



# Layritz Little League Board Meeting

2024-02-26

**Attendance:** Kathleen Lamberton, Graham Plumb, Lindsay Plumb, Dave Moore, Kari Moore, Kathleen Cain, Olivia Stanfield, Gareth Wilson, Leanne Kopp, Brittney Crump, Hailey Young, Carleigh Mason, Graeme Sykes, Emma Cottier, Christal Forman, Lisa Jones, Petra-Ann Chalupnik

Call to order at 7:05pm

## Agenda Topics:

- 1) Approve January meeting minutes motioned by Graeme Sykes, Seconded by Nadia Hobbs, passed unanimously.
- 2) February 12th Minutes unofficial as no quorum
- 3) Posting of minutes on the Club Website - <https://layritz.ca/about/board-meeting-minutes/>
- 4) **Vacant Board Positions** - Steph Baier needs to confirm if she is interested in doing uniforms. **T-ball Division Manager** is vacant, Nadia has offered to step in. Vote to take place. **Concession Role** - Follow-up to previous meeting Tania from PLSC has said no officially, the concession role still needs to be filled. Can we post the role as shared breaking responsibilities into - maintenance, ordering, etc, break it up vs have it shared. Lindsay - Alison Meadows has offered to do 1 shift per week and Rose Potter has offered to come in to help run. Looking for one person to bring it all together. Lindsay can look through applications to see who applied in prior years, can we get a pool of people who are willing to pitch in as a group to run. There has been no interest in general communication to run. Do we need food safe to run the non-grill section? Can we sell hot dogs out of the front if the grill isn't working? Assess who has food safe and who we can put through the online certification. Haven't put out the might not have a concession notice. Nadia is willing to help out in the way she did last year but cannot manage the whole concession. Volunteer role is also vacant. Does anyone know of anyone who may enjoy working in the concession that can take on a portion of a role. Christal is willing to help out with volunteer coordinator. **Volunteer coordinator** position remains vacant. Amber Strugnell to be voted into 2025 Committee - **Graham Plumb to nominate Amber to 2025 National Committee to support Emma Cottier in Game Day Operations. No other nominee's, Seconded by Kathleen Lamberton, unanimously passed by executive.**
- 5) **Schedule Umpire Clinic** - Tuesday April 2, 1-5pm (Pro D Day) @ Layritz on the Majors Diamond, April 6th 9-3pm district @ Beacon Hill, Sunday April 7th @ Central Saanich 9-12pm and 1-4pm. Email Gareth to register for any of the clinics. Additional sessions throughout the season, about 90 mins every couple of weeks for development or areas of focus based on feedback. Gareth is going through an LL umpire evaluation program and planning to utilize that in the Season at the park.
- 6) [BC Ferries Sport Experience Program | viaSport](#) Travel grant for players (age 18 and younger) provides coverage for their ferry fee one way, highlighting to put on the radar to apply for any teams traveling to tournaments. This doesn't include optional travel but Provincials qualify. Timing might be an issue, usually by the time the districts complete the passes are "sold out". Keep on radar.

- 7) In regards to Minors Provincials securing hotel accommodation, has the district ever considered booking the block of rooms and then just giving that block to the team that wins? A team from our district will go to Provincials so it makes sense if the district secures for whichever team travels over? This has been requested in the past, the District doesn't have an entity or cc to pay a deposit.
- 8) Coaching Pairing for 2024 Season for discussion and approval.

<b>Majors</b>	<b>Manager</b>	<b>Coach</b>	<b>Draft coaches</b>
Team 1	Dave Moore	James Ash	Jordan Crump
Team 2	Jim Beech	Bill Oughtred	Mike Barnes
Team 3	Graeme Sykes	Rich Cain	Steve Gaskin
			James McKeachie
			Ken Jones
			Chad Kopp
			Brian Ramsay

<b>Minors</b>	<b>Manager</b>	<b>Coach</b>	<b>Draft coaches</b>
Team 1	Brady Quast	Kyle Olson	Chris Kucheran
Team 2	Steve Gaskin	Kyle Velikovsky	Lara Burns
Team 3	Ken Lamberton	Lee Kupiak	Ryan Foreman
Team 4	Fotis Margaritis	Scott Travers	Chantelle Bowden

<b>Rookie Minors</b>	<b>Manager</b>	<b>Coach</b>	<b>Draft coaches</b>
Team 1	Carleigh Mason	Kim Myers	Jeff White
Team 2	Chris Baier	Chris Kucheran	Andrew Garman
Team 3	Kevin Pivarnyik	Ryan Brach	
Team 4	Cade Musgrove	Travis Wilson	

