

## Sarnia Braves Minor Baseball Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2019

**Attending:** John Vasey, Jim Bigras, Rob Winship, Jamie Downton, Josh Whittington, Mick Jackson, Chris Prozorowicz, Jordan Skinner, Scott McLellan, Scott Smith, Kevin Cook, George Pfaff, Jerry Harrison, Allan Ebert

President John Vasey called the meeting to order at 7:49 pm.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** Minutes were accepted by Mick Jackson and Jerry Harrison.

**Financials:** New reports presented. If there are other items or breakdowns you would like to see, contact Allan to update the reports. A request was made to break out baseball purchases from the rest of the equipment expense line. December bingo revenue that we received in January was higher than the monthly average. The coaching clinic deposit was paid to the OBA – after that we are low on funds, so Allan has not paid for any of the tournament registration fees yet. (NOTE: after receiving registration fees at the meeting, Allan has sent cheques for the tournaments that he has been made aware of).

**Expense and Donation/Fundraising Policies:** The group agreed that it was time to review the amount paid for hotel costs. The group agreed that the meal re-imbursement is often not used, and it is hard to determine what a “reasonable” amount is to use as a maximum. The group agreed to drop the meal re-imbursement and suggested increasing the hotel re-imbursement to \$150/room-night. The policy will be updated accordingly, and a note will be added that the Braves will pay for a maximum of three tournament registrations plus OBA Provincial Championship per the current practice.

The Donation/Fundraising policy led to a significant discussion regarding classification of income between a charitable donation received vs a team fundraising activity. The Shell money received by the Minor Mosquito team was a key part of the discussion whereby the group agreed that this money would reasonably be categorized as a team fundraising receipt, not a charitable donation (the Braves are not required to issue a charitable receipt for this money). The treasurer will categorize the \$\$ accordingly.

**Player Registration Status:** Teams need to send John a list of their players as he needs to know how many players, we expect to register this year. Registration date has been set for Wednesday May 1 with the help of the Baseball Moms.

We agreed that we should agree to the registration process and fee collection prior to this fall’s tryouts so that we have a common agreed to process for doing this.

**Equipment:** If you are needing equipment, please contact our equipment manager by telephone at 330-5050. This is a busy time of the year for Jim and calling directly is the best way to contact him (vs email or text).

**Rookie OBA Tournament:** Jamie has pitching machines lined up, and is looking at scheduling at the two facilities now. Hours that parents spend helping with the tournament are certainly deemed to be “volunteer hours” against their volunteer hour requirement.

**Instructional:** Rob noted that registration is significantly lower this year than last at this time. He suggested that we should increase our “advertising” with more exposure on social media.

**Other Business:**

Sarnia Coaching Clinics have been scheduled for March 30/31 and April 6/7 and April 13. Contact Phil to get registered.

The OBA pitch count and mobile coach apps will launch in early March. We will let you know when they are available to download. The 2019 OBA rule book will contain a section with the new 2020 arm care rules so you can be aware of the coming changes. It was also discussed that these arm care rules may have an impact on our budget in the future due to the number of players on a team, as well as the restructuring of tournaments to accommodate lower pitch counts (i.e. maybe needing preliminary rounds for Provincials and Eliminations).

Diamond applications have been submitted.

The motion to close the meeting was made by Jamie Downton and Chris Prozorowicz.