

DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

9 April 2020

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.



**DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE MEETING
9 APRIL 2020, 1200 HRS EST VIDEOCONFERENCE
MEETING MINUTES**

File: 42-2

1.	OPENING RITUAL	3
2.	SPORTS COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REMARKS	3
3.	NEW BUSINESS	3
4.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS	3
5.	DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS.....	4
6.	LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS	6
7.	LEGION NATIONALS HEAD CHAPERONES.....	8
8.	NEW BUSINESS	8
9.	NEXT MEETING OF THE DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE	8
10.	CLOSING RITUAL AND ADJOURNMENT.....	9

**DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES
9 APRIL 2020**

ATTENDEES:

Brian Weaver	-	Chair
Dave Flannigan	-	Vice Chair
Keith Andrews	-	Member
Melvin Crowe	-	Member
Jerry Lava	-	Member
Serge Thibaudeau	-	Member
Lia Taha Cheng	-	Committee Coordinator
Angela Keeling Colkitt	-	Assistant Committee Coordinator

ANNEXES:

Annex "A"	-	23 Nov 2019 Sports Committee meeting minutes
Annex "B"	-	12 Mar 2020 National Sports Teleconference minutes

1. OPENING RITUAL

The meeting commenced at 1200 hours on Thursday, 9 April 2020 via Zoom video conferencing. The chair conducted the opening ritual.

2. SPORTS COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REMARKS

The chair welcomed the committee members 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:

- No points were added.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a. **Minutes Approval** – The 23 November 2019 Dominion Sports Committee Meeting minutes are attached at Annex "A".

MOTION: It was moved that the 23 November 2019 Dominion Sports Committee Meeting minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

- b. **Minutes Approval** – The 12 March 2020 National Sports Teleconference minutes are attached at Annex “B”.

MOTION: It was moved that the 12 March 2020 National Sports Teleconference minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5. **DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The following recommendation was approved by the Dominion Executive Council (DEC) on 13 March 2020:

- All national Legion Member Sports Championships (cribbage, darts, and eight ball) be cancelled for 2020.

a. **Reasoning**

- i. Attendance varies
- ii. Participant travel can be province-wide and involve air travel
- iii. Attendees are from a demographic more susceptible to contracting the virus
- iv. Hand hygiene stations availability unknown
- v. Some branches are already hesitant to conduct local / provincial events
- vi. Not possible to postpone the national events due to a myriad of organizational requirements involving facilities and volunteers

b. **Financial Loss and Funds Recovered**

- i. **Branch Grants:** as per the Sports Guide, Dominion Command is responsible for providing transportation (\$1,500) and hosting (\$800) grants to each Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) to assist in offsetting expenses. Therefore, \$6,900 had been provided to the three host branches. However, \$2,300 has already been recovered from branch 10-050 (cribbage hosts) as they kindly offered to return their grants since they had not incurred any related expenses. In addition, branch 02-104 (eight ball hosts) would like to host in 2021 instead; therefore, their \$2,300 could be transferred to next year. If that is the case, the total loss from branch grants would only be \$2,300 to branch 05-060 (darts hosts). However, the Sports Committee Chair has directed the Sports Committee Coordinator to communicate with that branch to inquire if they have incurred any expenses related to the two grants.

ACTION: Committee Coordinator

- ii. **Awards and Prizes:** as per the Sports Guide, Dominion Command is responsible for providing a keeper award to all championship winners, championship crests and pins to all competitors and a plaque to each of the host branches in recognition of their effort. These items had already been ordered prior to the cancellation of the events. Since they are all engraved with the dates and locations, they cannot be reused in 2021. Therefore, the total financial loss from awards and prizes is approximately \$2,700.
 - iii. **Participant Travel:** as per the Sports Guide, Dominion Command is responsible for providing up to \$700 towards transportation and mileage for four competitors per member sport event from their place of residence to the national airport nearest the site of the Championship and return. Luckily, only 18 flights totaling approximately \$13,000 had been booked prior to the cancellation of the events. Fortunately, WestJet Biz was used to book all WestJet flights; therefore, all funds were recovered as credits for future travel (no name change fees). Travel, using the \$2,300 in credits, must be booked by (not flown by) March 10, 2021. The remainder of the flights were booked through Air Canada for Business. They have made an exception to allow name changes (for \$125/ticket) even though basic fares were booked. Travel, using the \$10,200 in credits, must be flown by March 20, 2022. As a result of the Air Canada name change fees, the total loss from participant travel is \$1,750.
- c. **Effects of the Cancellation**

As a result of the cancellation, the three selected local arrangement committees (LACs) will not have the opportunity to host a Member Sports Championship in 2020. Therefore, they were all provided with the opportunity to host in 2021 or 2022 instead. Following discussions with each of the LACs, only one branch, 02-104 (eight ball), has expressed interest in hosting in 2021 or 2022. Branches 10-050 (cribbage) and 05-060 (darts) do not have the resources to host in 2021 or 2022; however, they appreciated the offer and opportunity.

d. **Future Plans**

Since only branch 02-104 (eight ball) expressed interest in hosting in 2021 or 2022, the 2021 eight ball hosts, branch 10-051, were contacted to determine if they would prefer to host in 2021 or 2022. Following internal discussions, the LAC chair has confirmed that they are kindly willing to change their year to host from 2021 to 2022. Therefore, the upcoming Dominion Member Sports Championships are scheduled to be held as follows:

