

**Sport North Federation
Annual General Meeting
May 26, 2012**

IN ATTENDANCE – SPORT NORTH BOARD

Diane Baxter
Gary Hoffman
Harold Cook
James Wong
Maureen Miller (afternoon only)
Richard Daitch
Ryan Fequet

IN ATTENDANCE – SPORT NORTH STAFF

Alison Devitt
Bill Othmer
Chris Cahoon
Doug Rentmeister
Melanie Kornacki
Rita Bertolini

IN ATTENDANCE – MEMBERS

Aurora Horse – Michael Handley
NWT Badminton - Julie Jeffery
NWT Basketball - Nick Diem
NWT Biathlon - Ted Kimmins / Chuck Lirette
NWT Boardsport - Louise Matthews
NWT Bowling – Terry Burns
NWT Broomball - Jan Vallillee
NWT Curling - Matthew Norburn / Robert Borden
NWT Dog Sledding – Alisa Blake
NWT Figure Skating - Janice Peddle / Lorretta Kaminski
NWT Gymnastics - Elaine Keenan Bengts
NWT Hockey - Doug Rankin
NWT Judo - Chantal Rioux / Mario Desforges
NWT Karate - Perry Stan
NWT Kayaking - Kirsten Bradley / Steve Hatch
NWT School Athletics - Bill Burlington
NWT Shooting - Scott Cairns
NWT Skiing - John Stevenson / Trent Waterhouse
NWT Soccer - Louise Cumming
NWT Softball - Floyd Daniels

NWT Softball - James MCarthy
NWT Special Olympics – Mike Burns
NWT Speed Skating - Pam Dunbar / Theresa Ross
NWT Squash – Spider Jones
NWT Swimming - Jane Mooney / John Colford
NWT Taekwondo – Elaine Carr
NWT Tennis – Julie Coed / - Hani Ibrahim Kheir
NWT Volleyball - Shandie Tanner / Stacy Christie
NWT Wrestling - Don Reid

PRESENTERS

Cayley Thomas
John Peton
Louis Sebert
Tyler Callahan

CALL TO ORDER

- The 2012 Sport North Federation was called to order at 9:09 a.m.

WELCOMING REMARKS

- Richard Daitch, Sport North President welcomed the delegation to the meeting.
- The Federation has the two-year funding agreements signed with the SRC, and are in the process of negotiating a games agreement.
- Things are definitely moving forward and the Federation is very optimistic.
- Richard Daitch thanked the members, staff and board for their fortitude and continued support through this difficult time.

HOUSE RULES

- Gary Hoffman, Sport North Board reviewed the House Rules.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion AGM 01-2012 “To approve the Sport North Federation Annual General Meeting agenda as presented.”

Moved by: Softball

Seconded by: Badminton

Carried

NOMINATIONS

- Nominations for the Sport North Board will close at 3:00 p.m. All nominations are to be given to Doug Rentmeister.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion AGM02-2012 “To approve the Sport North Federation Consent agenda as presented.”

Moved by: Broomball

Seconded by: Gymnastics

Carried

TSO HIGHLIGHTS

NWT Karate

- Very busy year, and still training at the Bella Dance Academy.
- Last year Yellowknife played host to the National Summer Camp. There were many participants from Western Canada and Vancouver.
- Athletes and coaches just returned from the IKGA Seminar in Calgary where there was over 200 participants. There was 3 days of training with a Grand Master from Japan.

NWT Skiing

- The membership numbers have increased, throughout the communities and especially in Yellowknife. There has been over a 200 member increase. There are over 896 members in the NT.
- Yellowknife Ski Club has the largest volunteer run facility in Canada.
- A number of skiers medaled at the Arctic Winter Games.
- Hay River hosted their 30th PTub race, it is the longest running competitive event.
- Annual Lopets are very successful especially in Fort Smith as they market to Alberta.
- NWT Skiing works with the Multi-sport Club on the 45 km ski race.
- Former NWT coach Mike Neary is in Yellowknife doing coach training.
- There 5 developmental camps over the year, including the Fast & Female which Sarah Daitch was instrumental in bringing to the NWT.
- NWT Skiing send equipment to communities on an ongoing basis.
- Skiing celebrated the 1st World Snow Day in Fort Smith, and is planning another event this coming year, all snow sports are welcome to participate.

