

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

61ST

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

JUNE 28, 2025

FORTIS CANADA GAMES CENTRE MULTIPURPOSE
ROOM, 20 LAMBE'S LANE, ST. JOHN'S &
ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING



Table of Contents

AGENDA.....	4
MINUTES FROM 2024 AGM.....	5
NLBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS.....	26
President's Report	27
Vice-President's Report	27
Finance Director's Report	28
Governance Director	40
Central Regional Director's Report.....	40
Eastern Regional Director's Report.....	41
Labrador Regional Director's Report	42
Western Regional Director's Report.....	45
Wheelchair Basketball.....	47
NLBOC Report	48
NLBA STAFF REPORTS.....	51
NLBA Executive Directors Report.....	52
Technical Directors Report.....	62
Event Operations Coordinator	64
Event Operations Coordinator	65
Administrative Assistant	66
TOURNAMENT REPORTS.....	68
Minor School Tournament Report.....	69
Senior Tournament Report.....	69
WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL REPORT	70
Wheelchair Basketball.....	71
MINOR CLUB REPORTS.....	72
709 Basketball	73
Central Female Basketball.....	73
Central NL Youth Basketball	74
Ecole des Grands Vents Jr. NBA.....	78
Grenfell Junior Warriors.....	79
Lab West Jr. NBA	80
Labrador West "Miner" Basketball	80
Mount Pearl Minor Basketball.....	80
Next Level Basketball Training (NLBT).....	81
Paradise Minor Basketball.....	82
Placentia Jr. NBA Program	83
Random Island Academy J. NBA.....	83
Riverside Jr NBA Program Summary	84
St. John's Minor Basketball.....	85
Western Avalanche Basketball Club	86
SENIOR CLUB REPORTS.....	87
Geezers Basketball.....	88

Grand Falls Windsor Donnini’s Men’s Basketball	88
Metro Ladies Basketball League	89
Metro Basketball League	89
St. John’s Amateur Basketball Association (SJABA).....	90
St. John's Ladies Division 1 Basketball League	91
FORMS.....	92
RESOLUTION / MOTION	93
2025 NLBA Board of Directors Nomination Form.....	94
2025 TRAVEL EXPENSE CLAIM.....	95



Agenda

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Call to Order

- a) Appointment of Scrutineers
- b) Roll Call
- c) Report of Scrutineers

Additions to Agenda / Adoption of Agenda

Appointment of Resolutions Officer

Appointment of Scrutineers/Report of Scrutineers

Minutes:

- a) Adoption of the 2024 AGM Minutes
- b) Business Arising from Minutes

President's Report

Financial Report

New Business

- NLBOC Update
- Minor Tournament Update
- NLBA Programs Updates (Skills Academy, Provincial Team, Jr NBA & Camps)
- Club Basketball Update
- Sport NL ITP
- Transformational Coaching
- Canada Games 2025
- Call for Committee Members
- Nominations for the Board of Directors
 - a) Review of the voting process
 - b) Re-election / Election of NLBA
- Notice of Motions

Next AGM – June 27, 2026

Adjournment

Minutes from 2024 AGM



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

**NLBA AGM Meeting
June 22nd, 2024 @ 9:00am
Swiler's Rugby Club, 90 Crosbie Road, St. John's**

Meeting commenced: 9:08 am

JB: Went over some housekeeping items with regards to facility accommodations, Zoom and motions.

BC: Welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to the 60th Annual General Meeting; and for their hard work over the past year.

Appointment of Scrutinizers – Laura Chatman and Doug Partridge.

Appointment of Resolution Officer – Judy Byrne.

Roll Call:

Brian Cooke	NLBA President
Anne Blackmore	NLBA Vice President, Via Zoom
Jesse DeVilla	NLBA Finance Director
Noreen Stewart	NLBA Central Regional Director
Roger Head	NLBA Eastern Regional Director
Travis Ford	NLBA Labrador Regional Director
Dean Barker	NLBA Western Regional Director
Gerard Clarke	NLBOC Representative
Judy Byrne	NLBA Executive Director
Doug Partridge	NLBA Technical Director
Amanda Miles	NLBA Assistant Technical Director
Laura Chatman	NLBA Administrative Assistant
Paulette Hardiman	St. John's Amateur Basketball
Steve Torraville	Next Level Basketball Training
Rob Rodgers	Mount Pearl Minor Basketball
Jon Pye	St. John's Minor Basketball, Via Zoom
Steve Gosse	Central Female Basketball, Via Zoom
Bill Hurley	Observer
Geri-Lynn Devereaux	Observer

BC: Do we have a quorum?

LC: Yes

- BC: Additions to the agenda
- New Business, Alumni fund

Motion to accept the agenda: BC

Moved – RH

Second – GC

Carried

Reading of Minutes:

- No business arising from minutes.

Motion to accept the minutes: BC

Moved – BH

Second – DB

Carried

President Report – Briam Cooke

My report is in the booklet; thanked everybody that has stepped up this year in basketball. Lot of stuff going on in basketball in the province from Labrador, western, central, St. John's all around from club to school. Something to be proud of. Always said that is why I wanted to be involved in this game is to see what is happening right now in our province and it is exciting stuff. Thanked the staff. Lots of hard work, lots of extra time, lots of scheduling, our club was a success this year; a lot that wouldn't be going out with Judy, Doug, Amanda and Laura. This will be Doug's final AGM; he is retiring after Nationals. Certainly, appreciate what he has done, but he isn't finished yet. We will have something special in the fall to celebrate his retirement. Congratulations to our new Technical Director Amanda Miles who will be replacing Doug. We have two new staff coming on board – the announcement will come later.

Financial Report – Jesse DeVilla

There won't be a financial report because the financials aren't ready yet. The audit probably will be ready next week. We'll have a motion to call a separate meeting to present the financial at a future date, once we finally have the audit and everything is done, we'll have another meeting for that.

Executive Director Report – Judy Byrne

Been a great year, a year of ups and downs. There were some great losses in our basketball community. But also, there has been some great growth. Can't say enough about our staff. They will go above and beyond, and I don't think everybody understands the amount of work and dedication that the three of these people have. It is admirable and I wouldn't be able to do my job without them and it is much appreciated. Doug will be missed, not only for the amount of basketball knowledge that he brings to the table and to our province. We will never replace that. His presence in the office, especially when I started as Executive Director, was a huge support and comfort to me getting through the first few years. He gave me a little boost, routing me along to succeed as he did when he was my coach. Looking forward to Amanda coming on board. She is definitely the right choice as Technical Director, not only for her work ethic but for the knowledge she gained from Doug and her own experience. It's going to be an

exciting time. Change is always hard, but we are looking forward to the that piece. You can go through my report in the booklet, it is lengthy because there is a lot going on in our province, but a lot to be proud of. We really still have to continue our work with Safe Sport. We will talk about that when we get into the membership piece and some things that are sort of in the background of keeping us all safe. Safe Sport is a huge piece.

Alumni Fund was started years ago as a financial piece to help lessen the burden for our provincial athletes. Every year the U15 and U17 athletes can apply for the alumni fund through the avenue of KidSport. If they qualify for KidSport, they're good to qualify for the Alumni fund. This year we have had two applications, one of those was successful, we are just waiting for the other's KidSport application to be approved. But we have two applicants that will receive \$1,000.00 each towards their provincial team fees, which will be a great burden off those families' shoulders.

Some of the big things up and coming. We are looking forward to welcoming new full-time and part-time staff. We will release the information and let everyone know about those people in the days to come once we finalize things.

We are really looking forward to nationals – getting closer. The excitement is building. If you are on social media, please share anything that comes across our platform. The more it is shared, the more it gets out there into our community and we need all the support we can get to make this an experience that athletes and coaches are never going to forget. If you have a little bit of time the first part of August doesn't have the whole week, it can be for a couple of days or a couple of hours, just drop me a line and we'll find you a job.

New Business

NLBOC Update – Gerard Clarke

My report is in the booklet, if you haven't already read it, it is there to read. I would like to start by thanking Judy and Amanda for their support this year. It is my first year as the chair of the commission. I was not honestly told how much work was involved when I decided to run for this position. It is a lot of work, and without Amanda's and Judy's support this year I don't think it would have been as successful. Thank you, and I'm going to thank you in advance for next year's support.

We had a great year this year with NLBOC, we had 33 new officials join, and more impressively, we had 21 return from last year. Retention has always been a challenge for our officials here in NL. But last year it was a retention of 41%, which is the best we've had in a long time. The officials we had join this year, they are keen, and we expect to get most of them back for this upcoming season so that is a bonus.

We did have challenges. Decorum and behaviour of athletes and coaches continue to be a challenge for our officials, especially the newer ones coming in. We need to get together as a basketball community to fix that going forward for the success and enjoyment of the game for everybody, the participants, the parents, the referees. The better we all get along, the more

everyone in the gym will enjoy the game. That is a big piece we need to work on. And that is something I plan on working on and engaging the basketball community with this next season.

We do have 6 officials selected to attend Nationals this year. Five will be here in NL at the U15 and U17 Women's; and one official selected to travel to Toronto to participate in the U17 Men's. That was a good turnout this year.

Thanked everyone around this table who was involved in basketball this year because everyone here plays a roll, coaches, conveners, board members, without everyone here, the time that we all put in and those on Zoom, the game wouldn't be there for the kids. I look forward to working with everyone in the next coming year to improve on our year. Any questions for me?

ST: What's our plan for our referees for decorum in the gym? Our biggest issue is trying to teach kids to be respectful, when you have a lot of parents who aren't respectful. Meanwhile I've even talked to the parents after the game and said this is U12 or whatever age it is, you know so you can't do something on the drive home but do something about it.

JB: Behaviour of the adult, the spectator or all the above?

ST: And the coaches too. A lot of them are, I talked to them after the game and say do they realize what they are saying is what the kids are leaning on.

JB: That is something that we are very serious about, and we are really trying to make a difference there. Events where we are present, we're really on top of it. It's the events where we're not present that's where we really need the help. Our officials are starting to step up and support us in that regard, but our conveners also have to do their job. That's the missing piece.

ST: I've been there is sometimes when Paulette, I say, what do you want to do, there are multiple games going on and someone is running over to her, "Do you know what that person just said?" or "Did you see what just happened?". And when you got some young officials, which I tell the boys, "You just be quiet? You be quiet, if there are any questions, I'll ask them. But not, definitely not, screaming out while the game is on." There is a way to do it too, but players always need that. But I don't know if you need it across the board, you have got to do Respect in Sport before you coach.

JB: Every coach has to do Safe Sport piece. We're starting to talk about doing like Hockey does, that parents have to do that Safe Sport or the Respect in Sport piece as well before their kid can get on the floor.

GD: It was in Soccer too this year, too. Couldn't register your kid without it.

DP: During school provincials this year, we did a little thing up to be read before every single game, we got feedback from officials that they thought it was helpful. That may be something we can engage in club next year, until we get to where we want to get to. Unfortunately, people need that reminder at every game that they have to behave themselves.

JB: Sadly, we are at that point, so we'll bring that in next year. It's just like a 30-second little spiel, a brief message. But again, we have got to keep the line of communication going, yes there is a poster on the wall, and there's communication before the games; clubs and schools have to be a part of that conversation.

BC: That was our mission statement. We started at the beginning of this year. It was a collaboration with everybody. Everybody in this room, everyone on Zoom, just continue to

message your team about the importance of everybody working together and keeping our sport safe.

GC: In regard to the coaches, one of the things we're going to do with NLBOC this year is engage the coaches and invite them to our training sessions. We plan on having bi-weekly Zoom training sessions that are going to go over certain rules and regulations in the game. It's designed for our officials, but we're opening it up to coaches across the province, so hopefully that engagement and personalizing of the officials, having that one to one, face to face, and that relationship, you're less likely to be demoralizing to somebody you know, versus some stranger. For NLBOC, we're hoping to engage the coaching community and get that personal relationship with the coaches' establishment and started. Parents are tough to work with. We had very little interaction outside of the actual game with the parents. But one thing I was impressed with this year is we had a couple of major incidents, and the schools really stepped up. The schools backed us up 100% and banned parents from the gym. I was really surprised and pleased with how the administration really handled those situations and had our back. We're going to continue to engage the schools when these incidents happen, and even before, hopefully, to educate to try to eliminate that behaviour. We're never going to get rid of it. There's always going to be one or two individuals that just don't have reason.

ST: What is the protocol for younger referees now? Soccer has special shirts and that kind of stuff, but young referees don't have a special band or something like that.

DP: That's huge, because a lot of the problems coaches have is that they don't understand what's taking place on the floor, and all on top of that, they don't understand the interpretation of what's taking place on the floor. So one of the best things I did was go to an officials workshop when they had the National Education person come down here, Amy Crawley, and she did a thing for new officials, and I sat in the back of the room and it gave me an understanding of who the officials were, not as people, but who they were as officials, and why they called, what they call. And once you have that understanding, it's a lot easier to sit on the bench, because you know why the whistle is being blown or not.

RH: Will that be on a video we can give it to parent, or the office can look at?

GC: Yes, we can record our sessions and have them in an archive that you can go back and watch, absolutely.

AM: Maybe the officials resources page on our website?

BH: When I was a commissioner this year, I was reading out the script and I think because we did that and we were consistent there, I haven't heard any big problem with any of the games that we did.

JB: I think it made a difference.

NS: We did the grade nine provincials at our school and felt so odd to read the script because I'm not a script person at all, and the people in my gym know I'm not in front of it, but it just set the tone that we were the people in charge. Do you know what I mean and enjoy the game. And these are just kids playing, and they're having fun. We're here to have fun, and you're a part of them having fun. I think that is an important piece too. It is at home in the gym, and it was the kids who had fun.

GC: Yes, I attended the grade 10 provincials in Ferryland, and the convener there didn't read the script, but he just got on and paraphrased it. He's like, "Everybody be good people. Don't be bad people. Everybody be good people". And for the most part, like you said, it was successful. You know, they did have one incident where a parent had to be removed. But you could have

read the Bible at the beginning of that game, and it wouldn't have made a difference to that individual. We're going to have those parents, but I think these reminders do work. It was great.

BC: I'm speaking as a coach here now as well, some games and gyms I go in the coaches have an agreement with the officials, they come over, and both coaches get together, and me as an official, that's what I like to do as well, because then you've introduced yourself, you've said, "Okay, boys, this is just a game. And if there's any questions come to me", that part of that communication, I find it's not consistent in every gym and every game that we're going to, and I feel some big piece. I don't know if there has been any discussion about that and be consistent or is it something the officials don't want to do or do.

GC: I don't think it's so much that they don't want to do it. Outside of St John's, I haven't done a lot of officiating, I don't know what the scheduling and stuff is like, but middle of February in St John's, you can have a game at PowerPlex here at 9:30am and you're over at Gonzaga at 12:00, and you're running in literally minutes before the game.

BC: I believe that's a key piece. Otherwise, it's going to take time at halftime, in between a quarter, etc. That minute before the start of the game, for all those in the gym, is essential.

JB: It sets the tone. Just like that speech at the beginning, that meeting with the officials, it sets the tone.