2021 Dominion Member Sports Championships:

Cribbage: 23 to 26 April 2021

Host: Branch #02-015 Men of Vision
PO Box 183 Stn Main, Cochrane, AB T4C 1A5

Darts: 30 April to 3 May 2021

Host: Branch #01-004 Chilliwack
9350 Mary St, Chilliwack, BC V2P 4H1

Eight ball: 28 to 31 May 2021

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

2022 Dominion Member Sports Championships:

A call for hosting applications was distributed in the March 2020 All Branch. The deadline for submissions to Dominion Command is 31 August 2020. An amendment will be distributed in the May All Branch to inform Provincial Commands and Branches that the Dominion Sports Committee is only seeking hosts for cribbage and darts for 2022, as the host for eight ball is as follows:

Eight Ball: 27 to 30 May 2022

Host: Branch #10-051 Happy Valley-Goose Bay
PO Box 335 Stn B, Hpy-Vly-Goose, NL A0P 1E0

6. LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2020 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships, scheduled for August 7-9, 2020 in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, have been cancelled due to public health concerns surrounding the coronavirus pandemic. This decision was made collaboratively in consultation with the Legion Provincial Commands, the Athletics Provincial Sport Organizations, Athletics Canada, Cape Breton University and the Cape Breton Local Arrangements Committee.

a. Reasoning

This very difficult decision was made based on the following considerations:

- i. To protect the health and safety of the athletes and everyone involved in the Championships
- ii. To act responsibly in support of minimizing the spread of COVID-19 within our communities and our country
- iii. To provide certainty by making the decision now, rather than in several weeks, to our Athletics Provincial Sport Organization

- partners given the impact on their outdoor season calendars
- iv. To respect implications from governments and public health authorities in regards to facility closures, gathering restrictions and physical distancing requirements, all of which impact an athlete's ability to train and prepare for qualifying meets and Provincial Championships which begin in early June

b. **Financial Loss and Funds Recovered**

- i. **Site visit:** a site visit was scheduled for April 18-21, 2020. The flights have been cancelled resulting in a \$660 credit for future travel to be flown by February 28, 2021.
- ii. **Transportation:** WestJet flights had to be cancelled 90 days before departure, which would have been May 5, 2020 for a full cancellation without penalty. Therefore, following the cancellation, the \$4,000 deposit has been refunded to the corporate WestJet travel bank with a 2-year expiry date. Unfortunately, WestJet is not making any refunds to original form of payment; however, this \$4,000 credit can easily be used for future events.
- iii. **Sponsorship:** Sponsorship funds for the 2020 Legion Nationals were already received from Programmed Insurance Brokers Inc. (PIB) and the RCMP totalling \$20,500. Therefore, both parties have been informed of the event cancellation and offered the return of their funds. PIB has kindly offered to transfer their sponsorship funds to support the 2021 Legion Nationals instead.
- iv. **Other:** Fortunately, since the event was cancelled with ample advance notice, there were no financial penalties for buses or the host hotel, and no kits, medals or commemorative items were ordered. Therefore, there was essentially no financial loss overall, besides time, as a result of the cancellation of the event.

c. **Effects of the Cancellation**

Originally, the Cape Breton LAC inquired if they could host in 2021 if the 2020 Legion Nationals were cancelled. Therefore, the Sherbrooke LAC was asked if they would be willing to host in 2022 and 2023 instead. Their biggest concern was that they are hosting the Quebec Winter Games in 2023 already; therefore, financial and personnel resources will be limited. Despite this, they received support from Athlétisme Sherbrooke and the University of Sherbrooke to postpone by one year and were only waiting on the City of Sherbrooke regarding financial aspects. However, in the meantime, Cape Breton University informed the Cape Breton LAC that they would not be in a position to act as the host venue in 2021 if they were

awarded the event.

d. **Future Plans**

Since Cape Breton University cannot host in 2021, Sherbrooke, Quebec will remain the hosts as follows:

- 2021: 4-10 August 2021 (competition dates: 6-8 August)
- 2022: 3-9 August 2022 (competition dates: 5-7 August)

Further discussions with all the Legion Provincial Commands, the Athletics Provincial Sport Organizations and Athletics Canada are required to determine the impact of the cancellation on athletes born in 2003 who will no longer be eligible to compete at Legion Nationals.

In addition, as a result of the uncertainty in regards to COVID-19 and its impact on businesses and municipalities, the timelines surrounding the call for applications to host the 2023 and 2024 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships will be determined shortly by the Dominion Sports Committee.

7. **LEGION NATIONALS HEAD CHAPERONES**

A call for applications was distributed to the Provincial Command executive directors and Provincial Command sports representatives seeking one male and one female head chaperone for the now 2021 and future Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships. Helen and John Ladouceur will also be attending the 2021 Legion Nationals in order to provide training, support and a thorough transfer of knowledge to the successors.

MOTION: It was moved that Caroline Mayo and Frank Cholette be selected as the head chaperones for the 2021 and future Legion Nationals with annual approval required by the Dominion Sports Committee.

CARRIED

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

As referenced at item 3: No new items were introduced.

9. **NEXT MEETING OF THE DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE**

The next Sports Committee meeting will be scheduled for 2 October 2020 at the Legion House.

10. CLOSING RITUAL AND ADJOURNMENT

The chair concluded the meeting by thanking the committee members for their insight and valued input. The meeting adjourned 9 April 2020 at 1300 hours EST and the chair conducted the closing ritual.



Brian Weaver
Chair



Lia Taha Cheng
Coordinator

DISTRIBUTION LIST

DEC
Dominion Past Presidents
Dominion Sports Committee Members
Provincial Command Executive Directors
Provincial Command Sports Representatives
Dominion Command Committee Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators