

DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

18 February 2021

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
18 FEBRUARY 2021, 1100 HRS EST VIDEOCONFERENCE
MEETING MINUTES**

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**DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
18 FEBRUARY 2021**

ATTENDEES:

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

ABSENT:

Keith Andrews	-	Member
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ANNEXES:

Annex "A"	-	25 Jan 2021 Sports Committee meeting minutes
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1. OPENING RITUAL

The meeting commenced at 1100 hours on Thursday, 18 February 2021 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 MEETING

Minutes Approval – The 25 January 2021 Dominion Sports Committee Meeting minutes are attached at Annex "A".

MOTION: It was moved that the 25 January 2021 Dominion Sports Committee Meeting minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5. SPORT TOURISM CANADA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

The Sport Tourism Canada membership is intended for host destinations, event organizers/rights holders, venues, and accommodations providers. It provides networking, business-to-business and educational opportunities. It offers complimentary access to the STEAM2.0 model, an online and self-serve economic impact assessment tool. Through this membership, the call for 2023 and 2024 hosting applications was distributed, face-to-face networking with potential host cities was facilitated and the 2019 Legion Nationals was nominated and selected as a finalist for a PRESTIGE award (STC Canadian Sport Event Of The Year Award: Group B: event budget less than \$1 million). The annual membership fee for an affiliate member is \$500.00 plus hst. Based on the member benefits, it was proposed that the subscription be renewed for 2021. There is \$1,000 allocated to the 2021 Sport Committee budget for miscellaneous items which could be used for this expense.

MOTION: It was moved that the Sport Tourism Canada membership be renewed using a portion of the miscellaneous funds from the 2021 Sports Committee budget and that for future years the membership has a preapproved, separate line item allocated to it annually.

CARRIED

6. 2023 & 2024 LEGION NATIONALS HOST SELECTION

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. 2023: 9-15 August 2023 (competition dates: 11-13 August)
- ii. 2024: 7-13 August 2024 (competition dates: 9-11 August)

The call for applications to host the 2023 and 2024 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships was sent out 22 June 2020 as an all branch and email to Provincial Commands, as well as distributed to all members of Sport Tourism Canada. The submission deadline was 27 November 2020.

Seven high-quality bids from various communities were received. Following a comprehensive review and discussion, the Sports Committee made a decision on which municipality to select.

MOTION: It was moved that Calgary, Alberta, be selected to host the 2023 and 2024 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships.

CARRIED

The chair instructed the committee coordinator to inform the selected host, as well as thank the municipalities that applied.

ACTION: Committee Coordinator

7. 2021 LEGION NATIONALS AND COVID-19

Following the previous Sports Committee meeting, all Provincial Commands and provincial athletics governing bodies were contacted to request feedback on the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on track and field and qualifying meets within their province. Some provincial championships have already been cancelled and six out of ten Provincial Commands supported cancelling the 2021 Legion Nationals now as they felt that there were too many risks associated with a national event and interprovincial travel.

The committee further discussed the vaccine rollout and the fact that the Pfizer/BioNTech and the Moderna vaccines are currently only approved in Canada for those over 16 and 18 years old, respectively. Since Canada is still in stage 1 of 3 of their priority vaccinations which must be completed before the vaccine can be offered to the general public, and the age of participants precludes the athletes from being vaccinated at this time, the likelihood of athletes being vaccinated by August is extremely low.

Based on feedback from public health authorities, it would be unadvisable to hold an event of that size with unvaccinated participants from across Canada. It is exceptionally risky since the Legion teams travel and are housed and fed together for 6 nights.

At this time, no contracts have been signed with the Université de Sherbrooke nor have any airline tickets been booked, meaning there is no current financial commitment by the Legion.

Given this information and support from Provincial Commands, the Sports Committee is recommending the following motion for DEC consideration and decision:

MOTION: That the 2021 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships be cancelled.

CARRIED

8. FUTURE LEGION NATIONALS

Proactively, Sherbrooke, Quebec, was contacted to see if they would be willing to host in 2022 and 2023 and all 2023 and 2024 bidding applicants were contacted to see if they were willing to host in 2024 and 2025 should the 2021 Legion Nationals be cancelled. All municipalities kindly agreed to push the timelines by one year. Therefore, the upcoming Legion Nationals schedule would be as follows:

- 2021: Cancelled
- 2022: Sherbrooke, QC, 3-9 August 2022 (competition dates: 5-7 Aug)
- 2023: Sherbrooke, QC, 9-15 August 2023 (competition dates: 11-13 Aug)
- 2024: Calgary, AB, 7-13 August 2024 (competition dates: 9-11 Aug)
- 2025: Calgary, AB, 6-12 August 2025 (competition dates: 8-10 Aug)

9. NEW BUSINESS

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

10. NEXT MEETING OF THE DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE

The next Sports Committee meeting is scheduled for 14 April 2021 at 11:00 hours EST by Zoom video conferencing. It will be a committee as a whole meeting in which all Provincial Command Sport Representatives will be invited.

11. CLOSING RITUAL AND ADJOURNMENT

The chair concluded the meeting by thanking the committee members for their insight and valued input. The meeting adjourned 18 February 2021 at 11:55 hours EST and the chair conducted the closing ritual.



Brian Weaver
Chair



Lia Taha Cheng
Coordinator

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