NS: And it is a rush, I'm lucky where I am, because we're not rushed. Teams that came into our provincials said after, "I can't believe this went off without a hitch". I was thinking our tournaments pretty much always go off. It's because we're not as rushed or whatever. But that minute does set that tone, even if game ball is a couple of minutes later than it's supposed to, I think it's relevant.

GC: Absolutely that's something that we can encourage and focus on this year that the officials do have that conversation. Most high-level basketball, it happens. Any organized basketball at the three-minute mark before the first period the referees go over and talk to the coaches. So structured basketball that's supposed to happen. It's in the FIBA rule of order of operations and preparedness for a game. At the 16-minute mark, you're still at center watching the practices. Three-minute mark, you talk to the coaches. We could start definitely implementing that.

BC: I think it's key. I've seen it, and it gets into the coach's head too. They show me respect at the beginning; I'm going to show them respect.

TF: Have you had any identifying new officials?

GC: We worked really hard this year as an association in assigning our new officials. In years past, new officials more often just assigned games with partners, and it was random. Our assignor this year worked really hard to make sure that our officials were paired appropriately. Now, were there a couple of games where we had two newer officials together? Yes, but that was usually in a U10 or a U12 club game or something like that, where it shouldn't get too technical. We've worked really hard this year to set our officials up for success, and that's why we had that 40% retention. That, I believe, is why we had such a good retention rate this year is because the officials were protected a little bit better than in previous years, and we're going to continue that this year. Going forward, we're going to make sure our new officials are with appropriate partners directing appropriate level basketball, and they're given an opportunity to grow and love officiating with a reduced risk of coming across negative experiences.

Minor tournament updates – Doug Partridge

On the minor tournament side, we had a huge year. The growth of the sport continues unabated. We had 13 different clubs on the club side, the first time ever we had clubs in our leagues from outside the city. I think the initial shock of playing club league for some parents was sometimes we had to shorten games or have running clocks because we had to be out of the gym at a certain time. Initially some of the parents were like, “wait a minute, we came all this way for a shortened game” but once they saw the totality of the weekend, it gave a greater understanding of the benefits involved.

We suffered one real disappointment when we would have had the first club league weekend ever outside of the city. I know Brian worked really hard to set that up. And unfortunately, weather gods deemed that inappropriate for us this year. So that was a real disappointment, because that would have been something special, and a great start, because that's where we want to get to. We want our leagues to be island wide; we want teams to be able to play all over the place. We want to get to that point. So that would have been great to kind of kick it off this year, and I'm sure it will happen next year.

We had almost 100 teams in various leagues. When I started seven years ago, we didn't have enough club teams to have all Club provincials at under 12 and under 14 ages. We had basically four provincials – under 12 guys and girls and under 14 male and female. We had to cancel half of those because we couldn't come up with three teams. Now, we've got 20 odd teams in every age group, and we're going A, B, C. For the first time ever, team level provincial we gave out 19 different championship banners that weekend. For the first time ever, we went year long. We had some challenges with gym time, and we work with the clubs. That's how that will happen next year. We're really hopeful to see Corner Brook maybe come back into the league next year and see some more expansion. It would be great if Corner Brook can play Grand Falls out there a little bit, and then come in here one weekend, and teams go out there one weekend, and that will be exceptional.

On the school side was the same thing. We kind of had a slow year two years ago now, COVID was all over, and it boomed this year again. We had, for the first time ever, we had a D-level school provincial. We had over 30 teams, at grade six level and grade seven were similar, just huge amounts of teams on the men's side. So, all of that was great.

I'm really excited about where things are going. For the first time, we had island wide provincials in grades 8 and 9. Allowing teams to try and find a competitive level that suited them, because, particularly on the West Coast, there would only be one Western provincial. If you were a C team, you had to play A teams and the B teams, and you might not get a game worthwhile, other than were referees. And it was great this year to have the C provincials that Noreen hosted. Every game was three, four points.

Brian and I had a little discussion about grade 10 and 11 on the West Coast. On the women's side there are still very few teams; on the guys' side it is a little more level. On the women's side, we only had four teams in grade 11. There were two grade 11 teams, there were two

grade nine teams. So, it wasn't really a true provincial. It may be that we're going to continue with the grade eight and nine provincials for one more year.

We actually had less teams drop out than we thought we would have. No offense to anybody in the room, but East Coast is a little bit entitled. Everybody knows that. So, when they said, "Wait a minute, we got travel, ah no". Then meanwhile, they'll say, "Oh, our school is under privilege, and we don't have a lot of money". Leary's Brook sent two teams to the West Coast. I don't know if you've ever been to Leary's Brook school, but that is the least privileged school in the city right now, and they were able to send both of their teams in grade 8 and 9 out to the west coast. In my mind, there's really no excuse. I think some people felt like if they threatened and withdrew, we would buckle and allow them to host in town, and now they know that's not going to happen. Next year, people will plan appropriately, because parents want their children to play in provincials. It's a big deal. And to withdraw because you didn't plan, I don't think it will be looked upon favourably. We'll give it one more year and, hopefully, it continues to work. Then at the grade 10 and 11 tournaments, we can see if that's something we need to expand to provide better opportunities for people to compete. Because that's what, at the end of the day, everybody wants. There's a certain segment, a small segment, that wants to win a banner, and "I need to be a C level because I'll win a banner", but that's a very small percentage of the people. Most people just want good games. They just want to be able to play against teams of their level. Anything that we can do to provide that benefits the game.

I would like to add on a personal note that I had originally intended to work over a year, but I chose to leave this summer, because everything that I set out to help the NLBA with I achieve. We wanted to be a more part of Nationals; we wanted to increase participation; we wanted to improve our coaches. I feel like all of those things are happening, and we're at a point now where the sport is going in a direction that people like me are a bit of a dinosaur. Like Safe Sport, all these things are nonstop being worried about. I used to send my university teams to a New Year's Eve tournament in Montreal. We would play our three games on New Year's Eve, we all go downtown, now you couldn't do that, you'd lose your job. So, it's a different world, and I think we need a different vision. Now we are on such great footing, has a province. We need a different vision of how we move that forward. And I think it's the right time to create that opportunity for somebody else.

And then I would finally say, when I was at a low point where I was kind of persona non grata in the province, the NLBA gave me an avenue to stay involved in basketball, and that then turned into started being involved with provincial teams and starting a new club. And then eventually be hired. However, you want to put it, rehabilitate myself or rehabilitating my image, or whatever, so I certainly have a big gratitude to the organization that I'm never going to re-pay.

NLBA Provincial Team – Doug Partridge

We had a great year with our provincial teams. For the first time in 20 plus years, we didn't have a single team finished last in the country, it may seem modest, but it's important. Seven years ago, we were going away, and the score was 100 to 40 or 150 and now we're competing with everybody, we're points away from making semi-finals.

For the first time ever, we've got three national all stars in one year. Kylie Sooley, 15U female, Ryder English on the 15U male team and Sarah Ried, 17U female team. We had Sarah Reid and Sophie Fowler who were both invited under 17 Women's National Team tryouts. Sophie unfortunately was injured and couldn't attend. Kylie Sooley was selected to participate from the open trial. Sarah Ried ultimately made the national team, and despite being very ill in Mexico, was the sixth player, who played a significant role within the tournament and qualifying for the World Championships. She's been invited to the final camp of the top 14 in July, and we're hopeful that she will get a chance to represent the country nationally. Ryder English, similarly, of an opportunity at the men's under 17, as a kind of double under ager of this year. So that was a great accomplishment, our players are being recognized nationally. Our performance is improving.

At our tryout level we had over 130 males and over 120 females in the gym this year, which are great numbers. But would still like to see them go up a little bit more, because that's a challenge in terms of team selection. You want as many people in the gym striving to be better as you can get. And we're happy about that. People felt these tryouts this year were among the best we've ever run. And I think it's always interesting, because inevitably, having 250 people in the gym, and you're picking 40 – 50 of them to represent the province, you're going to have questions about why. And it's always fun to entertain when you come to the table with the people who are questioning the process. And you said, "What do you know? How do you select your team?" And you just see their face slowly come to realizations, "Oh, they're not just randomly picking the kids that they know, they actually take competition points and have awards and debate these things and have a whole selection process in place to identify to make sure they come up with the right people". Again, that's an area where we've gotten to a great place in terms of how we do it and continuing to build on that. It's important. But overall, the provincial program is in a great place, other than cost. The cost is a huge issue. We have a committee in place that's looking at that. We, as an organization, are starting to realize that we're probably going to have to do year round fundraising to put a pot of money in place before we even get to the summer, so that then we can look at it and sort of say, "Okay, now, instead of being \$5,000 to play, it is \$3,000 to play." trying to keep it at a consistent level list, because if it's \$5,000 if you have two kids in the program, that's a mortgage. For our west coast / central people, we've got to find a way to lesson that, because they have the added expense of centralizing the training. We did a survey, the athletes are extremely content with the way things are done, but the athletes don't have to pay the \$5,000 out of pocket or if your west coast athlete, having to take seven or \$8,000 out of their pocket. But that's a parental thing, so we've got to find a way to get the parents to be as excited about the provincial program as the athletes.

NLBA Programing – Amanda Miles

This year for our academy, we switched things around. In the past, we had done Elite and Select Academy for kids of grades seven to eleven. We felt that the clubs were doing their job at this age group, but we know it's the younger groups that weren't coming in with the training ethic, the basic skills and the pieces that they needed to get up to that provincial level. We tried working with groups grades four to seven this year. We created an environment where they could come in and learn how to train and how to practice and how to focus on the little details

and that these things are important to do every time they step in that gym. We had about 30 kids and would like to see it grow. It was not well advertised. We were late getting the information out. There were conflicts, clubs had practices, different things like that. For next year, we're looking to try to make it more accessible for everybody, and the feedback from it, and what I've heard from coaches is that it was a very positive environment. I can't wait to see it grow next year. We created it as an open environment for coaches to come in and see what are the basic skills. How are we teaching footwork. How are we teaching shooting. How are we teaching fundamentals. And we actually opened it up to our coaching courses as well. When we ran a Learn to Train clinic, they came into the gym for their on-court session to see and experience and tie into that coach development piece, which I thought went really well. And they got a lot out of it too in terms of drills to work with their teams. And we're going to try to continue that age group, focusing on building. Kids didn't get those fundamentals coming out of COVID. But going forward, that takes a lot off the clubs as well. They don't always have time to work on those skilled pieces. We're hoping to supplement their programs as well.

With the Junior NBA, we had 10 new programs this year. We ended up with six in total, which was nice. It's growing back. It's still not where we were before COVID. Some of the bigger clubs who ran it before COVID changed to things like a "Buddy Ball" or their own internal U10 leagues. But the actual Junior NBA program itself, they were brought to their curriculum. They're changing their sponsor to Subway now, so it's going to be advertised in Subway and people will see posters for Junior NBA. A lot of organizations and clubs are seeing that as free advertising. We actually had a few clubs just right before, in January, signed up, and they're looking forward to going forward with it as well. That's going to be a big focus to grow across the island with how we can grow the game. How can we do some more? Junior NBA along with 3 X 3, we're going to try to get those into those more rural areas and see that grow some more.

With camps last summer, they were really good. We only had three summer students last summer. This year, we have nine, and the year before that, we had 13. It's important that we have these summer students to help with the summer camps, and have grown them, but we hired seven students to fill those spots, and the kids had a great time, and the proof of that is in our registrations for this year. Last year, we had 35 each week. This year, our first week at camp, we're at 82 kids already, and we've just opened registration a month ago. We also moved it into July, so we're testing out different times in the summer, but the growth in the program tells me we did well in the past, and kids want to come back and do the program, so that's really exciting. We also ran a two-day camp in Grand Falls – Windsor last summer that went well. It was hot, but the kids had a great time. We actually had a request from other areas about running programs again. So going forward into this summer, we're doing a two-day camp in Clarendville, Summerford, Fogo and Stephenville. We're trying to get as far across the province as we can. And I've since people heard we were in those areas, they reached out saying, "Oh can you come to ours, can you come to our area?" My goal with those is with the right staff, we can broaden that.

Every summer we can visit new towns, and we can get to a new area and introduce the game and get it up and going, and hopefully they can continue it on until the summer ends. We're not running it ourselves; the people involved locally can see how it's run, and they can run their

own camp. Going forward, we can help provide jerseys, balls, whatever you want, but trying to build that legacy across the island. I have hopes to go up to Labrador, Travis, it's a hard place to get to, but it's an untapped area with a lot of Junior NBA there. We have three different sites right now. It's really important that the games grow. People are interested. We have players from Labrador coming down, making our provincial teams and the levels coming up, so I can't wait to see that grow as well.

BC: I stopped in Clarendville on the way out, and there's a ball on the table, advertising if you want to become a host or play in the Junior NBA.

AM: Clarendville has a program with 30 kids in it right now. It's their third round. It's run by Jordan Constantine. And he has actually had to pause his registration because he doesn't have enough coaches. So, it is growing.

Nationals – Judy Byrne

Our host committee is really putting in a lot of hours to have an event that everybody can be proud of, and our participants are going to be excited about. Just a little re-cap, it is going to be in the gyms at Memorial. There will be competition gyms at the Field House and MUN gym. Practice facilities will be the Sports Center and PWC. We have 20 teams participating, 11 in the U17 and nine at the U15.

Our sponsorship program was just released this week. So again, to share that with your family and friends; we need money to make this event what we want it to be. And there's never enough. Sharing the sponsorship program would be great. There're three different levels, \$100.00, \$250.00 and \$500.00 with little perks for each of those contributions. The merchandise has the pre-sale is opened online for the merchandise, T-shirts and hats and sweatshirts, and pre-sale for the tournament passes. There's a \$40.00 pre-sale price, if you're buying on site, it will be \$45.00. The wheel is in motion, the countdown is on, and we're really looking forward to it.

BC: I'm part of that committee. Lots of excitement. There is a lot of meeting to go to, lots of energy and ideas from females and males, and lots of good stuff happening, and anybody again who wants to volunteer to help out to make the merrier.

JB: Yes, please.

BC: Does everyone know when it is?

JB: It is from August the 5th to the 10th.

Club Basketball Update – Doug Partridge

We would like to thank Paulette and Harold Hardiman without whose hard work; the minor club league wouldn't have been possible. They were outstanding on the club weekends, making sure everything ran smoothly.

We also had a great year with the senior leagues. Women's First Division was in a little bit of a transition, but the women's Metro League, as a result, was booming. It had too many teams. Then Division One had a little interplay between some of the top teams in Metro and some of

the bigger teams. And they're exploring ways that they can try and have some more interaction between those leagues.

JB: There're only three teams in the D1 League?

DP: Four at the end, because our Canada Games Pod team was in there. But normally they got 6 to 8 teams consistently. But people are starting to age, and when that happens, they seek out slightly easier competition level.

The men's senior league seemed to be huge, big numbers. A big thank you to Rod Budgell, who's done a lot of organizational work and stepped down from the Metro Men's senior league this year and certainly appreciate everything that he's done over his time there. And we'll welcome Mark Dawson, who will replace Rod in his position with the Metro senior league.

Growth is not just happening among the young people in the sport. We're getting tremendous growth with the older people who continue to want to be engaged to play the sport recreationally, although some of them may contribute more of than recreationally.

