

V.W.F.L. ~ Annual General Meeting

Wednesday January 30, 2008

The Paisley Restaurant

880 Esquimalt Rd

MINUTES

Attendance Present: Dawn Evans, President
Brenda Parke, Treasurer
Michelle Fredette, Secretary
Tamara Arnold, Tournament Director
Darcy Hill, Registrar
Absent: Kiersten Kirkpatrick, Statistician

All teams from 2007 represented except for the Brewers (representatives for W3 arrived late).

Call to Order Dawn Evans brought the meeting to order at 7:12pm.

Introductions and Welcome Dawn Evans welcomed everyone to the 2008 AGM and introduced the executive to the membership and introduced Michelle Smith who will be bringing in a new team from Hyacinth to our league.

Old Business

- **Congratulations**

Dawn congratulated the teams who went to the Senior D Provincials in Vancouver. The Panthers, The Heat and the Wild all did a great job of representing the Victoria Womens Fastball League at the Provincials with the Wild coming in second, and the Heat coming in third.

Dawn also congratulated the Heat for coming in first for both the regular season as well as for playoffs, and the Storm for winning the Sue Beischer tournament.

- **Approval of Agenda/Additions**

Mike Weber requested that we add an open forum to the New Business section of the agenda.

The 2008 AGM agenda was motioned for approval by Kris Olson (Wild), and seconded by Mike Weber (Wild). *Carried.*

New Business

- **Number of Teams**

All teams present at the AGM except for the Brewers, however, both teams showed intent via email. We also have a new team represented by Michelle Smith coming to us from Hyacinth, so we're looking at potentially having 11 teams.

There is also a junior team from Strawberry Vale who may potentially join our league.

- **Tentative Dates**

We gain an extra day of play due to July 1st falling on a Tuesday this year.

Ice Breaker April 26-27 @ View Royal

League play to start April 28
Sue Beischer tourney July 26-27 @ View Royal

- **New Players**

- 4-6 players looking for teams coming from website.
- Michelle Smith complimented the league on our website.
- Mike Weber asked who to direct any potential new players to. They should be directed to the Dawn, who will direct them on from there.

- **Umpires**

Fees are going up by \$1 (so \$36/game)
No representation from the Umpires Association to discuss.

- **Softball BC**

Darcy handed out Softball BC information sheet to the membership.
Player/coach fee has gone up
Provincials

- Senior C Aug 8-10@ Victoria
- Senior D Aug 1-4 @ Softball City

- **Financials**

Brenda went over the 2007 Financial Report.

- the league made a bit of money last season
- 50/50 @ Sue Beischer did very well (using decks of cards).
- Balance just about \$1600.

Michelle Smith asked why the league in previous years has felt the need to spend our money (as we've finished with the seasons with a balance in our account). As a not-for-profit organization, we're not supposed to make any money.

- **Fields**

View Royal asked us to help them financially with skinning and cleaning up their third field. It is important to note that we do not pay for the use of the View Royal fields.

- Kris Olson (Wild) asked how much View Royal is looking for.
- They are looking for a donation of \$1000
- The Executive came up with asking what View Royal can offer our league for this donation.
 - o 2 fields Mondays as well as the fields for our 2 tournaments. However they cannot put this in writing for us.
- The Executive suggested that we donate part now, and more later.
- Glyn Smith (Wild) pointed out that this project will cost View Royal approximately \$10,000
- It is also important to note that this is a contribution to a minor ball park (Jo Irvine- Storm).
- Mike Cownden volunteered to provide the trucks or gravel to help View Royal with the upgrading of the field rather than the league putting up money. Ken Logue is our liaison with View Royal, so the league will refer to him, or possibly even Donna Sereda.
- Also, to help View Royal Minor Fastball, have them open their concession when we play tournaments there.

Dawn put forth a proposal... See if Mike Cownden's idea can work. If not, the league will donate \$500 at the beginning of the season, and donate more later (would possibly need to raise league fees for next season).

Proposal motioned for approval by Jo Irvine (Storm). Seconded by Kat Mui (Storm).
Carried.

Krystle Smith discussed current field situation. With these added fields from View Royal, as well as possibly having more field time at both Cordova Bay and Bullen Park, we will have more fields than are necessary. If we give up any City of Victoria fields, we go to the bottom of the list as these fields are grandfathered season to season.

- Important to note that if the Strawberry Vale junior team does join our league, they also bring with them one field one night/week.
- We're still waiting to hear from Cordova Bay in regards getting a second field on the same night.
- Mike Weber asked about the main diamond at Central Park being vacant or simply practiced on while our teams were playing on the lesser diamond.
 - o Stuffy McGinnis league folded last year, and we were sub-letting the second diamond through them. We can apply to the City of Victoria for Central again this year if we want to, and push for the main diamond. However, it was pointed out by Mike Weber that there is a lack of washroom facilities at this park, and Dawn had to complain a lot to the City of Victoria about the condition of these fields.

Krystle – Esquimalt is a possibility for both Monday and Wednesday nights. Also, with Bullen Park, we pay for the entire park, so we could use all 3 fields (the third field does need a bit of work), which would also allow for more teams to be playing in the same park at the same time rather than all over the city.

If we were to give up ANY of the City of Victoria fields, which would we chose to give up first.