Graham Plumb proposed to vote to approve coach pairings. To be confirmed by assessments, 3 major teams (hold competitive level). Minors 4 teams with potential for 5 depending on assessments which will impact the number of Rookie Minor Teams. Discussion - Pros to having 3 teams is that they will be highly competitive, you will have less kids with lower ability, if you open up you will have kids on the lower end. Pro's to 4 teams, are there under age 10 year olds that wouldn't make the cut into Majors if there are 3 teams vs 4. Question - where is the investment in the 12 year old's that are aging out. Note that a lot of time was spent in previous meetings discussing how to protect 12 year olds in their last year. There are enough kids registered to make 4 Majors teams, however, there are some kids that are not ready to play majors and want to play down/safety concerns. There is only one major field, which can add impact for scheduling, a challenge that can be overcome. There are some players who have come to Bust The Rust that are new to park and new to baseball that from a coach perspective are not ready for majors. It is normal to send kids back to minors per Graham, if better to their skill development. Rules state you are allowed to play in minors until 12 years old. The same thing will take place with Minors if kids are being sent down to Rookie's based

on assessment and ability. Graham Plumb motions to vote, Graeme Sykes seconds, all in favor unanimously.

- 9) New Ladder - safety, the one we have is not safe to use for sign board as it is warped and bent. Roughly a \$300-\$500 expense. **Graham motions to approve, second by Nadia, all in favor, unanimously passed.**
- 10) Criminal Record checks - Kathleen Cain is working through the list to ensure we have CR done prior to season start. There are some that are missing and she is wondering if they are stored somewhere so she can validate. For new coaches, Nadia can give Kathleen admin access to League apps to get contact info. How long is a CR good for now, is it still 5 years? What email address is the CR being emailed to? All get emailed to Graham, he hasn't gone through the list yet, those will come to Kathleen. Lindsay can show Kathleen how these were tracked last year. There was no list pre-pandemic, so anything on file should still be good but let's double check. Suggestion is to have everyone re-do. Let's add this to the next coaches meeting.
- 11) "Money" Chain - discussion around the idea of a player of the game similar to the golden jersey in hockey (recipient gets a free slushie). Thought to bring it up at the coaches meeting. Adapt to a Digger award so it is something where each kid gets recognized for digging deep and putting all their effort in. Every team implements, park to supply the hat or chain. Rookie Minors and up implement to embrace confidence and celebrate all of our Layritz kids. Let's source something and come back with options. If we find a plain one then Nadia can use her cricket to put vinyl on it. Rookie Minors, Minors and Majors. 15 necklaces, 11/12 teams with a couple extras. **Graham motions to approve a budget max \$300, seconded by Nadia Hobbs. All in favor - unanimous.**
- 12) VP of Facilities - Fence Improvements quote to replace the chain link on the gate with heavy #6 gauge, replace approx. 32ft of 4ft chain link and install 2 gates at 8ft tall is \$3,365.00 + GST. This type of expense would fall under the capital improvement plan per Hailey. **Graham Plumb motions to discuss, Nadia Hobbs seconds.** Graham question, advise on details of the quote - 32ft is for the mini minors field, the ball rolls under, 2 gates on majors field. Single line item on the budget, last year was \$11k planned and we only spent \$6.2k, \$4.7k "roll over". **Vote to approve - passes unanimously.** Hiser Field Stairs reface, budget required \$500 - \$800. Dave and Cade will replace rotten parts. Cade put together a parts list for this and hopes to get this prepared for park clean up day. Dave will have it pre-cut and ready to go. **Graham motions to discuss, Hailey seconds. Vote - unanimously.** Training equipment proposal (\$1,229.00 plus taxes and shipping) - new pitching mound (portable with wheels, Dave to build only material cost charged), slam balls, J bands x 2 and radar gun. Use to track velocities. Feedback from AGM on stats and building databases for showcases. Create a sign out system for all players/teams to access and utilize. The Radar Gun is approximately \$600, this particular gun ties in with the Game Changer App. It has the ability to track pitches and can be leveraged for streaming tournaments (2024 Minors Districts & 2025 Nationals). Addition: Rope bat training aid. This is a training bat that can be used at all levels, but specifically at MM and up. Provides direct feedback on the proper swing. <https://ropebat.com/> forces kids into the correct swing path. Good for mini minors and up. Regular price \$439.00 CAD for 4 bats + shipping - looking to buy 8 bats to try out and will ask for a discount. Looking for approval for \$1,000 Work on putting a process in place to borrow the equipment by coaches who want to use equipment with their teams. Time limit on how long you can borrow, stored in the equipment room and signed out from there. Could get another lockbox in a minor field, could fit in there if in a tote. Should invest in training materials for practices, ex. Batting practices. Possible addition of weighted ax bat, hand or barrel weighted that is good for hitting training. We haven't invested much in training aids for all of the kids. Tires could also be another addition. Graham & Hailey to review player equipment lines in the budget. Possibly consider investing into some more club bats to relieve pressure/cost on parents. There may be some families who require financial assistance that won't be able to provide their own equipment. We could make a shift to provide/help normalize. Nadia, add to page what equipment is needed for the season and what is made available by park. Start with Rookie Minors. If each team had one or 2 decent bats then kids that don't have great bats have a good one to use. Graham and Hailey to review the budget and then present the whole budget to board for approval.
- 13) Sponsorship update from Gill (not in attendance) presented by Brittney. 9 sponsors confirmed so far (\$12K). Talon is going to do the banners again this year and they are going to provide \$500 credit. The Grand Slam sponsor package stated that we provided home plate signage, however, this was excluded for 2023? Olivia (2023 sponsorship manager) in attendance confirmed that no signage was placed behind home plate, which

