

Mississauga SouthWest Baseball Association

2024 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, November 26th, 2024, 7:00pm

Tom Chater Park



Area Reports

Finance

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Revenues remained at the 2023 levels. Revenues were still 48k under the 2019 total. We did have a return of house league softball this year. We had 1 tournament partially rained out which triggered refunds
- We ended the year with a slight loss of expenses exceeding revenues.
- Our cash position remains in a solid position.
- Bingo generates 23k for the association

OPPORTUNITIES:

- We need to maintain, if not increase our enrollment, in order to continue maintaining the organizations purpose for being operational. This will lead to an increase in expenses as well and we need to be cognizant that we don't lose control of them but rather be vigilant keeping them in check.
- It is my opinion that the board should set a "minimum cash balance" to ensure that should we have another covid like situation we would be able to survive it as we were able to survive the covid crisis. My suggestion would be a minimum cash balance of \$50k. Our cash position took an 80k hit in the 1st year of covid. At that time we had a cash balance of 159k.
- Another option for deemed excess cash would be to buy a GIC to earn a return on these funds.

AREAS OF CONCERN:

- Expenses were higher than 2023 by 5% (20k).
- The city continued to cover our water, and electrical expenses this year, but this could come to an end at any time.
- Without building rentals and bingo we would have incurred an 40k deficit.
- Of 4 "jumpstart" applications submitted, 3 were denied therefore MSBA absorbed the registration costs for these players.
- The building is over 30 years old and MSBA spent 20k replacing lighting, and painting it this year.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS:

- I have provided you with 7 year comparative financial statements.
- In comparing 2019 with 2024 our current cash position has now returned to the position we were at in 2019.
- Our 2024 revenues were 48k below 2019.
- Our 2024 expenses were 24k below 2019.
- In December 2023 The association continued to “give back” by “donating” the use of the clubhouse to the Salvation Army for distribution of their Christmas baskets
- The summer camp brings in 13k of revenue
- Bingo brought in 23k net.
- There have been flooding issues this year which may bring new financial impacts to the association in the future.

Registrar

<u>Baseball</u>	Registration Fee	Teams	Players	Wait List	Players – 2024 Vs. 2023	Teams – 2024 Vs. 2023	New Player 2024 %	New Player 2023%
T-Ball	\$210	4	56	0	-34	-4	75%	63%
Rookie Ball	\$245	12	156	0	+33	+2	49%	39%
Tyke	\$305	6	78	2	-1	0	36%	39%
Peewee	\$305	4	52	0	0	0	29%	37%
Bantam	\$335	4	52	1	0	-1	17%	32%
Midget	\$335	4	60	3	+1	18	17%	17%
Total		34	454	3	+15	+2	45%	45%
Softball								
U23	\$335	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
U18	\$325	1	11	0	-3	0	100%	21%
U15	\$305	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
U13	\$275	1	13	0	+13	+1	85%	N/A
U11	\$255	1	14	0	+14	+1	93%	N/A
U9	\$255	1	12	0	+12	+1	100%	N/A
Total		4	50	0	+36	+3	94%	21%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Softball House League came back! Kudos to Jeff and Kelly.
- Increased registration fees by \$10 for Bantam and Midget baseball only.
- Increased registration fees by \$20 for U23 and U18 softball only
- Successful continuation of use road signs and social media ads.

- Summer baseball clinics were a success financially and well attended. Parent/player feedback was positive.
- Continued umpire recruiting message into registration marketing messaging.
- Tried flyers at schools – zero registrations as a result of seeing the flyer.
- Top 2 registration marketing tools – Family/Friend Referral (36%); Registrar Email (28%)

OPPORTUNITIES:

- U9 – U23 2024 house league softball expansion.
- Ensure registration fees remain competitive.
- Continue Winter softball clinics and August baseball clinics.
- Brainstorm T-ball age group school marketing tactics

AREAS OF CONCERN:

