

## Regional Softball Academy

### North Coast Region – Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting- Caboolture Softball Grounds Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2008.

1. **Time Commenced:** 7.36pm

2. **Present:** Bruce Challenor, Chris Challenor, Judy Losberg, Terry Rubesaame, L.J. Bampton, Ron Flint, Steve Shorten, Steve Wagner, Mark Mawn

3. **Apologies:** Annette Chapman (Noosa), Sherry Beauchamp (QSA).

4. **Adoption of Previous Minutes:**

Corrections: Terry last name recorded incorrectly, Bruce Challenor to be Caboolture delegate, Ron Flint to be Redcliffe delegate.

**Motion:** That subject to changes above the minutes of the North Coast Regional softball academy for the month of December 2007 be received and confirmed.

**Moved:** Chris Challenor                      **Seconded:** Ron Flint.                      Carried

5. **Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

Items held over for General Business.

6. **Correspondence - Inwards/outwards**

**Inwards:** Letter from Sunshine Coast re commitment for 3 years.  
Email from Qld re difficulty receiving minutes on system.

**Outwards:** Emails – Minutes to delegates.  
Emails – Reminder meeting date delegates/Associations.  
Email – Agenda for January meeting.

**Motion:** That the inwards correspondence be received and the outwards correspondence be adopted for the period December 2007 – January 2008.

**Moved:** Ron Flint                      **Seconded:** Judy Losberg                      Carried.

7. **Financial Report**

- (a) Account Balances Report – Nil at this stage.
- (b) Month/Year to Date Actual & Budget Income & Expenditure – nil at this stage.

8. **Administrators Report**

Meeting with QSA – will be organised for next week.

9. **Head Coach Report**

Not yet appointed.

## 10. General Business Items:

### (a) Signing of Agreement

Discussion held re Association signing of document committing each Association to the Academy. Bruce produced document originally forwarded included Noosa. All Association representatives signed the document except Noosa who were not present at meeting. Bruce indicated that he will follow up with discussion with Noosa and will forward copy of the document to QSA. It was indicated that should Noosa not wish to take part in this opportunity that the QSA would approve the operation of the Academy under the operation of the other 3 Associations within the Region.

### (b) Operation of Program

Discussions held re the operation of the program with several different documents forwarded to Associations in the last 2 years. Involvement of Qld in the Academy program, support and funding issues all discussed. All Associations were clear that no funding support was available from Qld to support the Academy and that the program would have to exist on its own merit and under a self funding platform.

### (c) Head Coach.

Position discussed in some length. All associations indicated that they had had discussions with members of their own Associations in regards to coaching interest. All indicated that where a suitably qualified coach did exist they were not interested in undertaking the Head Coach role due to other commitments. Association representatives did indicate that they believed they had good interest in individual coaches wishing to take part in the program to learn and develop coaching skills

Committee were very happy that a coach of the quality and ability of Steve Shorten had expressed a desire to undertake the position. The Associations felt that as they had sort expressions and nominations from within the various Associations and that only one nomination for the head coach position had been received that the Academy should take the opportunity to move forward with planning and recommend to Qld the appointment of the sole nominee for the position.

**Motion:** That the nomination of Steve Shorten for the North Coast Regional Softball Academy be accepted and that confirmation of the recommendation for appointment of Steve Shorten be forwarded to Qld for consideration of appointment.

**Moved:** Judy Losberg                      **Seconded:** LJ Bampton                      Carried.

### (d) Camp Venue – June

Some discussions held concerning the best possible venue for the camp scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> of June 2008. The three venues discussed were the Margate facility, Ewen Maddock dam camp and Currimundi Recreation Camp.

It was determined that the head coach would have a look at the different venues and would liaise with the administrator for a recommendation for the next meeting.

It was considered essential to utilise best possible facilities particularly in the first year to ensure the successful operation of the Academy.

**(e) Academy schedule.**

Item discussed and it was felt that once the whole Academy document was received from QSA the academy coach and committee would be in a better position to understand what further commitments were required. Issues such as length of period participants remained in the program, tenure of coach and committee, age groups of participants selected initially, Regional Carnivals.

Group agreed that particularly in the early stages of the academy development some flexibility needs to be allowed for the Head coach in developing the program and schedule.

**(f) Cost Considerations**

Camp -	\$130
Shirt	\$30
Administration	\$20 Per player (x 30 players = \$600)
Equipment Levy	\$10 per Player
Extra's – Water Bottle	\$10
Cap	\$10
Total	\$210.

Cost does include provision of covering coaching costs for the implementation of program. To do this effectively we would need to multiply number of player's i.e 5 that will need to cover coaching cost considerations. For the purpose of this exercise should multiply actual costs of all items academy will supply i.e. Camp+Shirt+Cap = \$170 x 5 = \$850 then divide by number of players it takes to cover the cost of the coaches (4). \$850 divide by 4 = \$212.50.

Provision made in the admin component to allow for some reimbursement of expenses for Academy head Coach for travel etc. No provision has been made to cover head coach from each Association. Once we determine exactly what we would like to provide and whether some costs will be covered through each individual Association a more accurate budget can be developed.

Individual Associations may wish to determine to provide some level of sponsorship for players attending. Each Association needs to be careful when considering this as we do not want to get into a slinging match in terms of player loyalty.

Previous indications are for the Rocky Regional Academy squads cost (that was held over a weekend) also cost around \$250. Making some allowances to have some money in the bank to support ongoing years of operation of the Academy will be helpful in gauging future budget considerations.

Associations indicated different options in terms of covering costs of coaches participating. Caboolture indicated they would most likely cover the costs, Redcliffe currently cover 50% of costs where coaches go away, Sunshine Coast have a very tight budget and will need to consider further, Association will go back to committees to determine how this will be achieved.

Bruce indicated that one of the key issues identified to him by Noosa was the need to ensure the academy was family friendly particularly in terms of costs.

Discussion on shirt (which would be essential) and would be worn by participants as a badge of honour. Chris will organise a few quotes/designs for next meeting.

Administrator indicated that we would probably need to have a uniform structure in terms of fees. Where costs become an issue for a particular family the Academy would ask that all fee's be paid in full by the due date and that in instances where this is not possible from an individual family that a process be implemented at local association to accommodate this. Whether the Association sponsors some of these costs or allows payment plans will need to be determined at local level and the Association in this instance would need to be invoiced by the Academy. Particularly at the implementation stage the forwarding of relevant payments will be essential to the successful operation of the program.

**(g) Bank Account/Incorporation**

Bruce spoke about the possibility of setting up own bank account and possibly also becoming incorporated. Redcliffe have indicated provision of its existing banking system to support the program initially.

This matter will be further discussed with Sherry & Sue (QSA) at first opportunity.

**11. Next Meeting**

Next meeting of the North Coast Regional Softball Academy will be held on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2008 at Caboolture Softball grounds commencing at 7.30pm.

**12. Closure of Meeting**

Chairperson thanked everyone for attendance and closed the meeting at 9.40pm