

Regional Softball Academy
North Coast Region – Committee Meeting Minutes
Meeting- Caboolture Softball Grounds Monday the 11th of February 2008.

1. **Time Commenced:** 7.40pm

Present: Bruce Challenor, Chris Challenor, Judy Losberg, Ron Flint, Steve Shorten, Sherri Beauchamp (QSA), Mark Mawn,

2. **Apologies:** Terry Rubesaame, L.J. Bampton, Steve Wagner.

3. **Point of order:**

Redcliffe delegate pointed out that the Administrator should be the person to Chair meetings of the Nth Coast Regional Softball Academy. This was generally accepted by all present.

4. **Adoption of Previous Minutes:**

Motion: That the minutes of the North Coast Regional softball academy for the month of January 2008 be received and confirmed.

Moved: Ron Flint **Seconded:** Bruce Challenor Carried

5. **Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

(a) QSA Agreement

Agreement has now been signed by all four Associations (Redcliffe, Caboolture, Sunshine Coast and Noosa). Bruce to pick up QSA Academy document on Thursday this will allow Sherri some time to have approved and to copy some items.

Motion: That we immediately proceed with affiliation with QSA with the four Softball Associations within the region.

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

(b) Camp Venue

Stephen Shorten indicated he had visited Ewen Maddock campsite and felt that it would be appropriate to use for the June camp. The site itself backs onto Sunshine Coast Softball Assoc grounds and also has a range of recreation options to support the operation of the camp.

Motion: That we proceed with booking of the Ewen Maddock camp facility for the weekend of the 27th -29th of June 2008.

Moved: Stephen Shorten **Seconded:** Judy Losberg Carried.

(c) Cost Consideration for Academy Participants

Associations to cover the costs of coaches participating in program. \$130 allowed for camp in original budget will assist to cover costs of Academy head coach, administrator/camp coordinator and up to 2 guest presenters and other incidental outlays.

In terms of costs for each person (coaches/participants) the cost of \$210 for the year was agreed to be fair and reasonable.

The Academy administrator will need to receive the payment of \$210 per participant regardless of any Association financial predicament and regardless of the players identified having the financial means to raise the necessary funds. In a case where a player is unable to afford to pay full fee's a process is recommended to be put in place at Association level. Whether any of the Associations wish to sponsor some of the costs or set up payment plans to assist players will be the responsibility of each individual Association. In each instance the Academy needs to receive the funds in full and perhaps then could produce a receipt at Association level for reimbursement of costs, should any Association wish to sponsor any participants. Where full fee's have not been received by the administrator it will be the delegate from the relevant association who will need to take responsibility to follow up and advise administrator of situation. Associations will be invoiced for coaches participating in academy program.

Motion: That the fee of \$210 be charged for each participant in the North Coast Regional Softball Academy.

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

(d) Logo's

Stephen Shorten produced a Logo representing colours from across the range of Associations that reflected the region and softball.

Motion: That we adopt the Logo as a representation of the North Coast Regional Softball Academy.

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

6. **Correspondence - Inwards/outwards**
List of emails sent and received outlined.

7. **Financial Report**
(a) Nil to report - Account Balances Report.

8. **Administrators Report**

(a) **Meeting with QSA (Sherri)**

Meeting attended with Sherri on 30th January 2008. Feedback provided on the following matters.

Bank Account: QSA recommended that for the time being we operate under the umbrella of one of the District Associations.

Financial Procedures: Undertake to create own procedures which in our instance will be a form signed by two delegates of one delegate and the administrator authorising expenditure of funds. As we have already commenced this process with Redcliffe Assoc we will continue along this road.

Player/Coach agreements: These forms are in the manual.

Head Coach: Tenure not defined by QSA but recommended that 3 year term may be appropriate but two years could be considered. Matter will really be up to the Academy committee.

T-Shirts: Region can design own shirts and QSA would appreciate their logo being placed on the shirts.

QSA Selector: QSA will pay for first visit but any costs outside this area will need to be considered in our budget. Stephen Shorten indicated the desire to have regular assistance from specialised coaches or professionals.