- Current and future Head Coach and Assistant Coach recruitment and development.
- Continued new player decline in T-Ball – 2022 (-50)

Building

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Profitable year in snackbar of over 2k Staff was exceptional and received many compliments.
- Building experienced numerous floods in 2024. City has been working on a solution to prevent further issues. MSBA has to install a new sump pump and maintain eavestrough cleaning. Quote for both will run approximately 4k dollars. Permission was granted by the city for MSBA to install a WHIMIS cage to house our Propane tanks at a cost of around 700 dollars.
- Tournament registration was exceptional as MSBA continues to be a leader in the province.
- Diamonds were better utilized in 2024 but still room for improvements. Batting cages continue to provide the committee with headaches so a new utilization plan will be implemented in 2025.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Increase profits with the snackbar and clubhouse rentals.

AREAS OF CONCERN:

- Ongoing maintenance and rising costs

House League Baseball

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Growth – our fourth consecutive year of growth, now 18 teams. We hope to equal our pre-COVID record size (19 teams) in 2025. Most HL programs in Ontario have declined and are now a fraction of their pre-COVID numbers.
- Coaching – our strongest group of coaches in recent memory. Special thanks to Bryan Bando for his coaching clinics. Congratulations to Joe Skotcher, MSBA HL Coach of the Year (coached the Tyke Jays, Peewee Pirates and HL all-stars).
- Tyke / Peewee – overall improved skill level (Austin Haasz' HL all-stars reached the semis in the Scarborough Select Peewee Tournament). Well balanced, competitive teams (12 of our 17 playoff games were decided by two runs or less, and none by more than six).
- Bantam – our four MSBA teams all reached the MBLL semis. This was the first time ever that all four semi-finalists were from the same association. Congratulations to Patrick Rosettis' Blue Jays, 2024 MBLL champions.
- Midget – 3 of our 4 MSBA teams reached the MBLL semis. Congratulations to Shawn Neil's Yankees, who won the 2024 MBLL Championship in a very exciting final, edging Frank Basile's Athletics 2 - 1. MSBA teams have now won the MBLL midget championship every year since 2018.
- MBLL – 2024 was perhaps the smoothest, best run season the MBLL has ever had. Thanks primarily to Commissioner Adam Merrett. Majors will likely now take over, as it is their turn to fill the Commissioner post for the next two years.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Growth – HL players from other associations continue to move to the MSBA. “Better coaching” and “better communication” are the reasons most often cited. Thanks to Elaine's communications team.
- All-star program – Bruce Thompson has added Select level tournaments for 2025, giving our strongest HL players additional opportunity to improve by playing against stronger competition.

AREAS OF CONCERN:

- Field Closures – the Parks Department needlessly closes all parks city-wide when our MSBA parks (Chater, SC, Ninth Line) are perfectly playable. We were able to play our HL playoffs only because Alvin Tedjo jumped through hoops at City Hall to have Chater unlocked and re-opened.
- Number 2 rep teams – HL players of average HL skill are moving to rep to play on newly created number two teams. The HL program ceases to be viable if tyke and/or peewee drop below the minimum 4-teams threshold needed for an in-house league.

Rep Baseball

COACH SELECTION AND TEAMS

2017-2024 Teams and Coaches Previous Years Continuity Comparison							
DIVISION	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
8U Minor Rookie	Michael Capenanu	Alvaro Morales	Alvaro Morales	Alvaro Morales	N/A	Alvaro Morales	Alvaro Morales
9U Rookie (T1)	Ace Ting	Marshall Blue	Ian Moszczak	Samuel Singh	Greg Haver	Edwin Chow	Christian Hawn
9U Rookie (T2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
10U Minor Mosquito (T1)	Alejandro Baez	Ian Moszczak	Samuel Singh	Jimmy Hardwick	Jeremy Shter	Christian Hawn	Chris Cornell
10U Minor Mosquito (T2)	Neil Rostant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11U Mosquitos (T1)	Ian Moszczak	Samuel Singh	Jimmy Hardwick	Jeremy Shter	Christian Hawn	Harold Briscoe	Kevin Challenger
11U Mosquitos (T2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Sean Steele
12U Minor Peewee (T1)	Ethan Park	Jimmy Hardwick	Jeremy Shter	Christian Hawn	Harold Briscoe	Kevin Challenger	Harold Briscoe
12U Minor Peewee (T2)	N/A	Derek Snider	N/A	N/A	Stephen Marting	Jimmy Hardwick	Jeff Webster
12U Minor Peewee (T3)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Gerald Nebel
13U Peewee (T1)	Jimmy Hardwick	Jeremy Shter	Christian Hawn	Bryan Bando	Kevin Challenger	Tim Logan	Gary Luther
13U Peewee (T2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Stephen Martin	Jimmy Hardwick	Gerald Nebel	N/A
14U Minor Bantam (T1)	Jeremy Shter	Christian Hawn	Bryan Bando	Ramon Oliveras	Gerald Nebel	Mike Irvin	Phil Policelli
14U Minor Bantam (T2)	Derek Snider	N/A	Stephen Martin	Brad Hodgins	Marco Banducci	N/A	Daniel Castro
15U Bantam (T1)	Christian Hawn	Bryan Bando	Brad Hodgins	Gerald Nebel	Ryan Hollo	Phil Plicelli	Ricard Egli
15U Bantam (T2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Marco Banducci	N/A	N/A	N/A
16U Minor Midget (T1)	Chris Fiore	David Huctwith	Gerald Nebel	Scott Leblanc	Dennis MacAree	Philip Beckman	Bryan Bando
16U Minor Midget (T2)	N/A	N/A	Marco Banducci	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
17U Midget (T1)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Bryan Bando	Dennis McAree
18U Midget (T1)	David Huctwith	N/A	David Huctwith	Dennis MacAree	Bryan Bando	David Huctwith	Nicholas Teo
18U Midget (T2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Nicholas Teo	N/A
22U Junior (T1)	Vincen DelRosario	Vincen DelRosario	Nicholas Teo	Nicholas Teo	George Smilka	George Smilka	N/A
22U Junior (T2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Nicholas Teo	N/A	N/A
Senior	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Mike Smith	Mike Smith
10U Minor Mosquito Selec	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11U Mosquitos Select	Tom Keane	N/A	N/A	Cliff Luis	N/A	N/A	Jimmy Hardwick
12U Minor Peewee Select	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
13U Peewee Select	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ryan Hollo
15U Bantam Select	N/A	N/A	Julie Hand	N/A	N/A	N/A	Philip Beckman
16U Midget Select	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Junior Select	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Teams	14	11	14	16	14	16	19
New H Coaches	6	2	2	5	4	3	3
Non-Returning HC	4	6	3	4	6	5	6

Note: Between the season of 2017 to 2025, a total of 43 coaches have left the MSBA Rep teams. Out of the 43 only one (1) has left because the team reached the Midget age. Four (4) other coaches had left because their players moved to Elite, 36 for another reason. For the same period, the MSBA teams got 33 new Head Coaches, reducing the total of our teams by 41% from 23 teams in 2017 to 11 teams in 2024 season. Also, we increase by 3 teams from 2024 to 2025

TRYOUTS

- 2024-25 Tryouts started after the Labor Day weekend in September. In previous years, tryouts started one week after the Labor Day weekend.