was adjusted out of the package, however, this was an item in the 2024 package. was adjusted in the grand slam package. Per Olivia, Grand Slam went into the outfield at all three diamonds and the sandwich board. Three of the boards are in Graham's house and others in concession. Signs in Jerky room. Gill had ideas on banner improvements for grand slam, Jordan Crump can mock something up as an add in. Steve Gaskin offered to be concession sponsor again. Dave White and Steve Gaskin did awning over the concession (\$6k estimate 3 years ago), gift in kind. They are offering to fund an improvement to the concession, what do we need? Uncertain at this time. Need a new Concession Board which Pepsico is working on via Ken Lamberton. Fundraising, we have secured 2 x Harbourcats June 23 and Aug 7th (fan appreciation night) for 50/50 fundraisers. 50/50 online and it opens up prior to the game and you can buy without being in attendance. Do we want to do Baseball 50/50 for the whole total season? We will require a gaming license. Duane from PLSC can help with what we may need to do as he recently set up the PLSC Soccer club.

- 14) Budget - Hailey and Graham to review and update. Pre-read of the Budget will be shared prior to the next meeting and we can review the full budget and vote on.
- 15) Housing deposit for 2025 - proposal of approval to spend up to \$20k for the deposit to hold St Margarets, funding to be leveraged from the \$28.5k in deferred revenue from 2020 fundraising. Both Uvic and St. Margarets have been explored, however, St Margarets provides both housing and food options. We are required to supply two meals per day for the travel teams and umpires, St. Margaret's supplies this on site, they also have a fleet of buses we are going to inquire about to utilize for transportation. St. Margaret's is being used for the 2024 Major's Provincials being held at Lakehill. Uvic provides housing but we would have to source food & transportation on top of this at a larger expense. Asking for approval from board to utilize the \$28k in Deferred Revenue from 2020 to secure, subject to a St. Margaret's site inspection by Jo & Rob. **Board to vote on approval at the next meeting when we have quorum.** Bring one page proposal/contract to the next Board meeting for the 2025 Meeting to present to the board.
- 16) In addition, a 2024 BCFFE Grant application was submitted, with a calculated value \$42k to go towards the hosting of 2025 to offset costs on the proposed budget.
- 17) Uniforms - inventory was taken over the weekend, extra sets and replacements for #'s missing have been ordered. Currently, with team formation of 12 players per team we have 12 teams in total RM, Minors, Majors & Intermediate. Over 12 on a team creates challenges and reduces play time, optimally would land at a roster of 12 per team. 11 jersey sets currently on hand, proposal to order an additional set for 12 total, **proposed by Graham Plumb and seconded by Nadia Hobbs. All in favor, unanimous.** In 2023, got all new jerseys (reusable), which drove a larger expense. Lindsay has filled in the holes (numbers) and ordered 3 full sets. Need to update the budget for the extra uniform costs. Major coaches shirts, last year were white polo shirts, suggestion to not do white, dry fit shirts matching the color of the team. Budget will be updated to reflect.
- 18) Park Cleanup to take place on March 9th, shifts will be 11:00 - 1:00 pm & 1:00 - 3:00pm. Will need volunteer sign ups for this and photo day etc.
- 19) Lindsay has ordered score sheet binders.
- 20) District schedule meeting - Graham to respond to how many teams we have, per Kari.
- 21) Coaching announcements will go out tomorrow via email from Graham as official communication.
- 22) The March Newsletter draft is in the google drive, please review if there is anything to add, this will be the last newsletter circulated prior to the start of the season, there will be lots of content to cover.
- 23) All Star team topic - there are rumors of an 11 year old all star team in preparation for 2025. Confirming, there is no merit to this rumor, there is no 11 year old only all star team.
- 24) Next 2025 meeting planned for March 4 @ 7:00pm
- 25) Next Board meeting moved from March 11 to March 14th @ 7:30 in person. Will vote on budget approval then. Additional meeting March 27th @ 7pm, virtual.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:26pm, motioned by Lindsay Plumb, seconded by Nadia Hobbs.**