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2023 ANNUAL REPORT

TOTTENHAM-BEETON DISTRICT SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

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President's Report

What a wonderful finish to the 2023 season! From tie-breaker scenarios to crown Division standings on the last night of the regular season to the Playoff Weekend games decided by slim margins, the excitement filled the diamonds around Tottenham and Beeton.

The Tottenham Beeton District Minor Softball Association (TBDMSA) season's overwhelming success could not have happened without our incredible membership base made up with our Board of Directors, dedicated volunteers, officials, parents and most of all the players. I thank you for your commitment to our sport. We appreciate that you are taking the time to read this Annual Report with continued interest in growing your knowledge and insight to our Association.



Following a successful Annual General Meeting in November 2022, the TBDMSA made numerous changes to the organization including an extensive review of the local Rules of Play and Constitution. This included updating standards to reflect Softball Canada's standards and adopting new Risk Management policies with the implementation of Vulnerable Sector Checks (VSC) and implementing the Respect in Sport (RIS) Program for teams and the Board. We also welcomed new members of the Board who were ready to make a difference for the upcoming season.

Aside from the updates to the Rules of Play, our Board committed to improving communication and player development. We improved the website to include more information and resources for parents and coaches. There was also a commitment to host a Pitching Clinic to help players improve their skills.

2022 saw a record number of registrations with 347 total participants. We had no idea what was in store for 2023 when we opened registration on February 1st. The flurry of activity within the first month of open registration saw 278 players sign up to play softball! Over the next few weeks, we slowed down to cap registration off at 393 due to the limited diamond time we had available. The organization had to add new teams to divisions including a fourth team in the U19 division making competition across each division that much more exciting. A wait list was created and demand for softball registration continued right through June!

Our organization is absolutely grateful for the corporate sponsors this year. Our incredible sponsorship team tripled sponsorship revenue to make sure every team was covered with a sponsor plus securing sponsors for our Post-Season Weekend.

Following the 2022 season, the TBDMSA recognized the need for updated equipment and with the support of a grant that year and sponsorship in 2023, the TBDMSA invested \$13,000 in purchasing new equipment, notably helmets and bats that complied with current safety standards.

Prior to the season, we met with representatives from the Town of New Tecumseth to discuss diamond use and what we need. A secondary meeting with the Town was held in July to discuss the long-term plan for parks.

We also furthered our relationships with the other local softball user-groups to share best practices and resources. After listening to the concerns of our Coaches carrying equipment to Coventry Park, the

TBDMSA worked on a partnership with the Tottenham Oldtimer's Slo-Pitch League (TOT) to share bases at Coventry Park and Keogh Park. We will investigate base-sharing options for the parks in Beeton. The agreement includes using existing bases with the commitment to share in the cost of maintenance and replacement of bases. This partnership will not only help support our Coaches from carrying excessive equipment but will prolong the life of our bases therefore saving costs of replacement bases.

A special thank you to our Board of Directors and Convenors for the hundreds of hours of work, dedication and passion for our participants: Michel Mann, Jenn LeClerc, Lisa Williams, Paola Cranley, Peter Browne, Erin Forrester, Mark Shaw, Patricia Coulas, Melanie Jordan, Sherri Cicirello, Sam Cicirello, and Jamie Schell. I would also like to give a BIG thank you to our Junior Umpires, Umpire-in-Chief Al McMullen and his entire crew.

We weathered the big "softball storm" of change and activity this year yet came out on top. There will be more growth to our organization, which requires new volunteers to help in a variety of specialty roles.

Softball is booming in our community and it is an exciting time to be a part of it!

Sincerely,

Kevin Boston

President, TBDMSA



Thank you for a great 2023 season!
TBDMSA Executive

Treasurer Report

Submitted by Peter Browne

The 2022 season saw the highest registration numbers in the history of the organization only to be toppled with 2023 numbers. In 2022, the TBDMSA collected \$34,275 in registration fees for 347 players to \$49,705 for 393 players, an increase over \$15,000. In addition, sponsorship tripled in numbers from \$5,400 in 2022 to \$15,400 in 2023. That combination provided record revenue numbers.

With increased registration numbers, there was obviously a rise in expenses including uniforms, pictures, umpires, diamond fees and awards.

Following the 2022 AGM, there was a commitment to update equipment to comply with Softball Canada standards and to replace outdated/worn equipment from a safety perspective. After looking at the current equipment inventory, there was a larger-than-expected need to replace more equipment than first anticipated resulting in higher expenses.

Uniform costs increased this year mostly due to the rising costs of inflation resulting in higher expenses than originally budgeted.

Another commitment at the 2022 AGM was introducing a free Pitching Skills Development Clinic. 46 participants between the ages of 8 and 19 years, attended the eight-week free clinic costing roughly \$1,000. Following the Clinic, a survey was issued to all participants and every person was pleased with the Clinic and indicated they would pay for this service if it continued.

As the TBDMSA is dedicated to improve our Risk Management practices, the Association joined the Respect in Sport program. In the first year of the program, the TBDMSA agreed to cover the costs for one Coach per team and all Executive Members to take the course. This resulted in a \$1,356 expense to purchase the license.

