

National Sports Teleconference

Meeting Minutes

4 February 2019

Our Mission is to serve Veterans, which includes serving military and RCMP members and their families, to promote remembrance and to serve our communities and our country.



**NATIONAL SPORTS TELECONFERENCE
4 FEBRUARY 2019, 1900 HRS EST
MEETING MINUTES**

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**NATIONAL SPORTS TELECONFERENCE
4 FEBRUARY 2019
MEETING MINUTES**

ATTENDEES:

Dominion Sports Committee:

Chair	Brian Weaver
Vice Chair	Dave Flannigan
Member	Jerry Lava
Member	Keith Andrews
Secretary	Lia Taha Cheng

Provincial Sports Representatives:

BC/YT	Dale Johnston
BC/YT	Linda Candelaria
BC/YT	Bryan Lutz
AB/NT	Rosalind LaRose
SK	Roberta Taylor
SK	Carol Pedersen
ON	Nancy Briscoe
ON	John Crook
NB	Gary McDade
NS/NU	Robert Hoeg
NL	Paul Hillier

ABSENT:

Dominion Sports Committee:

Member	LeRoy Washburn
Member	Melvin Crowe
Asst Secretary	Angela Keeling Colkitt

Provincial Sports Representatives:

MB/NWO	Bob Penner
MB/NWO	John Edwards
QC	Norman Shelton
PE	Theresa Gallant
NL	Mary Burt

1. OPENING RITUAL

The meeting commenced at 1900 hours EST via teleconference on Monday, 4 February 2019. The Sports Committee Chair conducted the opening ritual.

2. SPORTS COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REMARKS

The chair welcomed the committee members and the Provincial Command sports representatives and relayed his appreciation for their commitment to the Legion Sports Program.

3. NEW BUSINESS

The chair entertained requests to add new agenda items. The following items were added for discussion:

- Legion Nationals Head Chaperones succession plan

4. 2019 DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2019 Dominion Member Sports Championships are scheduled to be held as follows:

Cribbage: 26 to 29 April 2019

Host: Branch #05-480 Westboro

391 Richmond Road

Ottawa, ON K2A 0E7

Sports Committee Representative: Keith Andrews

Darts: 3 to 6 May 2019

Host: Branch #08-078 Dominion

78 Neville Street

Dominion, NS B1G 1P6

Sports Committee Representative: Melvin Crowe

Eight ball: 24 – 27 May 2019

Host: Branch #07-004 Fredericton

PO Box 132 Station A

Fredericton, NB E3B 4Y2

Sports Committee Representative: Dave Flannigan

Information packages will be distributed to the Provincial Command executive directors and Provincial Command sports representatives in February 2019.

As per the information memo, Dominion Command will provide up to \$700 towards airfares for four competitors per member sport event from the national airport nearest their place of residence to the national airport nearest the site of the Championship and return. For Provincial Command team members choosing to travel by car to Dominion Member Sport Championships, each member whose vehicle is utilized for this purpose is provided the equivalent of the lowest available fare-saver airfare up to \$700 (from the national airport nearest their place of residence to the national airport nearest the site of the Championship and return) OR the distance in kilometres as calculated by Dominion Command, whichever is less. All flight bookings will be made through Dominion Command.

Provincial Commands must verify the provincial winners before any travel arrangements are made. Team lists should be sent to the Sports Committee Secretary as soon as possible.

As requested by Dominion Command, each Provincial Command provided the dates of their provincial qualifier tournaments (cribbage, darts and eight ball) in order to assist the Local Arrangements Committees (LACs) with their planning.

