

Calgary Apollo Softball Association AGM 2023

2022-10-23

7:20pm

Twisted Element (1006 11 AVE SW Calgary AB)

Meeting Facilitator: Chris King

Attendees: Yasim Abdul, Erik Bell, Dom Blanchet, Matt Brady, Logan Chinski, Mike Christen, Justin Connelly, Will Couture, Tyler Emary, Matt Ferrari, Taurick Hoven, Alana Konihowski, Carlin Koster, Yuta Kurkula, Chris King, Maher Latif, Craig Lewington, Jeremy Luk, Charles MacMichael, Cody Petitclerc, Marco Sarro, Arthur Simon, Sveta Vashchenko, Natalia Zhelonkina

- 1) **Introductions:** Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and their association with CASA
- 2) **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda for the meeting was reviewed. **Carlin Koster made the motion to accept the agenda. Logan Chinski seconded. All were in favour. The motion was passed.**
- 3) **Review and Approval of the 2023 AGM Meeting Minutes:** **Marco Sarro made the motion to approve the meeting minutes. Maher Latif seconded. All were in favour. The motion was passed.**
- 4) **Review of meeting process:** Craig reviewed and explained that CASA follow Roberts Rules for meetings.
- 5) **Treasurer Report:** Marco Sarro (Treasurer) presented the financials. Key discussions points were:
 - a. CASA had a deficit of \$1700 for the year, as we had spent additional monies on a new website design for the league and on the players with Skills Day, Practice Fields, social and events.
 - b. Each team had social monies, and teams with newcomers some of that social money came out of the grants that the league received in 2023.
 - c. We partnered with the Centre for Newcomers and the End of the Rainbow Foundation, and grant monies covered fees, equipment and social events. For 2024, 16 positions will be covered by monies from the grant.
 - d. Comments from individuals attending the meeting:
 - i. It was not clear to the teams the monies they had available for socials.
 - ii. It was asked if in our financials, there could be more detail provided on sponsorship recognition.

- e. Carlin did an excellent job securing sponsorship for all 16 teams for the year.
 - f. **Approval of Financials:** Charles MacMichael made the motion to accept the financials as presented. Maher Latif seconded the motion. All were in favour. The motion was passed.
 - g. **Appointment of Auditors:** Marco Sarro made the motion that Jared Mardian (CPA) will audit the 2022/2023 financials. Arthur Simon seconded. All were in favour. The motion passed.
- 6) **Review of 2023 Season:** Chris provided an overview of the 2023 summer season. Key Highlights were:
- a. **Building Community:** Thanked everyone involved in the league for helping to bring together the community. It is a family. We created a space for us.
 - b. **Events:** All of our events were very well attended. We had a very successful MX CASA, where we raised over \$11,000 for Stonewall Recovery.
 - c. **Captains and Players:** We had a successful Captain's Clinic (the first time) and added practice fields on Sundays for players.
 - d. **Centre for Newcomers and End of the Rainbow Foundation:** We partnered with these two organizations and felt we had a successful first year embarking on this association.
 - e. Carlin thanked Chris for overseeing one of the biggest growth years in the league.

7) **Overview and Discussion Player Survey Results:**

CASA ran its 3rd annual player survey this year.

This year 50 players responded to the survey, which given the league's increase in size was a smaller percentage compared to previous years.

Overall 89% of players this year said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the experience.

What were some of the key takeaways of the survey?

The Fields: As with previous years, field conditions were a concern. The Dover and Radisson fields were highlighted by individuals. Another concern again raised this year was the lack of washrooms available on site.

Communications: The board relied too much on captains to relay information. Game cancellations could be made earlier in the afternoon and our Instagram needs to show more of the social side of the league.

Captains – What did they do well and not do well: Players felt captains provided good communications, made sure everyone felt welcome, supported and included, provided constructive feedback and positive energy.

In terms of improvement, it was felt that some captains could bring more structure to the game.

