

NORTH DELTA BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

Building Champions Since 1962



NDBA AGM Agenda

June 24th 2020 6:00pm – Videoconference

Present: Angela Crowther, Brent Dingsdale, Calen Slezash, Carey Dingsdale, Cheryl Vaz, Chris Adams, Clayton Gosnell, Darryl Brisbin, Debbie McMurray, Jen Bernabe, Karen Voykin, Kathy McDougall, Lisa Ormston, Michelle Miller, Paul Goumans, Shaun Jones, Tara Radstaak, Tim Fehr.

Not Present: April Stebbings, Brad Woof, Cary Boyce, Daniella Filby, Jag Billing, Nicolle Gratton.

Motion to adopt the minutes of the June 2019 NDBA AGM moved by Kathy McDougall and second by Karen Voykin.

1. Correspondence

2. Old Business

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1. Executive reports

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	
President	Brent Dingsdale	<i>Report Attached</i>
Vice President	Chris Adams	<i>Report Attached</i>
Secretary	Jen Bernabe	<i>Report Attached</i>
Treasurer	Michelle Miller (acting)	<i>Report Attached</i>
Past President		
Registrar	Kathy McDougall	<i>Report Attached</i>
Umpire-In-Chief	Brad Woof	<i>Not Present</i>
Coaching Director	Paul Goumans	<i>Report Attached</i>

Field Manager	Vacant	
Concession Manager	Carey Dingsdale	<i>Report Attached</i>
Annieville Concession Manager	April Stebbings	<i>Not Present</i>
Gunderson Concession Manager	Daniella Filby	<i>Not Present</i>
Publicity Director	Jagdeep Billing	<i>Not Present</i>
Marketing Director	Calen Slezash (acting)	<i>Report Attached</i>
Equipment Manager	Tim Fehr	
Uniform Manager	Karen Voykin	<i>Report Attached</i>
Tournament Director	Chris Adams	<i>Report Attached</i>
Scheduler	Cary Boyce	<i>Report Attached</i>
Social Director	Debbie McMurray	<i>Report Attached</i>
Yearbook Director	Vacant	
Fundraising Director	Vacant	
5U Representative	Lisa/Steve Ormston	<i>Report Attached</i>
6U Representative	Brent Dingsdale	
7U Representative	Darryl Bisbin	<i>Report Attached</i>
9U Representative	Clayton Gosnell	
11U Representative	Angela Crowther	<i>Report Attached</i>
13U Representative	Cheryl Vaz	<i>Report Attached</i>
15U Representative	Tara Radstaak	<i>Report Attached</i>
18U Representative	Calen Slezash	<i>Report Attached</i>
Director At Large (Challenger)	Nicolle Gratton	<i>Not Present</i> <i>Report Attached</i>

1. New Business

1. Motion to adjourn 737pm by Calen Slezash and seconded by Cheryl Vaz.

Next AGM meeting Wednesday June 23rd 2021 @ 6pm @ Mackie Clubhouse.

Next Executive meeting Wednesday July 8th, 2020 @ 7pm @ Virtually. Please arrive on time, thank you.

President Report

We were riding a wave of optimism coming out of the 2019 Summer Season. We hosted an incredibly successful Mosquito (11U) AAA Tier2 Provincials. The North Delta Rays won 2 Provincials – 11U AAA Tier2 and 13U A West. The Delta Tigers won both the BC Minor and Baseball BC Provincials at Bantam AAA and finished as a runner-up in the Nationals held in Oshawa, Ont.

Unfortunately, the 2020 Spring Season was unlike any North Delta Baseball has ever experienced. We lost our Spring and traditional Summer ball to the Covid-19 pandemic.

We received a suspension notice of all in person baseball related activities from BC Minor on Friday March 13, 2020. A number of extensions to the suspension were issued over the following weeks. A final notice was provided to our membership on April 5, 2020 - Spring season cancelled with full refunds.

With the pandemic easing in our Province, Return to Play (RTP) Guidelines have been put forward by viaSport, Baseball BC and BC Minor. We opened summer registration on June 20th 2020. We are days away from reopening. We're reopening but under significantly different rules and guidelines. No games, just practices at this time. A big thank you to those sitting on our RTP subcommittee for taking on new roles and managing the paperwork. The RTP subcommittee members were Chris Adams, Kathy McDougal, Tim Fehr, Carey Dingsdale, Brent Dingsdale.