Speed Skating

- 5 out of 6 clubs participated in AWG and brought home lots of medals
- We have 2 athletes at the University of Calgary, and training at the Calgary Oval.
- Michael Gilday is back training after a back injury.
- NWT Speed Skating is very proud to announce that the Special Olympic athlete has been named to Team Canada.

Soccer

- Thanked the administrative support of their new ED Lyric Sandhals and the previous support from Melanie Kornacki.
- Soccer is working towards a full sized outdoor soccer pitch for 2014.
- The Association recently held a Master Learning Facilitator Course in Yellowknife. 7 Learning Facilitators were trained and 1 Master Learning Facilitator.

- Wellness to World Cup promotes physical activity.
- Working towards a trophy case for the field house.
- A letter from Roger Vail was read to the Membership.

Swimming

- Swimming is an all year round training program.
- Team NWT was very successful at Western Canada Summer Games.
- NWT now has 14 Provincial B qualifiers, Provincial A qualifiers and 5 University level qualifiers.
- 1 NWT swimmer qualified for Olympic Trials.
- Swimming membership is growing and has even high jacked a couple of hockey players into the pool.

Biathlon

- Brendan Green is still competing at the World Cup level; however he is currently healing from an injury. Biathlon Canada nominated Brendan for Male Athlete of the Year.
- At the most recent Precision Postal Shoot, NWT took both 1st and 2nd place.
- During the AWG trials the Governor General took in one of the races. There were 7 different communities that participated in Arctic Winter Games.
- At the last National event NT came home with a gold medal in the sprint category.
- The Polar Cup series of races happens in 3 different communities.
- The Association is seeing growth in the sport.

Shooting

- The Association has had a very busy year; the recent changes in legislation have provided a boost to the grassroots level. The biggest growth in membership has been in the Air Gun.
- Norman Wells is working to get a range open.
- Membership Yellowknife is dominated by the junior level.
- A junior team will be attending Nationals this year.
- The Association is hopeful that they will send athletes to Nationals in ATA Trap.
- Silhouette shooting very popular and currently the Association has an athlete ranked 12.
- The Association sent two individuals to Nationals and one placed 2nd.

Figure Skating

- Held their first ever summer school in Yellowknife last summer, and will do so again this summer.
- Athletes from Inuvik and Hay River clubs participated in Arctic Winter Games.
- A number of clubs competed in the south and brought home medals.
- Territorial's will be held in Yellowknife this year.
- Hay River, Fort Smith and Yellowknife will have additional coaching staff starting this year.

Curling

- Team Koe finished 4th at the Brier. Kerry Galusha won a car at the Scotties.

- Team NWT did excellent at the Arctic Winter Games, with the girls bringing home a gold medal and the boys a bronze medal.
- Mixed Seniors had a direct entry this year and do not have to play the Yukon.
- Yellowknife was awarded the Senior Championship which will be hosted in 2014.

Softball

- The season begins tomorrow. Minor ball hosted a clinic in Hay River over the weekend.
- Fast pitch starts June 4.
- The Association acknowledged the commitment and dedication of Paul Gard who has done so much for Softball. Paul Gard has stepped down as President and now oversees coaching development.
- The Inuvik and Norman Wells clubs are very strong.
- Hay River BrewJays attended the Canadian Senior Women's slow pitch championships. James McCarthy umpired the gold medal games.
- There was a pitching instructor course held in Yellowknife.
- YK Minor Ball has been the biggest success, as it has over 200 members, which is outstanding considering it was a dead program 4 years ago.
- The Men's Master team made the playoffs.
- The Association is part of the Green Diamond Project initiative to improve parks in YK. The Tommy Forrest Ball Park has seen new dugouts which are above ground.
- The Association has created a travel fund to support teams at the Western and National Level.
- Inuvik will send a fastball team to the Western Canadian Championships.

Judo

- The membership has increased to 1600 across the NWT; they are now the 4th highest membership club in Judo Canada. They plan to reach 2000 members next year.
- Gabriel Desforges, high performance athlete, had a great year and recently went to Japan for a training camp.
- Both Gabriel and Mason attended many different events and brought home medals from each one.
- Gabriel and Mason brought medals home from many different events. Mason won both a junior and senior medal at the Edmonton International event.
- The Association partnered with ASCWA to bring Judo to 6 new communities; as a result Colville Lake is continuing their judo club.
- They recently hosted a coaching clinic in Fort Simpson.
- The Association echoes the sentiments brought forward by Roger Vail.