2019 LEGION MEMBER SPORTS

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

Provincial Command	Cribbage April 26-29, 2019	Darts May 3-6, 2019	Eight Ball May 24-27, 2019
British Columbia/Yukon	March 22-24, 2019	March 29-31, 2019	n/a
Alberta/Northwest Territories	February 1-2, 2019	February 8-9, 2019	March 15-16, 2019
Saskatchewan	March 15-17, 2019	March 8-10, 2019	March 22-24, 2019
Manitoba/Northwest Ontario	March 8-10, 2019	April 12-14, 2019	April 26-28, 2019
Ontario	March 9, 2019	March 16, 2019	March 23, 2019
Quebec	October 20, 2018	March 9, 2019	n/a
New Brunswick	March 2, 2019	February 23, 2019	March 16, 2019
Nova Scotia/Nunavut	March 2, 2019	March 9-10, 2019	March 16-17, 2019
Prince Edward Island	March 2, 2019	March 9, 2019	February 23, 2019
Newfoundland/Labrador	March 22-23, 2019	March 22-23, 2019	March 2, 2019

As per DEC direction, it is mandatory that all Legion sponsored competitors attend the awards banquet held at the completion of every Legion Members Sport competition. In addition, all competitors attending a national tournament must adhere to a mandatory dress code to include, as a minimum, collared shirts, slacks and closed shoes.

5. 2020 DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2020 Dominion Member Sports Championships are scheduled to be held as follows:

Cribbage: 24 to 27 April 2020

Host: Branch #10-050 Conception Bay
60 Legion Road
Conception Bay South, NL A1X 6Y7

Darts: 1 to 4 May 2020

Host: Branch #05-060 Burlington
828 Legion Road
Burlington, ON L7S 1T5

Eight ball: 29 May to 1 June 2020

Host: Branch #02-104 Innisfail
1-5108 49 Ave
Innisfail, AB T4G 1R1

Instruction packages will be distributed to applicable host branches following the completion of the 2019 Dominion Member Sports Championships.

It is important to note that only 13 branches from five Provincial Commands submitted applications to host as per below.

Provincial Command	Number of Applications
BC/YT	0
AB/NT	6
SK	0
MB/NOW	1
ON	3
QC	0
NB	2
NS/NU	0
PE	0
NL	1
Total	13

Provincial Commands will increase their communications surrounding hosting Dominion Member Sports Championships and will continue to develop strategies to enhance member engagement.

6. 2021 DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The following dates for the 2021 Dominion Member Sport Championships are in accordance with article 306 of the Sports Guide:

- i. Cribbage: Friday 23 April - Monday 26 Apr 2021 (Friday and Monday being arrival and departure days respectively).
- ii. Darts: Friday 30 April - Monday 3 May 2021 (Friday and Monday being arrival and departure days respectively).
- ii. Eight Ball: Friday 28 May – Monday 31 May 2021 (Friday and Monday being arrival and departure days respectively).

Submissions are to be made by individual branches and must be submitted through their respective Provincial Command by 31 July 2019. Provincial Commands are asked to prioritize the applications they receive before submitting them to the Dominion Command Sports Committee for consideration by 31 August 2019.

7. DOMINION EIGHT BALL PARTICIPATION

In 2018, there were three Provincial Commands that did not participate in the Dominion Eight Ball Championships. BC/YT did not have a Provincial Championships as they did not have 50% of their zones participating in eight ball. MB/NWO cancelled their Provincial Championships as they did not have a host for the event. QC only had 11 teams interested; therefore, decided not to run a Provincial Eight Ball Championships.

These three Provincial Commands are requested to develop new strategies to increase branch engagement and minimize restrictions and barriers to participation.

8. DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS ELIGIBILITY

The following items brought forward to the Dominion Command Sports Committee were discussed:

a. Member in Good Standing

Dominion Member Sports Championships are open to members as defined in the General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion. To be eligible, members must be in good standing and should have their membership card for the year in which the championship is being held in their possession at the site of the championship. Member in good standing means a member who is not under suspension or is not in arrears in payment of dues.

It was discussed that a member becomes a member in good standing as soon as they pay their dues; therefore, it does not have to be before 31 January. January 31 is only applicable when a member transfers from another branch.

b. Member Initiation

The Membership Application states: "Congratulations you are now an initiated member of the Royal Canadian Legion subject to Branch policy. Further welcoming ceremony processes are at the discretion of your local Branch."

