

# DUTTON/DUNWICH MINOR BALL ASSOCIATION

## WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 21ST, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

### 1. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of the Dutton/Dunwich Minor Ball Association took place at the Council Chambers, in the Dutton Municipal Office with online call-in on Microsoft Teams on **Wednesday February 21, 2024.**

**In Attendance:** Lynda Drummelsmith, Jeff Woods, Carrie Woods, Maryjo Tait, Jen Drummelsmith, Amanda Hull, Gerald Hall, Colette Tobias, Leah Thompson, Melissa Green, Daniyel McLellan, Jamie McCaffery, Joanne Galloway

**Regrets:** Rob Tait, Nigel Simpson

President Lynda welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM . The meeting was opened with land acknowledgment.

We will begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the territory of First Nations people who have longstanding relationships to the land, water and region of Southwestern Ontario. We also acknowledge the local lower Thames River watershed communities of this area which include Chippewa's of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, Munsee Delaware Nation and Delaware Nation of Moraviantown. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America). We are thankful for the opportunity to live, learn and share with mutual respect and appreciation.



No conflicts of interest were declared. No additions to the agenda were presented.

**Moved By:** Amanda Hull

**Second By:** Colette Tobias

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

**Motion: CARRIED**

## 2. APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MEETING MINUTES

The meeting minutes from the November 19th, 2023 meeting were reviewed. An amendment was requested - Current Finances - November 2024 as presented - \$17, in general account should be amended to Current Finances - November 2024 as presented - \$17, 397.01 in general account. including the last name for Daniyel Bint to be amended to Daniyel McLellan, Amanda Ford amended to Amanda Hull and Gerald Hull amended to Gerald Hall.

The meeting minutes for January 29th, 2024 were included in the agenda package for review, but will be presented for approval at the AGM in January 2025.

**Moved By:** Maryjo Tait

**Second By:** Carrie Woods

THAT the minutes of the November 19th, 2023 meeting are approved as amended: Current Finances - November 2024 as presented - \$17, in general account should be amended to Current Finances - November 2024 as presented - \$17, 397.01 in general account. including the last name for Daniyel Bint to be amended to Daniyel McLellan, Amanda Ford amended to Amanda Hull and Gerald Hull amended to Gerald Hall

**Motion: CARRIED**

## 3. BOARD VACANCY VOTE

There is currently one (1) vacant board position. Per the Constitution, any interested candidate as identified at the AGM can be recalled to fill Board vacancies throughout the year. Joanne Galloway was identified at the AGM as interested in joining the Board.

**Moved By:** Jennifer Drummelsmith

**Second By:** Gerald Hall

THAT Joanne Galloway be approved as a director to the Dutton/Dunwich Minor Ball Association, to fill the current Board Vacancy for the 2024 season.

**Motion: CARRIED**

## 4. REPORTS/STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Financial Report - Amanda
  - i. Current Finances of the Bank Account were presented \$16, 341.00  
Amanda will contact the bank about having the paper statements/statem removed as electronic is ok.

- ii. Outstanding invoices from 2023 are Player Registrations:
- One Team - Equipment \$813.85
  - Municipality of Dutton/Dunwich - Timbits Day \$113.00
  - Municipality of Dutton/Dunwich - Player Fee \$937.34

**Moved By:** Leah Thompson

**Second By:** Jennifer Drummelsmith

THAT to pay the outstanding invoices from 2023 as presented by the Treasurer.

**Motion: CARRIED**

- iii. Bank Account(s) Name Change & Signatories - as the association's name change has taken place, discussion was had on changing the name of the bank accounts as well.

**Moved By:** Daniyel McLellan

**Second By:** Melissa Green

THAT as during the January 28th, 2024 Annual General Meeting of the Dutton Dunwich Softball Association, the members voted to re-name the organization the Dutton/Dunwich Minor Ball Association;

THEREFORE all bank accounts at RBC and Alterna shall be updated to reflect the current name of the organization as Dutton/Dunwich Minor Ball Association. Signatories on the General Account & Raffle Account at RBC will remain the same, and the signatories on the Diamonds Fund at Alterna will remain the same.

**Motion: CARRIED**

- b. Bingo/Bingo Accounts - Maryjo provided an update for the Bingos - we are currently 7th on the waiting list which means it is likely that in 2026 we will be able to resume actually working Bingos. There are a number of reports that are outstanding. The signatories will remain the same on the account (Jeff and Lynda). Current signatories on the account for Bingo are Lynda and Jeff and they will remain. Jennifer is willing to help the new Bingo chair in the interim to get the monthly reports caught up.