We have a remarkable number of new members (10) on our board this year. Obviously disappointing to everyone on the board to put in the time and effort just to see our Spring season get cancelled. And cancelled the way it was, days after teams were drafted or selected. I appreciate everyone's efforts. The attendance and energy in our conference calls (no in-person meetings) during this pandemic has been inspiring.

There will be challenges going forward. Our finances took a huge hit. How will team sports in Province recover? When will the covid19 pandemic be over? I remain optimistic about the future. Team Sports are too important to our youth and communities not to bounce back.

Our board sat without a President and Vice-President for the first 2 or 3 months of its mandate. Rudderless, we were struggling a bit as a group. I returned as President and Chris Adams signed on as our Vice-President to guide us through the year. It is time for new ideas and fresh faces to help drive the agenda for our Association going forward.

Brent Dingsdale

President, North Delta Baseball Assoc

Vice President Report/Tournament Director

NDBA entered the 2020 Spring season with a lot of momentum. On the heels of a very successful summer including hosting the Mosquito AAA T2 Provincials everyone was excited for the season. Interest in our Spring Mosquito Jeff Francis and Tadpole Victoria tournaments were very strong. The Jeff Francis was booked as a 12 team tournament with other teams on a waitlist. Sadly the Covid-19 Virus impact became Global and the Spring season was lost. It is a new world for everyone. Through great efforts we are returning to play this summer beginning with training under distancing guidelines. It is difficult to foresee how the next year will go but rest assured the NDBA will do its best to offer safe baseball opportunities for the kids in its community.

Chris Adams
NDBA VP and Tournament Director

Secretary Report

Thank you to all the executive members for working extra hard over the last 3 months to give the kids a chance to get back out on the ball diamonds and thank you to Jag and Kathy for getting the spring refunds completed.

Gym space was booked for winter training, assessments and umpire clinics, which were all completed before covid-19 hit. With a little luck, the weather was on our side prior to the start of the season and all assessments were able to be completed outdoors but one.

When booking gym space, please email the following:

- List 3 gyms in preference order
- Start/end date
- How many hours/days per week required
- How many participants expected & age range
- Will you require any equipment?
- Time slot preference
- Which group is requesting the booking (example: Bantam AA clinic)
- Coach's name/email/cell number

Please keep in mind that Facility Rentals requires 10 days notice to cancel bookings. High School gym spaces are limited and fill up fast. Coaches should get their requests in as soon as possible and try to avoid canceling gym spaces once booked.

This year, there seemed to be more bookings for Mackie Clubhouse. The Clubhouse is a great venue for small group bookings such as coach/parent or team meetings. It's shared between NDSC and NDBA. Booking this space can be done in advance or short notice since it's first come, first serve. Best and quickest way to book this space with me would be by text.

I would love to see Karen's suggestion from last year happen: Try to avoid scheduling any games or practices on the first Wednesday of every month during the April - June so every executive member will be able to attend the monthly meetings on time.

Jen Bernabe
NDBA Secretary

Treasurer Report

The year end for NDBA is October 31, 2020. Being in the middle of the reporting period, no figures for the year end have been finalized.

The bank account has been reconciled to May 31, 2020. The bank accounts have a combined balance of \$52,300 which is approximately \$38,000 lower than in the previous year. As a result of the cancellation of the spring season due to Covid 19, registration funds were not received. However, funds were paid for uniforms (\$17,300) and equipment (\$8,000) for the season as we had already committed to purchase these items. There were various other expenditures that we were required to pay including insurance (\$3,400), city licenses (\$1,900) and field costs (\$1,300).

The final figures for the year will be reported at a future meeting.

Michelle Miller

Registrar

So.....as I'm sure all executive members will agree, definitely NOT a usual year for any of us, registration is no exception. Overall numbers were down, but with all the Covid information in the news leading up to the spring season, I can only assume that a number of families saw the writing on the wall and made the decision not to register this year. We were gearing up to re-introduce the BBQ and the NDBA night at the Nat.....obviously shelved for this year....fingers crossed for 2021.