Due to expenses noted above, the TBDMSA had a shortfall of \$6,660.00, which was offset by the 2022 surplus funds and Trillium Grant in the savings account. Despite that, the TBDMSA remains financially strong with net assets of \$21,349.00 in the bank.

Tottenham Minor Softball
Financials
1/1/2023 to 9/30/2023

REVENUE

Sales revenue

Corporate Sponsorship	15400.00
TMS Registration	49704.00
TMS Season Opener	
TMS Year-End	
Other	250.00

Net Sales **65354.00**

Other Revenue

Interest Revenue	397.31
Miscellaneous Revenue	<u>0.00</u>
Net Other	<u>397.31</u>

TOTAL REVENUE **65751.31**

EXPENSES

Bank Charges	317.45
PayPal	1052.44
Insurance	1860.00
Diamond Fees	12501.21
Equipment	13026.42
Uniforms	17930.68
Umpire Fees	9245.00
Misc Expenses	4367.76
Office Supplies	88.84
Pictures	4689.50
Trophies & Plaques	4371.12
TMS Opener	79.10
TMS Year-End Tournament	2881.92

TOTAL EXPENSES **72411.44**

NET INCOME **-6660.13**

Balance Sheet

Bank Balance - Dec 31/2022		5561.68
Petty Cash		148.00
RBC Savings Account		<u>22353.51</u>
Net Assets	As of 12-31-2022	28063.19
Revenue		65751.31 (+)
Expenses		<u>72411.44</u> (-)
		21349.76
Bank Balance		1098.94
Petty Cash		0.00
RBC Savings		<u>20250.82</u>
Net Assets	As of 09/19/2023	21349.76
Difference		0.00

Equipment Report

Submitted by Mark Shaw

It was a busy year for Equipment. Overall equipment expenses increased this year due to registration numbers rising with a record number of teams across all age divisions and the need to replace outdated and worn-out equipment.

There was a significant investment of almost \$13,000 in new equipment this season to replace outdated and worn-out items. New balls, equipment bags, base bags, catcher throat protectors, chinstraps, pitching mounds, 50 new helmets, 25 new bats and 15 sets of catcher equipment were purchased. There was also an assortment of first aid equipment purchased (ice packs, band aids and first aid bags) to replenish supplies.

The Association selected T-Litzen as the uniform vendor again this year, sticking with the same style and hat as last season. There was an increase in sponsors this year with all teams having both a front and back sponsor. The order was placed by mid-April and uniforms were ready for the beginning of the season. T-Litzen also provided a 10% kick-back which was used to purchase coaches jerseys.

T-Litzen has done all of the artwork as high-resolution files and provided them to the association for future use. For the 2024 season, it is recommended that we allow at least 6-8 weeks lead time for uniforms.

12 Umpire kits were purchased and provided to each umpire, along with an equipment bag, protective gear, and new dri-fit polo shirts. Coaches were also provided with a score book and coaches' uniform. All equipment was purchased from Home Run Sports in Mississauga.

Equipment was provided and collected for the Pitching Clinic before the season, including several buckets of practice balls and 8 sets of catchers equipment. A radar gun was borrowed.

Equipment pickup day was scheduled in mid-May before the season started and an afternoon was dedicated to handing out uniforms and exchanging new helmets and exchanging gear that didn't fit.

T-Ball and Blastball Jerseys and Medallions were sponsored by Tim Hortons.

Medals and Plaques were sourced to The Trophy Shop in Rosemont and the Executive provided a medallion for the team's Year-End Tournament placement and a Medallion to the Regular Season placement. It is recommended that we look to only provide end of season tournament medals to the top 4 teams next season. The association also sourced 60 championship hats for the winning team at each age division from a local supplier.

Even with the large investment this season in new equipment, there is still a need to replace some equipment in 2024. We recommend looking to replace an additional 25 of the older aluminum bats which do not comply with Softball Canada regulations. Approximately 30% of the older bats require new



\$13,000 in equipment upgrades including helmets, bats and catchers equipment were required in 2023.

grip tape. Many of the helmets are still in need of replacement due to missing foam or damaged strap connections. It is recommended to replace an additional 50 helmets for 2024, focusing on t-ball and U19 age groups.

All equipment for the 26 teams has been returned at the end of the season. The majority was returned during the equipment return day, but this year 10 coaches handed back equipment over the course of 2 weeks. The amount of practice balls returned was low, particularly the 10" balls. Stock is also low as not many balls were purchased in 2023. It is recommended that 5-6 dozen balls be purchased next season per size (t-ball, 10", 11" and 12").

Chalk was purchased from Tottenham Feed and the machine was borrowed from the Merchant's container at Coventry. Lines and bases were done for both the opening season weekend and the end of season tournament. With 2 volunteers, this process takes about 75 min to complete.

The Association Equipment Storage Trailer was also moved from the Drury Farm property to Tanner Self Storage in Tottenham in February 2023. JBE Tilt was hired at a cost of \$525+tax to tow the trailer. Tanner Self Storage reduced the fee for storage in exchange for team sponsorship, equivalent to \$350. A large amount of garbage was removed from the trailer this year.

