



**Sport North Annual General Meeting
May 27, 2023
Minutes**

IN ATTENDANCE – MEMBERSHIP

55+ Games – Joan Hiron
Basketball NWT – Stephanie Parkes
NWT Badminton – Harmeet Jagpal
NWT 5 Pin Bowling - Trisha Nauman
NWT Athletics – Chris Bruckner/Kenzie MacDonald
NWT Biathlon – Douglas Lockhart
NWT Boxing & Kickboxing – Scott Thomson/Haroon Bhatti
NWT Broomball – Valerie Pond
NWT Curling – Lois Grabke
NWT Dog Sledding – Elizabeth-Ann McKay/Robert Douglas
NWT Figure Skating – Gary Brennan
NWT Gymnastics – Celena Hoeve
NWT Hockey – Kyle Kugler
NWT Judo – Chantal Steitzer
NWT Karate – Calvin Pittet
NWT Kayaking – Shona Barbour
NWT Skiing – David Mahon
NWT Snowboard – Andrew Goodwin
NWT Soccer – Jean-Paul Benard
NWT Softball – Trent Dundas
NWT Special Olympics – Alan Cash
NWT Squash – Jeff Hipfner/Chris Edwards/Ryan Connon
NWT Speed Skating – Valerie Gendron/Justin Nelson
NWT Swimming – Jane Mooney
NWT Table Tennis – Thorsten Gohl
NWT Tennis – Nittin Gohil/Richard Daitch
NWT Volleyball – Rami Ayache
NWT Wrestling – Don Reid

IN ATTENDANCE – SPORT NORTH BOARD

Alex Godfrey
Colin Pybus
David Shears
Kacee MacLean
Nichole McDonald
Stacey Christie
Lisa Murphy

IN ATTENDANCE – SPORT NORTH STAFF

Bill Othmer
Rita Mercredi
Spider Jones
Tyler Rentmeister
Whitney Weaver

IN ATTENDANCE – GUESTS

Drew Queen – Ashton Chartered Accountants
Caroline Sparks – Sparks Consulting
Alison Brown – Director, Municipal and Community Affairs, Sport, Recreation and Youth

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We want to give thanks and acknowledge the traditional land we are on. Sport North's office is in Sòmba k'è (also known as Yellowknife) on Chief Drygeese Territory, Treaty 8; the traditional home of the Yellowknives Dene and the North Slave Metis. We encourage each of you to take a moment and acknowledge and give thanks to the land you are on and whose traditional home it may be.

CALL TO ORDER

- The 2023 Sport North Annual General Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. with welcoming remarks and Presidents Address from Colin Pybus, Sport North President.
- The Rules of Procedure were reviewed prior to introductions and roll call.
- Nominations for the Sport North Board were opened.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion AGM01-23 “To approve the Agenda & Consent Agenda as presented.”

Moved by: NWT Swimming

Seconded by: NWT Athletics

Carried

FINANCE REPORT

- There was a surplus of \$41,000.00. The funding not utilized due to Covid restrictions has been treated as deferred revenue and will be allocated to either new programs, or to expand current programs.
- KidSport provided \$70,000.00 in grants to 11 communities and 17 different sports, and the Roger Walker Memorial Golf Tournament raised over \$28,000.00 for KidSport.
- Sport North submitted its deferred funding request to MACA in February, and it included programs such as Truth and Reconciliation, TSO Sport Governance, Emerging Sport Development, Women and Girls in Sport Leadership, Safe Sport. The funding must be used by 2026.
- NWT Boxing indicated that it is a challenge to get into new communities, our current funding from MACA does not allow us to do that, it would be great if the deferred funding could assist with that.
- NWT Volleyball suggested that the deferred funding should invest in local leaders, and female leadership.
 - Sport North has submitted programming for Fast and Female Camps, Solo Girls, & She Can Lead.

Motion AGM02 – 23 “To defer the review of the Audited Financial Statements on or before June 30, 2023, via a zoom meeting with the Membership.”

Moved by: NWT Volleyball

Seconded by: NWT Dog Mushing

Carried

Discussion

- Several of the Members felt they did not have enough time to review the Audited Financial Statements, as they were distributed four days prior to the AGM.
- Given the timeline of the AGM it is difficult to provide the completed Audited Financial Statements to the Members. If the Members want the completed Audited Financial Statements by the AGM, consideration should be given to moving the AGM to late June.
- NWT Speed Skating suggested that an interim audit may help speed up the process.
- As per Sport North By-Laws, Sport North is to provide a Financial Report to the Membership, the report does not have to include the Audited Financial Statements.

SNF STRATEGIC PLAN

Caroline Sparks reviewed the step-by-step process in creating the SNF Strategic Plan.

Feedback from the Membership to consider:

- Sport retention with teenagers could be considered as an implementation piece.
- Community outreach that includes a communication and operation plan, if there is a sport champion in each community to share information that would be helpful.
- Coach support is needed.
- There is a gap in volunteerism. Ensure access to generic learning opportunities for volunteers, not specific to a sport but specific to board development areas.

- Development of Officials is needed.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Motion AGM 03 – 23 “To maintain the Sport North Membership fees at \$100.00.”