Fall Ball:

Numbers were down again for fall ball. We have had problems the past few years convincing the rain to ease up, so I think that this is slowly eroding the numbers. Usually baseball is a secondary option after soccer, football and hockey for most kids, so when 50% + of events get cancelled due to the weather it's getting harder to convince parents to 'give it another go'. 36 v last year's 43. I had a parent ask for a refund this year as they were frustrated at the number of cancellations and conflicts. I let the parent know that the cancellations due to weather were out of our control (like any other outdoor sports) and I was sorry that they were unsatisfied but that the registration fee wouldn't be refunded. I never heard back from them, but I suspect that they weren't too happy with this.

Winter training:

Winter training showed an improvement in numbers this year, yay! We used the Blue Jays to run our clinics this year and while it was more costly, I think most people were very happy. We had 41 kids (vs 36) attending the Blues Jays training and Bantam AA had 12 (up from last year's 5) and Peewee AA had 18 kids (vs 16). Hopefully we can build on this for next year.

Spring Break Camp:

We introduced the concept of the spring break camp, which obviously DIDN'T happen. It was 50% off for new members, which seemed to garner some new interest....but overall numbers were quite low. I had quite a lot of questions about the program....but with the health crisis about to explode I'm assuming people decided to scrap it. Perhaps the coach who runs the program could write a little 'blurb' about themselves and their coaching plan to post on our website if we decide to try again next year.

Spring Ball:

Numbers down from 409 last year to 347 this year. Yikes, I hope that we can blame this on Covid too. Refunded the entire association over 2 days at the beginning of April, while there have been a number of inquiries about refunds; I have yet to find anyone who got

missed....so yay for me! I refunded the teams registered for our Jeff Francis and Tadpole tournaments at the beginning of May, I was holding out hope that all was not lost, I was wrong!

PBL: 30 (same)

Challenger: 13 (-7)

25U: 4 (-7) but as their season starts later we can't be sure that this reflects

18U: 18 (-6) team was capped this year which I don't think happened last year

15U: 25 (-15) I don't think that we had another coach IF the numbers had been higher, capped?

13U: 65 (+14)

11U: 63 (-9)

9U: 68 (-7)

7U: 26 (-8)

6U: 23 (-10)

5U: 12 (-15)

Summer Ball RTP:

Numbers are obviously higher than last year as this is not a typical summer ball season, but instead, our association's effort to salvage some form of baseball for our kids. We decided to only run registration for 9U and up, registration closes tomorrow. Registration is sitting at 92, the only division that looks like it will have to fold is 18U (much to my own disappointment) which has only 4. All those extra meeting have paid off.

Weird year for just about everything, hope that this will be a one off. Glad the ads in the Delta Leisure DIDN'T work out, would have been a waste of money this year. I would like to try it again next year as I still feel that it could help boost our numbers. Got my first email about a release for next year (too soon!). Thank you to all the other board members for all your hard work, especially Calen for his amazing job organizing our online meetings (I am loving the attendance although I miss the pint at the Lion after), the newsletter, Covid contests and our new email provider (yes I have finally used it) and Carey, Tim and Brent for keeping on top of the huge amount of RTP info as it came in and then in building a set of protocols so we could get back to baseball. Finally, unless someone is desperate to be registrar I will stay on.

Kathy McDougall

Coaching Director

North Delta Baseball was unfortunately put on hold this season. We all hope to see some fall programs take place that will be determined in our future meetings. In short our coaching was looking solid for all our divisions this season. The coordinators did an outstanding job of recruiting and reporting. I only hope those coaches that signed up for this season will return for the next season, Nice work everyone.

As a parent, citizen and coach it was a difficult decision for our season to be cancelled. I personally can relate to our athletes that put in the hard work over the winter to get prepared for a challenging season. It truly was a shame for those second year players and for the other athletes that might be moving on to other endeavors that were unable to participate and enjoy the game this season. Lets' all be thankful for today and hope for tomorrow.

I hope we all can put together a Fall Bantam/Peewee program for NDBA. I believe we can do it at a lower cost than other programs in our neighboring areas. We just need to be committed to our community and provide a option for our players.