Most umpires have returned their Association-issued equipment but Lisa Williams is waiting on a couple more sets to come back. One umpire lost a helmet during the season. It was discussed with Jr. Umpire-in-Chief and agreed that the helmet was most likely mixed in with the equipment of another team so no replacement was requested. All Association-owned Umpire equipment will be kept separate in the Equipment Storage trailer to make it easily accessible for the clinic in the spring. Once all equipment is returned, there will be a final inventory of umpire kits to determine what is needed next year.

It is recommended that a volunteer equipment manager assistant role be added to the executive to help share the load which is particularly high from March to May and from August to early September. I would like to thank Lisa Williams and her boys who volunteered to help all season!



An increase in teams resulted in additional expenses to purchase uniforms and equipment.

Sponsorship Report

Submitted by Paola Cranley and Michel Mann

The Sponsorship team proudly set record numbers for revenue this season raising \$15,400, almost triple the previous high set in 2022 of \$5,400. With the increase in registration numbers, more teams were added therefore requiring additional sponsors.

- 10 New Team Sponsors came on board this season. They included: K2 Milling, Trevor's Roof Repair, Canada Waterworks Inc., Protouch Mechanical Services, M&M HVAC Services Inc., South Simcoe Physiotherapy, Bolton Orthodontics, Tanner Self Storage, All Axxess Roofing, and Kaisei Sushi.
- 11 Team Sponsors returned. They included Tim Hortons, Tottenham Home Hardware, Beeton Foodland, Dr. Matthew Lim and Associates, McGoey Bros Insurance, Jamie McGinty RE/MAX, Vince's Market, Doggone Wonderful Pet Spa & Photo Studio, The Scissor Boutique, YG-1 Canada, and AbCore Physiotherapy and Sports Rehabilitation.
- 7 New League Sponsors supported the Association. They included: Beeton Legion, Alliston Massage Therapy Centre, Tor Contracting, A Taste of Freedom, McMedia, Queen Street Dental, and Britton Ronan Real Estate Inc.
- 5 League Sponsors returned. They included: Dr. Ian Lo, Jennifer Gilbert Photography, Tottenham Legion, Axis Dental, and Tottenham Chiropractic.

Throughout the season, the Executive discussed additional ways to generate revenue. One idea was to sell sponsorship at the Post-Season Weekend, an event where almost the entire Membership participates in providing sponsors great exposure. The four sponsors included: Rumber Construction, Feehely Gastaldi Barristers & Solicitors, Dinoland Family Fun Centre and Britton Ronan Real Estate Inc.. Rumber Construction was the title sponsor of the event, offsetting the costs of a new Championship hat which was very well received by players.



As noted, McMedia was a new League Sponsor. McMedia provided Value-in-Kind services to help the TBDMSA design a new Association logo and brand guidelines. Tanner Self Storage was another new Sponsor which included Value-in-Kind services for Equipment Storage since the Association had to find a new home from the previous storage location. BioSteel also provided players at the Pitching Clinic with a water bottle.

A new sponsorship sales presentation package provided companies a bigger picture about the Association and the benefits of sponsorship. In addition, shortly after the TBDMSA began soliciting companies, the TBDMSA moved away from a hard-copy sponsorship form to an online form with the option to e-transfer funds.

Recommendations:

- More user-friendly online sponsorship registration link and payment processing.
- Early access to the sponsorship links with Facebook & Instagram advertising.
- Follow up with parents/coaches who expressed interest for sponsorship for 2024.
- Create a sponsorship team to help assist with the number of sponsors needed for the growing Association.

We are very thankful for the generosity of all of our sponsors this year and look forward to a bigger 2024!



Players and family members were treated to free popcorn and cotton candy.