Summer leagues: I was advised today the men's summer leagues now up to five different divisions of six to eight teams.

PH: We have 32 teams, with a lady's division as well in that too. We had to cut it off, because we didn't have the gym time.

DP: The game at every level is in a great place. We want to tip our hats off to all the organizers and the volunteer people who are doing good things with our senior leagues across the island. And it's not just both in our young people, but people are finding engagement with the game or even starting game at a later point in life as a recreational avenue.

BC: Is this where we give an update to on the vote, we had the other night with the minor clubs?

DP: Certainly, we can Yes. We did have a year-end minor club meeting and a few amendments going forward. They want to continue with a year on league, but the club is now willing to give up some gym time in order to facilitate the number of games they play. The league will be 10 – 12 games per team over a year. We can provide a certain amount of time the PowerPlex and a certain neutrality of games there, but now also every club will give up time slot that we can use to facilitate some more games and be a little bit more even play, because a lot of the time we can get it the PowerPlex is pre-Christmas, so we had to fit a lot of games in, and then people might have only played one or two games from January to April, and there was a feeling that it's not worth playing. This way we should be able to even out the games a little bit more.

At the under 12 level we had a good discussion around whether the defensive rules were needed. Is it time to just let people play however they were going to play. In the end, we kind of came to a compromise that we would continue to be a player-to-player Defense League only, but when we get to provincials, the enforcement of that would be a lot stricter. I think our commissioners have always kind of felt like they don't want to impose themselves on the game and start handing out all kinds of technical fouls and kicking coaches at the gyms because the players aren't playing properly. We said, "what were two solutions to that". We either said you

can play any way you want to, defensively, and the other solution is, you come in in the gym, knowing if your players don't play properly, you're going to be getting a technical, and you're potentially going to be thrown out if you don't, because a lot of times the warning is given. Our better coaches would either immediately call the players in or make a sub for the offending player or take a time out and go through with their team what's not allowed so they can change it. Some of the less experienced coaches just, I don't know if they feel it's going to happen by osmosis or what I mean, they just don't get it, will give a warned. "Guys guard someone". It'll be enforced more rigidly. And the folks know that going in, they know what they have to be ready for. Hopefully that will help, because at one point this year, I had a lot over to two coaches independently and tell them that if it happened again, they were going to be thrown out. We had a good discussion around that, and we'll see how that goes. There is some feeling that maybe at A level of under 12, we should do away with it. It's fairly high-level basketball, it's not what it was 10 years ago. 10 years ago, under 12, they were dribbling the ball off their foot and scores were in the 20s. Now it's, it's high-level of basketball. We'll revisit that again next year.

And then the final decision was the under 10 competitive teams. We kind of wafted all year long under 10 competitive classes, which we never had before. Now we have a definite format for under 10 competitive basketball. It would be five on five – four quarters, with the sub rules will be the same as under 12. Five on five off every four minutes for the first three periods and then free substitutions in the last period. And the good thing about the under 10 is there might be one kid in the whole team that can play an eight-minute shift, but most of them are going to die of exhaustion before the eight-minute shift is over. It won't just be a coach finding five players up there for the last eight minutes. They'll still have to sub and use the bench, and move people around, because the better coaches, even the less experienced coaches, outstanding that the kids can't play that long. They're young. The court is big, so at least for them it is. It'd be nice to have a format that we can all walk in and know what we're dealing with in that sense. Those are the changes that are coming.

ST: Just so I comprehend this, we are keeping with the referees?

DP: For the competitive stuff we will be, for the non-competitive stuff will be no officials. Non-comp will continue to be four on four, cross court and referee by coached or athletes, so that your weaker players or your newer players can be taught as well as refed while the game is going on. There's no score kept. The difficulty if we make coaches, the referees, and there's a scoreboard, it's a two-point game, even if the coach of the winning team makes the exact right call in the last 30 seconds, and every parent is going to jump up and lose their mind.

GC: I made a call last weekend in British Columbia with three seconds left. The guy fouled a three pointer and then the league didn't like it. It was an open elite division semifinal game, and a parent ran off his head saying, "Oh, he's biased". I'm like, "Dude, I'm from NL and don't know anybody here". They immediately went after me, "That refs bias!"

Hall of Fame Induction – Judy Byrne

Our Hall of Fame induction ceremonies is this evening, at the Holiday Inn @ 6:30pm. We're inducting three people; Thomas Kendall will be inducted as an athlete / builder. Angela King will

be inducted as a builder, and Winston Jenkins will be inducted as a builder. We're looking forward to that, we'll also be presenting our NLBA awards.

Call for Committee members – Brian Cooke

We need more people. We need more people involved to make this growing game happen. Right now, there's a lot of the same people that are around this table. We lost the key person in Karen Adams this year. Committees are always open to new people. If you're having discussions with complaining parents, ask them to become involved to make a difference in basketball in our province; or the complaining coach, or the or anybody, that's out there that wants to help continue to grow and this game. Whether it's taking a whistle and becoming a referee or becoming a board member. We don't have a line up here of people wanting to get involved, but the more people that we have involved, the better the games become. That's my only message, we need more people involved, because a lot of people, as well those that are around this table, do a lot of great work, but sometimes they get tired, and we need more help.

RH: If you don't like it, get on the board.

PH: We say to players in the men's league when they complain about things, we say, "our AGM is on this date, come and join". You'd think that people would want to show up to see how the league runs, but we had our AGM here last year, and I think we had 15 people show up at 57 teams.

BC: A lot of people are not giving back.

GC: It is easy to complain.

JB: The other thing with that is we're not going to be able to continue to grow, without people getting involved. That's just not the way it works.

PH: And since COVID, it's hard to get volunteers everywhere.

NLBA Membership – Judy Byrne

One of our goals for this coming year was to implement membership through all schools and clubs. Obviously, our clubs are on board. A little bit of history, when minor provincials started, the registration fee encompassed your insurance. Not a lot has changed in regard to the registration fee for tournaments, so it is really time that we implement the membership through our schools' programs. So that the individual membership fee per athlete who wants to play in minor provincials or hopefully anybody playing basketball in our province, needs to be insured through the NLBA. Starting this process and digging a little deeper, we realize there is a gap between our insurance in regard to sanction and un-sanction events. That is not a good thing. We have now realized that all events need to be sanctioned through the NLBA. Not an easy process, it is going to be a big undertaking, but one that is crucially important for the protection of our officials, our board of directors and our club leagues. That is where we are now, we are starting the process, but we are not there yet.

BC: We are in conversation with the insurance company and school. We are in a good place to move forward so that everybody is insured for our events and games in the province with school and what is happening is sanctioned. Other sports have done this, and I believe this is an opportunity for us to do this now so that everybody is protected. The officials, board members as volunteers, as well as staff. Right now, we would normally move on to an election, and we

are putting forth a motion that we postpone our election until the fall until this work continues. There has been a lot of work and a lot of discussion between myself, JD, GC and JB in the last three or four days. And for the protection of everybody right now, we don't feel we can proceed with the election until we get this rectified. That will hopefully be before the fall and start of the season. Right now, there is only one event that is not sanctioned, and Judy and Gerard have been in communicated with because the officials are doing that league. We're looking at sanctioning those. Everyone else in the province won't have a game going on until the fall. We're going to put forth a motion to postpone the election. And proceed with the members that are presently on the board until we call our meeting for election in the fall to ensure everybody is on the right path and are protected. This is a great opportunity for basketball because society has changed. There are a lot of things that are happening on the court and outside the court that we really take care of as business.

GC: Just to build on that, the one league that we do have in the city that was not sanctioned, we had a conversation with the organizer yesterday and they are more than happy to come on board and follow whatever protocol is required to make sure that they fall underneath the NLBA umbrella for that league and that they are sanctioned. There was no kickback, I had the conversation with them yesterday and they understand the importance of it. Like Brian said, 30 years ago we wouldn't have had a conversation about this, but today all it takes is one lawsuit to sink multiple people, your whole life and everything that you built. It sucks that this was highlighted, but it is good that we found it before we were in a lawsuit, and we realized we had exposure in the middle of something.

RH: Why wouldn't they be sanctioned?

GC: I can't speak unto why certain people weren't sanctioned before and why certain things.

RH: It seemed to me as the right thing to do, but am I missing something? Why wouldn't people get sanctioned?

GC: I don't want to speculate on why people make the decisions that they do. Previously we were all under the assumption that our insurance policy covered this. Last September, I had a week-long conversation with our broker and underwriter, and I walked away from that conversation completely confident we were covered. If I thought that we had any exposure or liability, we wouldn't have refereed this past season without coverage. It just so happens that this past week, we had some questions from some board members, and when we pushed and pressured the broker, that is when we realized there is some potential of exposure. We still don't know if there is exposure; we are waiting to get some information back, but the potential exists. In the meantime, the easiest to avoid all that, is like Brian and Judy said, if everyone falls underneath the NLBA umbrella, all basketball is sanctioned, then there is no gray area.

ST: The bottom line is, if you are not sanctioned then you won't get any referees.

BC: The NLBOC is under the NLBA.

GC: We're still working on what that's going to look like. We don't know If you were going to host an exhibition game on Thursday afternoon if you've got to have to call the NLBA and settle it. But everybody is just having members, everybody in the basketball community in NL is playing will have to be a member of the NLBA.

BC: We have also had discussion on training piece, as well, around membership. For parents, things we have discussed earlier on, if you have a member, you also have to participate in this Safe Sport program as a player, as a parent, so that is things that is being worked on now, to

ensure that. This is our opportunity; this membership is an opportunity to ensure this all at once.

JB: If this was 20 years ago, we wouldn't be having this discussion. Society is changing dramatically, and not for the better. We can't put our volunteers, we don't want to put our employees, our officials in that line of fire. We would be negligent by doing this. This is definitely a much-needed necessity.

GC: The amount of impact this is going to have on the game is minimal. Most of the athletes that are participating in school basketball are participating in the club programs. As Doug said, we had the greatest number of club teams ever. Those are the kids who are the ones playing on the grade 7 team and the grades 8 and 9 team, so they're likely already members. The population of athletes in NL that this new sanctioning requirement in the fall is going to affect, is going to be minimal. It's not going to be a major thing that these teams and these schools have to do.

NS: That will be impacting us. It's the same as when the NLVA started doing that and there is always that initial little push back, but in the end of the it is something you have to do for basketball to continue.

RH: What is the cost?

JB: The current membership fee for minor membership is \$21.50. So, \$9.00 of that is the Canada Basketball's. When you become a member, you're also become an automatic member of Canada Basketball. The fee for the fall, the board and finance committee have to finalize.

GC: Will the fee be for the school or the individual?

JB: It will be an individual piece.

RH: Would it have an ID number?

AM: Our ramp registration has all the clubs in it as well, and then we're going to set the schools up in it. Basically, you'll go in and sign your kid up and pick where you're at, whether it is a school or club, and then recognize it if you have already paid your fees. It automatically sets the payment as the next step is to register for your club, your school or whatever it is. And then the coaches or organizations will be able to have a list of the people who registered with them. And they'll be able to create their rosters to then register for our clubs' provincial, leagues or tournaments. Last year it was automatically entered into tables and stuff. This will actually make it easier for everyone if everyone does it the same way verse trying to do it different ways for the school verse the club like we did last year. Once your team is in there, you can register for three or four events, and you create your roster and you're good to go; going into next year's events you have new people. And soccer, baseball and there is another sport already using RAMP as well. The parents already have accounts created; they literally just have to select the option and just go. They don't have to enter their information, their emergency contact, MCP, it is all saved in there for whatever sport they're doing. It is going to tie into the province very well and make things easier in the long run.

RH: They're going to be paying and have their own accounts?

AM: Yes, they are. And the family can have an account. So that everyone in the family can log in and have their two kids and then their husband, if they play in D1, D2, they can register themselves, because all leagues are using it, so it is a nice, centralized place for them.

GD: I have one child in soccer, one child in softball, all register with RAMP, so we're already used to it.

JB: So once people get accustomed to it, get into the routine of it, but obviously the initial of it is going to be some pushback and some gripper and a little bit of wobbling, but we'll get through it.

JD: Do you want to speak to the parents doing the Safe Sport program for us to address the issue?

JB: Part of our discussion membership piece was before you can register as a member, the parent has to do Safe Sport course, so they have it as part of their education. Pretty sure hockey does it and soccer, maybe. Again, it is another step that we need to take. We have to stop saying "Oh my gosh, we're going to piss people off" or "oh my gosh, they're not going to want to do this". Instead, we really have to start taking care of our association, and the people that are around this table, and our volunteers, and this is the right thing to do.

AM: And within RAMP we can make it mandatory that they have to put their NCCP number in as the parent registers, and RAMP itself pulls the records from the Coach Locker and tell us, "Yes, they have it done; No, they don't". Give us the ability to send mass reminders, so this year it's Safe Sport, maybe in Fall, we add this requirement, it'll send out to people who are missing anything to start early, and just say "Hey, a new requirement has been added, and you need to do this." It's really great centralized system. We have RAMP for free from Canada Basketball, and our clubs have it free from us. The system itself isn't costing anyone anything, just the man hours to get it set up. Once it is set up, we just transferred from the last season from last year and moved forward.

BC: The course is being done by our provincial athletes, right?

AM: Yes, all our provincial athletes and parents are required to do all three of the courses; Safe Sport, Rule of Two and Making Headway in Sport. All our coaches are required in the club system, and we also have had our coaches for school require it, as well, for the last two years. And there has not been any push back on it.

NS: I was just wondering if there is going to be any communication with the schools, because the parents might say our school "Maybe our school is not doing it."?

JB: Yes, that's one of the negatives of this happening so quickly is that initial communication is going to be missed by the administration. We'll start pushing it out to all the coaches and all our membership, but that whole administration school piece, we're going to be behind.

GD: We have to pay a fee for our high school sports for our provincials; we pay a fee to that organization.

JB: What is that for and for how much?

GD: Every time we play a SSNL regional or provincials or whatever, it is like \$7.00 per athlete fee for everyone who plays. For my daughter in soccer or softball, so every time she plays, I have to pay \$7.00 fee, it goes to excess amount. We get charged through our Rycor system and then our school writes a cheque. For every school. Every time she plays regional soccer and provincial soccer that is \$14.00 fee.

JB: Is that a membership for SSNL?

GD: That is for insurance and everything that pays their fee.

NS: It's a player fee, plus there is a team fee that they pay too. In our school, we do fundraisers, our parents don't even know what they pay. The money comes out of that pot from the fundraisers.

GD: This will be huge for a parent to have to pay a fee to the organization. It might not be as big, but it might be.

JB: Yes, when I spoke to Karen Richard at SSNL that was one of her concerns, it was both rural schools and it's basically you're running one tournament a year that you are paying this membership for. We're working with SSNL on that piece.

NS: Not that it's going to be a problem; there is going to be an information piece, you can't go to this tournament until you've done this course a couple of weeks before.

JB: That's the piece we're working on now, but we missed the school administration piece.

AM: We're looking at doing some round table open house virtual sessions come September, as well. Maybe when the admin comes back, and they have some questions, we can open some Zoom session for people who can come to attend for them to ask questions so that we can clarify these questions and show them how the system works.