Wrestling

- It was an exciting year for wrestling, Territorial Trials so many participants from the communities. The challenge now is to keep that excitement going throughout the year and keep athletes engaged.
- Diane Marion placed 5th and Junior Nationals.
- This summer athletes will be attending the Jasper Wrestling Camp that is run by National Team members.

- The Association is working with the coaches to get them certified and committed to delivering the sport in their community.

Volleyball

- The Association is focussing on the development of coaches; 4 coaches will be getting their Level I, 2 will get their Level II, and 2 will get their Level III.
- The Association had 21 girls and 19 boys compete for the AWG team.
- Both teams finished 4th at Arctic Winter Games.
- The 2013 coaches have been selected.
- 19 women's teams and 8 men's teams recently competed in Yellowknife, and recently one club team and 3 referees participated in a tournament with 50 courts of volleyball being held under the same roof.

Badminton

- A full team was sent to Arctic Winter Games. Four different communities participated and came home with a silver and bronze. This same team participated at Nationals.
- The Association is sending athletes to the Aboriginal Badminton Championships in Saskatchewan.
- Currently the Association has 4 athletes playing at the college level, one of which placed 4th at Nationals.

Tennis

- The session is just starting and the Association is building from last year.
- The Association is very active in the schools throughout 14 communities. They will be hosting a school tournament for the first time this year.
- Equipment is left in the communities for the athletes.
- The Association will be running a summer camp in Yellowknife, this is a multi-sport camp, and will be hosting a coaching clinic as well.
- A representative from Tennis Canada will be coming to Yellowknife
- There will be tournaments in Yellowknife, Inuvik and Fort Smith.
- The Association has one athlete playing at the University level.
- The Association is very happy that they will not have to bring an instructor in from the South for the summer camp, as a former athlete as returned North and will be overseeing the camp.

Taekwondo

- Did not have a very good year, the Behchoko club closed, and the Association did not have a Territorial Championship this year.
- There is still a strong club in Yellowknife, and the board is developing strategies to get into the communities.
- The national organization is going through a difficult time with a significant court case, and a change in board members, as a result the Association is not automatically on the national board.
- A couple of coaches returned to coaching this year and will bring new energy into the club.

Bowling

- The Association is seeing the return of previous youth bowlers and now taking on executive roles.
- The adult teams are attending Nationals this week.
- The Association is working to maintain their membership and grow their numbers.

Aurora Horse

- The Association is hosting more clinics, more programs, and an open house.
- There will be 5 programs this year for both kids and adults.
- The Association is continuing to provide education and training opportunities; 2 individuals will be getting their Instructors Ratings.
- The Association will be branching out to Trade Shows and will be going to Fort Smith.
- This year the Association will be sending an individual south for instructors rating for disabled youth.

Basketball

- The Arctic Winter Games female team received a bronze medal.
- Cager saw about 600 athletes, and the Association will be hosting three regional basketball tournaments.
- The Association has partnered with Basketball Canada to deliver youth programs in all the communities.
- The Association will be sending athletes to the Native American Tournament in Phoenix.

Broomball

- The Association continues to leave equipment in all the regions.
- They hosted a multi-sport camp in Tuktoyuktuk which saw 188 kids participate, and by all accounts they loved it.
- Volunteers are the key in the communities, if you don't have key volunteers then it is difficult to get into the communities and deliver your sport; we need to increase the volunteer base.
- The men's team went to the Gold Broom Tournament and took the gold medal. This event is considered a preparation tournament for Nationals; unfortunately the men's team could not attend Nationals due to a lack of numbers.
- The Association is working to get additional coaches certified at both Level I and II.
- Global Magazine listed Ian Fowler as the top broomball goalie in the world.
- Broomball Canada Level 1 and Level 11 program sent a coach to get certified
- This will be the last AGM that Jan Vallillee attends for a couple of years and took the opportunity to thank the TSOs, Sport North Board and the staff for their hard work and continued support and dedication.
- It is imperative that we resolve the dysfunction of sport in the NWT and get rid of the administrative cost, so that money can go to our athletes. We need to streamline the process and see increased funding to the TSOs and our elite players. The GNWT is not going to step in and do it for us.

- Richard Daitch, Sport North President thanked Jan Vallillee for her contribution to sport and broomball, and her continued support of the Federation.

Dog Sledding

- Had an exciting year with 9 athletes attending the Arctic Winter Games, and coming home with three silver ulu's.
- The Association held a race in Fort Simpson for the first time since 1973, there were tons of spectators. In conjunction with the event the Association held a training session for officials.
- All races are continued to be broadcasted live with CKLB.
- A special thank you to McKay as they do the financial statements for the Association.
- The Association looks forward to working with the schools and partners.