Marketing & Communications Report

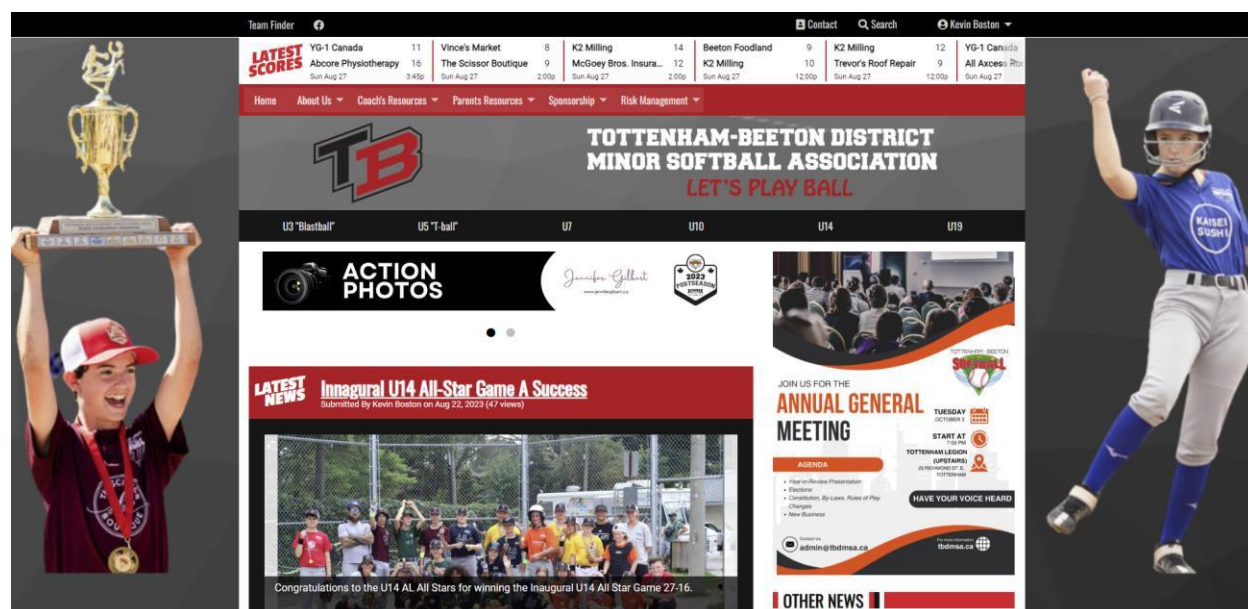
Submitted by Kevin Boston

Following the 2022 season, the TBDMSA committed to improving communication with Membership. Communication channels included the website, Facebook and e-mail.

The website provider Sportsheadz offered a Modern Responsive design format as part of our package. A responsive website allows users to view content on mobile devices and on a variety of different screen sizes much easier than the classic style. The site was migrated over to the new responsive format at the beginning of the season.

Content was reorganized on the website to streamline communication while providing additional resources. The Parent's Resources section was perhaps the biggest addition to the site as it included basic information to help parents and the Membership learn more about the Association.

Coaches had additional free resources including the Timbits Softball Manual from Softball Canada, available to them on the site. Videos and other tips were provided. A Risk Management section was also added. Further details are found in the Risk Management section of the Annual Report.



A subscription to Canva, an online design software, helped improve graphics on the site to make it more appealing and user-friendly.

SportsHeadz promoted an App with the new responsive design however due to the current TBDMSA method of registration, the App could not be utilized. This has been addressed for the 2024 season.

Notable statistics from the website during the period of January 1, 2023 to September 22, 2023:

- 18,942 Visitors with an Average Time Spent on Site of 5 minutes 32seconds.
- The homepage followed by Schedules were the most popular pages. Parent Resource page was the third highest viewed page with 1,164 views / 736 Unique Visitors and an average time of 7:45 spent on the page.
- The 'team photo schedule' news article was the most read article with 287 views.

At the end of the season, a meeting with SportsHeadz reviewed our site and discussed the new features for the upcoming season. SportsPay is one of SportsHeadz partners. SportsPay is an online payment processing company that offers better rates and services than we currently have.

The Association Facebook page has 461 Followers. Regular updates helped communicate to the Membership. Paola Cranley and Erin Forrester managed the Facebook page.

E-mail communication to Membership included timely memos or Association updates such as key dates, smoke advisory alerts and so on.

Jamie Schell coordinated and managed a TBDMSA information booth at Tottenham Community Week on July 4th. There were several people who visited the booth to ask questions about the TBDMSA.

Three Membership surveys were issued this season. The first was a post-Pitching Clinic; the second was a post-Opening Weekend survey; and the third was a post-season Membership survey. Results were shared with the Board to help improve services and programming.

Going into the 2023 season, the TBDMSA is excited to play under a new logo, unveiled at the Post-Season Weekend. Based on feedback from suppliers and industry partners, the previous logo and brand were outdated and in need of a modern-fresh look. In addition, the files were small and difficult to reproduce for various purposes. McMedia graphic design based out of Alliston, created the new brand and guidelines. The design is modern, sporty and simplified. Membership feedback was positive when it was unveiled. A line of merchandise will be designed for the 2024 season to increase brand exposure and generate revenue for the Association.



Registration Report

Submitted by Erin Forrester

Player Registration saw record numbers this year as the TBDMSA grew to from 347 players in 2022 to 393 players this year plus 34 on a waiting list. This marked a 43 player increase from 2022 and 239 player registration increase from 2019.

The U14 Division saw the biggest increase resulting in three teams added to the Division. U7, U10, U19 all added an additional team in their respective Divisions. The additional teams in each division helped contribute to a positive level of competition.