The will of the Membership Committee was to allow branches to maintain their autonomy and continue with the traditional swearing in ceremony if they so wished. That said, to expedite the process of new members joining the Legion, the traditional swearing in ceremony is now optional and not required by the Branch.

Committee Members discussed the need for consistency between branches as some branches require individuals to be accepted by the branch before they can become a member which can take a considerable amount of time.

c. Volunteer Hours

In response to a question from Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command, branches may opt to institute a required minimum number of volunteer hours in order to qualify for funding to participate at the National level. In addition, for general play at the branch level, the branch itself can dictate who is eligible and/or under what requirements are needed to participate. However, it should be noted that any member in good standing is eligible to participate in a branch sports activity that is a qualifier for a Dominion Sports championship. Therefore, if a branch is hosting a qualifier to progress to the Dominion level for Darts, Cribbage or Eight Ball, any member in good standing would be entitled to participate with no branch

imposed restrictions.

The committee concluded that these three eligibility concerns require input from the Membership Committee, C&L Committee and DEC as there are multiple aspects to consider and discuss.

Action: Committee Chair

9. 2019 LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

a. Event Dates/Location/Update

Cape Breton, Nova Scotia will host the 2019 Legion Nationals from 7-13 August 2019. The competition dates are 9-11 August.

A preliminary site visit was conducted 3-6 November 2018 and there are no major concerns at this time. There is tremendous support locally and provincially (over the two years, \$100,000 from Cape Breton University, \$100,000 from Cape Breton Regional Municipality and \$90,000 from the Province of Nova Scotia) and the Local Arrangements Committee has been wonderful to work with to date. A follow up site visit will occur in the spring – dates to be confirmed.

b. Schedule

The overall schedule has been confirmed and the competition schedule is currently being developed.

2019 LEGION NATIONALS SCHEDULE



Thursday August 8	Friday August 9	Saturday August 10	Sunday August 11	Monday August 12
Athlete Clinic	Competition	Competition	Competition	Local/Cultural Tour
Athlete Practice	Opening Ceremony	Chaperones and Officials Appreciation Receptions	Athlete Social	Closing Banquet
Coaches Technical Meeting	Dominion Command Reception		Coaches Appreciation Reception	
				

c. Athletics Canada

The partnership between The Royal Canadian Legion and Athletics Canada has been re-established, with Athletics Canada providing merchandise and webcast support. In addition, Athletics Canada will provide a technical representative, as well as high performance athlete guest speakers.

d. Travel

Flight group bookings have been made for ON, MB/NOW, SK, AB/NT and BC/YT through WestJet, Air Canada and Porter Airlines. The remaining Provincial teams will be travelling by bus.

e. Remembrance Theme

The selected remembrance theme for 2019 is the 75th anniversary of D-Day. An accompanying theme will be Peacekeepers Day (9 August). The remembrance theme event logo is below.



10. 2020 LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Cape Breton, Nova Scotia will host the 2020 Legion Nationals from 5-11 August 2020. The competition dates are 7-9 August 2020.

11. 2021 & 2022 LEGION NATIONAL TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dominion policy is to normally hold the Legion National Youth Track & Field Championships in the following timeframes which have been approved by the Dominion Command Sports Committee:

- i. 2021: 4-10 August 2021 (competition dates: 6-8 August)

- ii. 2022: 3-9 August 2022 (competition dates: 5-7 August)

A call for hosting applications will go out from Dominion Command to all Provincial Commands and interested municipalities. The document is currently being developed in conjunction with Athletics Canada and will be shared with the Dominion Command Sports Committee prior to general distribution.

12. LEGION NATIONALS GENERAL

The following items brought forward to the Dominion Command Sports Committee were discussed:

a. Best Practices

In order to share best practices and enhance the overall athlete experience, a Dropbox folder was set-up for Provincial Commands to share items such as selection criteria, welcome emails to the athletes, memos to the chaperones and coaches, roles and responsibilities, templates, etc.

Dominion Command requested that each Provincial Command share their Legion Team Selection Criteria through Dropbox.