- Starting 2021 season we adopted a standard on-line tryout registration for all the players. The process saved time, we increased the number of players registered by 67% from 2021 to 2025 season and coaches were able to pre-plan the tryouts while also gathering accurate player information. Also, we increased the number of teams by 3 from 2024-2025 season

TRYOUT REGISTRATION BY DIVISIONS												
DIVISIONS	8U	9U	10U	11U	12U	13U	14U	15U	16U	18U	22U	Totals
2025	32	29	42	44	33	61	65	26	29	46	30	437
2024	20	45	53	39	54	33	42	36	38	46	20	426
2023	16	15	35	46	43	26	48	40	54	51	26	400
2022	9	9	22	20	25	23	24	24	21	34	27	238
2021	9	18	24	18	34	30	45	19	30	28	N/A	255

NUMBER OF TEAMS									
DIVISIONS	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	
T1	7	10	9	11	11	9	8	10	
T2	3	2	4	3	3	6	6	5	
Select	0	1	1	0	0	3	5	6	
Junior & Senior	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	
Total Teams	11	14	16	16	16	19	21	23	

WORKING WITH THE HOUSE LEAGUE (Grassroots development program for Rookie Ball Division)

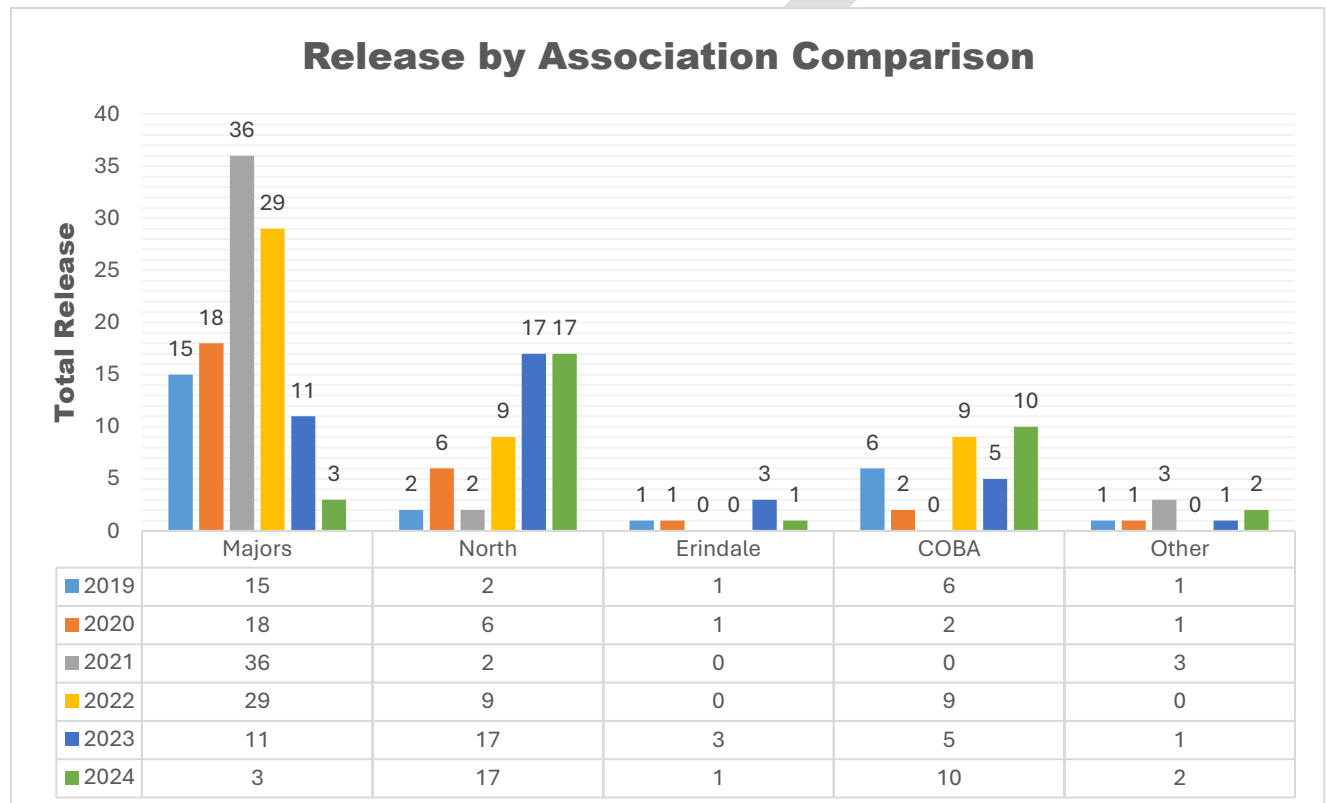
- We had implemented different approaches since we started on 2017 with the Rookie Ball Division. Initially we organized an All-Star House League Rookie Ball exhibition game, as well select HL players were invited to practice with the Rookie Rep teams. During the first two years the participation was average. Due to several factors such as the inconsistent players attendance, lack of participation and commitment from the house league players, starting at the end of the 2022 season new tactic was implemented, we invite both players and parents to our preseason indoor practices so they can see how our development program work, also we use the opportunity to educated them about how the rep program, as result of this approach we start including more house leagues players as a call up too.
- One of the results that we notices is that the participation at the tryouts for this age group (8U to 11U) had increase during the last 3 years
- All our Head Coaches for the 9U teams from 2018-2024 have been assistant coaches on our 8U teams this previous year that maintain some kind of continuity from the previous year developed program

