Tamworth Baseball Incorporation
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Tamworth Baseball Incorporated
General Meeting
West Leagues Club
1st December 2022

Members Present: David McMurray, Warren Radford, Robert Bowen, Renae Madams, Hayley Bullock, James Ardill, Danielle Hopwood-Young, Jo Ridgewell, Richard Bullock, Coen Hopwood-Young, Harold Hopwood, Will Bridge, Jeremy Bird, Leonie McMurray

Apology: Andrew Ferris, Brooke Brown, Allan Clegg

Meeting commenced 8:20pm

1. **Ratification of By-Laws** – Discussed and there was nothing to change
2. **Ratification of member Protection Policy & Procedures** – These documents need to be completed. James Ardill has started, and suspect will be ready for review early February.
3. **Appoint Judiciary Members** – 2022 members discussed, and all agree to keep them on. Dave McMurray, Warren Williams & Robert Chandler.
4. **Appoint Grading Committee** – Discussed that this will be needed to be reviewed at a further meeting of committee and grading process.
5. **Appoint June Carnival Committee** – Committee members are: Dave McMurray, Hayley Bullock, Renae Madams, Jo Ridgewell, Jeremy Bird & Danielle Hopwood-Young
6. **Appoint a Register** – Renae Madams & Hayley Bullock to work together in setting up in the new system and assisting the clubs.
7. **Committee reporting Policy** – Ensure minutes of all committee meetings are presented within 7 days. Last year's email database will be reviewed and updated, and Renae has nominated to send a group text message to advise correspondence has been sent to ensure emails are received. The TBI board will ratify all decisions of committees within 7 days.
8. **Financial Protocols Policy** – Implement appropriate financial integrity of handling of money, payment of expenses, counter checks re: transaction, no conflict of interest. Ensure all finances of Tamworth baseball are in TBI bank accounts.

Discussed that: 2 signatures are required for any bank transfer/ transaction. 2 people to count and sign off on cash.

9. **General Business**

Jo – Country Music, are we going to open the canteen?

The room was address and no defined interest was presented, discussed if we did it would be only worth doing the final weekend and a limited menu. This will be discussed and decided upon at the next meeting.

Hayley – Baseball has committed to doing the gates for Country Music again this year. The gates are a great opportunity for the clubs to earn some start up dollars going into the season. We have applied for 18 shifts from council. Renae to put an expression of interest out to the clubs for shifts and will release dates and times once known to us.

Jo – Will the canteen be running this season?

It was discussed the financial situation of the canteen and its operation. In its last year of operation (2021) the profit for the year was $300 so it is not very financial and with the lack of support and volunteer to run it, it was decided we will not open the canteen this season (at this stage)

Coffee Run has expressed that they will not be back this season as it was not financially viable for them either. We discussed if we could ask them to come back for a few weeks on a trial in a better position (in between the 2 fields so all can access) and we would try and get the players and spectators to support them more or we will lose them altogether. Failing to retain them we will put out for another service of similar nature.

Jo – When will we be calling for rep nominations?

This was discussed and agreed that this will be done shortly after the season is started and we assess the playing numbers.

Richie – Juniors – This has previously played on a Sunday which didn't work the best. We have also tried between the 2 time slots on a Saturday and found it to work well. We propose that we run it again on a Saturday in between the 2 games for 30 minutes. We would require commitment from all clubs who can supply accredited coaches and assistants.

Tri Series – A few years back we started organising an A grade tri series between Coffs Harbour (4 teams), Port Macquarie (4 teams) and Tamworth (3 teams). This had the teams traveling once a month to an opponent's town and playing a double header on the Saturday. Richie proposes we look at this again to adapt and add some interest and variety for the A grade comp.

Dave – Juniors – Development Officer

It was briefly discussed throughout the season about having a junior development officer that will work within the school and run baseball as a part of their school sports to drum up interest for the pending season.

The kids would get a goodie/ show bag, TBI would supply all the gear necessary. Potentially baseball 5 style.

The candidate will need to be an accredited coach, have a WWCC and the position will be paid as it will require them being at schools for several hours a week during school hours.

James – Junior development is a great idea.

As a principle it is in my opinion that the program needs to be very professional and organised. That we are best to target years 5&6 as these kids are more developed in skills and will let the program flow. Let's target the bigger schools first as one person's time is limited its best to target the largest audience. We will also have to look at the school's sports days and make sure they don't overlap with others.

Richie – Charity Weekend – It would be great to host a Mark Hughes Foundation round. We could sell beanies on consignment June long weekend. All agreed that is a great idea, date, and details to be set.

Hayley – I have submitted a few grants for a new mower ($65,000) and another for the Bull pen damage. We are also looking at going for flood damage in the new funding proposed for the remaining fencing work that needs completing. $76, 000 of the TBI account has been set aside for infrastructure funds (a requirement when submitting grants)

Dave – It was asked about having a toilet at FOD 2. Dave investigated this and to hire it is $120 for a portaloo.

Renae – I requested a copy of all the relevant forms (By Laws, Rules, ect..) to be distributed to all the clubs and placed on the website for reference.

Is TBI and active kids' provider? We need this to accept vouchers for the junior program.

Can gentleman rules be set early in the season and in writing to all clubs so there is no miscommunication. Ones set in previous years are squashed unless in writing in that season amendment.

Roo – He wished to say farewell and thank you to everyone as he is leaving baseball to go play hockey.

Warren – Advertising Signage – This needs to be reviewed and become current. Dave agreed this is a job to be done and that the Northwest feature sign is being changed to Double R.

Danielle– Will meetings going forward be open to all baseball members?

Dave – No they will be closed so we can keep them constructive and discuss issues as needed on governance.

Renae – I suggest we hold a few open meetings throughout the season. It will be more of an information session to inform players on things happening and have them feeling included.

Warren – can the minutes be placed on the website for all to view. James and Hayley believe a summary version regarding relevant information to players should be presented. Jo suggested a newsletter style would work.

Next meeting to be 19th December via zoom.

Closed: 9:43pm