A big thank you to our executives for completing the ghost season. I would like to thank Tara for all her hard work. Cary "Grandpa" Boyce what can I say about you man (not much, that hasn't all ready been said";0) Thanks Gramps for all you did, done and continue to do, see ya soon. Lastly

a special thank you to Brent “prezidenta” Dingsdale, the glue that made the past few years pretty darn smooth for all of us. Thanks man!

Finally to all the players that I have had the pleasure of being part of over the past years. Thank you for all the laughs and effort you gave me and your team mates. I hope to see you all for at least one more season. Be well and remember “winners don’t always win...they just never give up”.

Peace and Health
P.Goumans

Concession Manager Report

Well not much to report this year. Concessions never opened due to no season. We did incur a few charges prior to opening for a coffee machine at Gunderson and cleaning supplies. Both concessions were cleaned thoroughly, but never inspected.

We did receive a charge to Fraser Health - even though we never got the building inspected. In order for us to keep these buildings under our possession in the Fraser Health world we needed to pay the user fee.

For next year, I will not be coming back as concession manager, but will be available to help. It was discussed to purchase the Dingsdale's older generation cell phones to NDBA use for the square reader (debit machine); this was not processed as the concessions never opened. For the next Concession Manager this will be something they need to acquire in order to offer the debit machines.

Thank you everyone for continuing to navigate this uncertain time in order to get the kids safely back on the field.

Sincerely,
Carey Dingsdale

Marketing Director Report

The season has been such a blur, that I find it difficult to believe that we started only 1 month ago.

I must point out that my involvement as the Marketing Director was mainly to justify the work that I was involved in throughout the year. It seemed more fitting that a “Marketing Director” be the one sending out newsletters and such, rather than an “18U Midget rep”. My role began with the (re)organization of our Google Drive document storage (GDrive). Over the years, with so many people using this resource, it had become bulky and confusing. I simplified the folder structure and the security access, removing the need for multiple usernames when accessing our online documents.

In working on our GDrive, the issue of email addresses came into play. Throughout the years, we have had a mixed bag of email solutions, so work had to be done on sorting through everyone’s email address used to access GDrive. When work began, we had over 30 different user accounts set up under the NDBA name in Google, and today we have 3.

It was a bit of a learning curve for some, but we worked through – and continue to work through – any bugs.

And like any can of worms, our “can of technology” had been opened.

We decided to simplify our email communication systems. Some may argue that it was a complete overhaul. A project was started to begin using our current email system to its full potential and bring our electronic communications more in line with our branding. That project is very close to completion now, allowing all emails to reflect our Executive position (e.g., marketing@ndbaseball.com rather than cslezash@hotmail.com). In addition, each member's email address(es) are now centrally managed, and previous email in the account is easily transferred over to the next potential Executive member. The system can now easily be managed, centrally, over the next 55 years.

When the COVID-19 alert was released, we were faced with the challenge of what to do about baseball. To make matters worse, our communications were severely hampered, being used to meeting in person. I researched a few different online meeting tools, tested with a few members, and managed to move our Executive meetings to an online format, which we continue to use. Inspired by stories of online group meetings, parties, drive-by birthdays, personal challenges, and other community outpouring on social media, we started up a sub-committee to plan and run the "2020 NDBA Virtual Skills Competition". This was planned as a challenge for players to compete in baseball drills, with winners receiving a certificate and a Big league Chew (delivered to their door). The goal of the competition was to keep our community engaged in the idea of baseball, have some fun, meet a coach at your door, and to increase our Instagram social media awareness...yes, and to get a Big league Chew! In the end, everyone knew about it, there was limited participation, we all had fun, Coach Paul & Coach Calen delivered on the BLC's, and we increased our Instagram followers by 4100% so I think it was a success.

In November of 2019, I started up a newsletter format for general communications to the membership at large. I chose to revisit a mail-out platform that NDBA has used in the past: MailChimp. With this email platform, we were able to create and maintain a mailing list of up to 572 recipients. A host of communications were sent out, including 6 monthly newsletters, with the average 'open' rate sitting around 50%. In terms of other peer organizations using the Mailchimp platform, we have consistently outranked the average of 44% open rate. Another benefit of the platform is the ability for recipients to add or remove themselves from the mailing list, making this a good solution for moving forward in future seasons.

