



CENTRAL OKANAGAN MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION
AGM
November 13, 2024

Present: Darren Kautz, Daryle Assman, Cara Fischer, Gillian Sprovieri, Chelsea Bitgood, Jeremy Jardine, Ken Simpson, Sean Fairhurst, Steve Gibbon, Danielle Coutoreille, Carl Paddock ,Plus 109 Membership [sign in](#) ***Quorum was Present***

Called to order at 6:43pm Motion: Darren Seconded: Gillian

REVIEW OF 2023 AGM MINUTES

1. **Approval of Minutes of AGM, 2023**– Motioned: Darren; Seconded: Dawn APPROVED
2. **Approval of 2024 AGM Agenda:** Motioned: Darren; Seconded: Randi APPROVED

PRESIDENTS REPORT DARREN KAUTZ

From the President's Desk

Hello Kelowna Sun Devils (COMBA) Membership,

I would like to take this time to do both a recap of the year as well as to thank the players and membership for a fantastic 2024 baseball season.

The Kelowna Sun Devils organization had a successful 2024 across the divisions with some great performances by our senior divisions. Over the last few seasons COMBA's programs have become more competitive within the BCMBA.

Our grassroots program saw many successes and growth in 2024. We are busy developing more programs that will help support our Coaches in the younger divisions. Our goal is to provide as much support as needed to grow baseball in the Okanagan.

Our current COMBA board has shown perseverance through struggles and have worked tirelessly, putting in many,many volunteer hours.The membership as a whole has shown support to our COMBA Board but we are lacking the volunteers that are needed to produce the best programs possible at all age levels. We really need to see more volunteers in the 2024 season in order to succeed. We are an organization of volunteers and are only as strong as the support we receive.

Sadly this season we faced some personal losses, especially felt was the loss of Coach and former Board member Curtis Orton.We have added a plaque in his memory at the Edith Gay clubhouse.

I would also like to express my gratitude to all the Board members and the association for the last few years as your President and I wish all the best to the upcoming Board and to COMBA. It has been an honour to serve.

1st VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT DARYLE ASSMAN

Looking back at the 2023 AGM, primary feedback was budget, our overall spending and streamlining our HP budgets. We placed all of those items into our strategic plan for 2024.

For anyone that did the pre-reading of the shared reports, we have had tremendous success implementing changes to reduce costs and have net neutral HP budgets for all teams. Chelsea will speak more into it in her report. Thank you to Chelsea for the huge challenge of jumping into the role this first year, you did a massive amount of work. Thanks to former Treasurer Jeff M as well as Dave G for assisting here as well.

2024 Updates:

Registration continues to increase. Post pandemic #s were 852 in 2022, 897 in 2023 and 941 in 2024. It's truly great to see the growth of the game in our community!

Thank you to our coaches, managers and division coordinators and our registrar. The organization doesn't run without you. We introduced a new Volunteer Spotlight this year and will continue highlighting some of our amazing volunteers.

Jays Care Update – Ken Simpson was pivotal in driving this project team and it was a huge success for our organization to be selected to be a winner in 2024. Bringing in grass infields and numerous upgrades to these fields drastically improves the safety of some of our largest divisions of players playing on these fields for years to come. It was a great event hosting the viewing party. Thank you to everyone involved to make this happen!

Equipment and Facilities were also a high priority for the board. This work is thankless, it's dirty but skilled work with many many hours behind the scenes on everything from field rakes, to bases, to tractors, to locks to chalk and everything in between to make our baseball fields function. Sean Fairhurst, you were vital in what you did this year. Thank you.

We have a good plan in place to replenish and acquire new equipment this year ahead.

Our coaches need to ensure all equipment is taken care of and returned. This area is going to be a project for 2025.

Sponsorship – sending a heartfelt appreciation to all our COMBA sponsors and team sponsors, with a special shout-out to OBC. There were some learnings along the way, with this being our first year having packages of these scales. Everything from the packages, signage and working with the City have improved through working with these sponsors this year. Thank you for your patience, your contributions made a huge difference for our players!

COBUA – their numbers are up this past year and more games had umpires at all ages, which is phenomenal! We've strived to improve our relationship with COBUA, working together on pain points on both sides. One of the major successes here is our commitment to mentoring, and we invested in this in 2024. We feel it's a critical factor in the success and confidence of our young umpires learning the game. There was astounding feedback from the families and COBUA of its success. Many umpires stop after their first year. As an association we need to keep supporting these umpires to keep coming back year after year.