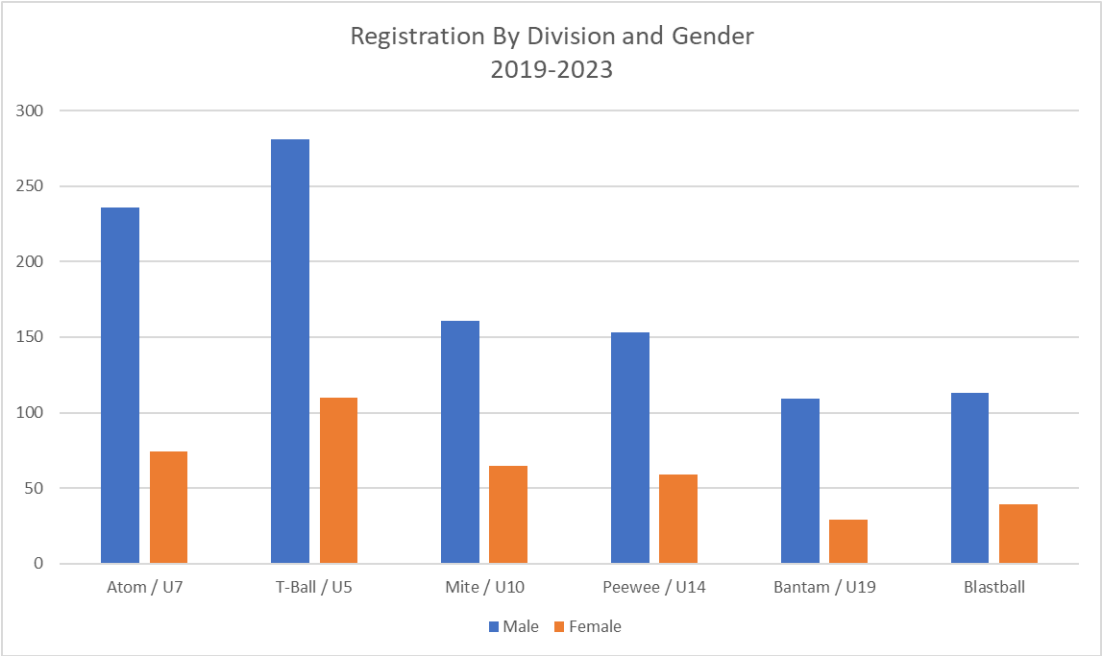
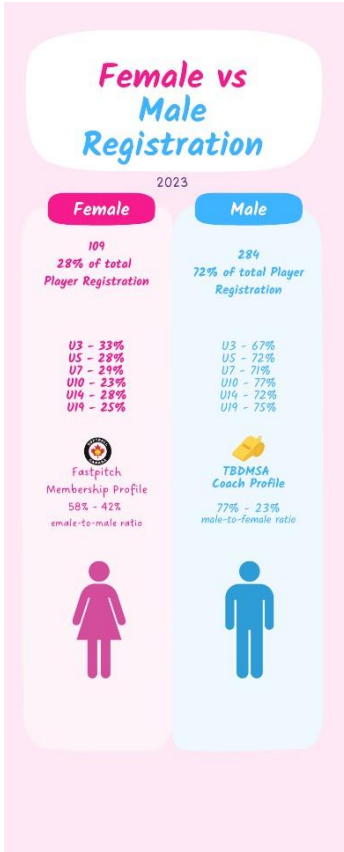
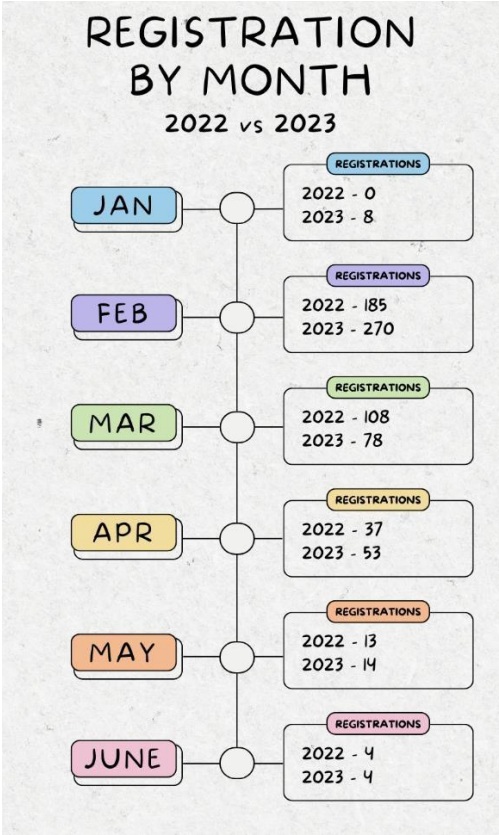
Rostering of players was tasked to a committee who evaluated players who had some prior playing experience while others that had not recorded their playing history, were rostered to the best of the Committee's ability. The Committee used the "Wheel of Names" app to blind draft the teams based on rating and gender. Pitchers and catchers were assigned first, then the rest of the teams were filled.

The Committee was very pleased with the outcome of rosters as competition was tight throughout the season in most divisions especially in the U14 Division where final standings were determined on the final night of the regular season.









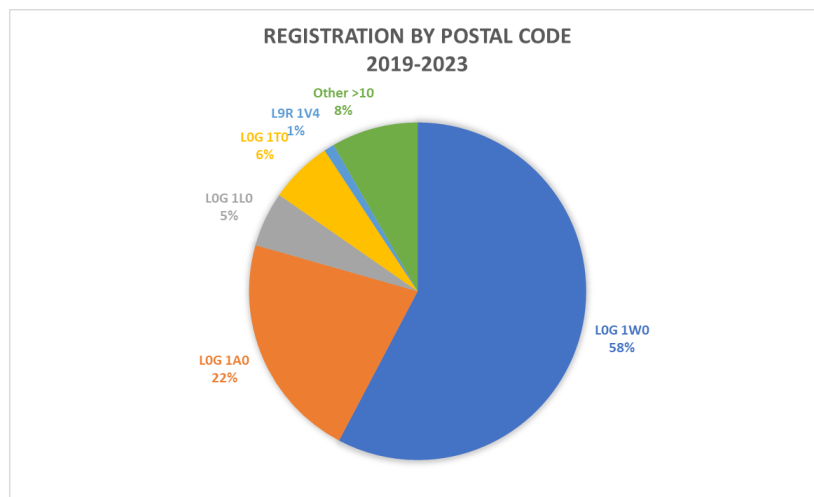
2023 TBDMSA U14 All-Star Game Participants