I started looking into our NDBA sponsors, but the management of our sponsors is a task that I could not take on.

For future seasons, I would recommend that the next Marketing Director gain control of our sponsorship program, and develop further sponsorships. I would also encourage a clearer understanding of the responsibilities of each Executive member role, perhaps even adding new official member position(s) where applicable.

Finally, I would recommend that a "Member Orientation" be developed for new Executive members, providing some training/guidance for each position, as well as the utilization of our NDBA systems and resources. I want to thank each and every member of the 2019/20 Executive for their tireless commitment and enthusiasm. As mentioned before, it's been remarkable that we have continued to pull this off, and I hope everyone returns for the next chapter.

Calen Slezash - (Acting) Marketing Director

Uniform Report

My name is Karen, and I am volunteering as the NDBA uniform manager. I took on this role in September 2016 and have agreed to stay on till June 2021. I take pride and enjoy the work involved, a bit challenging at times but the reward is the smile on a child receiving their uniform for the season.

The position requires detailed planning for the upcoming baseball season. You must be responsible for taking inventory, propose a budget, and create orders which are sent to sport retailers early enough to be ready to hand out for the upcoming season.

The Heath authority ordered the seize of all sports because of the corona virus in April and the 2020 NDBA Spring season was unfortunately cancelled. Because the uniform orders were sent in late January and early February to have ready for uniform pick up in late March, the association incurred uniform expenses that, thankfully, came \$5600.00 under the approved \$23,000.00 budget.

The new recommendations for the return to play for June has shed some hope for children to get back in action outside, but much has to be organized, approved, and implemented for play to happen.

Considering all recommendations by the government and our association, we will have to also have to make changes to the uniform process. The health of our members come first and foremost. The following suggestions will need to be addressed, considered, and approved by the executive: To donate or sell all returnable jerseys and pants. We could provide each player and coach a keepable adjustable hat and numbered t-shirt style jersey for spring, summer, and fall seasons. We could then offer a NDBA \$5.00 coupon for all players and coaches, from 6u to 25u, to go towards purchasing their own baseball pants.

If NDBA should decide to keep using the returnable jersey for 9u-18u players and coaches, then uniforms will not be picked up individually for these divisions. I would gather all the uniforms for all teams and then the head coach, or team parent will be responsible for picking up, handing out, and collecting back the entire team's washed jerseys at the end of the season. I will no longer be responsible for holding on to the volunteer and uniform deposit cheques. All player deposits should be done electronically. Parents can deposit by e-transfers to a specific NDBA bank account, or, have Sports Engine create registration with the volunteer and uniform deposits included which can be transferred back to parents at the end of the season.

There is much more to consider and think about to keep moving forward in the changing times we are in. The last few months have been depressing without organized sports, especially baseball. Let's hope for a safe and steady return back to play with limited or no restrictions in the near future. I would like to thank the efforts of our entire executive team for all their hard work providing kids to play baseball. I would also like to give a special thank you Al McKay and Parker Kynoch at Prostock for always going the extra mile and providing excellent service.

Please reach out to me if you have any proposals, questions, or concerns at uniforms@ndbaseball.com.

Thank you,
Karen Voykin
NDBA Uniform Manager

Scheduler Report

As the season was put on hiatus, I did not do any scheduling. I will stay on as scheduler for the 2021 season.

Cary Boyce

Social Director Report

My name is Debbie McMurray and I was the Social Director for the 2019-2020 Baseball Season.

We started meeting in September preparing for the new season, and had some ideas for activities we wanted to take place this year. The first event was a Christmas Dinner for the Executive and was well attended and even had a fun "white elephant" gift exchange. For this year, we were going to have a Night Out at The Nat, walk in the Delta Family Days and a Coach Appreciation Night. HOWEVER, due to the Pandemic of Covid19, we were unable to have a "normal" season and had to put a stop to any of the planning.