Feedback – we did our first ever member survey and appreciate the great response rate. I'm not up here saying we're perfect, far from it, there were mistakes and learnings for sure, without question. This feedback has and will continue to help us select our coaches, learn valuable insights on who isn't a good fit as a coach not displaying the skill sets or desired values and help shape our programs to meet the expectations of our membership. We have over 70 teams in the organization, and we strive to hear what we need to keep doing, stop doing and start doing.

Provincials – 10U hosted a great event and won Bronze medal at provincials. Hosting does not come easy, thank you to all those that made it happen! Many other COMBA teams qualified and represented COMBA with pride at provincials. Congratulations to all of those teams as well.

VOCs – there's a lot of frustration around volunteering commitments that we endure for the tournament. They did submit payment just shy of \$3000 and this money assists paying the coach certification costs. We have to field certified coaches, and there is a huge cost to that, and this tournament helps drastically in that area.

Loss - Alex Thompson tragically passed away, and he was a COMBA player as well as COBUA umpire. We purchased a trophy and named the annual 11U HP Spring League championship in his memory, and we added his #45 to all HP jerseys. We also endured a tremendous loss in Curtis Orton this year. He paved his own way and was as passionate about baseball as they come. There is now a plaque on Edith Gay club

house, and we are proud to announce tonight that we are going to be introducing a new coaching award in his honor starting in 2025, more details to come.

Respect – as I mentioned in the feedback section. Much like the best hitters in the game, nobody hits 1.000, there's feedback out there, and I want to let you know we hear you. Unfortunately, year after year, there are numerous examples throughout the season where our volunteers are not treated with respect what-so-ever.

We remind everyone here tonight as we constructively work together to converse on making things better that no one is a paid employee. Everyone has a family, career and is volunteering their time to put our kids on the field to make memories and learn and grow their love of the game.

I'm really looking forward to the year ahead and long term plans for our Association.

Thank you!

Daryle Assman

EDITH GAY AWARD

Daryle Assman presents **Kris Courtoreille** with the Edith Gay Award. Thank you for your years of dedication and commitment.

TREASURERS REPORT Prepared by CHELSEA BITGOOD

1. – attached 2024 COMBA AGM year end August 31, 2024 plus link [2024 COMBA AGM - Financial Report](#)

- Switch accounts from TD to BMO
- Gaming Grant increase from 2023
- Concession profit
- Sponsorships and fundraising exceeding goals
- Streamlined equipment and HP budgets
- \$50,000 to project fund

Big news this year was the Blue Jays Field of dreams which required \$36,000 from COMBA.

FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

- 1. How do the HP teams operate through this budget?**
- All income (fees) and costs (uniforms, etc) are run through and included in the main budget

2. What and why are there Coaching fees?

- We have paid Coaches at the HP levels, as well as NCCP training fees for all Coaches and Coaches travel expenses from the HP teams. all HP teams are charged for their Coaches stipend and travel expenses which is balanced in the budget under registration.

3. Substantial increase in sponsorships?

- This is the first year since COVID that we have reformed a strong sponsorship committee. We are finally able to provide more to community businesses, like field signage which helped add more business support. Getting the Jays care was also a big incentive this season.

4. High field rental costs, what is the cost?

- City fields are a reasonable cost but we do rent between 15 to 17 fields almost every day all season. This is about \$10.80 per hr. The indoor facility costs are huge expenses for COMBA and they do seem to be rising each year.

APPROVAL OF TREASURERS REPORT:

MOTIONED: Daryle **Seconded:** Dave Gilbert **ALL IN FAVOUR**

JAYS CARE/BATTING CAGES

Huge Thank you to our Jays Care committee, sponsorship committee and fundraising committee for all their hard work and dedication this season.

Jays Care:

No substantial work has been done on Edith Gay in over 25 years. The Jays foundation looks at the safety and accessibility of the field and assess our needs from that. We were granted \$144,00, \$72,000 provided by the foundation while COMBA and COK split the other \$72,000. Field 1 will be updated with a grass infield, raised fencing, increased dugout size, wood backstop (also provided on field 2), extra seating, wheelchair access to field. Hope to be open April 2025.