Moved by: NWT Athletics

Seconded by: NWT Wrestling

Carried

ELECTION ON SNF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Colin Pybus was acclaimed as President.
- Stacey Christie was acclaimed as a Board of Director – 2-year term.
- There will be a call-out for the positions not filled, and the Board will appoint those positions.

Discussion

- NWT Dog Mushing felt that TSOs should not have two votes at the AGM, when they only have one Delegate in attendance. Dog Mushing works hard to ensure it always has two Delegates attending the AGM.
- The SNF Board should be appointed regionally, there is not enough Aboriginal representation on the Sport North Board.
- Sholto Douglas, NWT Dog Mushing stated that we work together, we coexist together, we live together, but the Board must represent the Territory. Many of us have been around a long time, but there is still work to be done to ensure all organizations, TSOs included, are representative of the Territory.
- Colin Pybus, Sport North President, agreed that more can be done to support equal representation of the North; there is opportunity for growth. We want to create safe, inclusive spaces.

TSO ROUNDTABLE

Swimming

- It has been a difficult year for swimming due to the strike in Yellowknife, and both Hay River and Fort Smith are struggling with their facilities.
- We had a great showing at the Canada 55+ Games bringing home two gold and 1 bronze medal.

Athletics

- Unfortunately, the Track meet in Hay River was cancelled due to the wildfires. Considering this the Association will run regional camps in Fort Smith, Yellowknife, and Inuvik for NAIG.
- The Association did send a team to the Canada Summer Games.

Judo

- Judo hosted 3 tournaments within the territory and attended Nationals in Edmonton bringing home a silver medal.
- The Association has a partnership with a school in Dehcho that is going very well.
- The Association has tripled its Membership size.

Dog Mushing

- The sport of Dog Mushing has been removed from the Arctic Winter Games.
- Curtis Erhart, an Alaskan Musher that has won 10 world titles, delivered training sessions.
- NWT was invited to help with training and development in Fort Vermilion.
- A professional musher from Quebec went to the Delta to race and provide training.
- Our goal is to get the Juniors and Juveniles back into the Arctic Winter Games.

Boxing & Kickboxing

- Kickboxing brought home 7 bronze, 3 silver, and 2 gold medals.
- John Stanely will be part of the coaching staff for the Canadian Junior team.
- The Association is working with both Dettah and N'Dilo to develop the sport and working with youth and risk through Home Base.

Snowboard

- Athletes won 7 ulus as the Arctic Winter Games.
- NWT is the only territory that does not have a snowboard hill.
- Athletes from Fort Simpson are participating in a camp at Sunshine Hill, it's their first experience to be coached by an Olympian coach.
- The Association is working on a video and hoping to release it before the next season.

Figure Skating

- Three NWT skating clubs hosted clinics.
- Skaters brought home 8 ulus, one team medal and a fair play award from Arctic Winter Games.
- The Association had 1 athlete attend the Canada Winter Games, and we would like to thank Sport North and the Team NT Mission staff that went above and beyond in supporting our athlete at the Games.

Basketball

- The Association hosted several regional development camps throughout the territory.
- We have over 600 members.
- NAIG tryouts were very successful, with representation from around the territory.

Canada 55+ Games

- The last Canada 55+ Games in Kamloops fielded the largest NWT team to date, with 77 participants between 55-80 years old.
- Participants brought home numerous medals and for the first time, the hockey team won a game.
- The 2024 Canada 55+ Games will be held in Quebec.

Squash

- Membership is starting to increase, with increase participation from female players.
- The Canada Winter Games team had a great showing with the men placing 8th and women placing 9th.

Badminton

- In August the Association started off with no Board and no Coaches. We are working to try and reestablish and rebuild the Association. A big thank you to Thorsten Gohil, Table Tennis, and Sport North for all their help and support.
- The Association is running clinics for the upcoming NAIG selections.

Kayaking

- We are very happy to be at the table with Sport North and other TSOs. The Association is rebuilding. There is a new whitewater race in Mosquito Creek which will potentially lead to a territorial event.
- Unfortunately, we are not participating in NAIG as our athletes have aged out, and we were unable to develop younger athletes due to Covid.
- There is a lot of coaching development happening this summer.

Karate

- The Association has 3 clubs, 2 in Yellowknife and 1 in Hay River.
- For the first time ever, Karate was able to send 2 athletes to Canada Winter Games.
- The Association will be sending a team to the Nationals in July.

Speed Skating

- Both Yellowknife and Fort Simpson have strong speed skating clubs.
- Hay River is working on getting ice time, and we are supporting Inuvik, as they have recently lost their coach.
- The Association saw great athlete results at both the Arctic Winter Games and Canada Winter Games.

NWT Wrestling

- Thanked KidSport for the funding to help access new gym mats for the communities.

OTHER BUSINESS

KidSport Presentation

- The presentation was done by Sheila Jensen, KidSport Committee Member.

NEXT AGM

Yellowknife, NWT - May 25, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion AGM 04 – 23 **“To adjourn the 2023 Sport North Annual General Meeting.”**
Moved by: NWT Wrestling **Seconded by: NWT Boxing & Kickboxing** **Carried**

Discussion

Colin Pybus thanked the Membership for attending and providing feedback. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Sport North Awards Banquet.