RELEASES

- Starting the 2020 season Mississauga North, Mississauga Majors and Mississauga Southwest agreed to an open release tryout.

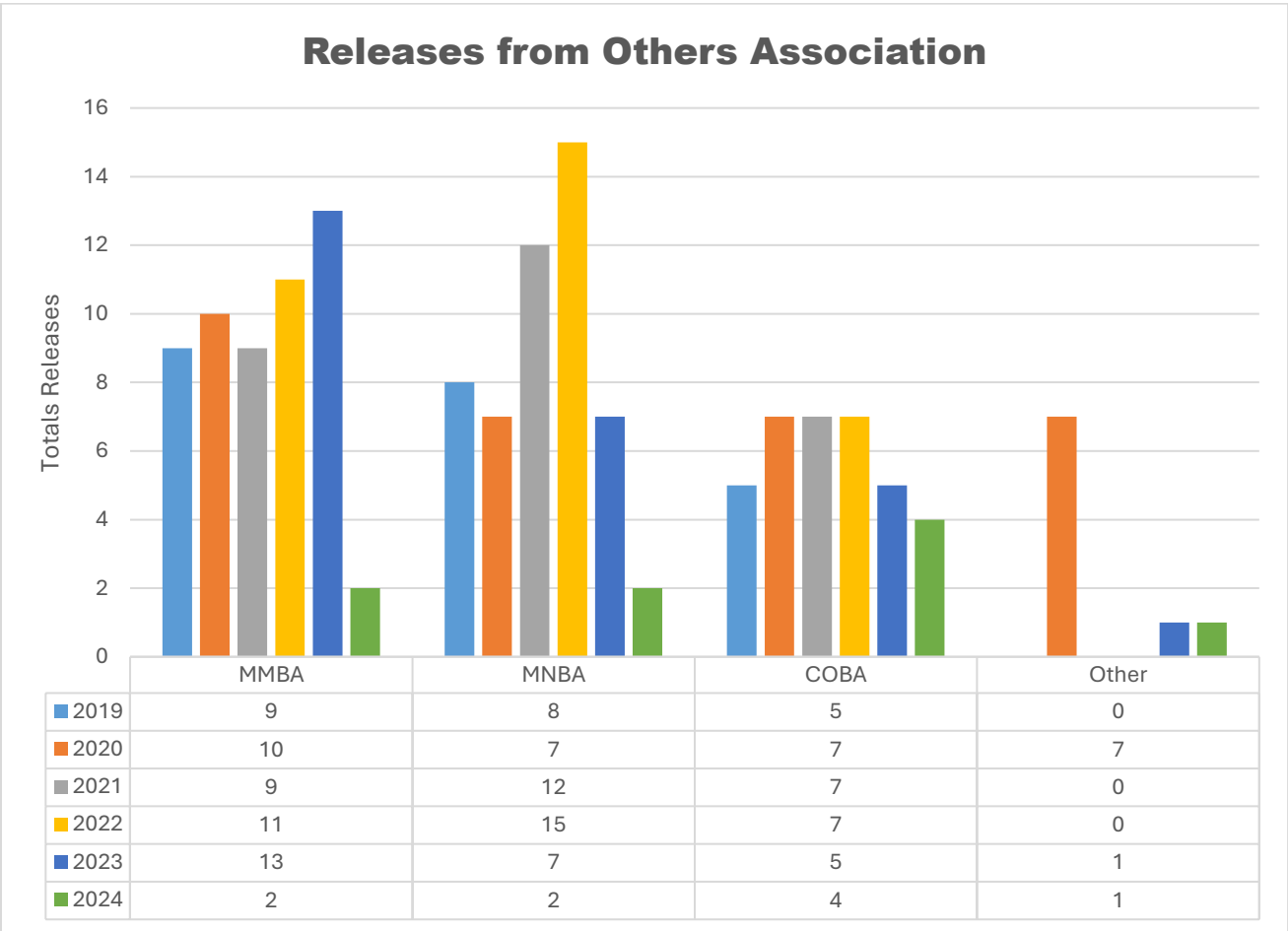
Note: Below you can see comparative graphs per year in relation to player releases to other organizations and from other organizations to MSBA