School Athletics

- The Association holds a variety of events.
- The met via conference call to outline the upcoming calendar.
- The success of the Association and the events depends on the many hours of volunteers without their help and expertise it would be difficult to accomplish.
- All events can be found at www.nwtschoolathleticfederation.com

Special Olympics

- Special Olympics is a true multi-sport organization, and offer a number of sports such as bowling, swimming, figure skating, gold, snowshoeing, and speed skating.
- The Association has a high requirement of coach to athlete ratio; 1 coach to every 3 athletes. As a result the Association has 45 athletes and 44 volunteer coaches.
- The Association has had athletes progress through various programs such as swimming and speed skating to national and international levels.

Gymnastics

- Currently the Association has 4 member clubs.
- Certifying coaches is the biggest obstacle for the Association, as the Association must bring an instructor to the NWT three times and it is very costly.
- Gymnastics is doing a cross training course with Arctic Sports and is proud to announce that Peter Tatona won a bronze medal at Arctic Winter Games. Peter Tatona also won a bronze on rings and came 5th on the vault at a gymnastics tournament and is currently in Regina competing at Nationals.
- Kyle Schuflet was recently in Yellowknife and spent some time with the athletes.

Track & Field

- The Association had athletes attend several meets in the South.
- Richard Daitch, Sport North President indicated that several athletes attended the Nike event in Toronto and did very well. They had an exciting time.

Boardsport

- The majority of the Arctic Winter Games team was comprised of community athletes.
- Finding champions in communities is a must, they are needed to help run sport and sustain sport in the communities. Roslyn Firth, in Fort Liard is a role model in her community and because of her our membership has flourished in that community. She is really keen and is taking charge and making things happen.
- 3 athletes in the High Performance Program receive funding through the High Performance Grant. Two athletes competed at Nationals and World Cup in Quebec, and continue to compete in International Competition. One athlete was invited to participate at the National Team Training Camp, which is a first for boardsports.
- A very big thank you to Lyric Sandhals, who is the Executive Director of Boardsports, her assistance has had a huge impact on the Association.
- 2012-2013 will see a real snowboard park in Yellowknife.
- The Federation needs to take this opportunity to celebrate all the success in the room, it needs to be conveyed or communicated to the public. We need to look at opportunities to get this information out.
- Richard Daitch, Sport North President indicated that anytime he meets with the Premier he never misses the opportunity to celebrate the success of the TSOs.

Kayaking

- Offers pool sessions in the winter, and works with a number of different communities such as Hay River.
- The Association will be getting polo boats and gear.
- Territorial's will be held in Hay River.
- The Association will be hosting the Paddle, Pound event.
- The Association will certify 6 coaches in the NWT, one of which will be from Inuvik. Inuvik is focussing on Greenland and Sea Kayaking.
- Recertification courses for white-water instructors will happen in Fort Smith.
- Everything is volunteer based, without them the clubs will not be successful; you can have all the money in the world but without volunteers sport would not happen.
- Paddlefest is the biggest event held in Fort Smith. Fort Smith has the best white water in the Territories. This competition will also include rafting this year. There will be approximately 65 competitors from Fort Smith, Fort Simpson, Yellowknife, Hay River, Alberta, BC and the States.
- During the Paddlefest week many clinics will be held for children and adults.
- Inuvik will be hosting a Youth Leadership Canoe Program.

Squash

- Has strong membership in Yellowknife, Fort Smith and Inuvik. Squash welcome Hani Ibrahim Kheir who has helped increase the membership in Inuvik.
- The Association will be delivering footwork and Player Development clinics.
- The Association applauds MACA for their continued Technical Director Support.

- Chad Hinchey will be attending the National Training Camp.
- There are a growing number of coaches, and the Association will provide the Coaching Foundation Course to many of the communities.

Hockey

- Hosted many Player Development clinics in the communities, and are focussing on coach development.
- They will be working towards recertification of officials.
- High School students can now use hockey officiating for com hours.
- All the hockey teams had a tremendous showing at AWG; the coaches were enthusiastic and worked well with all the teams.
- The Association is looking forward to working with Sport North on the regional development camps for the upcoming Arctic Winter Games.
- The Association acknowledged Greg Hoff and the National Aboriginal Championship Program.
- Richard Daitch, Sport North President thanked the TSOs for the thousand of volunteer hours they continue to contribute, and further added that Bill Othmer is overseeing the Canada 55+ Games with Gary Black and there are 61 people from various communities participating.