BC: I'm the coach of our high school team out home and a lot of communication comes from our athletic director. I'm not sure if that is the person we should be coping on the communications?

JB: The other people we will be coping are principals and vice principals. We're going to email it out to everyone.

NB: We have had different gym teachers for the last five years, so I've been staying on as athletic director for our school. The more people it is sent to, athletic director, principals and vice principals, the better.

JD: Another issue around the fees, from a financial perspective, we've done a great job in telling our membership we also have an integrity committee. The integrity committee is a separate committee outside of the NLBA. It governs itself. It is made up of over 20 members, and if there is an incident that is heard regarding some risks, something happened to Johnny, something that happened on the basketball court, some issues, the integrity committee actually hears it. It is a triumvirate of three panels; three people on the panel, they operate under the laws of the national currency. Basically, operating separate from the NLBA, their decision as a panel is binding. The problem now that is happening is that the committee is absolutely flat out. The incidents that committee has heard, which is actually chaired by Jerry Rice presently, is high. I've served on a couple of incidents myself, and I know that panel. The question does come back to the NLBA, we might have to start paying that panel because there are so many incidents. It is either a complaint on the floor, a couch or a parent, or whatever.

JB: We're also running into issues, where potentially an issue might have to be removed from the integrity committee, and we'll have to pay a third party to actually hear some of those incidents. Those cases are coming as well. We want money in the pot for issues that come across the integrity's desk.

JD: For the first time, we'd have a budget, we're probably going to have a line for legation later on. This is happening. All sports are starting to rely on legation. There are 20 people on the committee, and there are probably easily over 20 issues that have come up already over the last few years. And this is a lot of work. It is operating under our national law; there are a lot of investigations. There is a binding committee, the NLBA doesn't have any input, the board doesn't have any input. It is a lot of work, so once we sanction then we have more issues to deal with, as well.

DP: There is going to be a lot more issues once we sanction.

JD: There will be a lot more responsibility once we sanction.

DP: It's not like we are trying to make money to put in the bank.

JD: Right now, the committee is not being paid. They are all volunteers, hearing all these incidents, and there are a lot of people around this table that don't realize what has been happening the last two years since we created that committee. If that committee wasn't in place, the board wouldn't be able to do anything besides hear issues.

PH: When you see this much ball, I can't imagine what comes at the committee with the clubs and schools.

Notice of Motions and Resolutions – Judy Byrne

WHEREAS: Coombs and Associates have been the auditing firm for the NLBA for the past several years, in full transparency a motion is made to tender the audit function for the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year.

RESOLVED: Tender every three years going forward.

Motion to Accept

Moved By: Roger Head

Second By: Brian Cooke

Carried

WHEREAS: The audited financial statements were not completed as of the AGM date

RESOLVED: A future date will be proposed to present the financial position as a special meeting.

Motion to Accept

Moved By: Paulette Hardiman

Second By: Gerard Clarke

Carried

WHEREAS: Postpone election till a later date and continue with the current board.

RESOLVED: A future date will be proposed to hold the election as a special meeting.

Motion to Accept

Moved By: Dean Barker

Second By: Gerard Clarke

Carried

WHEREAS: All annual reports need to be entered into NLBA records,

RESOLVED: To adopt the reports as submitted.

Motion to Accept

Moved By: Roger Head

Second By: Brian Cooke

Carried

Round Table Comments and Questions:

No questions or comments.

Next NLBA AGM: June 28, 2024

Motion to Adjourn Meeting

Moved: BH

Second: GC

Carried

Adjourned meeting: 11:10am

NLBA Board of Directors Reports

President's Report

2024-2025 Season

I would like to take this opportunity to Thank the members of the NLBA Executive, NLBOC, committee members and staff for working together this Basketball Season. It was a Great Season of Basketball Province Wide!

I have really enjoyed being around the game this year as NLBA President. I truly love this game and want to continue to assist with the direction NLBA is going with this sport in our province. There are lots of great things upcoming with lots of youth and adults playing basketball in our province. We are proud to have male and female teams participating in the Canada Summer Games in St John's, NL this summer and we also have teams travelling to represent NL outside our province this year. We wish all teams Good Luck this Summer.

I would like to thank all the volunteers, tournament hosts, players, spectators and the officials in our province for the work you done this year. We are all looking forward to another busy season of Basketball and hope to see continued growth of Basketball next year. Every year we are looking for Volunteers. If you want to become involved with NLBA across Newfoundland and Labrador, please reach out to the NLBA office.

I would like to personally thank Judy, Amanda, Keiran, Alicia and Laura for continued service and dedication to Basketball throughout the year. This is my second year in this position that kept me very involved in Basketball in our Province. I look forward to working with the NLBA staff and executive if re-elected throughout the 2025/2027 seasons.

Thanks

Brian Cooke
President

Vice-President's Report

2024-2025 Season

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the NLBA Executive, Committee Members and staff for working together this Basketball Season. It was a busy year with new faces in the office. Together they worked long hours in ensure things ran smoothly.

I was very impressed with the amount of young people playing this sport. Every weekend the gyms were full, and the youth were having fun learning and playing the sport of basketball. This could not happen without the support of the parents, coaches and referees each of these weekends.

This should be a great summer as Newfoundland hosts the Canada Games. It's an honor to host all the great Athletes from all over Canada and show them our hospitality.

With all the success that basketball saw this year there are still opportunities to improve and as Vice President I hope to work together with the Executive to ensure the sport of Basketball continues to grow in the upcoming year.

Thanks

Glen Sooley
Vice President

Finance Director's Report

**Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association
Financial Statements
March 31, 2025**

Coombs & Associates
Chartered Professional Accountants

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

March 31, 2025

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Financial Statements	
Independent Auditors' Report	
Statement of Financial Position	2
Statement of Operations	3
Statement of Net Assets	4
Statement of Cash Flows	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6
Schedule 1 - Revenue	9

Independent Auditors' Report

Roger Coombs & Associates
Professional Corporation
Roger K. Coombs, CPA, CA

To the Board of Directors
Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2025, and the statements of operations, net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association as at March 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing these financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to a going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

Location:

27 Bremigens Blvd.
Paradise, NL
A1L 4A2

Ph: (709) 745-1200
(709) 579-1005
Fax: (709) 745-1204

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 447
Mount Pearl, NL
A1N 3C4

Independent Auditors' Report

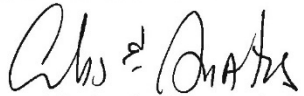
Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


Chartered Professional Accountants

Paradise, Newfoundland and Labrador
May 26, 2025

Coombs & Associates
Chartered Professional Accountants

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 197,699	\$ 225,918
Accounts receivable (Note 2)	42,977	21,612
Inventory	39,608	39,814
Prepaid expenses	-	1,700
Current portion of prepaid facility rentals (Note 3)	10,000	10,000
	290,284	299,044
Investments	25,255	24,297
Prepaid facility rentals (Note 3)	22,500	32,500
	\$ 338,039	\$ 355,841
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 46,647	\$ 50,225
Deferred revenue	44,800	-
	91,447	50,225
Net assets		
Unrestricted	246,592	305,616
	\$ 338,039	\$ 355,841

Approved on Behalf of the Board:

_____, President

_____, Financial Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

Statement of Operations

For the Year Ended March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
Revenue (Schedule 1)	\$ 1,779,858	\$ 1,300,102
Expenditures		
Provincial and Canada Games Teams	627,419	640,704
Salaries and benefits	326,537	252,927
National Championships	431,016	-
Tournaments	254,193	216,005
Clinics	53,052	67,020
Officials Commission	30,454	53,557
Gym rentals	29,299	24,380
Office	21,088	21,010
Meetings	17,540	14,894
Insurance	11,939	11,723
Affiliation and membership fees	9,840	15,879
Hall of Fame	9,394	-
Professional fees	6,900	9,775
Telephone	4,912	3,667
Youth programs	3,333	7,768
Interest and bank charges	1,966	1,793
	1,838,882	1,341,102
Deficiency of revenue over expenditures	\$ (59,024)	\$ (41,000)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

Statement of Net Assets

For the Year Ended March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 305,616	\$ 346,616
Deficiency of revenue over expenditures	(59,024)	(41,000)
Net assets, end of year	\$ 246,592	\$ 305,616

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Deficiency of revenue over expenditures	\$ (59,024)	\$ (41,000)
Change in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	(21,365)	(4,987)
Inventory	206	(11,841)
Prepaid expenses	1,700	-
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(3,579)	9,116
Deferred revenue	44,800	-
	(37,262)	(48,712)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Decrease in long term prepaid expense	10,000	10,000
Increase in investments	(957)	(100)
	9,043	9,900
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds (repayment) of long term debt	-	(40,000)
Net decrease in cash	(28,219)	(78,812)
Cash, beginning of year	225,918	304,730
Cash, end of year	\$ 197,699	\$ 225,918

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2025

1. Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of organization

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association (the "Association") was incorporated in 1964 under the Corporations Act, Chapter 12 of the Revised Statutes of Newfoundland and Labrador and is a not for profit organization. The "Association" is the provincial sport governing body for amateur basketball in Newfoundland and Labrador. Its mission is to develop the sport of basketball domestically and contribute to the development of basketball internationally.

The organization is covered under Section 149(1)(L) of the Income Tax Act and is not subject to income taxes.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

Fund accounting

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Under the deferral method contributions are recognized as revenue in the period in which the related expenses are incurred.

Funding

The Association is dependant on government funding to provide sufficient funds to continue operations. Membership fees are charged to affiliated basketball leagues and players.

Investments

Investments are carried at market value. Unrealized gains (losses) are recorded as investment income (expense). Other income on investments is recorded as earned.

Inventory

Inventory is stated at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Cost is determined on a first-in, first-out basis.

Revenue recognition

Revenues are recognized when the significant risks and benefits of ownership of products or services have been delivered and there are no significant obligations remaining. All revenues are recorded on an accrual basis, except when the amounts cannot be determined with a reasonable degree of certainty or when their estimation is impracticable.

Government grants are recognized as revenue when the transfer is authorized, eligibility criteria have been met and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be made.

Donated services are not recorded in these financial statements.

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2025

1. Significant Accounting Policies continued

Financial instruments

The Association considers any contract creating a financial asset, liability or equity instrument as a financial instrument, except in certain limited circumstances. The Association accounts for the following as financial instruments.

- cash
- accounts receivable
- accounts payable and accrued liabilities
- investments

Measurement

Financial assets or liabilities obtained in arm's length transactions are initially measured at their fair value. In the case of a financial asset or liability not being subsequently measured at fair value, the initial fair value will be adjusted for financing fees and transaction costs that are directly attributable to its origination, acquisition, issuance or assumption.

The Association subsequently measures all financial assets and financial liabilities at cost or amortized cost, less any reduction for impairment, except for investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in the statement of operations the period they occur.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Financial instruments measured at fair value include investments.

The Association removes financial liabilities, or a portion of, when the obligation is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost are tested for impairment whenever there are indicators of impairment. Previously recognized impairment losses are reversed to the extent of the improvement provided the asset is not carried at an amount, at the date of reversal, greater than the amount that would have been the carrying amount had no impairment loss been recognized previously. The amounts of any write-downs on reversals are recognized in the statement of operations.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for not for profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2025

1. Significant Accounting Policies continued

Use of estimates continued

Estimates are used in the determination of the useful lives of the gym equipment, inventory obsolescence and in determining any allowance for doubtful accounts. Actual results could differ from those estimates and may have an impact on future periods.

2. Accounts receivable

	2025	2024
Accounts receivable	\$ 42,977	\$ 21,612
Allowance for doubtful accounts	-	-
	\$ 42,977	\$ 21,612

3. Prepaid facility rentals

	2025	2024
Prepaid facility rentals	\$ 32,500	\$ 42,500
Current portion	(10,000)	(10,000)
	\$ 22,500	\$ 32,500

Under an agreement with the Newfoundland and Labrador Sports Centre Inc. the Association has pre-purchased units of facility rental hours. The organization holds 5.25 units of usage at \$10,000 per unit under an agreement effective July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2028.

4. Sale of merchandise

	2025	2024
Sale of merchandise	\$ 18,599	\$ 33,648
Cost of sales	(15,695)	(15,890)
	\$ 2,904	\$ 17,758

5. Credit risk

The company does not face significant credit risk exposure. The fair values of items that meet the definition of financial instruments approximate their carrying values. These items include accounts receivable, notes receivable and short-term debt.

Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association

For the Year Ended March 31, 2025

Schedule 1 - Revenue

	2025	2024
Provincial and Canada Games Teams	\$ 647,207	\$ 658,980
National Championships	417,480	-
Tournaments, registration and affiliation fees	391,433	332,100
Clinics	76,547	84,031
Government of Canada - ESDC employment grant	38,399	-
Gym rentals	37,548	38,261
Officials Commission	33,172	46,404
Administration fees	21,900	23,357
Youth programs	19,393	17,718
Investment income	1,375	122
Net sales of merchandise (Note 4)	2,904	17,758
Grants - Government of Newfoundland and Labrador		
Annual operating grant	44,800	44,800
Canada Games	22,700	20,700
Hosting - National Championships	20,000	-
Employment programs	5,000	9,671
Travel subsidies	-	6,200
	\$ 1,779,858	\$ 1,300,102

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Governance Director

This past year has been another great year for basketball. There is so much growth and excitement with people joining the sport and it doesn't look to be slowing down. There continues to be a positive move forward with officiating in regard to development and recruitment. As a group, we have to continue to work on these positives as a cornerstone for what basketball is evolving into.

The Board continually strives to update and perfect policies to better meet the needs of our membership and programs we offer athletes, coaches & officials in our Province. Safety is a top priority for all involved and we must continue to look at the needs of everyone to ensure a safe environment at all events.

I believe we all — the NLBA Board, the NLBA, the officials, the coaches, players, volunteers, and the community — need to work together to make our sport stronger and more connected. As our world changes and evolves, we must also adapt how we train, coach, officiate, and lead our sport to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone involved. I hope to be able to continue working towards this in the future as a part of the NLBA.

I want to extend a huge thank you to everyone in the office—Laura, Amanda, Kieran, Alicia, and Judy. Your dedication keeps everything running so smoothly. I truly appreciate your hard work, how you tackle challenges head-on, and your commitment to always finding the best solutions for our athletes, coaches, officials, fans and volunteers. It's truly inspiring to work with such a committed group.

Matthew Burke
Governance Director

Central Regional Director's Report

The 2024-2025 basketball season has been a busy one out here in Central NL. There were multiple teams represented from many Central NL communities this season including Gander, Glenwood, Grand-Falls Windsor, Bay d'Espoir and New World Island for both male and female.

NLBA Provincials: We had Club teams travelling to participate in U16 Female club A and B, U16 Male club C U16 Male club B, and school teams participating in Female A and B school tournament, Eastern Provincial Gr.8 B. Teams performed well and represented our region well against some challenging competition from different regions. Some of our central teams also hosted tournaments in our region again this year. There were several boys club teams in Central this year, including U10, U12, U14.

Club Basketball: Donnini's Men's Basketball continued into its 21st season of their basketball program in Grand-Falls Windsor with 4 teams participating.