TBDMSA Registration Research Key Findings

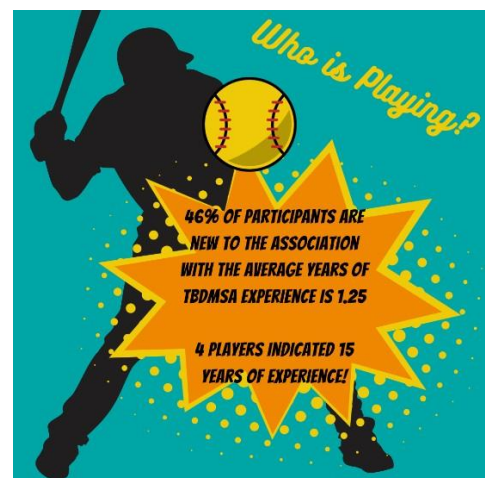
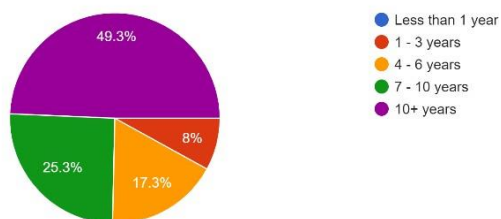


Registration Per Division 2022 vs 2023

					
U5 / T-ball	U7	U14	U10	U19	U3 / Blastball
8 teams	6 teams	6 teams	5 teams	4 Teams	3 teams
96 players	72 players	72 players	60 players	48 players	45 players
No change	+1 team	+3 teams	+1 team	+1 team	No change



How long have you been a resident of the New Tecumseth area?
75 responses



Development Report

Submitted by Kevin Boston

After a few years interrupted by the Pandemic, the TBDMSA recognized Player Development as an area that needed improvement.

Pitching was the priority and the TBDMSA offered a free eight-week Pitching Clinic during the off-season. Led by high performance softball pitcher and local Coach, Sasha Laroque, players aged 8-19 participated in a series of drills to help improve their skills. Response was very positive to the Clinic and Membership requested to expand the Clinic offerings to batting and fielding.

There were additional resources provided to Coaches this season including help videos for Wet Field Policy and completing a game sheet. Coaches also had access to the Softball Canada TIMBITS manual aimed at ages 5-10 years old.

Two Coaches meetings, one on May 10 and the second on September 13, were held to speak with Coaches about the season and discuss issues around Player Development. Several key findings were discovered through this process including improving practices.

The Post-Season Membership survey indicated that Player Development is one of the priorities and will be thoroughly discussed for the 2024 season.



The Pitching Clinic was a big hit for Player Development.

Coaches Report

Submitted by Erin Forrester

Several changes occurred with respect to TBDMSA Coaches in an effort to improve the quality of Coaching and overall safety of participants.

New policies came into effect this season for Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC) and Respect in Sport Activity Leaders training (See Risk Management Report for details). 63 coaches completed the VSC ensuring each team with one coach with a completed VSC.

It is recommended that Coaches provide the geographical area and the name of their local law enforcement agency (OPP, York, Toronto etc.) when completing the VSC as not all agencies operate the same. For example, the Nottawasaga OPP Detachment does not charge a fee to process the VSC but others do. The Association is discussing reimbursement options.

There was a grace period of June 1 to allow Coaches to submit their VSC however it is recommended that VSC should be completed before the season starts to help ease the pressure of rostering Coaches.

There was a high rate of completion through the TBDMSA for the Respect in Sport Activity Leaders training. It was nice to see that many of our coaches had already completed the modules as part of their involvement in other sporting activities.

Coaches were encouraged to review the Code of Conduct as outlined in the TBDMSA Manual of Operations for the TBDMSA as there were some instances of poor behaviour as discussed in the Risk Management Report.

Coach Recruitment vetting process is parent led. As soon as I received a registration that has a "yes" for a parent willing to coach, I reach out with this email "Hello, my name is Erin Forrester and I am the Registration Coordinator for the TBDMSA. I saw on your child's registration that you were interested in coaching his team this year? Can you confirm that this is the case and if you have anyone in mind to assist you?" There was nobody that turned me down. If they did have an assistant in mind, I made a note and when the registration came in, I make sure to attach them to that team.



TBDMSA hosted two Coaches Meetings, one at the start of the season and the second at the end of the season.

Officials Report

Submitted by Lisa Williams

The 2023 season ended strong with all 13 of our Jr Umpires still actively employed. There were some challenges with keeping all Jr. Umpires active therefore the Association should discuss setting a limit of how many Jr. Umpires to employ and determine what that number should be. It is a fine balance to make sure we have enough umpires, but also have enough work and equipment for everyone. If we have the unfortunate “problem” of employing more Jr. Umpires than needed, we will need guidelines in place prioritizing returning ump and league players. We will need to select only some candidates, and need to have clear eligibility parameters.



