

Softball ACT AGM Minutes 28 June 2018

Welcome: 7:06pm

Present: Frank Curcio, Rod King, Faye Bourne, Jo Bauer, Erin Hartge, Amal Davis, Jon Wells, Pam Saunderson, Elizabeth Hay, Tahliah Sanderson, Cathy Carroll, Sam Irvine, David Pryles, Nelly Andrews, Nathan Woodward, Janelle Carter, Melissa Ricketts, Alan Bain, Jeanne Rain, Jo Cattle, Emma Sckrabei, Shaun Carroll, Natalie Bale, Nathan Bale, Michael Sydney, Debra Sayers, Kym Hart, Mark Gallagher.

Apologies: Emma Housden, Luke Pearson, Maree Hardwick, Geoff Hardwick, Carolyn McFarland,

2017 AGM Minutes:

AGM Minutes were tabled, confirmation of minutes received.

Moved: Nelly Andrews

Seconded: Pam Saunderson

Presidents Report:

President Nathan Bale gave an overview of his written report.

Acknowledgement of Jo coming to the end of her board member position.

John Bauer departure also acknowledged.

Jon Wells and Sue Terry efforts acknowledged for Softball ACT.

Volunteers, in particular Natalie Bale, acknowledged for their efforts for the wider Softball ACT community.

Great hope for Softball ACT moving forward. Significant change has occurred in Softball ACT.

Appointment of Ben Kirk as Softball ACT CEO is a massive positive, he has achieved a tremendous amount in a short period of time and with the appointment of Michael Sydney as Operations Coordinator this will continue to grow and improve – more staff to come as can be responsibly afforded.

Nathan handed the floor over to David Pryles to address the AGM.

CEO Softball Australia – Address:

David introduced himself to the AGM given his recent appointment of Softball Australia CEO. David addressed his objectives and the key outcomes he wants to see. David identifies junior participation as a key performance indicator moving into the future and engaging with rural softball competitions to enhance the reach of the sport.

David opened the floor to any potential questions – none forthcoming.

Treasures Report:

Overall, a very positive report. Continued growth from the last financial year with a \$70,000 plus profit and with the development of competitions such as Social 7's there will be continued growth in this area.

As part of member request from last year, bookkeeping of Softball ACT as been updated to better reflect transparency.

One question from Janelle Carter who asked – 'What are the big reasons for developing the drastic increase in profit?' Jo replied: "The strategic direction of the board, the successful applications of

grants, increase in membership and the success of competitions such as social 7's have all attributed to such improvements"

CEO Report:

CEO Ben Kirk addressed that Softball ACT's main focus in the building blocks to develop foundations for Softball to continue into the future. Softball ACT will continue to ask for help from it's member, to keep faith with Softball ACT and to be patient, good things are happening and drastic improvements have been made already.

Spoke about various improvements and new areas including development, competitions and tournaments. Ben reiterated that Softball ACT will not be interested in running sub-standard programs – if we run a program, it will be run well with defined outcomes.

Question: (Libby) – 'what are the types of new tournaments that are being development?' Answer: Reconciliation day tournament, Masters tournament, women's skins as well as a junior state tournament.

Ben's addressed closed, moving onto voting for resolutions.

Special Resolutions:

Special Resolution 1 – Motion Carried

- Change all references of 'Board Member' to 'Director'

Special Resolution 2 – Motion Carried

- Section 10 (Discipline) to read:
 - "All disciplinary matters are to be dealt with under the Softball ACT Disciplinary Regulations, including but not limited to;
 - The procedure for disciplining members;
 - The way in which members may appeal any action, and
 - The way in which members may make representations to the association in relation to any charges"

Special Resolution 3 – Motion Carried

- Section 12 (Existing Board Members) to be removed

Special Resolution 4 – Motion Carried

- Section 14 (Composition of Board)
 - Remove reference to President

Special Resolution 5 – Motion Carried

- Section 15 (Elected Board Members)
 - Remove reference to President in 15.1 (a)
 - Remove reference to President in 15.3 (a)
 - Remove reference to President in 15.4 (title)
 - Remove reference to President and Treasurer in 15.4 (a)
 - Amend 15.4 (a) to read:

- The terms of Elected Directors shall be two (2) years
- Four (4) Elected Director roles will become available each 'odd' year
- Three (3) Elected Director roles will become available each 'even' year
- Add new section post-Section 15 – “President and Treasurer”
- The President and Treasurer will be Directors and elected by the associations' Directors at the first available Board Meeting following the Annual General Meeting by a simple majority vote

Special Resolution 6 – Motion Carried

- Section 28.1 (Quorum)
 - Amend constitution so that the quorum of the association is ten (10) members

Special Resolution 7 – Motion Carried

- Section 38 (Public Officer)
 - Amend to read:
 - A Director or the CEO (or equivalent) shall act as and carry out the duties of the secretary and public officer of the association and shall administer and manage the association in accordance with this constitution.

Election of Directors:

There were three (3) vacancies, and only three (3) nominations for director, therefore no vote was required.

Returning Board member Jo – Yes

Frank Urcio to return as a board member (president) – Yes

Appointment of Nigel Woodward to the board – Yes

Presentation of Annual Fees:

Softball ACT will not be raising fees for senior teams this year.

What is changing is the way it will be dealt with.

Standard fee + late fee will be the process from now, as opposed to an early bird fee.

Late fees are large by design to ensure the organisation is paid in a timely fashion.

Questions and concerns raised about the expense of softball to play as a sport. Information provided with cost comparison to baseball (\$160 for t-ball under baseball system as opposed to \$90 for softball).

Frank Curcio, question about the state of current memberships and whether a social membership can be formulated. Ben and Nathan replied saying that is a definite that can be worked on.

Rod King questioned fees for U15 boys – answer given that u15 fees will be the same for boys and girls (\$1600).

Nelly Andrews – questioned whether a dramatic increase from juniors (\$120) to u15 (\$1600) could be a reason for drop outs. Explained that \$120 was an individual fee and that the difference to u15 would not be that much as the \$1600 is a team fee.

Frank Curcio Question – Frank asked about a cap on junior fees. Answer is no – Clubs are entitled to add a premium to the fee charged by Softball ACT for their own purposes.

Natalie Bale Question – Observation, under 19 ACT women’s assistant coach not named in strategic plan, needs to be corrected (***NOTE: this has been updated post soft release of Report***)

Rod King directed to David Pryles, ‘will Softball Australia be implementing a nationwide calendar to ensure states are not competing for athletes to attend tournaments?’

Answer: It has been identified that member states need to work together to ensure that softball is operating as one entity and it is not run by the dominate states.

John Wells Question – ‘What will be the structure moving forward and how will the divide between states be addressed?’ David Pryles expanded on the objective to make national competitions a smoother process and ensure state members are working together to ensure the smoother process overall moving forward. Ben Kirk CEO expanded on this answer by assuring the members that Softball ACT directors and he himself were confident in the direction Softball Australia is heading at this stage.

No further questions.

AGM Closed: 7:52pm