Central Female basketball had another successful season and grew to five teams, with two U12 teams, one U14 team, and two U16 teams. We had a busy and successful year with all the girls on the court. They will continue their third annual “Summer League” this upcoming summer, which is full in the female division, with four teams, grade 7, 8, and 9 and also now includes a male division for the same age groups which is also, at max capacity.

Youth Basketball: Jr. NBA youth program continues to thrive in Grand Falls-Windsor offering programs for K-2, Gr.3 and Gr.4-6 boys. They plan to offer this program again next year. New World Island Academy is hoping to run this program with Gr.3-5 in the upcoming school year. Other schools in Central NL offer multiple grade specific, (Grades 4-12) volunteer-based school programs for both boys and girls.

Summer Camps: The NLBA will host a summer camp this year in Central, taking place at Exploits Valley High in July.

Looking Ahead: Central NL has a bright future in basketball, with many schools participating in the sport, both male and female, over a wide range of age groups. These school programs, along with the club programs, continue to foster a love of the game in our area.

Eastern Regional Director’s Report

I looked at the report that I wrote last year and realize that I did that same this year.

As the Eastern Regional Director – at Large, my focus this year remained consistent with my efforts from the previous year. I dedicated myself to attending numerous tournaments across the region, serving as a representative of the NLBA and striving to uphold its values and mission. I believe that active participation in such events is integral to fulfilling the responsibilities of a board member, as it allows me to offer support to our staff and connect with the broader basketball community.

Throughout the year, I had the privilege of attending events such as the Hall of Fame Cup and various minor school tournaments. These engagements provided me with opportunities to engage directly with conveners and hosts, offering assistance and demonstrating the NLBA’s commitment to grassroots basketball development.

In addition to tournament attendance, I also played a crucial role in the Provincial team tryouts, where I served as a member of the selection committee representing the NLBA. In this capacity, my primary responsibility was to ensure that player selections were based solely on merit and talent, devoid of any conflicts of interest. Upholding the integrity of the selection process is paramount to maintaining the NLBA’s reputation as a fair and transparent organization.

My dedication to the NLBA runs deep, and I am passionate about continuing to serve as the Eastern Regional Director. I believe that my experience, commitment, and unwavering dedication to the values of the NLBA make me a strong candidate for re-election.

Sincerely,
Roger Head

Labrador Regional Director's Report

Director: Travis Ford

Reflecting back on the year that was, it was a productive and exciting year for basketball in the Labrador Region. Taking part in tournaments outside our normal SSNL regional playdowns & provincial championships was something that we've been discussing for a while but actually put together this year, which included two teams taking part in NLBA school tournaments. We have continued supporting our athlete playing on the men's provincial team, representing the province in the upcoming Canada Games and had some hiccups in adult programming as well.

Goose Bay Basketball League: The second year of the revamped Goose Bay Basketball League didn't go as planned. Finding gym space in our community has been quite difficult. While there are 5-6 gyms that could host basketball games/leagues, 4 of them are schools that have a great deal of red tape, and two gyms that limit rentals to third party users. It led to the league not being able to get its feet off the ground this season. The League is going to continue to do their best to find an agreement with a facility in our community to keep the league alive next season.

Happy Valley-Goose Bay jr. NBA: I have been running a Jr NBA program for children born in 2017/2016 since January 2022. I hold a fall program for 12 weeks and also a spring Program for 12 weeks. This past fall I had 22 children and this spring I have 18 children. We meet weekly Sundays at Peacock Primary School in Goose Bay.

This fall we started a program for children born in 2018/2019 along with my current program that is for kids born in 2016/2017. Registration for these programs has been going well with full gyms each session.

The program is running well; most children are returning and the feedback from the parents is positive. The children's skill level has increased continuously throughout the program.

We would like to see some assistance from the NLBA, as the group would like to have more assistance in development.

School Sports Newfoundland & Labrador

Regionals

Men's:

2A: EG Lambert School (Churchill Falls) def. Sheshatshiu Innu School 2-0

EG Lambert school hosted the A provincial playdown against Sheshatshiu Innu School. This is the second year they have had their playdowns.

3A: Mealy Mountain Collegiate (Happy Valley-Goose Bay) def. Menihek High School (Labrador City) 2-0.

Mealy Mountain had travelled to Labrador West for the playdowns. It's been 10 years straight due to funding restraints via SSNL.

Women:

A: EG Lambert won on default to attend the provincials as they are the only group in the division for Labrador.

3A: Menihek High School won by default, as Mealy Mountain Collegiate could not field a team as there were scheduling conflicts.

Provincial Championships

A Girls: EG Lambert represented Labrador in the Lamaline for the single A provincials, going 0-3 in a spirited effort.

2A Girls: Menihek High School went to Stephenville High for their provincial 2A championships.

A Boys: EG Lambert attended the A basketball tournament in Lamaline, NL winning the team sportsmanship award.

3A Boys: Mealy Mountain Collegiate attended the 3A basketball tournament in Bay Roberts, winning the team sportsmanship award.

NLBA School Tournaments

Grade 11 Western Tournament: Mealy Mountain Collegiate competed in the Grade 11 Western Tournament in Grand Falls-Winsor in May. They finished 1-3 over the weekend but it was a very exciting tournament for the team. Each game was close and came down to the last period each time. It can become difficult to travel to the island for many reasons, especially cost. We were fortunate to have grants available to take part, but it still was a \$16,000 trip when it was all said and done. We appreciate the accommodations that were provided for us to travel and were taken care of quite well by the host team and the community. We hope to make this a regular trip each year going forward.

Grade 7 Eastern Tournament "B": For the first time since Queen of Peace changed from a High School to a Middle School it had a basketball team this year. We had 19 Grade 7's try out this year and ended up selecting 12 players and 3 alternates due to wanting to have focused practices.

Throughout the year the group made tremendous strides. The group largely hadn't played basketball before, and none of them played under any structure or regular practices.

We fundraised weekly at the school to raise money to offset the travel expenses to travel to Gr. 7 B Provincials at Brookside. The team held their own incredibly well, losing by 4 in our first game, and finishing the tournament 1-3, with one game outside of the mercy threshold. More importantly, the boys had an absolute blast and loved the experience of being on the island playing games against teams of their age.

The group played our High School Gr 8/9 in regular games and at the end of the year lost by only 12. Very proud of this group this year. The future of basketball in this group is bright.

Looking ahead to next year, we seem to have a more experienced group coming up and have the same travel aspirations. Very exciting times ahead!

Cameron Tobin,
Head Coach QPMS

National Championships/Provincial Team: We are quite thrilled to have Sidney Goudie representing Labrador as a part of the provincial basketball team, including the Canada Games Team that will be playing in August of this year. Over the past year he has been busy travelling all over the world, including Toronto for the National Championships, Florida to compete in the AAU Tournaments, as well as Spain for some friendly games against teams from all over Spain. It's been a pleasure to see Sidney's development and having the ability to grow while living in his hometown. While it does take him away from the community, it has been a great experience for him and a testament to the growth of basketball in our area. We look forward to watching him compete in the Canada Games, and hope that this is an upward trend for basketball development in the Labrador Region.

Labrador West "Miner" Basketball Program: Hello, my name is Sarah Power, and I am the president of the Labrador West "Miner" Basketball program that runs out of Wabush, Newfoundland and Labrador. This is my first-year volunteering for this position alongside Chesley Parsons, our vice president.

I've been playing basketball for over 30 years and as a student many moons ago, running the minor basketball program for the summer was my first actual job. When Donna Flynn decided to step down last year she approached me about taking over the position and it was a no-brainer, a full circle moment for me, I was delighted and excited about the opportunity. I had been volunteering as a parent for a few years prior, which gave me the knowledge of how the program was being run so I could step right into the role with confidence and bring along some new ideas for the league as well.

Our Club typically runs from October to the middle of April. We rent out the gym for two hours at JRS Middle School every Tuesday evening for two hours. The first hour is dedicated to our grades 4 and 5 and the second hour is for our grades 6 and 7. Each group is co-ed.

We had a small group this year with a total of 19 children for the whole league. With such a small group of kids we were able to give lots of one-on-one help. With extra attention you could see a big difference in the skills of each child after practice. To end our 2024-2025 season, we decided to rent out the gym at our local rec center and through a pizza party for the kids. It was a blast! The kids told us about their favorite times and practices throughout the season, some funny stories and of course all the bloopers. Everyone is excited to return for the new season.

Recommendations

Referee Education

- Labrador is in dire need of referee training. I would like to see a priority on getting referee training in Labrador. At least one session, possibly two. (1 in Goose Bay, 1 in Lab West)

Advocating for increased funding

- There is increased interest in basketball throughout Labrador, but School Sport NL funding has been frozen since 2015 which has stalled growth in sports in our region. Increasing the funding for SSNL programming would be a great way to increase interest in basketball in new communities.

Western Regional Director's Report

2024-2025

Season Overview: The 2024–2025 basketball season in the Western Region saw approximately 510 assignments, down about 300 games from the previous year. While overall activity declined, the region remained highly engaged through key provincial, school-level, and club events, along with exciting player development initiatives.

Through the dedication of athletes, coaches, and volunteers, we've continued to expand access to the game, promote skill development, and build a stronger grassroots foundation.

NLBA Events: The Western Region hosted several boys' and girls' provincial tournaments at the elementary and junior high levels, including:

- **Grade 4 – Boys & Girls** in Corner Brook
- **Grade 5 – Girls** in Deer Lake
- **Grade 6 – Boys** in Pasadena
- **Grade 7 – Boys** in Deer Lake

Due to changes in the provincial tournament structure, we did not host any events for Grades 8–11, as these were awarded to other regions. However, this shift allowed our athletes to compete in new environments and challenge themselves against a broader range of teams.

We also hosted several invitational tournaments, including:

- The **RNC Invitational** in Corner Brook (Grades 5 & 6 Boys and Girls)
- The **Tiny Titans Fundraiser** hosted by both 4A high school boys' and girls' teams (Grades 5 & 6)
- The **47th Annual Jim Feltham Invitational**, hosted in November by Elwood High
- The **3rd Annual John Blake Memorial Senior Boys Basketball Tournament** hosted by Pasadena.
- The **Pasadena Eagles Invitational** hosted by Pasadena for Grade 5 boys

These events continue to be pillars of our local basketball calendar and offer valuable opportunities for youth to engage in sport and community.

SSNL Events: The region successfully hosted the **SSNL Junior Varsity** and **SSNL Regional Playdowns**, along with the following provincials:

- **SSNL 2A Girls Provincials** – Stephenville
- **SSNL 4A Boys Provincials** – Corner Brook

These tournaments brought school spirit and high-quality basketball to our local gyms, further highlighting the Western Region's capacity to support provincial competition while also providing fans and younger players the opportunity to watch high-caliber basketball in their own communities.

Club Basketball: Several dedicated individuals continued to run club programs throughout the year, giving athletes a chance to train and play outside of their school teams:

- **Pasadena** – Jonathan Elms
- **Meadows** – Jamie Brake
- **Deer Lake** – Trevor White
- **Corner Brook** – Ryan Park & Frank Foo respectively

We extend our sincere thanks to these coaches for their time, commitment, and passion for growing the game.

This July, Frank Foo and a team of coaches will lead a development group of U13–U16 boys from the West Coast to compete at Summerfest Basketball Tournament in Fredericton, NB. This initiative will provide valuable experience for players to improve their skills and compete at a higher level.

Looking Forward – 2025–2026 Goals

- Increase game assignments and overall team participation
- Host more NLBA events at the Grade 8–11 levels
- Continue supporting coaching and officiating development
- Expand travel and development opportunities for players
- Promote province-wide inclusion in NLBA Provincials for selected age groups
- Consider rotating the Elite 8s across regions (Western, Central, Eastern) for better regional representation
- Continue to emphasize respect toward officials – strong improvements were seen this year
- Strengthen club–school partnerships to provide year-round basketball access

Closing Remarks: Thank you to the athletes, coaches, officials, parents, volunteers and members of the NLBA executive who make basketball possible in our communities. Your passion and commitment are the foundation of our success in the Western Region.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure as Western Director and being a part of this game. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Dean Barker

Western Regional Director

[Wheelchair Basketball](#)

Dear members,

It is with great pleasure to present to you the annual report of the Wheelchair Basketball Association. This year we continued to our previous goal to growing the sport in our community. The following are some highlights from the past year.

Growth Initiatives: We are currently in the growing process, actively seeking to recruit new players to join our ranks. Through various outreach programs and partnerships, we aim to make wheelchair basketball accessible to all who are interested, regardless of their background or ability level. We have met with the Janeway Rehabilitation staff (PT, OT and recreation) to create awareness and to act as a referral basis for those interested in sport and in particular high-performance sport.

Increased Visibility: One of our primary goals is to increase the visibility of wheelchair basketball within our community and beyond. By engaging in strategic marketing efforts and community events, we aim to raise awareness about the sport and its benefits, ultimately attracting more participants and supporters.

Community Engagement: We would love the opportunity to speak to other members about the importance of growing wheelchair basketball. Through open dialogue and collaboration, we believe we can work together to create a more inclusive and diverse sporting community, thus promoting high performance sport opportunities.

Achievements: We are proud to announce that two of our players represented us at the Women's Nationals, showcasing their talent and dedication on a national stage. During this tournament, both athletes were recognized by Wheelchair Basketball Canada's player development and recruitment coordinator, meaning that they will have to opportunity to attended national level camps and beyond. Additionally, one of our players attended the Junior East championship with Nova Scotia, giving them the opportunity to compete at a higher level.

Future Plans: Looking ahead, we are excited to build on these achievements in our weekly program. By providing coaching opportunities, training opportunities, and support, we aim to empower our players to reach their full potential and achieve success both on and off the court. In conclusion, we are grateful for the continued support of the NLBA and wish to further this partnership as we work towards our mission of promoting wheelchair basketball and creating opportunities for all to participate. Together, we can ensure that wheelchair basketball thrives for generations to come.

Yours in sport,
Danielle Arbour and the Wheelchair Basketball Association Team

NLBOC Report



NLBOC Chairperson's Report 2024–2025 Season: The 2024–2025 basketball season has been a significant success. In my second year as Chair of the Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Officials Commission (NLBOC), we have made considerable progress in elevating the standard of officiating across the province.

The Commission has been highly active in the areas of **education, recruitment and retention, and officials' development**. Below is a summary of our key initiatives and accomplishments this season.

EDUCATION: This past season, the NLBOC delivered the following National Officials Certification Program (NOCP) training sessions:

- **NOCP 1 Courses:** 3
- **NOCP 2 Course:** 1
- **NOCP 1 On-Court Sessions:** 3
- **NOCP 2 On-Court Sessions:** 3
- **NOCP 3 On-Court Session:** 1

We also hosted several online educational opportunities, including a FIBA Rules Review session and a FIBA Exam preparation workshop.

In total, over **40 official observations** and **Multiple NOCP evaluations** were conducted. We are encouraged to see growing engagement in the NOCP pathway. Linking officials' compensation to their certification level has proven to be an effective motivator.

Fitness testing (via the FIBA Beep Test) remains a requirement for selection to provincial tournaments, and feedback on this initiative has been overwhelmingly positive. Selected tournaments were overseen by Referee Coaches, providing officials with valuable, in-the-moment feedback — something many had not previously experienced.