Releases granted decreased from 37 in 2023 to 33 in 2024, and continuing decreased to 14 in 2025 so far



2025 Season Tryout Registration and Releases

2025 Tryout Registration		2025 Total Releases by Association		2025 Releases By Age G	
Division	Register	Association	Releases	Division	Assoc
10U Minor Mosquito (2015)	42	Brampton	2	10U	4
11U Mosquito (2014)	44	Erindale	1	11U	0
12U Minor Peewee (2013)	33	Majors	4	12U	1
13U Peewee (2012)	61	MNBA	2	13U	3
14U Minor Bantam (2011)	65	Open	4	14U	0
15U Bantam (2010)	26	TBA	1	15U	1
16U Minor Midget (2009)	29	Total	14	16U	3
18U Midget (2007-2008)	46			18U	2
22U Juiour (2003-2006)	30			8U	0
8U Junior Rookie (2017)	32			9U	0
9U Senior Rookie (2016)	29			Total	14
Grand Count	437				



Total Players Release to MSBA From 2019 to 2024 by Association:

- MMBA: 54; MNBA:51; COBA; 35; Other Org; 9

MSBA REP and SELECT PLAYER Dual REGISTRATION

- Players are required to complete an online registration with MSBA as mandated by Baseball Ontario. The completion of registration also confirms that the players being registered have reviewed the player code of conduct and the Province of Ontario’s Rowan’s Law. Failure to comply will result in ineligibility to play and be on the team roster.

2025 season Rep Fees were collected in October 2025 First Installment (275.00 per player and 25.00 for import player)

UNIFORM FITTING

- Corbett’s Source for Sports has been the provider over the past years
- Some complaints were the same as previous years. Also some items were not delivered on time

PLAYER TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT: Fall, Winter Training

- Coaches designed and facilitated their training program based on both the team's and gym's possibilities. We are beginning to work on a training and development plan that is tailored to the needs of the teams according to the level of their players and the level they play, that can be maintained, adapted and improved in a consistent manner according to the growth of the teams and development of the players.

GYM TRAINING

- Private facilities and school gyms were available were used very actively this year.

COACH'S TRAINING & CLINICS

- **NCCP CLINIC:** Baseball Ontario continuing to closely monitor coaches' certification. All our Head Coaches and Assistant coaches full-fill their NCCP requirement for the level that they are coaching

COACH'S MONTHLY MEETING

- MSBA Rep coaches typically meet monthly on the last Sunday of every month which started in the beginning of September in preparation for the tryouts and ending in May in preparation for the season. This year all our meetings took place at MSBA Club House, having almost 100% participation.
- During the meetings, topics discussed:
 - Tryouts, Rosters, Uniforms, Off Season Training, NCCP Clinics and coaches' requirements, BEC, Releases, Call ups, Arm Care Rule, MSBA's Tournaments, Division Loops, development programs, coaches' responsibilities etc.