QUESTIONS:

1. Signage on Lombardy was taken down, can it not face Clement?

There are babysteps working with the City, signs can only be placed in designated areas. and facing Clement is not allowed at this time, We have signed a contract with the COK in regards to signage which is a great step forward.

2. Will there be any funds leftover? Can any of that money be used elsewhere?

All of the \$144,000 has to be used on the selected field (EG1) for the project that was awarded.

3. Who designed the budget?

The budget was done by the COK with input from the Jays committee on what needed repaired.

4. Additional maintenance required for new field and who provides it?

COK is doing the main work on upgrading the field and will provide weekly city maintenance, but every day maintenance is done by COMBA. We have to do our part in maintaining our fields.

5. Will there be any settling?

No, there shouldn't be.

6. Why was \$50,000 moved to the Project account and what will that be used for?

It was raised through sponsorships and field upgrade fees and was the balance after we paid the \$36,000 for Jays care. This will go towards the building of our new hitting facility.

7. What about lights? Especially during Fall baseball.

Lights are needed but do require special permission from neighbours and the City. at this time we are looking at providing a hitting facility. The City has given us limited access to a multi use field in the Mission that does have lights.

HITTING FACILITY:

Edith Gay cages are in need of a major upgrade plus the costs we are paying to rent an indoor facility is astronomical. We also need better storage and the COK is looking at new bathrooms. So we came up with some preliminary plans with the help from a local company who donated the plan fee. Facility looks to be 50'x120'with 4 lanes plus storage for team equipment and our field equipment. Initial costs look to be at \$1,000,000. We are working with Sport BC in hopes of providing charitable tax receipts, which will provide more opportunities in gaining funding. Firming up the budget is the next step forward.

Questions:

1. Who will run this facility?

COMBA will. We will sign a lease with the COK in order to do so.

2. What does the timeline look like?

Right now about 2years. We are just at the beginning stages.

3. Will you lease to outside organizations?

It will be a COMBA first facility, but we have discussed the options of leasing out as it can be a multi purpose facility.

4. Have you considered purchasing or leasing a building?

We have looked at leasing and what those costs would look like. nothing has come up in a good price range yet. May look at searching more for a temporary location for winter 2026.

5. Will this be a full facility?

Yes you will be able to hit, catch, pitch.

6. Does the budget include inside netting/turf etc?

We have estimated costs but the next step will be determining the exact costs for the budget.

7. Has the association looked at hiring Grant writers?

It has been discussed and once our budget is in order and we are able to provide tax receipts that will be the next step.

8. What do the operating costs look like?

That will be determined once the building plans and budget are complete.

9. Will you be working with West Kelowna as they just announced a new hitting facility?

WK is in the very early stages. We are looking at attending City council meetings to get more exposure. We also have foundations wanting to help out once everything is finalized.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- **Votes will be tallied by 2 board members, either Chelsea Bitgood/Cara Fischer/Gillian Sprovieri if more than 1 person is nominated**

PRESIDENT:

Cara nominates Daryle Assman
Chelsea Bitgood 2nds
Daryle Accepts

Daryle Assman elected by acclamation.

1st VICE PRESIDENT:

Scott Terris nominated by Member
Dan Street 2nds
Scott Accepts

Sean Fairhurst nominated by Steve Gibbon

Gillian Sprovieri 2nds
Sean Accepts

Jeremy Jardine nominated by Chelsea Bitgood
Carl Paddock 2nds
Jeremy accepts

Sean Fairhurst elected by secret ballot

SECRETARY:

Cara Fischer nominated by Gillian Sprovieri
Danielle 2nds
Cara accepts

Dan Street nominated by Melanie Street
Jeff 2nds
Dan accepts

Cara Fischer elected by secret ballot

MEMBER AT LARGE (6 POSITIONS):

1. **Ken Simpson** nominated by Chelsea Bitgood - accepts
2. **Steve Gibbon** nominated by Sean Fairhurst - accepts
3. **Craig White** nominated by Norm Caig – accepts
4. **Jeremy Jardine** nominated by Ryan Rosene – accepts
5. **Danielle Courtoreille** nominated by Ken Simpson – accepts
6. **Dawn Fisher** nominated by Steve Gibbon – accepts
7. **Jessica Jensen** nominated by Sean Fairhurst – accepts
8. **Scott Terris** nominated by Bri Brackenbury - accepts
9. **Graham Johnson** nominated by Member - accepts
10. **Sasha Golin** nominated by Scott Terris - accepts
11. **Carl Paddock** nominated by Gillian Sprovieri - accepts
12. **Dan Street** nominated by Scott Terris - accepts
13. **Jeff Caldwell** nominated by Dan Street - accepts

Membership to vote for 6 Members at Large.