For the first time in our province's history, a **mandatory fitness standard** was implemented for officials on the AUS (U SPORTS) panel. This demonstrates our commitment to fitness and professional standards at the highest levels and serves as a model for other competition levels moving forward.

Additionally, NL was proud to have **five officials selected for the 2025 Canada Games**, reinforcing our investment in the high-performance pathway. We are excited to continue supporting our promising young officials.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION: This season saw positive momentum in our recruitment and retention strategies, although results varied across the province due to geographic challenges. With approximately 95% of the province's basketball played on the East Coast, it remains difficult to attract and retain officials in Central and Western Newfoundland, where game volume is significantly lower. Unfortunately, these regions experienced a net decrease in active officials.

On the East Coast, however, we made substantial progress. Notably, of the 34 new officials recruited last year, **73% (25 officials)** returned for a second season—an unprecedented retention rate for our province. This year, we recruited an additional **36 new officials**, including **8 female officials**, all of whom officiated over 20 games each with support from assigned mentors.

To further support new officials, we will be launching a formal **Mentorship Program** next season aimed at encouraging development and fostering a supportive community.

PROVINCIAL PATHWAY: The identification and development of emerging officials begins at the local level. Local associations nominate individuals who demonstrate the commitment and potential to advance. These nominations are reviewed by the Commission and directed to the **High-Performance Director**, who provides tailored guidance. Development opportunities may include direct observation (in-person or virtual) and recommendations for participation in national camps and tournaments.

COMMISSION STRUCTURE AND ROLE DEFINITIONS: The current composition of the NLBOC Commission includes the following roles:

- Chairperson
- High-Performance Director
- Member-at-Large (Education)
- Member-at-Large (Finance)
- Member-at-Large (Basketball Community)
- Member-at-Large (Basketball Community)
- NLBA Staff Representative (ex-officio)
- Provincial Advisor (Appointed)
- Gameplan/Ramp Administrator (Appointed)
- Presidents of SJABO, CNABO, and WNABO

Two roles—**Provincial Advisor** and **Gameplan/Ramp Administrator**—were added this season to alleviate workload pressures. The Provincial Advisor now handles rule clarifications, a responsibility previously held by the High-Performance Director. The Gameplan/Ramp

Administrator oversees official registration, system support, and document management. The Effectiveness of these positions will be evaluated annually.

CLOSING REMARKS I am proud of the progress our Commission has made this season. While much work remains, the direction is clear and positive.

Yours in Officiating,
Gerard Clarke
NLBOC Chair

NLBA Staff Reports

NLBA Executive Directors Report



2024-25 Annual Report: NLBA Executive Director

The Board of Directors led the NLBA:

President: Brian Cooke
Vice-President: Glen Sooley
Financial Director: Jesse Devilla
Governance Director- Matt Burke
NLBOC Chairperson: Gerard Clarke
Wheelchair Basketball: Danielle Arbour
Regional Directors:
Eastern Director: Roger Head
Central Director: Noreen Stewart
Western Director: Dean Barker
Labrador Director: Travis Ford

Thank you to the Board of Directors for your direction and support during this year's active basketball season in the NLBA. Volunteers play a crucial role in the success and growth of any organization, and it's truly inspiring to see the dedication and passion of everyone involved in advancing the game of basketball in Newfoundland and Labrador.

I usually conclude my report with a thank you to the NLBA staff, but it feels more appropriate to shine a light on them at the outset. Their hard work and dedication are the foundation of our achievements and success—none of this would be possible without them. Thank you, Amanda Miles (Technical Director), Laura Chatman (Administrative Assistant), Kieran Lynch (Event Operations Coordinator), and Alicia Bird (Event Operations Coordinator- PT), for your unwavering commitment and passion. Your efforts inspire us all to strive for greatness and continue to help us grow the game of basketball across Newfoundland and Labrador!!

Highlights of the 2024-25 Season:

2024 15U & 17U Women's National Championships: NL hosted a remarkable National Championships that united 350 athletes, coaches, and officials from across Canada. Thank you to our sponsors and partners, especially Memorial University, for cohosting this event. Your support was invaluable in making it a success. The Field House and MUN gymnasium came alive with a week of basketball that inspired fans and participants alike. Athletes and coaches gathered for the National Banquet at Holiday Inn, where they shared in the unique tradition of the Newfie Screech Inn. The National Host Committee truly went above and beyond to ensure

our visitors and participants felt welcomed and valued. Thank you to all of our tireless volunteers for your incredible efforts in making this event a shining success!

Special Thanks to the Host Committee: Seamus O'Keefe, Brian Cooke, Jesse DeVilla, Sue Quiton, Carina Jardine, Sheena McCrate, Geri-Lynn Deveraux, Maria Carol and Karoline Keating.

New Hires: Kieran and Alicia joined the NLBA team during one of the most significant and demanding periods of the year. Both individuals demonstrated commendable dedication and initiative, quickly acclimating themselves during the National Championships. They have become essential members of our team, fitting in seamlessly from their first day. Kieran has gained valuable experience this season participating in the Minor Tournaments, Skills Academy, Club Provincials, and the Jr. NBA, and he looks forward to engaging in summer camps. Alicia possesses remarkable expertise in social media management, ensuring our communications are current and that our members are well-informed. Her assistance has proven to be highly beneficial to all of us. Looking forward to more good things to come on the 2025-26 season.

NLBA/ Canada Basketball Membership: We have made some important changes to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants, including coaches, athletes, officials, volunteers, staff, and our directors. As decided during the June 2024 AGM, participants in all Minor Provincial Tournaments must be NLBA and Canada Basketball members. This is crucial in safeguarding everyone involved in our events and our sport.

Teams must be current NLBA and Canada Basketball members to participate in NLBA Minor School Tournaments this year. During the registration process, each player, coach and bench staff was required to pay an NLBA membership fee of \$12.50 and a Canada Basketball membership fee of \$9.00. Teams that needed financial assistance for athletes or coaches could contact the NLBA and receive the help they needed. Coaches and players who are already members, due to their participation in clubs or other NLBA events such as Skills Academy or JR NBA, were not required to pay any additional fees. The registration process was facilitated through RAMP, and we ensured that all NLBA tournament participants were informed about it. Furthermore, all coaches are required to have completed specific NCCP courses through thelocker.coach.ca, which are essential for ensuring the safety of all individuals involved in playing basketball in the province. These courses include: - NCCP Making Headway in Sport (under multisport) - NCCP Understanding the Rule of Two (under multisport) - Making Headway in Basketball (under basketball) All coaches and bench staff were to be also required to have current crc/vss checks that were uploaded in RAMP during the registration process. We understand that the membership requirement was a significant departure from the past but the understanding and cooperation we received as we took this crucial step forward in the growth, development, and safety of basketball in our province was greatly appreciated.

Safe Sport: Our commitment to safe sport is steadfast, and we are determined to build on our successes as we continue to make significant strides forward. We will actively reinforce our safe sports policies and guidelines, including our Spectator Policy Guidelines, which are essential for creating a positive and inclusive environment for everyone involved in basketball across Newfoundland and Labrador. It is crucial that we wholeheartedly embrace our responsibilities to uphold a safe and respectful atmosphere during all basketball events. Together, we are all accountable for ensuring the safety of our sport.



Basketball Integrity Committee: The committee is unwavering in its commitment to preserving the integrity of basketball and ensuring that disciplinary actions yield just and equitable results. Its membership is composed of a broad spectrum of individuals from various backgrounds, intentionally designed to include voices not solely from the NLBA board, thus reinforcing our pledge to transparency and impartiality. Under the capable leadership of Jerry Rice, the committee has experienced an increase in activity, having diligently reviewed and adjudicated ten significant cases this past year.

Looking ahead, with the anticipated launch of the SportNL Safe Sport Complaint Mechanism, the committee will undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the current reporting processes to improve efficiency and responsiveness. These enhancements are aimed at fostering a culture of accountability within the sport. All developments, including the revised intake process, will be effectively communicated to our members, with detailed information available on the Safe Sport page of the NLBA website, ensuring all stakeholders are informed and engaged.

NLBOC: As we enter our third year as a Commission, continued change and growth is happening. However, keeping up with the ever evolving and growing game of basketball in our province is necessary. Under the leadership of Gerard Clarke as Commission Chairperson, the commission had a remarkable year. You can see highlights in Gerard's report. NLBOC continues to be at the forefront of the country's transition to a commission-based organization. We look forward to continuing to work side by side with NLBA and fostering our relationships. We still have a lot of work to do! The NLBA is firmly committed to addressing the abuse of our officials, and we fully support NLBOC in this initiative. We will do what it takes to guarantee that our officials can perform their duties in a safe and respectful environment. The game of basketball cannot exist without officials, and we especially recognize the importance of protecting our younger officials as we work to recruit and develop talent in the sport.

Thanks to all of the NLBOC officials and the NLBOC commission members for their unwavering dedication and commitment to NLBOC and the game.

Grassroots Programming: The NLBA's grassroots development has made remarkable strides recently. The dedicated technical staff have put in great effort to enhance these programs.

With Amanda passing the leadership baton to Kieran, we are optimistic about the future of the Jr. NBA program, Skills Academy, and NLBA summer camps. It's encouraging to see Jr. NBA programs now thriving across the province. This summer, Kieran will actively engage in summer camps in Clarendville, Grand Falls-Windsor, and Deer Lake, and he is excited about unveiling new and innovative initiatives for the Jr. Program next season and making a push with 3x3!

Provincial Programming Committee: The committee was assigned the responsibility of conducting a comprehensive review of provincial programming, with particular emphasis on operations, organizational structure, and financial implications, focusing on opportunities for potential restructuring. In order to gather relevant insights, the committee distributed a survey to current and former athletes of the Provincial team, as well as their parents. This process yielded valuable feedback that initiated discussions on several critical topics. The committee subsequently presented the initial set of recommendations to the NLBA Board for their consideration. Furthermore, the committee will continue to monitor the program and implement necessary adjustments based on ongoing evaluations and feedback.

- Conduct regional assessments for players in the Central, West, East and potentially Labrador regions during the fall months (October and November), with an additional evaluation scheduled in March. The results of these assessments will determine invitations to the final Provincial Team tryout in April.
- Transition the Canada Games cycle from four years to two years.
- Implement a formal Coach Selection process by announcing a call for coaches in August, following the national competition, with selections finalized before the first regional tryout.
- Revise the approach to fitness testing, which was conducted on the final day of the recent tryout; the leg power assessment has been eliminated, removing the need to measure the athletes' weight.
- Modify the competition points system to include credit for assists and additional efforts, such as diving for loose balls or making tips, as positive contributions. Introduce a point deduction for failing to apply adequate ball pressure.

Canada Basketball Initiatives:

Domestic Development Initiatives (some are on-going, some are new).

Athlete Development	Coach Development	Officials Development	System Development	Competitions Development	3x3 Development
- Jr NBA - LTD 3.0 - Youth Playing Guidelines	- NCCP Revisions - Game Plan Revamp - PD E-Learning Modules	- Commissions Model - NOCP Revisions - Referee Coach Program	- Pan Canadian Sport Integrity Framework	- 15U & 17U National Championships - Club Nationals - Master's Open	- 3x3 Canada Hoops National Championships

		- High Performance Pathway - National Assigning Software	- Ramp Registration System - Club Verification Program - League Sanctioning Guidelines	- Global Jam U23	
--	--	---	--	--	--

NLBA Alumni Fund:

Purpose: To offset the financial burden for provincial athletes attending national competitions. Last summer, the fund contributed \$2000.00 to provincial athletes in need.

Call for Donations: Continued support is essential for the fund. Donations can be made http://www.nlba.nf.ca/alumni_fund.php#AF-ToDonate.

School Sport NL: We are proud to maintain our strong collaboration with SSNL. NLBOC and NLBA work to supply officials for all School Sports tournaments. We are working together to align the game's rules to have more consistency across the sport. NLBA and NLBOC are collaborating with NLESD and SSNL to establish a solution for sanctioning all Invitationals. Invitational Tournaments have historically struggled due to a lack of leadership and control. We aim to create a secure and well-regulated sports environment for coaches, players, and officials.

Overview of Activities NLBA Activities 2024-25:**HoopsGear Grade 7 & 8 Tip-Off Tournament:**

A full roster of 32 teams contributed to a highly competitive and enjoyable weekend. With teams from all across the province. The tournament was a huge success and was well-received by all participants. Congratulations to the 2024 Grade 7 & 8 Tip-Off Champions: Grade 7 Girls: St. Peter's Junior High. Grade 7 Boys: MacDonald Drive Junior High. Grade 8 Girls: St. Peter's Junior High. Grade 8 Boys: Beaconsfield Junior High. Thanks to Beresford Ltd for the Sponsorship!



Hall of Fame Cup:

It featured a weekend of excellent basketball, with the top teams earning the right to compete at the Hall of Fame Cup. The event was enhanced by the participation of NLBOC officials, who conducted educational and evaluative sessions. Congratulations to the 2025 HOF Cup Champions: O'Donel High School—Male Champions and Holy Heart High School—Female Champions. Thanks to Beresford Ltd for the Sponsorship!



NLBA Minor Provincial Championships:

Overview: This year, the NLBA Minor Provincial Championships were a resounding success, thanks to the dedication of our staff, officials, and volunteers. Here's a comprehensive summary of the achievements and initiatives from the championships:

Event Details

- **Total Tournaments Played:** Approximately 50
- **Grade Levels:** Ranged from Grade 4 to Grade 11
- **Teams Participated:** 335
- **Athletes Involved:** Approximately 5500

Some of the highlights of a successful tournament session:

Coaches Meetings:

- Our technical staff continued conducting coaches' meetings before each Minor Weekend, aiding rule clarification and consistency.
- This initiative was instrumental in maintaining smooth operations and understanding during the tournaments and will be continued in future events.

Commissioners:

- Commissioners were crucial in the Grade 5, 6, and 7 provincials, contributing to alignment and development.
- We seek individuals with the proper skill set to serve as Commissioners in various regions. Interested parties or recommendations can contact us at nlbainfo@sportnl.ca.

Safety and Training:

- All coaches participating in the 2024-25 Minor Provincials School Tournaments were certified in Safe Sport, Rule of Two training and Making Head Way in Sport.
- Compliance with an up-to-date Code of Conduct and Vulnerable Sector Check was mandatory, ensuring a safer environment for our sport.

Partnership with Beresford Ltd.:

- NLBA has partnered with Beresford Ltd. to handle all apparel sales for Minor Tournaments.
- Beresford Ltd. set up an online store at hoopsgear.net to make purchasing tournament t-shirts and other apparel convenient.