New Website Design: Many didn't even know we had a website or didn't use it preferring Instagram and TeamSnap for information. Those that did know of the website provided positive comments on its redesign.

Season Scheduling: It was suggested that we do not schedule games during Stampede Week. As with previous years, we had comments around changing days or times.

Sunday Practices: People thought these were a great ideas but needed more structure. Most people that responded said they did not attend the practices.

Playoff Day: People enjoyed being all together all at once. Would appreciate being able to watch other games and some people thought August weekends were tough from a scheduling point-of-view due to holidays and so forth.

Partnership with Centre for Newcomers and End of Rainbow Foundation: People thought it was a great idea, but there was a lack of communication and that many newcomers stopped showing up as the season progressed. We should explore why?

Events: People enjoyed the events again this year. And again we got some interesting suggestions...

- Have a community dance
- More support for the MX CASA performers
- On Skills Day – play with your actual teams

Other Concerns and Suggestions:

- Having a few competitive teams dominating the league
- Have people shadow captains to develop potential new captains for the league.

Meeting Discussion:

- Should consider adding demographic questions to the survey to give an idea of who is responding
- Could have an incentive to fill out the survey to garner more participation?
- Funnel it through team captain – again to get more people filling out the survey.

8) **Board Position Reviews:** Each board member present gave a review of their position and key responsibilities and any special projects they were involved with.

9) **By-Law Changes:** No by-law changes were made.

10) **Position Nominations and Elections:** All individuals were allowed time to address those present, as to why they should be chosen for the role they had been nominated.

- **President:** Maher Latif nominated Chris King and Marco Sarro seconded. Chris declined the nomination. Marco Sarro nominated Justin Connelly and Chris King seconded. Justin accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. All were in favour. **Justin Connelly was elected to the role of President for a 2YR term.**
- **Secretary:** Marco Sarro nominated Craig Lewington for Secretary and Maher Latif seconded. Craig declined the nomination. Carlin Koster nominated Yasmin Abdul for

Secretary and Charles MacMichael seconded. Yasmin accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. All were in favour. **Yasmin Abdul was elected to the role of Secretary for a 2YR term.**

- **Sponsorship Coordinator:** Marco Sarro nominated Carlin Koster and Logan Chinski seconded. Carlin Koster accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. All voted in favour. **Carlin Koster was elected to the role of Sponsorship Coordinator for a 2YR term.**
- **Events Coordinator:** Will Couture was nominated by Marco Sarro for Events Coordinator and Maher Latif seconded. Will accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. All were in favour. **Will Couture was elected to the role of Events Coordinator for a 1YR term.**
- **Social Media Coordinator:** Will Couture nominated Maher Latif for Social Media Coordinator and Chris King seconded. Maher declined the nomination. There were no other nominations. **The role was left vacant.**
- **Members-At Large (1st Position):**
 - Carlin Koster nominated Taurick Hoven for Member-at-Large and Chris King seconded. Taurick accepted the nomination. There was no other nomination. All were in favour. **Taurick Hoven was elected to the role of Member-at-Large for a 1YR term.**
- **Members-At Large (2nd Position):**
 - Charles MacMichael nominated Mike Christen for Member-at-Large and Chris King seconded. Mike accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. All were in favour. **Mike Christen was elected to the role of Member-at-Large for a 1YR term.**

2023/2024 Calgary Apollo Softball Association Board of Directors: Justin Connelly – President; Jeremy Luk – Vice President; Marco Sarro – Treasurer; Yasmin Abdul – Secretary; Carlin Koster – Sponsorship Coordinator; Vacant – Social Media Coordinator; Will Couture – Events Coordinator; Taurick Hoven and Mike Christen – Members-At-Large

11) New Business:

- a. No new business.

12) Next Board Meeting: TBD

13) Meeting Adjournment: Eric Bell made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Taurick Hoven seconded. All were in favour. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.