Jr. Umpires did an exceptional job in 2023!

We currently have two Jr. Umpires that do not plan on coming back while the Association was also approached by a few new umpire candidates who expressed interest for 2024.

There were two new carded umpires who joined Al McMullen’s Senior Umpire team. There was a lot of good feedback from that team as well. There is still a big need for more carded umpires and Al McMullen is working on that.

Discussion is needed regarding a graduated pay scale as incentive and reward to encourage retention of our seasoned umpires upon which we rely so heavily on to train all our new juniors. There was a discussion during an Executive Meeting examining what hockey organizations are successfully doing to recruit and retain officials including increasing pay and posting the position as a part-time job rather than the traditional approaches.

This year’s Jr. Umpire Training Clinic was run by Al McMullen and myself. 12 Jr. Umpires attended including a couple from the Alliston Softball League. The TBDMSA provided snacks, drinks and pizza due to the length of the training clinic. One returning umpire who could not attend the clinic completed an online Softball Canada refresher course and successfully passed for a total of 13 carded Jr. Umpires. It is recommended that umpire clinic announcements should include the requirement that anyone who cannot attend the TBDMSA Jr. Umpire Clinic as scheduled, will not be able to umpire that season.

The Jr. Umpire Clinic lasted four hours long (one hour longer than 2022). With the increased number of umpires, we still struggled to get it all completed. Moving forward, the Jr. Umpire Clinic should be 4.5 - 5 hours to have more time to discuss expectations of coaches and how to deal with problematic coaches and parents, ejections and forfeits.

There was a suggestion to have the umps bring their ball gear and have role-play scenarios with some “out of control” coaches to help umpires problem solve situations. This would be a fun way to team build before the first game and see how these coaches are handled so they are more comfortable to make that call.

Overall, the Clinic was well received.

As a result of the numerous Rules of Play changes adopted at the 2022 AGM, it was a challenge for umpires to adjust however they quickly did and understood the updates.

The Rule Changes were made with the intent to improve the overall enjoyment of the game. They were generally well received but some need finer tuning to also clarify the scenarios we had not considered while maintaining the intent of the rule. This should make things more clear and easier for everyone.

Notably areas where Jr. Umpires need support included the U10 Division where Coaches move from pitching to Players pitching to opposing teams. In addition, stealing is introduced in this age group.

At the Year-End Coaches Meeting, a predominate feedback was the large number of walks in the U10 division and that umpires need to make the strike zone even bigger for the pitchers. This issue was addressed during the season to encourage Jr. Umpires to increase the strike zone.

Prior to the Post-Season Weekend, the TBDMSA gathered all Jr. Umpires to prepare them for the weekend. This included anticipating higher emotions from players, parents, and coaches and how to manage situations. In addition, the Jr. Umpires were informed that a Board Member would be present at each game to support them when needed.

In summary, we had a great season with several learning experiences along the way, which was expected with the record-breaking membership registration. With all things considered, the season finished strong and on a high note due to all the endless efforts of all.

Overall, I heard a lot of positive feedback regarding all of our umpires and their conduct and the great job they did. Perhaps most of all, I am happy to report most intend to return next season.

Junior Umps:

NEW UMPIRES		RETURNING UMPs	PREV YEARS EXPERIENCE
Andrew O		Alexander R	2
Katelyn M		Jackson H	1
Liam C		Jackson P	1
Leeson C		Kaleb W-F	4
Matthew M		Owen H	1
Parker B		Reilly C	1
		Riley W-F	3

Risk Management Report

Submitted by Kevin Boston with Lisa Williams

With an emphasis to improve participant safety and mitigate risk, the TBDMSA adopted two new policies (1) all Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Board of Directors (aged 18 years and older) within the TBDMSA must complete a Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC) through the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and (2) one team representative and each Board Member complete the Respect in Sport Activity Leaders (RISAL) course by June 1 of the calendar year in order to participate in the TBDMSA. It was also recommended that additional coaching staff or volunteers provide a VSC and complete the RISAL Course. If a Member was currently certified in the RISAL training, they would not have to take the course again as they would provide proof of certification. There was no resistance to this new policy and every team and Board Member was certified and provided a VSC.

Prior to the start of the season, South Simcoe Physiotherapy spoke with all TBDMSA Coaches about Concussion Management and the resources they offer to monitor player's health and safety. These resources were made available on the TBDMSA website's dedicated Risk Management Menu.

A new Inappropriate Behaviour Incident online form was created to provide Membership the opportunity to provide documented details on incidents. There were two Coach Ejection incidents reported in U7 and U14 and were dealt with by the President with no suspensions issued. Membership was also issued an e-mail during the season about Code of Conduct followed by a gentle reminder prior to the Post-Season Weekend.

There were four formal complaints made to the Jr. Umpire in Chief about Code of Conduct issues including the Coach ejections noted. All complaints were addressed by the Board.

Due to the unusually wet summer, there were several games and practices postponed or cancelled due to the Wet Field Policy issued by the Town of New Tecumseth. The Wet Weather Policy was clearly posted on the website in the form of the written policy, an action flow-chart and a short video on YouTube. Coaches were reminded about the Wet Field Policy throughout the summer.