NLBA Minor Club Overview:

Club basketball is rapidly gaining momentum in Newfoundland & Labrador! We are fortunate to have dedicated Minor Clubs and Club Presidents working tirelessly to expand the reach of basketball throughout our province. All Club Presidents convene regularly to address club affairs, rule modifications, club leagues, club championships, and preparations for the upcoming season. Across the island, 19 minor clubs offer programs ranging from Jr. NBA to U18 age group training and teams. This year, these clubs provided approximately 2500 athletes with the opportunity to participate in basketball. A big shoutout to everyone for the incredible work you do! See below for just one highlight of the club session:

The NLBA Club Championships were a significant highlight of the club year, showcasing our club's talent and competitive spirit across multiple divisions. Here's a detailed summary of the event:

Event Details:

- **Number of Teams:** 100
- **Divisions:** 19 (U10-U16)
- **Total Games Played:** 190 games
- **Participation:** The championships saw participation from 100 teams competing across 19 divisions.
- **Competitiveness:** A total of 190 games were played, highlighting the depth and intensity of the competition.
- **Event Success:** The event was a testament to the dedication and skill of the athletes, coaches, and organizers, contributing to a memorable championship experience.
- The NLBA Club Championships provided a platform for competition and fostered camaraderie and sportsmanship among the teams. We look forward to building on this success in the upcoming season.

Hopefully one day soon, Canada Basketball will host a U14 Club Nationals, and we will get to send teams to represent NL. Exciting times to come!! Stay tuned.

NLBA Senior Club Overview:

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all our Senior Leagues and Clubs for making significant strides in our basketball community, which now proudly includes over 1200 members across 8 clubs: Division 1 Ladies, Metro Ladies, Filipino NL Basketball, Geezers, GFW Donnini's Men's Basketball League, Metro Men, and St. John's Amateur Basketball. This past season showcased remarkable achievements and memorable moments for each club and league. It's impressive to see how our Senior League in NL stands out, setting an example that other Provinces can aspire to.

The Men's D2 Provincials were held in Deer Lake, featuring 7 teams that truly engaged in the competition. A special thank you goes to Trevor Whyte for his outstanding leadership in organizing this tournament! We look forward to even more exciting provincial tournaments in 2026, as we continue to foster growth and camaraderie within our basketball community. Canada Basketball is embarking on the exciting journey of creating a Master's National Tournament, and we will soon see teams proudly representing NL!

NLBA Provincial Teams 2025:

Overview: This summer, six provincial teams are actively training and travelling to various tournaments across Canada. Below is a detailed list of each team's coaching staff and respective tournaments for this summer.

Provincial Team Coaching Staff and Tournament Schedules:

U14 Female:

- **Head Coach:** Erica Coultas
- **Assistant Coaches:** Michelle Bartlett, Heather Dawe-Tobin, Jennifer Deveraux, Karoline Keating, Madeline Keating and Sarah Reid
- **Tournament:** Travelling to Nova Scotia for the ShowCase tournament July 4th-7th

U14 Male:

- **Head Coach:** Jon Pye
- **Assistant Coaches:** Cassandra Colbert, Jason Guy, Adam Healey, Ryan Harnett, Ethan Knight
And Cody Stanford
- **Tournament:** Travelling to Nova Scotia for the ShowCase tournament July 4th-7th

U15 Female:

- **Head Coach:** Caroline Jardine
- **Assistant Coaches:** Emma Power and Laura Mayo
- **Tournament:** Traveling to Nova Scotia for the ShowCase tournament July 4th-7th and Nationals Oshawa, Ontario (Durham College/Ontario Tech University) August 2nd-10th

U15 Male:

- **Head Coach:** Pat Slaney
- **Assistant Coaches:** Russell Noseworthy, Nick Tuff and Craig Edmunds
- **Tournaments:** Traveling to Nova Scotia for the ShowCase tournament July 4th-7th and to Nationals Oshawa, Ontario (Durham College/Ontario Tech University) August 2nd-10th

Canada Games Female:

- **Head Coach:** Glenn Sooley
- **Assistant Coaches:** Amy O’Rielly, Amy Dalton and Kathleen Walsh
- **Tournaments:** The Team travelled to Spain in April, participating in the MHL Tournaments, Semana Santa, Zaragoza. They will travel to Nova Scotia for the ShowCase tournament July 4th-7th and compete in the Canada Games in St. John’s, NL, August 10th-16th

Canada Games Male:

- **Head Coach:** Carl English
- **Assistant Coaches:** Kyle Careen and Blair Whyte
- **Tournaments:** The Team travelled to Spain in April, participating in the MHL Tournaments, Semana Santa, Zaragoza. They will travel to Montreal for a series of exhibition games in July and compete in the Canada Games in St. John’s, NL, August 10th-16th

Words alone cannot adequately express our profound gratitude to the dedicated coaches, tireless volunteers, and the vibrant basketball community for their unwavering support and commitment. Your passion and hard work have been instrumental in creating a nurturing environment for our athletes. As we enter the summer season, we are excited about the promising opportunities that lie ahead, fostering growth and unity within our sport for years to come.

Player Development Recap:

In March, Claire Daley received the honor of being invited to the prestigious U16 Canada Basketball ID Camp, a testament to her dedication and skill in the sport. Although she didn’t

secure a spot on the roster, Claire impressed coaches and peers alike with her standout performances, showcasing her talent and determination on the national stage. We are eager to support Claire as she continues to evolve and thrive, and we can't wait to witness the exciting future that lies ahead for this promising young athlete.

Recognition and Acknowledgments:

Jesse DeVilla has officially announced his decision to step down after an impressive tenure of 12 years serving in various capacities on the NLBA Board. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for his steadfast dedication and commitment as a volunteer throughout this period. Your unwavering presence during critical times has been a tremendous asset to our organization.

I want to personally acknowledge the invaluable guidance you provided as I navigated the complexities of financial management in my role as executive director. Your expertise and thoughtful feedback have served as a beacon of support, allowing me to grow in my position. I particularly appreciated your patience in addressing my queries and your willingness to act as a sounding board during challenging moments. Your dedication to our team and its mission has left a lasting impact, and for that, we are profoundly thankful.

Looking Ahead: 2024-25

- **School Invitationals:** Invitational Tournaments have historically struggled due to a lack of effective leadership and control. NLBA and NLBOC are actively collaborating with NLESD and SSNL to establish a solution for sanctioning all Invitationals, aiming to create a secure and well-regulated sports environment for coaches, players, and officials.
- **Sport NL ITP-** Sport Newfoundland and Labrador (SportNL) in partnership with Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is pleased to announce the appointment of ITP Sport as our Independent Third Party (ITP) to oversee all cases involving potential violations of the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS). This critical step reinforces our commitment to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive amateur sport environment in Newfoundland and Labrador. SportNL has engaged ITP Sport to address all complaints that could constitute Maltreatment, as defined in the UCCMS. In addition, certain disciplinary decisions can be appealed to an Independent Third Party. For complaints involving Code of Conduct violations, the Provincial Sports Organizations will remain responsible for administering the discipline processes and resolution opportunities. SportNL will cover the costs of triaging any complaints submitted to the Independent Third Party and the costs of any complaints or appeals processed by the Independent Third Party.
- **Transformational Coaching:** There is an imperative need for education among the board, staff, and coaches to evolve and align with the principles of transformational coaching. As society, youth, and the global landscape change, we must adapt our practices to facilitate these developments. We can no longer employ the coaching methodologies of 10 to 20 years ago. Our collective aim is to prioritize the best interests of our athletes and coaches, and as a board, we are dedicated to initiating this vital change.

- The **2025 Canada Summer Games** will be hosted by the City of St. John's from August 8th-25th, 2025. Sign up to volunteer and be a part of the excitement and be sure to buy your tickets to come and cheer on our male and female Canada Games Teams!!! <https://www.2025canadagames.ca/get-involved-2/become-a-volunteer>

Technical Directors Report

2024-25 was a season of excitement, adventure and learning. We started by hosting the 2024 Canada Basketball National Championships. This was a massive event put off by an amazing support staff and volunteer group. Enough can't be said about the basketball community coming together to help and support our efforts. The planning started a year before, but it was put off with a ton of compliments from the teams who came.

At the same time, we added two staff to our team Kieran Lynch and Alicia Bird as event operations coordinators. Both have been invaluable to the team doing anything needed to make things a success. Kieran took on most of the tournament planning and support for this season helping us put off all our tournaments from grade 4 to club championships as well as our Tip off and Hall of Fame Cup. Alicia has been our social media lead, document revisions lead and helped with tournament packages. Without the two of them we would not have gotten through the season.

Provincial Teams: Our teams did not show as we expected at their national championships however, we did take this as a growth and learning opportunity to help create a more positive experience for them this coming summer. Our coaches had a lot of take aways and development from their side and our players who are returning the 2025 summer have really seen what they need to do to get to where they need to be. Our tryouts for the 2025 team had great numbers, we had 161 participants for U14 and U15 only which is great. We are still struggling at this younger group with balancing multi-sport athletes' schedules and trying to be as inclusive as we can without putting their health at risk for overuse. We implemented a pre tryout parent meeting and outlined details of each program upfront with them. The feedback was very positive from this. I also gave individuals options to get feedback through a 40min zoom meeting and had 43 people ask for feedback. These meetings were very positive, and many thanked me for talking to them vs just sending a list of things in an email. We worked with our coaches to be prepared upfront this year with the teams for schedules and information, and it is looking like it will create a great summer. We did struggle to find a U15 female coach we are looking into how we can make these roles more enticing/inviting to coaches.

Club league/championships: Changed again this year. After last year with the single elimination, it was clear this was not enjoyed by many people, so we changed the season to be year-round with a season ending tournament where everyone was guaranteed 3 games. This format had its ups and downs. We ended up going over 4 weekends which was a lot for the office staff, however the teams and spectators loved the format. There were many challenges in Jan/Feb/Mar with conflicts between school and club teams which resulted in many games being forfeited/rescheduled or missed. We will be meeting with the clubs to discuss changes to

this structure as the year-round model is not sustainable. There have been proposals by some clubs about changing the structure of the programs including the idea of going to zones, however we have not gotten further with this yet. I will be recommending to the clubs that the NLBA go back to providing provincial championship tournaments and stepping back from the league management as it was a large amount of time and stress on the office that we do not have the capacity to deal with.

Social media/Website/Policies: Our social media and website are continuing to grow and increase engagement. Alicia has been the driver for this. We are still working on adding and cleaning up the website to try to make it as user friendly as possible.

- We have identified several policies that are inconsistent/need updating specifically within our Provincial Team Manual and our Minor Rules Manual that we are working on streamlining and making more user friendly as well.

Summer Programs/Skills Academy: Our skills academy was ran by Kieran this season. /He did a great job working with the framework we had. It is always challenging getting players out on weekends when they have club and school basketball. Trying to find the best time for these sessions is something we are going to continue to work towards.

Safe Sport: Is always an ongoing piece we are working to improve every year. We have had great uptake in coaches completing their certifications. We have added the report to the website for if people want to submit something to the integrity committee and we are working with Sport NL to integrate with their procedures and policies as well.

Minor Tournaments: These ran rather smoothly we didn't have to cancel any tournaments due to weather. We did adjust one but that was minor. The tournament gear order process is getting better as well people are more use to it.

- We struggle to get volunteers for our events; this is something that we need to try to find a better way / be more enticing.

Coach education: This year was a slower year for coach education. The courses were hybrid models with the classroom sessions being in the evenings during the week and the on court being on a weekend day. Running these during club season which went all year affected the numbers. We are going to look at running them earlier in the fall to see if that helps with numbers/attendance.

NLBOC: My involvement was less this year with NLBOC due to conflicts in meeting times; however, I feel that we are making good progress, and I look forward to watching it grow. We need someone who can dedicate more time to this in the office.

FIBA 3x3: We did not have enough for this; I am hoping Kieran will be able to get it off the ground next year.

Jr NBA: Kieran took this over; he will have it in his report.

My goals for 2025-26:

- Increase grass roots programming and 3x3 programming across the island including Jr NBA.
- Get more coaches wanting to coach provincially and more players wanting to represent their province at the U 15/U17 ages.
- Having RAMP being utilized more by more of the organizations, helping make this process easier for them.
- Working with the officials and coaches to improve these relationships.
- Creating a more positive relationship within the club system/helping grow the development of our players through this.

Event Operations Coordinator

Since the introduction of this new role, I have been tasked with assisting the organisation across many events and projects to ensure we grow the game at various levels.

Grassroots Basketball. I have commenced in the planning and delivery of Jr NBA programmes across the province. The NLBA in partnership with coaches across the province has provided 3 Jr NBA programmes across the Avalon, Central and Western Newfoundland. 142 young players have been working with our coaches, developing fundamental movement skills and enjoying learning new skills. We tried to engage with more schools to deliver this programme with little success. However other schools/clubs have taken it upon themselves to deliver the programme in partnership with Canada Basketball. 633 young players have now been exposed to the Jr NBA across NL as a result.

NLBA Skills Academy. This year we attempted to run a skills academy in East, Central and Western Newfoundland. Unfortunately, we were only able to get manageable numbers in the Avalon. However, our Eastern Skills Academy drew over 20 players from grade 4-7 who came monthly for 2 sessions a weekend to work on fundamental skills. We used this development time to work on off court as well as on court learning, helping the young players on how they can be better team players, being better communicators and understanding what it can take to be successful. 2 of these players have been selected as part of the provincial U14 programme, which is a testament to their dedication and skill progression throughout the year.

School Provincials. Alongside my colleagues, we put together a comprehensive tournament schedule for gr 4-11's. a massive task that saw 46 tournaments being held across the province, bringing 1000's of kids the opportunity to represent their school and compete for a provincial championship.

Club Provincials. Again, alongside my colleagues, we have delivered 4 back-to-back weekends of club provincials from U10-U16. A fantastic opportunity for clubs to come together to support one another across 19 different divisions to compete for a provincial title.

Other roles have included, assisting with provincial teams, sitting on various committees and completing administrative tasks upon requests to contribute to the success of the NLBA.

Respectfully,
Kieran Lynch

Event Operations Coordinator

Submitted by Alicia Bird Report

To say I hit the ground running in my role would be an understatement. I began just as preparations for Nationals were in full swing. Under the guidance of the Technical Director, I was tasked with coordinating the scheduling of minor officials — no small feat given the scale of the event and the fact that I joined near the final stages of planning.

A sincere thank you to the NLBA staff and the incredible volunteers who stepped up and gave their time to help deliver a high-quality experience for all involved. Your commitment and support did not go unnoticed, and we are truly grateful for your dedication to making such a prestigious event a success.

After dedicating many hours to Nationals, I began to settle into the role and gain clarity on my core responsibilities. While I supported various tasks as needed, my primary focus areas in this position have included managing social media, revising documents, updating the website, overseeing inventory, and preparing tournament packages. I would like to thank the NLBA staff for making my transition into the role easy and supporting me in answering any questions I have.

Social Media: I was responsible for managing the Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association's social media presence, leading the development of all visual and written content. Working closely with the Technical Director, I ensured all messaging was accurate, aligned with organizational goals, and effectively communicated across platforms. My role included content planning, scheduling, and fostering community engagement to maintain timely, informative, and impactful communication with athletes, members, and the broader basketball community.

Document revisions: I reviewed all NLBA policy and governance documents, identifying and implementing updates where needed. My primary focus was on the Provincial Team Manual and the NLBA Minor Rules Manual. As tournament season winds down, my attention will shift more heavily toward refining the Minor Rules Manual, with the goal of streamlining content and ensuring clarity and consistency throughout.