PRESENTATION – CONDUCT OF A FAIR HEARING

- Presented by Cayley Thomas and Louis Sebert

PRESENTATION – EDMONTON SCHOOL SPORT

- Presented by John Peton and Tyler Callahan

ELECTION OF THE SPORT NORTH BOARD

The following candidates accepted their Nominations:

- Elaine Keenan Bengts
- Theresa Ross
- Ryan Fequet
- Cheryl Hvall
- Tim Van Overbeek
- Harold Cook

The following candidates were nominated to the Sport North Board:

For a two-year term

- Theresa Ross
- Tim Van Overbeek
- Elaine Keenan Bengts
- Harold Cook

For a one-year term

- Ryan Fequet
- Richard Daitch, Sport North President thanked advised the Membership that long-term board member Gary Hoffman will be stepping down from the board. Richard thanked Gary for the many years of service; his expertise, experience and wisdom will be missed. Gary Hoffman was presented with a Sport North watch.

Motion AGM03-2012

“To destroy the election ballots.”

Moved by: Figure Skating

Seconded by: Speed Skating

Carried

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion AGM 04-2012

“That Sport North explore the AIAAA’s LTCs to consider whether these courses may be appropriate as minimum requirement for coaches involved with AWG, CG and WCSGs.

Moved by: Soccer

Seconded by: Gymnastics

Amended

Motion AGM 05-2012

“That Sport North explore the AIAAA’s LTCs to consider whether specific courses may be appropriate as recommended courses for Team Managers involved with AWG, CG and WCSG.

Moved by: Skiing

Seconded by: Soccer

Carried

Discussion

- Julie Jefferies, NWT Badminton felt that Western Canada Summer Games and Canada Games already have coaching requirements and additional requirements should not be added.
- Pam Dunbar, NWT Speed Skating agreed and felt these requirements are dictated by a higher body.
- Shandie Turner, NWT Volleyball stated that they already struggle to get coaches certified and adding additional courses would be difficult.
- Ryan Fequet, Sport North Board indicated that the intent of the motion is to explore the idea and it is not intended to be an additional burden to the TSOs.
- John Stevenson, NWT Skiing is impressed with the AIAAA courses, but is reluctant to use the word required and would be in favour of an amendment to the policy that would entertain changing the word required to recommended.
- Louise Matthews further added that coaches should be removed and Team Managers should be added to the motion, as many coaches have that training but other staff does not.

AGM 05-2012

“That a Special General Meeting be held in conjunction with the semi-annual meeting scheduled in the fall of 2012 to consider the proposed bylaws amendments presented at the 2012 AGM; and that the Board of Directors continue to proceed between now and the Special General Meeting to be in a position to implement the new bylaws as soon as possible once approved.”

Moved by: Boardsport

Seconded by: Soccer

Carried

Discussion

- Great forum on Friday night to review the bylaws. The Federation has put a lot of work into them and they must be approved at an AGM or Special Annual Meeting.
- The Board must still move forward with bylaws and developing any information related to them, so that once implemented the Federation can be moving forward without delay.
- John Stevenson, NWT Skiing felt that a lot of work was done and they are a good set of bylaws and would like to see the Federation move forward as soon as possible to operate under them.

Motion AGM06-2012 “To accept the audited financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2012.”

Moved by: Gymnastics Seconded by: Badminton Carried

Motion AGM07-2012 “To maintain the \$100.00 Sport North membership fee.”

Moved by: Broomball Seconded by: Badminton Carried

Motion AGM08-2012 “That the firm of Ashton Chartered Accountants be appointed auditor of Sport North Federation’s financial statements including Lex Borealis Ltd., for the three fiscal years ending March 31, 2015, subject to an annual performance review based on the RFP evaluation criteria.”

Moved by: Swimming Seconded by: Broomball Carried

ADJOURNMENT

- Richard Daitch, Sport North President thanked the TSOs for their continued feedback and commitment to sport in the North, and further thanked the Sport North Board and staff for their continued hard work during very difficult times.

Motion AGM09-2012 “To adjourn the 2012 Sport North Annual General Meeting at 4:11 p.m.”

Moved by: Broomball

Richard Daitch, President, Sport North

Date

Rita Bertolini, Sport North Staff

Date