

**Regional Softball Academy**  
**North Coast Region – Committee Meeting Agenda**

Meeting- Steve Wagner's Residence - 3 Dianne Court Caboolture

Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of December, 2008

1. **Time Commenced:** 7.40pm
2. **Present:** Rob Blathford, Jamie Ogden, Richard Wakeman, Stephen Shorten, Ron Flint, Steve Wagner, Scott McIntyre, Mark Mawn.
3. **Apologies:** LJ Bampton, Bruce & Chris Challenor.
4. **Adoption of Previous Minutes** for the meeting held on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2008. Minutes of the Management Committee dated the 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2008 received and confirmed subject to some minor changes.  
**Moved:** Ron Flint                      **Seconded:** Richard Wakeman                      Carried.
5. **Business Arising from Previous Minutes**
  - (a) Carnival – held over for general business.
6. **Correspondence - Inwards/outwards**

**Motion:** That the inwards be received and the outwards correspondence be adopted.  
**Moved:** Steve Wagner                      **Seconded:** Jamie Ogden                      Carried
7. **Financial Report**
  - (a) Account Balances Report income/expenditure as previous.
  - (b) Month/Year to Date Actual & Budget Income & Expenditure.
8. **Administrators Report**
  - (a) **Objections/Support for carnival**
  - (b) **Treasurers' Position.**

The need for allocation of this position as a separate responsibility highlighted. Some problems also exist with utilising existing accounts through Redcliffe in terms of checking for payments and for reporting purposes.

**Motion:** That the committee approve the new position of treasurer to assist with Management and reporting of finances for Academy.  
**Moved:** Steve Wagner                      **Seconded:** Rob Blatchford                      Carried.
9. **Head Coach Report**
  - (a) **Presentation to parents 23<sup>rd</sup> of November**

Although the parents didn't say so it appeared that most parents had a sigh of relief when we decided not to pursue the Canberra trip. No objections were identified to this.

**(b) Coaching items.**

Possibility of splitting teams up into male and female teams sooner was spoken about in terms of reducing distractions and promoting harmony within the teams.

**(c) Tournament – Academy Teams.**

Stephen had sourced a number of contacts within Softball to identify interest in participation in a Regional Academy Tournament. Feedback from 5 associations was fairly positive.

It appears that some interest has been gauged from the following Associations:

- Rockhampton
- Ipswich
- Logan
- Cairns
- Bundaberg
- Mt Isa
- Redlands
- Toowoomba

**(d) Carnival Date**

Some discussion and options on most suitable time of year were detailed with the committee deciding to proceed with the Labour Day long weekend on May 2<sup>nd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The best located association particularly when we review previous development operations was agreed to be Rockhampton. Stephen has had some preliminary discussions with a contact in Rockhampton who has offered support for the proposal.

**(e) Discussion with Qld Re Tournament**

Letter to be forwarded to Qld asking for sanctioning of this event which may become a regular annual event as part of Qld Academy programs. Will particularly need to source the contact details of individuals within each respective academy group as a point of contact to commence negotiations. Steve Wagner has offered to talk to the umpiring coordinator to determine interest and ability of umpires to support event. Mark will contact Qld and will organise a meeting with Kim and possibly Sue to discuss the Academy and the tournament event.

It was articulated that any Academy program that wishes to build and sustain growth must have an outlet for demonstrating improvements as a means to fostering continued involvement of athletes in the program. This is an issue that really will not be confined to our Academy program and obviously we are developing as we go, but this consideration will be one that will grow in demand as the number of academy programs that come on line develops.

**(f) Sponsorship – Funding assistance.**

It was recommended that Mark speak to Qld about the opportunity of sourcing junior development funding to assist with the overall event as a holistic approach to supporting academy programs operating through out the State.

**(g) Format of Tournament**

It was generally agreed that maximum game participation should where possible be a priority for the tournament. Where Academies do not have full teams combined groups could be considered.

**(h) Progress Report**

Report on progress made needs to be presented at next meeting. Will also need to look to have up to 5 people on a sub committee to organise this event. This should include a contact in Rocky possibly Tanya Abbott. Tasks list will also need to be prepared for the event.

**10. General Business Items**

**(a) End of season event**

Some discussions held in respect to how we wished to formally end the season. Carnival options for 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Jamie will check with Caboolture Sports club for prices for a presentation evening. BBQ options and price considerations will need to be taken into account.

Awards presented during the event may include the presentation of Academy Number of selected Qld players as part of our hall of fame for the web site. Determining who will be the number 1 from the 4 players selected in Qld U/16 teams from the Academy may come down to a lucky draw on the night. Other outstanding achievements also need to be recognised including the other athlete selected in the squad but not the final team. As the whole 5 players will be eligible for selection in 2009 the overall result for the Academy really has been outstanding.

**(b) Head Coach Position**

Stephen agreed to see the Academy through until the tournament and presentation. Next year it was recommended that with the increase in numbers we will need to have two head coaches and a coaching director.

It was further recognised that each Association has to do more to try identifying and encouraging the development of coaches including trainee coaches. Next year if we could have up to 10 trainee coaches (particularly from representative teams) it would be fantastic, these coaches could then be encouraged to progress to Association assistant coaches for representative teams.

**11.** Next meeting will be held at 7.30pm at Caboolture Softball grounds on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2009 (Subject to availability).

**12.** Closure of Meeting 8.55 pm.