**Tie between Jeremy Jardine and Scott Terris
Scott Terris withdraws his name**

**Craig White, Steve Gibbon, Graham Johnson, Danielle Courtoreille, Ken Simpson and
Jeremy Jardine have been elected**

Daryle motions to destroy the ballots.
Norm Caig 2nds
Motion approved

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

- Need help with fields, equipment, sponsorships, tournaments, scheduling
- Opportunities to be on many committees to help

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Meeting Adjourned 9:21PM

*Motioned by Darren Seconded by Gillian: APPROVED

2024 AGM

Financial Report

For the year ending August 31, 2024

Prepared by
Chelsea Bitgood
Treasurer
2024 Financial Highlights

Assets (Cash on Hand)

- Cash on hand as of August 31, 2024
 - \$286,904.31

Liabilities

- Accounts payable as of August 31, 2024
 - City of Kelowna - \$50,047.75 (paid in September)
 - Cara Fischer - \$342.65 (paid in September)
 - Fortis - \$89.54 (paid in September)

Things of Note:

In February of 2024, we moved our accounts from the Bank of TD to the Bank of Montreal. Doing so allowed us to reduce the number of platforms we were using for EFT payments and streamline our services. There were initial costs to setting this up (ordering cheques for multiple accounts, closing account

fees at TD etc.). Ultimately, it has allowed for much quicker payments to vendors while still maintaining a two-signor authority with EFTs and cheques.

Income Lines

1. Gaming Grant

We were granted an increase in our gaming grant funds in the amount of \$10,000, for a total of \$65,000.

2. Concession

The concession this year had a net profit of \$10,280.52. \$7,280.52 has been transferred to the project fund after the year end, leaving a float of \$3,000 to begin the 2025 season. Concession has also been split into both an income and expenses line.

3. Sponsorships and Fundraising

A big thank you to our sponsorship and fundraising committee as they did a ton of work to create enticing packages and events that allowed for a significant increase in revenue for COMBA. They brought in a total of \$61,565.41. After expenses related to signage and events COMBA was left with a net of **\$54,972.77**.

Expense Lines

4. Equipment

Your equipment team worked hard this year to save and reuse wherever humanly possible, spending over \$46,000 less than the previous year. Next year we expect the equipment spending to go back up as we do need to replace some equipment. However, they have been working hard to determine budgets and exact quantities of supplies needed.

5. Field Maintenance

While this appears like a significant increase over the previous year, we allocated \$36,000 from the fundraising and registration fees to the Jays Care project.

6. Field Rentals

City field rates increased 25% this year over previous years without any notice. Additionally, the YardHouse fees saw a significant increase over the previous year. We use their facility for a significant portion of our Winterball hours. This has led to a significant increase in our field costs for the 2024 year.

7. Tournaments Away

This category is an in and out cost as all away tournaments are covered by the high performance teams individual budgets. Our teams participated in more tournaments this year over the previous year.

8. Umpires

COBUA is seeing an increase in people wanting to umpire, which is great and means that we get more coverage of our games. Additionally, they began a mentorship program that we are contributing towards as we believe that the stronger support our young umpires have, the longer they will continue to participate in the sport of baseball. We anticipate this number to increase in the coming years as we have more coverage of our games.

9. Uniforms

We transitioned uniform providers this year and were able to save over \$30,000 in costs associated with uniforms. This line item represents all uniform costs, house and high performance. It's important to note that all high performance

gear is charged to each team's budget and is completely covered by those budgets and additional fees. In the coming year, COMBA will not be covering the cost of grey pants for house players.

10. High Performance Budgets

This year, all high performance budgets were mandated to be a net zero budget. A shout out to coaches who worked hard to ensure that budgets were reasonable for families and to stay within the set numbers at the beginning of the season. We were pleased to issue refunds to three of our HP teams this year, College Prep, 15U AAA and 15U AA.