9. Head Coach Report

Stephen Shorten (Head Coach) produced a document that included:

(a) Shirt design

Training shirt & cap discussed. Chris had also obtained some quotes for shirts with some design considerations. This matter will be held over until next meeting when a decision on all uniform items will be made.

(b) Other Issues identified

- Incorporation & Legal entity
- Internet address
- Letterhead
- PO Address
- Academy Moto (already accepted)
- Banking arrangements

(b) Proposed Action Calendar produced

Time Frame	Task
February	Finalise paperwork QSA. Obtain detail of the required QSA programs. Write the Camp program and the pre-Camp assessment programs.
March	Members are to select the nominees for the Academy. This includes Coaches and Athletes. Athlete criteria (subject to QSA guidelines): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boy and Girl athletes who are under 15 years of age as at 31/12/08• Numbers will be determined based on the quality of athletes nominating for our initial Athlete intake. Head Coach will make himself available to visit each Association to assist in the selection of Athletes wishing to nominate for inclusion in the Academy. The identification of nominees must be concluded by the end of March.
April	Armed with the QSA guidelines for selection, head Coach will again visit each Association in order to carry out testing based on QSA/ASF/Academy protocols.

April Continued	Based on this data & the opportunity of working with each athlete, the Head Coach will make a recommendation to the Academy Committee/QSA, stating details of physical testing, personality profiles & general observations of each athlete.
May	Head Coach will visit each Association in order to conduct a pre camp skills session with Athletes and Coaches. The major purpose of this visit is to empower the local Association coaches to take charge of the Athlete preparation program, based on the recommendations and observations of the Head Coach. Extra time will be spent assisting Coaches one-on-one with any aspect of the skills sessions that they require additional information.
June	The North Coast Regional Softball Academy inaugural camp at Ewen Maddock dam campsite, Landsborough.

Discussion on timing: A range of matters were discussed in particular Caboolture were concerned that they would be unable to identify athletes before the end of March as the season has yet to commence. A time frame of the end of April was thought to be more achievable for the Associations just commencing the season. The Head coach indicated that he could work around these dates a little but if we are to have players receive the full benefit of the academy and particularly at the camp we need to commence action now.

It was suggested that even if particulars of every individual who may be selected into the academy is not known Associations should have some ideas in at least 75% of cases of who these young people are who are likely to be identified are. Caboolture are having difficulty contacted players for selection in representative teams. Administrator advised that he would be prepared to make this contact and follow up on commencement of recruitment if a list could be provided.

It was generally agreed that before the next meeting where at all possible, each Association delegates develop a list (based on historical understanding of players ability and potential) to assist with the launch of the Academy program.

Other Items:

Carnival

Proposal for Academy to conduct a softball carnival (at an Association venue) each Australia Day long weekend commencing January 2009. Held with U/14 & U/16 boys and girls teams plus invited Associations from near regions.

Timing of carnival will have a number of benefits including:

- Pre State titles exposure.
- Assist us to recognise recruits for 2009 Academy.
- Name – Sunshine Cup Tournament.

Participants of meeting were generally very accepting of concept which will need to be discussed further at a later date.

10. General Business Items

(a) QSA

Sherri advised that QSA were very happy with the progress of the North Coast Regional Academy and gave a brief outline of what was happening elsewhere.

(b) Development program pathway

Pathway discussed on how the academy process could be supported at local level. Program details of Redcliffe Development Squad outlined. The program will be run over 8 weeks run fortnightly, delivered by identified representative players at a cost of \$65 (including shirt). Caboolture indicated they are interested in running a program but the cost factors would have to be different.

(c) Tasks for next meeting

- Each Association to supply a list with address/contact details for consideration for player recruitment into program.
- Chris to obtain extra quote for shirt for decision next meeting.
- Try to organise representative from Noosa to attend meeting.
- Meeting night – return to Wednesday to allow improved opportunity for Sunshine Coast as Bruce will have finished with other commitment at this time.

(d) Appreciation

Committee thanks Sherri for attending the meeting and for support provided to the Academy in establishing the program.

11. **Next meeting** of the North Coast Regional Softball Academy will be held at Caboolture Softball Grounds on **Wednesday the 12th of March 2008** commencing at 7.30pm.

12. **Meeting Closed:** 9.15pm