2024 SEASON PARTICIPATION

- Our teams had a very active participation during the season, attending regular games, tournaments, COBA qualifiers and some of them when to the OBA provincial championship on the Labor Day weekend

Rookieball / T-Ball

Rookie Ball:

12 teams, no major issues with teams or parents. Very successful year end tournament, all positive feedback.

T-Ball:

Down to 4 teams, highly recommend strategy change as we have dropped from 8 to 4 teams in the past 2 years. Field strategy, lack of central organization (request playing at Tom Chater) believed to be a major contributor to lack of progress in T-Ball.

Umpires

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Considered a successful season by the Umpire-In-Chief (UIC)
- Feedback from coaches received by UIC was more often positive than negative
- MSBA entered into an agreement with Erindale Baseball Association which saw MSBA schedule officials for a set amount of Erindale home games, and charge a per-game fee for this service
- Less than a half-dozen reported incidents / ejections reports, association-wide
- Over 730 games scheduled this season
- Only 8 games cancelled with pay

OPPORTUNITIES:

- OBA to bring forward a Level 3 umpire mentorship program, with potential for MSBA to participate

AREAS OF CONCERN:

- Recruitment and retention of officials should be monitored as always
- MSBA due to assess umpire pay rates against neighbouring associations to ensure MSBA remains competitive
- One reported incident resulted in supplementary discipline being applied by both MSBA and COBA

Softball

MSW Hurricanes Softball 2024

Teams for 2024

- U9 – Played in 14 regular season games, finishing 8th out of 8 teams
- U11 – Played in 14 regular season games, finishing 5th out of 8 teams
- U13 – Played in 16 regular season games, finishing 5th out of 7 teams
- U18 – Played in 18 regular season games, finishing 3rd out of 4 teams

Total of 53 registrations

Highlights for 2024 Season

In our first season of returning to Softball, our U13 captured 1st place in the MEGS House League playoffs blue pool, lead by Head Coach Julie Hand.

Player Annabel Moszczak came to us last fall without any softball experience, over the winter, spring and summer Annabel progressed so much that she earned a spot on a Select team this past summer and has since been signed to our MSW U15 Rep Team for 2025.

House League Camps – ran by our very own Julianna Speranza, with special thanks to the young volunteers who helped many times.

- Winter 2024 – January to May 2024, Indoor winter school gym training, working on fundamentals of softball from throwing to hitting for girls aged 8 to 14
- Summer 2024 – June to August, Outdoor fielding training, working on fundamentals of softball hitting, fielding, throwing for girls aged 8 to 14

2025 MSW House League

Early registration is open, to stay in competition with out neighbouring associations, as other have opened already. Early registration was based on 2024 pricing. We are hoping to add an additional U11 team and add a U15 team this year, increasing out registration numbers over 65 players for 2025.

Teams for 2025

U9 – 1 team

U11 – 2 teams

U13 – 1 team

U15 – 1 team

U17/U18 – 1 team

Will be based on the ages and the MEGS Association for what will work best on this age group.

Fall 2024 / Winter Training 2025

Indoor gym training at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic elementary School on Monday evenings running from November to May.

Social Media / Advertising

- Instagram & Facebook have been out main points of interaction with growing our audience in hopes to increase awareness of our program and increase registration for the coming season.
- Winter campaigns need to be put in place to keep registration – Road signs, Instagram, Facebook, Digital signs?

Rep 2025

Teams for 2025 Season

U15 Tier TBD – Josh Kearse

U17 Tier II – Kelly Darcy

U19 Tier II – Jeff Saracini

U19 Tier I – David Gatza

Each Team will compete in multiple tournaments in Canada and US.

Qualifiers and Provincial's to be held in July and August of 2025, PWSA will be releasing these dates after November 25, 2024. All teams must be affiliated with PWSA in late winter, early Spring of 2025.