11. Registration

In the past, fall ball registration has been coded on a cash basis, meaning when the registration comes in, it hits the books in that year. This has meant that income for fall ball in the past has been registered in a different year than when the costs for the season are incurred. We made the decision this year to accrue the income from fall ball to the year in which the costs are incurred (see deferred revenue on the balance sheet - \$55,440). This is why you see such a significant drop in the fall registration income for the 2023 fiscal year.

Despite moving fall ball income to next year, we have still seen an increase in our registration revenue this year by 15%.

This year, we see a Net Profit in the amount of \$87,858.60.

This is a swing of \$110,220.39 from the 2023 fiscal year, and represents a ton of hard work and due diligence, by your COMBA Board and Coaches.

A special thanks to Jeff Mitchell and Dave Gautier for their support this year in regards to the COMBA accounts and finances.

At the board meeting October 15, 2024, your COMBA board voted to move \$50,000 from the operating account into the project fund.

Balance Sheet

Central Okanagan Minor Baseball Association As at 31 August 2024

31 AUG 2024 31 AUG 2023

Assets

Bank

chequing 157,934.54 - COMBA - Consession (#5274055) - 8,365.32 COMBA - Gaming (#5274144) - 5,413.81 COMBA - Operating (#5274152) - 33,331.12 COMBA - Project (#5274136) - 6,398.22 other 1 gamin 73,402.42 - other 2 proje 47,120.63 - other 3 conc 6,051.72 - other 4 hold 2,395.00 - Plooto Instant (Canada - CAD) - 630.79 **Total Bank 286,904.31 54,139.26**

Current Assets

Accounts Receivable 6 - 55,303.54 Prepaid expenses - (3,283.00) **Total Current Assets - 52,020.54**

Total Assets 286,904.31 106,159.80

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities 48,589.71 12,676.80 Deferred Revenue 55,440.00 - Rounding (0.34) (0.34) Scholarships Payable 1,533.00 - **Total Current Liabilities 105,562.37 12,676.46**

Total Liabilities 105,562.37 12,676.46 Net Assets 181,341.94 93,483.34

Equity

Current Year Earnings 87,858.60 (22,361.79) Retained Earnings 93,483.34 115,845.13 **Total Equity 181,341.94 93,483.34**

Profit and Loss

Central Okanagan Minor Baseball Association For the year ended 31 August 2024

2024 2023

Trading Income

Ad Revenue - 700.00 BC Community Gaming Grant 65,000.00 55,000.00 Concession 43,410.61 7,073.21 Fundraising 19,000.77 23.07 Merchandise Income 2,151.51 7,489.63 Misc 111.30 - Registration - Winter 110,706.13 45,125.47 Registration - Fall 881.53 70,902.00 Registration - Spring 441,735.94 356,411.04 Registration - Summer 66,833.38 66,891.86 Sponsorships 42,564.65 2,344.18 Tournaments 11,537.36 14,950.00 Valley of Champions contribution 2,681.26 - **Total Trading Income 806,614.44 626,910.46**

Gross Profit 806,614.44 626,910.46

Operating Expenses

Advertising, awards, recognition 11,999.37 13,854.27 Association dues 22,561.50 21,233.50 Bank charges 4,288.66 1,980.71 Board meetings - 261.45 Building Maintenance 3,324.42 4,562.68 Coaching 101,766.72 92,047.34 Concession Exp. 33,130.09 - Equipment 36,152.70 82,229.91 Field maintenance 45,164.44 5,439.79 Field rentals 187,229.21 147,874.69 Fundraising purchases 581.90 - Insurance 1,808.40 1,676.00 Merchandise 3,398.08 4,210.80 Office supplies 3,320.12 1,874.25 Sponsorships Exp. 6,010.74 - Team expenses 3,173.81 - Team photos 5,158.72 5,386.08 Tournaments - Away 25,658.44 15,067.25 Tournaments - Home 6,982.70 7,559.24 Umpires 48,743.73 44,753.21 Uniforms 159,066.23 190,738.11 Utilities 3,994.92 3,195.92

Profit and Loss Central Okanagan Minor Baseball Association 15 Sept 2024 Page 1 of 2
Profit and Loss

2024 2023

Website 5,240.94 5,327.05 **Total Operating Expenses 718,755.84 649,272.25**

Net Profit 87,858.60 (22,361.79)