Looking forward to seeing what can be accomplished for Return to Play for the remainder of the Summer and that the kids and coaches will be able to get out and play ball!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to represent the Executive in this position.

All the best,
Debbie McMurray

5U Representative Report

The most up to date registration report indicated that we had 11 kids registered to play Blastball for 2020 spring season, which appears to be a lower number than usual for the division. It was suggested that Blastball division tends to get a lot of late season registrations due to families new to the sport not thinking about baseball until right before Spring Break; it is possible that concerns surrounding Covid-19 likely hampered those last minute registrations.

We had 4 coaches, including myself, set to volunteer and we would likely have divided the group evenly into 2 teams with 2 coaches per team.

Plans for summer Blastball have not been worked out; the executive has some valid concerns surrounding the ability of 4 and 5 year olds to effectively physically distance during play.

Lisa Ormston
5U Rep

7U Representative Report

Obviously, due to circumstances, there is not much to report for 7U this year, at least to this point. Pending RTP may change that. The build up to the season and preparatory work went well. I believe enthusiasm was growing for the start of the season as it drew closer. The hope for the season was to have fun and really get the younger ones prepped and ready for the fairly monumental jump to Tadpole the following year. I had also planned to work very closely with the 9U rep when it came to a system of call ups, as well as his assistance when it came to the best suited drills etc. for practices in an effort to best develop players in these early years. Coaches were in place to field 4 teams of approx. 8 players each depending on late registration.

The only real challenge I faced was recruiting parent involvement. Trying to secure coaches was a challenge, and the end result was that I had to recruit the 4th coach from the outside (a personal friend and co-worker who doesn't even have kids yet, let alone one playing ball in North Delta). I know this is a challenge all divisions face, and understand that sometimes it makes a parent's life easier not to volunteer, but as a Rep it can be discouraging. It would be nice if there were some form of incentive to encourage more to be involved, perhaps a reduced registration fee for those who volunteer to coach.

All in all, I believe we were well on our way when sadly things were put on hold. Truly disappointed, as this was my first time as both a Rep and a coach and member of the Executive. I have met some truly dedicated and hardworking members of this association who give so much

of their own time to grow the sport at a grassroots level and invest in families and young people of this community. I am grateful to have had this opportunity.

- Darryl Brisbin

11U Representative Report

Planning for Spring 2020 began with a coaches meeting in January to establish rapport and gather input from the coaches who expressed interest in being involved with the Spring season. We were fortunate to have lots of coaching support lined up for this year.

Plans for the evaluations went fairly smoothly as well. We held one initial evaluation session on Saturday February 22 at Annieville all-weather field. Players were assigned a 1hr 15min timeslot for their evaluation which worked really well. Players were run through a series of drills and scored on their hitting, throwing, catching, fielding, and pitching. We also got great support from coaches to assist with scoring. Overall this model worked really well. The evaluations stayed on time and we were able to get almost all registered players evaluated in this one day. We did end up scheduling a second evaluation day on Weds March 4 (combined with the U9 group) for those that missed the initial session.

Following evaluations, the draft scores were summarized and sent to coaches in preparation for the draft, which took place at Mackie Clubhouse on Weds, March 11. Everything with the draft went very smoothly, with five teams formed for the season. Given the limited number of teams, we had begun talks with Ladner and South Delta regarding the possibility of inter-lock play, before all plans were halted and the Spring season was cancelled due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Plans for Summer and Fall 2020 are still TBD as we navigate Return to Play guidelines set forth by ViaSport, Baseball BC and BC Minor.

Angela Crowther

13U Representative Report

MY NAME IS Cheryl Vaz, and I was the division representative for U-13 PEE-WEE. Our family loves baseball and have been part of the association for over 20 years. As the boys are older now and I have a bit of time I decided to give back.

We started off well by holding a few clinics for the kids that wanted more training. These clinics were well attended. They were coached by Tim Fehr, Jeff Stebbings and Sam Baines.

Tim Fehr was the head coach for the U-13AA TEAM. Tryouts were held on Feb 29, 2020 and then the final tryouts for AA were on Mar 4, 2020. 12 players were selected for this team.

The evaluations were then held on Mar 7 from 4-6pm, and Mar 8th for Peewee A. I had a lot of help from head coaches during the evaluations. Thanks goes out to Brent Dingsdale for helping me through this process.