**Moved By:** Gerald Hall

**Second By:** Colette Tobias

THAT the current signatories on the Bingo Account at the RBC shall be updated to remove Debbie McCallum, and a new letter be written to take to RBC.

**Motion: CARRIED**

c. Board Duties for 2024 were discussed.

**Moved By:** Amanda Hull

**Second By:** Leah Thompson

THAT the Directors and board duties for 2024 be assigned as follows:

**-Director of Uniforms:** Joanne Galloway

**-Director of Equipment:** Gerald Hall

**-Director of Publicity and Special Events:** Colette Tobias

**-Director of Fundraising:** vacant

**-Director(s) of Coaching & Player Development:** Jeff Woods & Rob Tait

**-Umpire Coordinator(s):** Jamie will do Fastball; Rob will continue the Hardball

**-Director of Game Day Operations/Scheduling:** Jen will look after game day communications and Maryjo will look after Scheduling for the websites

**-Bingo Coordinator:** Melissa Green

**-League Representatives:**

Four Counties: Jeff Woods;

WCBA (U11, U13, and U15): Rob Tait

Lambton Central Girls Softball League: Daniyel McLellan;

**-Volunteer Coordinator:** Leah Thompson

**-Website & Social Media Coordinator(s):** Amelia/Maryjo

**-Diamonds Improvement:** Jeff Woods, Lynda Drummelsmith, Jen Drummelsmith, Maryjo Tait, Gerald Hall.

**Motion: CARRIED**

d. League Updates

i. OASA/ORSA Update (Jeff/Lynda) - no updates from the league

ii. Four Counties League (Jeff/Lynda) - first meeting of the Four Counties in April

iii. Western Counties Baseball League (Rob/Jen) - no update at this time.

iv. London District Baseball Association (Rob/Jen) - DDMB U18 Hardball has been accepted into London District Baseball Association

v. Lambton Central Girls Softball League - DDMB was accepted into the Lambton league - anticipating a U11 girls fastball team based on the registration numbers. The next league meeting is April 6th

for the league; significant games for travel will likely be scheduled in the summer so travel is easier for families from DDMB.

e. Registration (Jen)

i. Registration Numbers to Date

- Timbits U3: 9 kids
- Timbits U5: 13 kids
- Timbits U7: 8 kids
- Four Pitch: 11 kids
- U11 Fastball: 6 kids
- U13 Fastball: 1 kids
- U11 Hardball: 9 kids
- U13 Hardball: 3 kids
- U15 Hardball: 7 kids
- U18 Hardball: 4 kids
- Cutoff Date for the Travel team is April 1st - so lots of time left to register for the travel teams

- ii. Family discounts for registrations of more than two (2) players was discussed. In previous years a family discount was offered by registering more than two (2) players and was usually \$100 off the registration. The volunteer fees for families were also discussed.

**Moved By:** Carrie Woods

**Second By:** Gerald Hall

THAT a family discount be made available for families registering more than two (2) players to pay a max volunteer fee of \$200 per family.

**Motion: CARRIED**

iii. Reading of Electronic Motion - RE TIMBITS:

**Moved By:** Jennifer Drummelsmith

**Second By:** Maryjo Tait

THAT For 2024, to run a one (1) day a week Timbits program for ages U3 - U7, in house in Dutton (as opposed to the 2 days a week).

AND to advertise the following nights of the week for the Timbits program for 2024 (noting that it is not guaranteed - subject to change based on registration numbers):

U3 Timbits - Wednesdays

U5 Timbits - Mondays

U7 Timbits - Thursdays

AND

U9 Timbits - U9 Timbits is proposed to be offered because of 4-Pitch ages cover the U9 ages

**Motion: CARRIED by electronic vote.**

- iv. Finalization of Home Days of the Week for Travel teams (document attached for discussion)

**Moved By:** Jamie McCaffery

**Second By:** Melissa Green

THAT the following schedule for home game nights be approved as follows:

- Four-Pitch: Tuesday
- U11 Fastball: Mondays
- U13 Fastball: Mondays following U11 Fastball
- U11 Hardball: Fridays
- U13 Hardball: Mondays
- U15 Hardball: Wednesdays
- U18 Hardball: Tuesdays
- Junior Men's: Fridays
- Challenger Baseball: Saturday 9AM

subject to change depending on league approvals of home game days.

