
MK SOFTBALL AGM 2020

Date: Tuesday 28 Jan, 2020

Location: Herald Snooker Club, Milton Keynes

Attendees: Hedley, Leah, Jake, Jon, Jodie + MK Softball Club members

1. PIZZA!

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Chairman report
AGM 2020.docx

3. TREASURER'S REPORT



MK Softball
Accounts 2019.pdf

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT



Secretary Report
AGM 2020.docx

5. HEAD COACH'S REPORT



Head Coach Report
AGM 2020.docx

6. PROPOSED EGM & CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION

- Proposal submitted by Leah Holmes to hold an EGM at 8pm on Tuesday 25 Feb to vote on proposed amendments and alterations to the constitution
- Constitution changes will be submitted to club members in writing prior to the EGM

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- **Chairman:** Leah Holmes elected unanimously
- **Treasurer:** Jake Clarke elected unanimously
- **Secretary:** Sam Gibson elected unanimously
- **Head Coach:** Jodie Bull elected unanimously

8. SOFTBALL CHIT CHAT

Breakout Session – Our Club’s Dreams

The main theme that stood out amongst the discussion groups was that 5minutes is not enough time to work through a long term vision for the club! However, a couple of items where raised (& in some cases repeated) among the groups:

- Our own facility, or access to a better facility with dirt pitches.
- Demand for our own batting cages.
- Shelter from the rain!
- A paid officer for the league that can commit time to development & deliver so we are less reliant on volunteers.
- A league that continues to be as inclusive and welcoming.
- Long term coaching plans to cater for the differing abilities.

Breakout Session – Recruitment:

- **Recruitment**
 - Website is a good tool
 - Good compared to other clubs in the area
 - Make sure “always recruiting” message is stressed (so people don’t wait till new season)
 - Stress no-experience needed
 - Flyers – lot of people offered to share these
 - Fayres and expos
 - Parkrun
 - Advertising at ground (banner on bridge)
 - Sessions with other sports (hockey, rugby etc.)
 - Membership incentives for referrals
- **Retention**
 - Buddy system for new recruits
 - Follow up on drop offs
 - More rookie tournaments
 - Social at start of season to welcome new members
 - Training/Scratch game nights (like training nights but games only)
 - Additional nights
 - Weekends on no tournament weekends
 - Focus on building confidence
 - Big gap between starting and being/feeling match ready
- **Female focused recruitment**
 - Female only training / beginners’ course
 - Single sex tournaments
 - Split training (by gender and skill)
 - Promo – This girl can

Breakout Session – Weekly Sessions:

- **Players currently like:**
 - Flyball drills
 - Indoor drills
- **Players would like:**
 - to be able to mingle more with players from other teams at training
 - more opportunities to train with their own team members
 - more structure in the training sessions run alongside games
 - 1 to 1 coaching
 - Position-specific training
 - Trainings designed to address fundamental and specialist skills
 - Fun games at the end of training sessions
- **Suggested improvements:**
 - Use the weekly to communicate what’s planned for training each week
 - Separate players by ability for training

- Developing a player mentoring system, where one coach tracks a player's progress. This type of mentoring could also be used to develop coaches
- 2 nights of softball: one for training one for league
- Make sessions longer – particularly indoor. Some players felt 1 hour was too short.
- Once a month, have a friendly game as training
- Run “Rookie games” that include commentary on what happened / should have happened; or run a “shadow game” for rookies, where each inexperienced player is paired with an experienced player for the game.
- Use experienced players as “facilitators” for training sessions. They should not be required to do any coaching – just simply make sure people are following provided instructions and keep time.
- Use Northants’ sessions as an alternative training option for people who want to train on ‘double-header nights’

9. PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS

- Youth update. Indoor sessions planned for the next two months, equipment now purchased (thanks to a grant from the BSF), currently investigating venues and planning for coaches/safeguarding requirements.
- Head Coach Jodie Bull was presented with her BaseballSoftballUK & British Softball Federation ‘Softball Adult Coach of the Year Award’ and thanked for her tireless efforts supporting the club.
- A final thank you was given to Hedley Bevan for his time served as Chairman, and previous Secretary and general committee member. A member since 2013 and a valuable committee member for five years. He has managed the growth of the club and the launch of the MK Softball League & Codebreakers Cup during his time as Chairman & MK Softball is forever indebted to him for the hours he has put in.