Action: Provincial Commands

b. Proposed Sports Guide Amendment – Sports Guide 707

The intent of this amendment is to ensure that the Legion Nationals coaching criteria are consistent with the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) standards and Athletics Canada requirements.

As per section 707 of the current Sports Guide, the criteria for coaches are as follows:

b. Each Provincial Command must name one coach as the Head Coach and that person should be fully certified at Level 3. All remaining team coaches should require a Level 2 certification. There may be exceptions to this rule; and

c. Each provincial athletic association is permitted to designate no more than two additional coaches of Level 1 or 2 to accompany their team for certification purposes.

In the last 10 years, the NCCP has transitioned away from delivering Level 1, 2, and 3 programming. The Levels-NCCP system has been replaced by coach training opportunities that are grouped into three main streams: Competition, Instruction, and Community Sport.

Specific to track and field, Level 3 has been replaced with Performance Coach, Level 2 has been replaced with Club Coach, and Level 1 has been replaced with Sport Coach. Upon consultation with the Athletics Canada Coaching Advisory Council, replacing each

level with their respective new designation would not be appropriate for the age group and long-term athlete development (LTAD) stage of Legion Nationals athletes. The Athletics Canada website states: “The Performance Coach certification is for coaches who are coaching year round, 40 or more weeks a year and 5-10 sessions a week. The athletes they are responsible for are competing at the national level in the junior or senior categories. The training for this course is event group focused. The main focus of this course is annual planning and periodization.” Note the reference to “junior and senior” categories, not youth, as for Legion Nationals athletes.

Since Athletics Canada’s Performance Coach certification is required for coaches who are working with U20 or older athletes, the following recommendations are brought forward for DEC consideration and approval:

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that section 707b of the Sports Guide be amended to read: “Each Provincial Command must name one coach as the Head Coach and that *person has to be a fully certified National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) club coach. All other team coaches require NCCP club coach trained certification.* There may be exceptions to this rule.”

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that section 707c of the Sports Guide be amended to read: “Each provincial athletic association is permitted to designate no more than two additional *NCCP club or sport trained coaches* to accompany their team *for professional development purposes.*”

c. Track & Field Championships Provincial Chairs Meeting

As a result of the success of the 2018 Track & Field Championships Provincial Chairs Meeting, another meeting will be held during the 2019 Legion Nationals. The meeting is not mandatory and a conference call line will be open for those who are not already at the Championships. The intent of the meeting is to provide chairs with the opportunity to share knowledge, discuss best practices and onboard new provincial chairs as required. The proposed date is Monday, 12 August 2019 – to be confirmed.

13. REGIONAL REPRESENTATION – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The current committee liaison tasks are assigned as follows:

NL/LAB and PE – Dave Flannigan

NS/NU and NB – Melvin Crowe

QC and ON – Brian Weaver

MB/NWO and BC/YT – Jerry Lava

SK and AB/NT – Keith Andrews

Sports Committee members will make and maintain contact with their associated provincial sports representatives and provide any feedback to the Dominion Command Sports Committee on Provincial Command concerns for both Legion member sports and track and field.

14. NEW BUSINESS

The following new business items were raised:

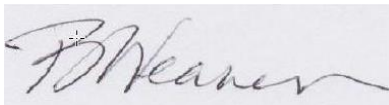
a. Legion Nationals Head Chaperones succession plan

It was discussed that there needs to be succession planning when the current Head Chaperones are no longer in a position to volunteer. As such, consideration needs to be given to qualified replacements and those replacements must be exposed to the duties assigned to these positions.


15. CLOSING RITUAL AND ADJOURNMENT

The chair concluded the meeting by thanking the committee members and the Provincial Command sports representatives for their insight and valued input. The chair conducted the closing ritual and the meeting adjourned 4 February 2019 at 2000 hours EST.

The contents of Committee minutes are subject to the approval of Dominion Executive Council or Dominion Convention as appropriate.



Brian Weaver
Chair



Lia Taha Cheng
Secretary

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