**Motion: CARRIED**

- f. Registration Requests:
  - i. Timbits U7 - parent request to play down from U9. No issues as the request is to play in House league.
  - ii. Parent request for full refund - refund can be issued as consistent with policy.
- g. Equipment
  - i. Equipment Storage & Room Cleanup Update (Jen) - deferred
  - ii. Portable Mound Purchase for 2024 - will need to purchase a portable mound - that will serve U15 and U18s - recommend 8" drop. The estimate was \$2500 + shipping. Jen will reach out to the leagues and get the requirements on the clarification and have a

proposal for board review with Gerald for our March meeting.  
Needs to be approved asap as can take 6-8 weeks to receive.

h. Player/Coach Development (Rob/Jeff)

i. Indoor Training Clinics & Dates

- Can Pitch Applied for (Jeff) - no go - no instructions - Steve Malott - working on securing him for a pitching clinic
- Blue Jays Development Camp update - unfortunately Jays Care notified us we were not successful in our application to host, however they have said they will be coming to us in 2025 if we apply again.
- Pitching Clinics for Hardball (Rob)- none yet - Rob is working on a new coach/individual to lead the pitching clinics for the hardball players.

i. Diamonds Improvements Committee Update (Jeff)

- Update on Diamond 1 Construction Project -Simpson Fencing is currently waiting for the Diamond 1 to freeze - two weeks - welders have been onsite and brackets have been installed on the dugouts - but the roofs are not yet installed. As soon as it freezes, construction can finish. Diamond 1 will be done before start of the season.
- Diamond 2- \$43, 806.35 funds have been raised to date. We are still about \$20, 000 short to fund the replacement of the dugouts and backstops at this diamond.
- Diamond 3 is not currently playable, and we do not have a diamond for our U15 and U18 players to play on. Jeff received a quote from Titan Landscaping in the amount of \$25, 886.89. This would get Diamond 3 playable for our U15 and U18 players.

**Moved By:** Amanda Hull

**Second By:** Daniyel McLellan

THAT

a letter sent to the Council of Municipality of Dutton/Dunwich to redirect the previous \$20, 000 requested for Diamond 2 to Diamond 3; and the \$5,000 of the DDMB funds contributed to Diamond 2 be allocated towards Diamond 3 to get it playable for U15/U18 for a spring 2024 start.

**Motion: CARRIED**

- Additional fundraising ideas were discussed - including the battery plant in Talbotville and perhaps suggest approaching

Southwest Middlesex, as a number of Glencoe youth play in Dutton.

- j. Challenger Baseball Update (Jen) - Jay Care programming - making baseball accessible for all kids - targeted towards children that have an intellectual or physical disability. Jen has met with the coordinators - no cost to the association to run the programming - they provide all the resources to make the program happen. Training & equipment is provided by Jays Care, we get included in the Challenge Grant program, which means that \$35/player is returned to the Association. All players get T-shirts, hats, and all equipment is provided. Coach volunteers are needed, buddy volunteers, and a coordinator. Ages are suggested to 5+, but registration can be open to accept all ages. We are limited in the diamonds in accessibility - Diamond 1 needs to be the primary diamond for the Challenger Baseball. Buddy requirements can be high school students or older kids to help with the buddy system. Anyone 13+ can volunteer as a buddy. Jen will be the coordinator but if anyone is interested in coaching or helping, we are looking for more coaches. Manuals, instructions, training etc. is all provided. T-shirts are provided for all the players, coaches, and buddies. Buddy ratio can be 1:1, depending on the families and the child.
  
- k. Indoor Baseball project with the Municipality of Dutton/Dunwich (Jen) - Jen has a meeting with the Municipality of Dutton/Dunwich - will be looking for volunteers to help run the event.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Timbits Shirts - normally Softball Canada/Softball Ontario provides the Timbits Shirts for all timbits players (U3 - U7). The timbits shirts are normally provided for all timbits players. If Softball Ontario doesn't provide the Timbits shirts, we should have a backup. Egg Producers might be able to sponsor the Timbits Shirts.

**Moved By:** Leah Thompson

**Second By:** Gerald Hall

THAT

if the shirts from Softball Ontario for the Timbits players do not come through for 2024, that quotes are gathered for the shirts and can be circulated to the Board for a decision.

**Motion: CARRIED**



**Moved By:** Melissa Green

**Second By:** Colette Tobias

THAT

the coaching application for 2024 will be opened online as soon as possible.

**Motion: CARRIED**

## **6. NEXT MEETING DATE**

Designate the date for the next Board meeting: Wednesday March 20th, 2024 7PM at the Council Chambers.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By:** Amanda Hall

THAT

The meeting was adjourned.

**Motion: CARRIED**