- The membership present voted, and it was decided that Central would be our first choice to give up as the field conditions are very poor, and there is a lack of washroom facilities.
- The second choice would be Topaz – North West Glasgow field.

Brad Smith brought up the topic of our league possibly sub-letting our City of Victoria fields that are not being used to slo-pitch teams (like other leagues have done to us in the past). Another point that was brought up in regards to our potentially giving up a City of Victoria fields is that we only pay \$6/night for the fields.

... so it was decided that we apply for all of our previous fields, except for Central unless it is needed.

- **League Fees**

Don't need to increase league fees this year. This will stay at \$675.

As always, half is due at the Ice Breaker, and the other half is due at the end of the first round of play.

- **Golf Tournament**

Last year it was had at the Royal Oak golf course. The food was mediocre.

Kiersten can't organize it this year due to her work schedule. Someone else needs to take on the organization of the golf tournament. Kat Mui (Storm) volunteered to take over the organization of the golf tournament.

- **Possible Invitational Tournament/ Getting To Know You Tournament**

Mid Island team contacted Dawn in regards to playing against some of our teams... possible tourney?

Should we invite down for one of our league tournaments? Or put together a new tournament?

- Both tourneys are part of our league.
 - o Candace (Storm) suggested changing the format of the Getting To Know Your Tournament. Continue to invite the minor aged teams, but change the format of the older teams from a mix of our league teams, to inviting other teams, as well as our own league teams to a tournament.
 - o Dawn reminds the membership of the reasons for the Getting To Know Your Tournament
 - o Mike Weber (Wild) suggested moving the date of the GTKY forward due to when the minor season ends.
 - o Donna (Reds) suggested having a tournament mid-way through the season. Also organizing 2 tiers... Recreational and competitive.
 - Tough part about having a tournament mid-way through the season will be getting the fields.
 - One of the minor fields that we play on perhaps (Bullen, View Royal, Cordova Bay) suggested by Donna (Reds).
 - o Mike Weber (Wild) suggested finding out when the midget district playoffs are. So maybe host this tournament at the end of May/beginning of June.

Proposal from the floor...

- Merge the Getting To Know You Tournament with an invitational tournament sometime in May/June.
Motioned for approval by Nicole Parker (Pirates)
Seconded by Kris Olson (Wild). *Carried.*
Vote taken. Majority of membership in attendance voted in favour of the motion.

Jo Irvine (Storm) also suggested inviting teams from a league in Squamish.

It was also brought up by the Executive that teams need to take more part in helping with all of our league's tournaments. It is a lot of work for 1-2 people to run a tournament.

- **Open Discussion**

1. Mike Weber (Wild)
 - a. Suggested first and last name along with jersey number on website to make MVP voting easier. Each player's first and last name is already visible to the team rep when they are inputting the game MVP (once they are signed in to the website), but that Dawn will try to work on having each player's number added in as well.
 - b. It was also mentioned that teams need to be more diligent in writing down first and last names, along with each player's number on the line-up sheets.
2. Mike Weber (Wild)
 - a. Sub-runner rule... anywhere in the line-up. It should only be a person who is sitting who can be a sub-runner. They can still play (they are not being "burned" for play later in the game).
 - b. Maybe it should be changed to last available?
 - c. Donna (Reds) asked if this person can still play later in the game. Yes, they are still allowed

- d. Michelle Smith asked what if they don't want to use one of their sitting players as a runner?
 - i. Jo (Storm) brought up that this is not to be used to our "advantage", it is to be nice to someone who is injured.
 - ii. Dawn – technically, the team's are supposed to say at the beginning of a game who will need a runner during the game.
 - iii. Chelsey Oman (A's) – at the beginning each team should state who... the sitting players or their last available runner.
 - iv. Erinn Cousins (Heat) brought up the issue of some people never running for themselves, but are un-injured. It seems that the courtesy runner is being abused.
 - v. So... it was decided that the decision needs to be made at the beginning of a game... sitting players or last available. The difference between last available versus last out was clarified for the membership.

Motion to declare who will need a courtesy runner as well as who will be used as that courtesy runner at the beginning of the game.

Motioned for approval by Val Przybysz (Wild)

Seconded by Mike Cownden (Panthers)

Vote taken... Majority voted Yes.

3. Michelle Smith

- a. Any ladies 35 and over who are interested... October 2009, Michelle's team is going to the World's in Australia, and would like to take more ladies with them. So if anybody is interested, please let Michelle know.

• Elections

- Dawn went over the position descriptions.
- Those stepping down are willing to help the new people who are taking over for them.
- Dawn also went over what type of a time commitment each position requires.
- Brenda and Dawn have stated that they are willing to stay on the Executive. Brenda will stay on as Treasurer. Dawn is willing to stay as President, but if someone else wants the job, she'll step down and take on something else.

So... the following players volunteered and were acclaimed by the membership.

Secretary – Teresa Bubela (**Panthers**).

Teresa also wanted everyone to know that she found our league through the website, and looks forward to taking part in our Executive. She works in publishing and will hopefully be able to do some fun things with our newsletter.

Tournament Director – Chelsey Oman (**A's**)

Registrar – Theresa Hardy (**Heat**)

Statistician – Candace Anderson (**Storm**)

Vice-President – Val Przybysz (**Wild**)

Mike Weber (Wild) called for a round of applause and Thank Yous for the 2007 Executive.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm by Dawn Evans.

Michelle Fredette
Secretary