The draft was held on March 12. 4 head coaches stepped up. Shawn Ashton, Tony Deane, Clayton Gosnell and Amanda Percy. 4 teams were drafted to make up our single A Peewee Roster. Unfortunately due to Covid that's as far as we got.

Thank you to all of the executive members and coaches that helped me during my first year. I look forward to the short Summer season coming up. And I look forward to sit on the board again in the following year.

Cheryl Vaz

15U Representative Report

Well, for my first year as Bantam rep it wasn't much of a season obviously.

In the fall emails were sent out to gauge interest in coaching opportunities, winter clinics and what tier players were interested in playing. The final number of registered Bantam players was 23, enough for two teams.

Paul Gouman accepted the AA Bantam coaching position with assistant coach not finalized but interest was expressed from a couple of parents. Tryouts were held for AA on March 7 with a second tryout date on March 11. Thirteen players were selected for the AA team. Paul also coached the winter clinics. There were 12 players registered in the winter clinic.

The A coach position was being finalized when Covid shut things down, but likely was going to be a father/son duo who reached out to us for coaching opportunities from the Newton Baseball club.

Paul and I were optimistic and went ahead with the fence install at Westview on March 15 with a good turnout of volunteers.

Aside from the minimal Bantam duties requiring attention, an application for the BC Gaming Grant was prepared by myself and submitted by Calen. After some discussion with Brent it was agreed to request \$50,000 to cover our losses from Covid. Thank you to all those I emailed looking for the info I needed to complete this and to Calen for submitting all those documents. We should know by September if we have been approved for a grant. Hopefully next years application will be easier.

- Tara Radstaak

18U Representative Report

The season preparation began in late February, with the gathering of names of potential players for the Spring 2020 season. I was able to secure coaching relatively early, with one Head Coach, a Manager, and two other assistants. Our coaches meeting took place, and the roster of 18 players were all notified and ready to start.

That's when disaster struck.

During the Covid crisis, I continued to keep in touch with the team. Interest in a possible summer season was gauged, and most of the team were still interested in playing.

However, the full coaching staff was pared down to two coaches. A second coaches meeting was held this month, in which it was decided that we could go ahead with a summer season, having two coaches available (with 2 others available in an emergency).

We shall see if enough players wish to register for summer baseball, now that our Return To Play plans have been solidified. At the time of writing, only a small number of players have registered (3), so this might not occur.

In looking forward for Midget, I would like to see our programming further developed and supported, not only for the Spring season, but the summer and fall seasons as well.

Our association does not see much from this division – it did once – and I would like to see more involvement from players during this 3-year “golden years” division. It's an important age group for young men and women in our community.

I want to thank each and every member of the 2019/20 Executive for their tireless commitment and enthusiasm. Special mention should be made to so many people, but I would like to thank Carey Dingsdale for stepping up as our Safety Officer, and helping us get back to play. As mentioned before, it's been remarkable that we have continued to pull this off, and I hope everyone returns for the next chapter.

Calen Slezash
18U Midget Rep

Director at Large (Challenger) Report

In February I had attended a 2-day training session in Edmonton through Jays Care Foundation to prepare for the fast-approaching ball season. The following week a free try it session was held in the gymnasium at Chalmers Elementary. With a few new faces and a few returning athletes from last year it was a good intro to ball.

As we geared up for the Aprils start, flyers were handed out around the North Delta area as well as information shared across a few social media platforms. Keeping up with current social media trends North Delta Challenger Baseball now has an Instagram account.

There were 12 players and 9 volunteer buddies registered and ready to take the field in April. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances Covid-19 had put a stop to all sports and recreation until further notice.

New equipment has arrived for the future seasons to come. This includes a Rawlings Equipment Kit as well as various balls, bats, and key pieces for warm up stations.

This was my first year as an Executive on the North Delta Baseball Association as well as my role as the coordinator for Challengers. I appreciate the guidance along the way as my position is new and there is so much to learn along the way. Thank you to all that has taken the time to explain suggest how it all works, I appreciate the opportunity I was given.

Nicolle Gratton