 2 roles, once WMBA filled Equipment and fundraising, I helped train/support that position**
* **Looked into Jerseys- now passed on to Equipment and Fundraising**
* **Worked with Town of Westlock towards new facilities**
* **worked with WMBA President on day-to-day baseball/softball operations**
* **Looking forward to another good year, positive growth in both WMBA registration and WMBA board of directors**

**Treasurer Report:**



**Registrar/Kids First Report**:

2023 – 176 players

2024 – 231 players

20 team’s total

Baseball - 6 rally cap teams (67 players), 2- 9U (21 players), 3- 11U (34 players), 3- 13U (31 players)

Softball – 2- U9 (19 players), 2- U11 (24 players), 1- U13 (14 players), 1- U15 (14 players).

**Softball Division Report**

Presented. No document to put into report.

**Baseball Division Report –** Absent.

**Casino, Equipment, Fundraising Report:**

Presented. No document to put into report.

**Voting of the Executive Board Members:**

Nominations and Elections (read out description of position, call for nomination 3 times, short speech by nominees, vote)

President: Greg Properzi nominates Chris Brand. No other nominations. Chris Brand is in by acclamation.

Vice President of Baseball: Greg Properzi nominates John Montgomery. No other nominations. John Montgomery is in by acclamation.

Vice President of Softball: Chris Brand nominates Ariana Montgomery. No other nominations. Ariana Montgomery is in by acclimation.

Treasurer: Amanda Stoby has stepped down. Chyan Brand nominates Jenna Weisgerber. No other nominations. Jenna Weisgerber is in by acclamation.

Registrar: Amie Morkin nominates Chyan Brand. No other nominations. Chyan Brand is in by acclamation.

Softball Division Representative: Chris Brand nominates Amie Morkin. No other nominations. Amie Morkin is in by acclamation.

Baseball Division Representative: Adam Dormer has stepped down. John Montgomery nominates Justin Skogstad. No other nominations. Justin Skogstad is in by acclamation.

Casino, Equipment, Fundraiser: Ariana Montgomery has stepped down. Chris Brand nominates Amy Hill. No other nominations. Amy Hill is in by acclamation.

Secretary: Julia Dunlop has stepped down. Chyan Brand nominates Amy Miller. No other nominations. Amy Miller is in by acclamation.

Kids First Representative: Chyan Brand has stepped down. Amy Hill nominates Caylene Royea. Katelyn Miller will co-chair the position.

**Round Table:**

* Umpire course fees covered through WMBA
* Pitching Clinic (Softball) April 12 & 13th in Westlock
* Softball and Baseball teams would like to have an option for competitive play.
* Registration will include an option to select (Competitive or House)
* Registration information will also include the extras associated with competitive (AA) ball, ie: extra costs, travel, commitment, etc.
* 15UAA Baseball team coached by Adam Budgen – 12 kids max with a waiting list. Tryouts if needed.
* Coaches meeting at the beginning of the season to lay out information regarding resources, equipment, lines of communication, etc.
* Reminders of the communication protocols for all coaches and parents.
* Setting up a swap meet for people to sell their used ball items online.
* Registration Feb 3rd (opening date) – information to be sent to schools, posted in the paper and online.
* Softball teams would like smaller rosters (15 is too many)
* Add U17 softball to registration packages
* Nathan Brown will spear head the umpires this season for baseball and softball
* Jr Rookie teams do not need to travel, look at downsizing team sizes, allowing for more play time and development.
* Rally Cap teams will start outside in May (they won’t be in the FH)
* Adding a “I am willing to head coach and/or I am willing to help out” on the registration packages.
* Adam Budgen - it’s nice to have ball teams correspond with an MLB team for jerseys and hats, etc.
* Softball teams would like new jerseys. Kyla Alderman is organizing this, with approval from the board.
* 9U rule updates with Pembina League – Chris
* Ensuring we have enough coaches for all players registered, setting a wait list, if needed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.