Parent Liaison & Coach Compliance

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Teams generally on time with paperwork. Parent liaisons communicated well. Coaching issues were limited and good teaching points.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Frequency of Vulnerable Sector Checks? Should track a little closer.

AREAS OF CONCERN:

- None

Communications

WEBSITE:

I'd like to thank Rick Vorano for his tireless support. Especially during the transition period when MSBA brought all online communications inhouse.

- MSBA website
- Registration forms (house league, clinics, fields etc.)
- Email accounts @msbabaseball.ca

All email accounts presently with MSBA have been successfully transferred from Rick's original Go Daddy account to MSBA's Go Daddy account. It comes at a cost, which was rather hefty, but we are locked in for a couple of years.

- Go Daddy domain: renews January 2032
- Website hosting msbabaseball.ca: renews January 2027
- WordPress website: renews August 2026
- Email accounts (5 total): renewals October 2025

Costing for this initial transition was a total of **\$2262.45**

- Domain Renewal \$173.94
- Migration and website hosting \$1,058.39
- WordPress website development: \$624
- Email accounts (5 total) \$406.12 (50% discount promotion)

To help in reducing our costs, we can look to removing some of our email accounts. These are a couple possibilities:

- socialmedia@msbabaseball.ca can be absorbed by Communications (this may require adjusting our existing social media platforms)
- fields@msbabaseball.ca can be moved to a free Gmail generic account

We will keep the following mailboxes:

- registrar@msbabaseball.ca

- clubhouse@msbabaseball.ca
- communications@msbabaseball.ca

UPDATES TO WEBSITE CONTENT:

Website information is constantly maintained as requests for postings come in. Most recently, the AGM announcement, Girls Softball Clinics and House League registrations and 2025 Tournament registrations.

There was discussion regarding increasing dedicated @msbabaseball.ca mailboxes for executives. This will remove the risk of phishing attempts when personal contact information is posted on the website. We have a total of 5 additional spots available, which in turn will double our cost, noted above. The existing @msbabaseball.ca email contacts and others are set up as a link. As follows:

- Registrar
- Clubhouse
- Communications
- Umpire in Chief (Gmail)
- Bingo Chairperson (Gmail)

So as an alternative, all contact information has been removed from the website (email and phone numbers) for the Board of Directors and Coach's Contacts. A "contact us" form has been added that will funnel contact requests to the communications@msbabaseball.ca mailbox. Messages in turn will be directed to the appropriate person to respond however they see fit.

Set up thru WordPress, feedback in it's "form responses" will filter spam from reaching the communications mailbox. These are reviewed on a daily basis to ensure any true responses are not overlooked. It was tested and messages are coming thru successfully. This alternative can stay as is unless directed otherwise.

MAIL CHIMP:

Mail Chimp is our newsletter platform that recently changed their billing practices. Previously FREE, they have revised their packages to a monthly subscriptions. Since our member contact list exceeds 500, we now have to pay a monthly fee of approximately \$40 (\$480 annually).

This will allow MSBA to send messages throughout the year. Some months like October will see less messages going out, but during registrations in the winter and summer activities, this subscription will allow for a healthy number of communications year round. It was more economical to pay for a subscription as oppose to a "pay as you go" option.

MARKETING:

The only outside marketing for the 2024 season was done thru road signage. Google Ads was not initiated due to the mayhem with the website transition in early 2024. Running

Google Ads for 2025 will be considered.

Road signage ran from January to end of April. Two suppliers were used. Road sign portable signage in various locations within Southwest borders and one digital billboard at the corner of Eglinton and Ninth Line. The digital billboard was added to help promote the return of House League Softball initiative.

- Aeordable Portable: \$3847.48.
- DigiPoint, digital road sign: \$4800

My recommendations would be to continue with the road side portable signage. Look to change a couple of locations to compete against Erindale and Majors. I would not consider renewing the DigiPoint contract. It's only one location and expensive.

DRAFT