2023 saw an exceptionally high number of games and practices postponed due to wet fields.

In another set of unusual weather circumstances, there were two incidents of smoke advisories issued by the Simcoe-Muskoka Public Health Unit. Advisories were posted on the website and public health guidelines were taken into account by the TBDMSA on how to deal with the situations. The TBDMSA communicated the public health unit advisories, which included recommendations but not mandates to cancel games or practices.

Special Events Report

Submitted by Kevin Boston

Since the 2021 review of TBDMSA Special Events, such as the Opening Weekend and Post-Season Weekend, the Association has continued to move in a direction of maintaining and improving services while minimizing the load on volunteers.

The Opening Weekend “tournament” consisted of regular season games and concessions provided by The Lori-Go-Round Food Truck and Ice Cream Truck. A post-event survey was issued to the Membership and the event was well-received by all participants.

The big event has traditionally been the Post-Season Weekend. It is a tournament playoff format based on regular season standings with elimination games to crown a Division Champion. All Divisions with the exception of Blastball and T-Ball competed in the Playoff Tournament format. Blastball did not play during the weekend but T-Ball competed on one of the tournament days allowing them to be a part of the excitement.



Tug of War sponsored by Feehely Gastaldi Barristers and Solicitors was one of the family and team activities on Post-Season Weekend.

There was an emphasis to change the format of award presentations and to make the event more of a “community and family” experience.

Regular Season medals and team photographs were provided to the team Coaches to present to their players following their first playoff game. Meanwhile, Championship medals, hats and trophies were presented to the teams by a TBDMSA Board Member. Traditionally all award presentations were done at the same time at a dedicated time on the final afternoon. With larger Membership numbers, low-turnout of Members returning to the park for a medal presentation, logistics were modified to a more efficient format.

Championship hats were introduced this season with thanks to a sponsorship from Rumber Construction. Hats were extremely well received. Championship game awards were presented on the field of the final game of each division to capture the emotion of the championship with a ceremony that reflected traditional sport championships.

Concessions at the Post-Season Weekend is a service we provide to include basic snacks, food and refreshments. With the challenges of finding volunteers, concessions were outsourced to The Lori-Go- Round, Cedar Kitchen, Beavertails and an Ice Cream Truck.

Special Events at the Post-Season Weekend included a Movie Night in the Park on the Friday evening; and photobooth and tug of war rope and radar gun on the Saturday.



Beavertails were a popular and tasty treat!

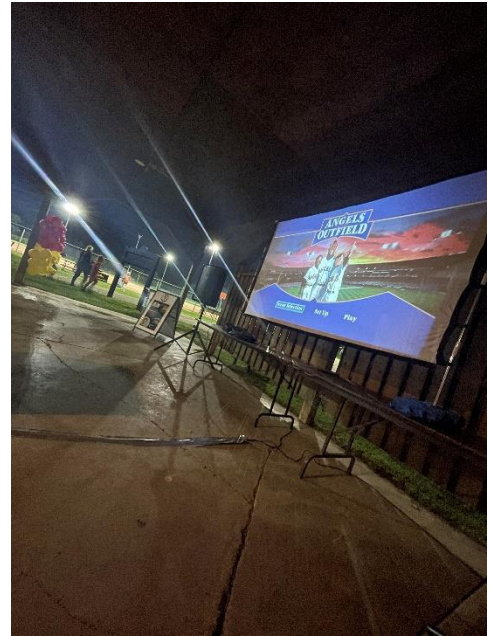
The Movie Night started at dusk and unfortunately not all teams were able to attend due to their game schedule. Free Popcorn and Cotton Candy was provided to Membership. A movie license was required at a cost of \$300. The movie was Angels in the Outfield. Thank you to Dinoland Family Fun Centre for sponsoring Baseball Movie Night in the Park.

The Photobooth was present for four hours. Members engaged in fun team-bonding photos and were provided with a printed copy of their photo. 200 photos were taken during that time period.

The Tug of War and Radar Gun were well received despite the rainy weather.

Volunteer Recruitment began by reaching out to people who expressed interest in their league registration. We also posted volunteer opportunities on our website and Facebook page. Only four people signed up to volunteer for the weekend and none of them reported for duty.

A post-season Membership survey was issued and there was a lot of great feedback provided.



Baseball Movie Night in the Park sponsored by Dinoland was a first-time experience in the history of Coventry Park!

Regular Season Division Champions

Congratulations to our 2023 Regular Season Division Champions!



U7
Trevor's Roof Repair (13-3-0)



U10
McGoey Brothers Insurance (9-1-2)



U14
Tanner Self Storage (10-6-0)



U19
Abcore Physiotherapy (14-2-0)

Post-Season Division Champions

Congratulations to our 2023 Championship Weekend Champions!



U7
K2 Milling defeated Trevor's Roof Repair
12-9



U10
K2 Milling defeated McGoeys Brothers Insurance
14-12



U14
The Scissor Boutique defeated Vince's Market
9-8



U19
AbCore Physiotherapy defeated YG-1 Canada
Tools 16-11



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