Presentations: I have created a presentation to bring stakeholders from the game together to create understanding and open lines of communication up to gain a better understanding of each role within the game to make it a better experience for everyone. We will be scheduling a meeting soon to get this off the ground and running. If you would like to be involved, please contact me at abird@sportnl.ca.

I am also working on a parent presentation to help engage them and include them in the basketball community in an effort to continue to create a positive experience for everyone involved in the game.

Website: Updating the website presented a learning curve, but I'm now becoming more comfortable with the process. I will continue to make updates as needed, with a focus on improving usability, streamlining content, and ensuring it effectively serves all stakeholders involved in the game.

As I enter my second year in this role, I look forward to continuing to contribute to the growth of basketball and supporting the NLBA in any capacity needed.

Administrative Assistant

2024 – 25 was another unique year for the NL basketball community, let alone the NLBA. We saw the retirement of Doug Partridge in September, and the hiring of two new staff members in July. Brining our office staff to four full-time individuals and one part-time individual. Welcome aboard to Kieran Lynch and Alicia Bird.

With Amanda and Alicia, we endeavour to keep the NLBA website updated (www.newfoundlandlabradorbasketball.com/). This is an ongoing project both to keep up to date on information, but also to make some small changes to make it more user friendly.

We have continued to use the RAMP system this year for registration. There as been a few growing pains with the registration process, but we are hoping to grow with the system in 2025 – 26 season.

In 2024 we had 7 provincial team who trained and travel off-island to competitions and nationals. In the fall / winter we had Skills Academy and Canada Games Pod training.

In December we were at the NLSC to run the Grade 7 and 8 Tip-off tournament with a full slate of 32 teams participating. Then we ran the Hall of Fame Cup (Elite 8) in February.

We started out minor provincial tournaments at the end of February with the grade 6 then the grade 5 tournaments. This year, the weather cooperated somewhat, and we were able to run all tournaments on the weekend that they were scheduled. The tournaments ran until the second weekend of May. Then we ran minor club tournaments in May. We had one senior tournament, Division 2 Men's, in May in Deer Lake, NL.

I maintained the tournaments database, contacted coaches regarding invoicing, rankings, schedules, and overdue registration fees. I contacted all hosts regarding the weekend updates to the NL Scoreboard website and sent hosts referees schedules and contact information for all tournaments. I also kept record of who has returned host reports for each tournament. This past year, we continued invoicing all schools for the tournament they registered, since most schools now require the funds to go through their office and need an invoice for payments.

In April, the NLBA were able to hold open tryouts for our 2024 summer provincial team. We have 7 teams training and will be travel off-island for competition this year. Part of my duties, with the summer teams, I maintain the database for all the athletes and coaches, keeping track the finances for the teams, including payment and expenses. Making sure that all the necessary forms, NCCP Safe Sport training and Rule of Two training are done for the programs.

I wish to thank Judy, Amanda, Kieran, Alicia and the Executive for their support and assistance. Each year I have experienced new or different concepts of basketball in Newfoundland and Labrador, and this year was certainly no exception in that aspect. As the sport continues to grow in the province, I continue to look forward to the new challenges that the association will face in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted by, Laura Chatman Administrative Assistant, NLBA

Tournament Reports

Minor School Tournament Report

The Minor Report will be circulated at a later date and presented at the Annual Meeting.

Senior Tournament Report

The NLBA ran one senior tournament in 2025 – 26, the Division 2 men's tournament. Which took place at Xavier Junior High, Deer Lake on May 2nd – 4th, 2025 with 7 teams from across the island. The host was Travis White. He wrote the following:

From: Trevor White <trevwhite14@hotmail.com>

Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 12:48 PM

To: Laura Chatman <lchatman@sportnl.ca>

Subject: Re: Senior Men's Host Report

Hey Laura

The weekend went amazing. Was great to see that senior men's tournament back and doing good. Every player and team were amazing. And the level of competitiveness was surprising. Was very good basketball to watch. I will gladly host this event every year if you need me too. Or every other year if other places want to host.

I will fill out the host report no problem thanks

Have a good day

Wheelchair Basketball Report

Please see our annual report for the Wheelchair Basketball Association, reflecting a productive year of progress, partnerships, and player development. Our mission remains focused on expanding participation, raising awareness, and building a stronger foundation for the sport in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Building Participation & Recruiting for the Future: This year, we've ramped up our recruitment efforts as we prepare for the 2027 Canada Games. Our team is actively seeking both athletes with disabilities and able-bodied athletes who want to be a part of this dynamic, inclusive sport. With a mixed classification system, wheelchair basketball offers a unique opportunity for everyone to compete together at a high level.

Our outreach has included meetings with staff from the Janeway Rehabilitation Centre (PT, OT, and recreation therapy) to establish pathways for youth and adults to be referred into sport — particularly those interested in long-term athlete development and high-performance training.

Training the Teachers: Community Education on the Avalon: This year, Coach Raeleen Baggs and athlete Gavin Baggs led a wheelchair basketball session at the PSEIC conference for physical education teachers on the Avalon Peninsula. The workshop introduced basic skills, gameplay, and inclusion strategies, giving educators tools to incorporate wheelchair basketball into their schools. This initiative is a key part of our effort to grow awareness and spark interest at the grassroots level and reach potential athletes.

Celebrating Player Successes: We're proud to highlight the accomplishments of several of our athletes who competed nationally this season. Danielle Arbour and Brittany Grandy represented our province at the Women's National Championship, where they caught the attention of Wheelchair Basketball Canada's player development and recruitment coordinator. Their performances have earned them invitations to future national camps—an incredible step forward in their athletic journeys.

Additionally, Jack Kennedy took part in the Junior East Championship with Team Nova Scotia, gaining valuable experience and representing our community with pride.

Looking Ahead: As we continue to develop our weekly programming, we remain committed to creating a supportive, inclusive environment for players of all levels. Through consistent coaching, training, and skill-building opportunities, we aim to help athletes realize their potential both on and off the court.

Thanks, you for this opportunity to enlighten you on our program. We would love to further develop and build on the partnership with the NLBA and clubs in the area. Together, we can ensure that wheelchair basketball grows stronger, more visible, and more accessible across the province.

Yours in sport,

Raeleen Baggs and Gary Power

Wheelchair Basketball Association

Minor Club Reports

709 Basketball

Avalon Basketball – 2024-25 Season Report

Avalon Basketball had a standout 2024-25 season in its 9th year as a basketball club, marked by **record-breaking growth in both team participation and player registration**. Based out of **St. John's, Newfoundland**, with primary programming at **425 Topsail Road**, and additional sessions held at **Paul Reynolds** and **Northpoint**, our club proudly fielded teams from **U8 to U16** across both **male and female divisions**. One of the highlights of our season was the outstanding **U12 Boys team**, who captured a **Club Championship title** in their age group—a reflection of the strong skill development focus across all teams. Under the leadership of Ethan Knight, Avalon saw its most successful season to date. Looking ahead to the **2025-26 season**, Avalon Basketball plans to **expand to U18**, while placing a **major emphasis on growing our female program**, reinforcing our commitment to creating opportunities for young athletes across all levels.

Southern Shore Goulds Basketball – 2024-25 Season Report

Now in its **third year of operation**, Southern Shore Goulds Basketball continued to establish a strong and consistent presence in the **Goulds and Southern Shore region**. The 2024-25 season focused heavily on **developmental age groups**, with strong participation at the **U8 and U10 levels**, while older athletes continued their basketball journey with our partner program, **Avalon Basketball**. Under the leadership of **Hannah Janes and Brad Cheeseman**, our Shore Goulds teams showed tremendous **individual and team growth** throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of our young athletes and are excited to continue **growing the game of basketball** in the **Goulds and Shore communities** in the seasons to come.

Central Female Basketball

Central Female Basketball is a not-for-profit club that was started in 2023 and operates primarily out of Grand Falls-Windsor. Our goal is to offer female youth in our area the opportunity to play club basketball in the most cost-effective way. The club is run by all volunteers who receive no financial incentives or benefits. This past year we continued to see growth in all of our age groups. Last season we entered two teams in the provincial club league, and for 2024/2025 that number grew to five teams, with two U12 teams, one U14 team, and two U16 teams. We had a busy and successful year with all the girls on the court.

We are preparing for our third annual “Summer League” this upcoming summer which is already full to capacity in the female division, with four teams, grade 7, 8, and 9. We are branching out this summer and have added a male division for the same age groups which is also at max capacity. The summer league has grown and drawn interest from our neighboring communities with athletes participating from not only Grand Falls-Windsor, but Bishop's Falls, Badger, Glenwood and Gander. We are so fortunate to continue to support and foster the love of basketball in our own backyard.

Looking forward to another exciting season of club basketball in 2025-2026!

Central Female Basketball President,

Anne Blackmore

Central NL Youth Basketball

Jr. NBA Youth Basketball: This was the 17 th year for this grass roots program in Grand Falls Windsor, NL. There were 29 children (K-2), 16 children (Grade 3) and 38 Boys (Grade 4, 5,6) registered to participate in the 10–12-week programs which provided the children (Boys and Girls) with physical activity and the opportunity to play the game of basketball. EVH/Central NL Basketball players assisted with the sessions and delivery of the lesson plans. Each participant was provided with a player package which included a Jersey, ball and poster at the first session. There were 6 sessions before Christmas and 6 sessions in the New Year.

After a Christmas break the children returned to the court for 6 more sessions. They continued to play Fun games and develop their fundamental movements, basketball skills, fitness, self-esteem and listening skills. There was lots of positive feedback from the children, parents, grandparents and siblings throughout this program. The program concluded with a Yearend Fun Day. Each child was given a Jr NBA Youth Basketball Certificate, trophy and a Group Photo.

We plan to be offer Jr NBA again next season to K-3 and Gr 4, 5, and 6 Boys.

K-2 Co - Ed Jr NBA



Gr 3 Co-Ed Jr NBA



Gr 4, 5 & 6 Jr NBA Boys



Gr 4, 5 & 6 Jr NBA Boys



Central NL U 10, U12, U14, U16 & U18 Boys: We put together 6 Boys teams that participated in the NLBA Club League and U10 Club Jamboree this year. We also had an U18 Boys Team that played in the GFW Donnini's Men's League and also represented EVH Varsity Boys Basketball

2025 NLBA AGM Booklet

Team. All Teams had players that came through Steve Nash Youth Basketball and Jr NBA in GFW to represent Central NL Basketball well. These teams also attended the NLBA Club Championships and U10 Club Jamboree in May 2025. Our U18 Boys Team that also represented EVH Varsity Boys Team won the SSNL 3 A Boys Basketball Provincials. Big thank you to the coaches, players and parents for traveling to St John's to compete in the 2025 NLBA Club League and Championship Weekend. We were also happy to host U16 Boys Club Games in GFW this year. It was a positive response from all clubs outside Central NL.

We would like to thank everyone that hosted the club league and championship weekend. Our teams really enjoyed this season!

Central NL U10 Boys



Central NL U12 Boys



Central NL U14 (1) Boys



Central NL U14 (2) Boys



Central NL U16 Boys (1)



Central NL U16 Boys (2)



Central U18 Boys/EVH Boys



Report Submitted by Coach Brian Cooke (Central NL Youth Basketball)

[Ecole des Grands Vents Jr. NBA](#)

My name is Jon-Richard Willan. This was the first year I hosted a Jr. NBA program - "Ecole des Grands Vents Jr. NBA". We operated out of the school gymnasium at Ecole des Grand Vents in St. John's, NL. This was a 12-week program that was aimed at introducing girls to the game of basketball. Registration was opened to the school only for girls in grades 1-4. The program was delivered in French and English. Highlights of the year include: "Team of the Game" at the Rogues game, and our year end Subway Canada Party. I have the intention of continuing to host, but I need approval from the school in September 2025.

JR Willan
647-228-2391

2025 NLBA AGM Booklet
Grenfell Junior Warriors

(Western Region- Corner Brook)

The Grenfell Junior Warriors had an exciting and successful season! Our focus this year was more on skill development helping young athletes build strong fundamentals. However, there were still opportunities for a couple of our groups to participate in games and local tournaments throughout the Western Region, keeping youth active and engaged while involving all who were interested.

This summer, select athletes from our year-round Junior Warriors program will be representing us off-island at a tournament. We're proud to be sending four teams: U13 Male, U14 Male, U15 Male, and U16 Male. Unfortunately, we won't be sending a female team this year due to scheduling conflicts with other sports, but we remain committed to supporting our female athletes in future seasons.

Looking ahead, we're thrilled to be returning to our new facility (The Marina Redmond Centre in Corner Brook)—something we've been anticipating for the past three years! Practices have re-started there on May 25. With this exciting development, we'll be able to restructure our programming to make the Grenfell Junior Warriors a better program.

We've also had positive discussions with one of our age groups about joining the NLBA League next season. Over the summer, we'll be working hard to explore how we can make league participation sustainable, with hopes of entering one or two teams.

A big thank-you to the NLBA for their continued support and the opportunities they provide to programs across the province—we truly appreciate the guidance. We'd also like to sincerely thank Grenfell Campus for continuing to support the Junior Warriors. Their ongoing commitment makes this program possible, and we're grateful for their belief in what we're building together.

To our coaches, thank you for your time, energy, and dedication—you are the heart of this program and an inspiration to our athletes.

To our parents, your support, encouragement, and commitment behind the scenes do not go unnoticed—we couldn't do this without you.

And to our players, thank you for showing up, putting in the work, and representing the Junior Warriors with pride and passion. You make it all worthwhile.

It's been a season of growth, and we're excited about what's ahead for the Grenfell Junior Warriors!

Thanks,
Britney Marsden

Lab West Jr. NBA

Our very first season of Junior NBA for Labrador West was a huge success. We ran this program out of AP Low Primary School and between Kindergarten and Grade 3 we had 90 players registered. Our program took place over 6 weeks with 2 sessions per week. We had over 10 volunteers join us from high school players to adults. For many of these kids it was their first taste of basketball, and the response from parents and players was overwhelming! Challenges for continuing the program are the lack of gym availability, particularly with nets at the height we need for the younger groups. Looking forward to coming up with some creative ideas to get this program off the ground again in the 2025/2026 season!

Jenny Sullivan - Jr NBA Lab West

Labrador West “Miner” Basketball

Hello, my name is Sarah Power, and I am the president of the Labrador West “Miner” Basketball program that runs out of Wabush, Newfoundland and Labrador. This is my first-year volunteering for this position alongside Chesley Parsons, our vice president.

I’ve been playing basketball for over 30 years and as a student many moons ago, running the minor basketball program for the summer was my first actual job. When Donna Flynn decided to step down last year she approached me about taking over the position and it was a no-brainer, a full circle moment for me, I was delighted and excited about the opportunity. I had been volunteering as a parent for a few years prior, which gave me the knowledge of how the program was being run so I could step right into the role with confidence and bring along some new ideas for the league as well.

Our Club typically runs from October to the middle of April. We rent out the gym for two hours at JRS Middle School every Tuesday evening for two hours. The first hour is dedicated to our grades 4 and 5 and the second hour is for our grades 6 and 7. Each group is co-ed.

We had a small group this year with a total of 19 children for the whole league. With such a small group of kids we were able to give lots of one-on-one help. With extra attention you could see a big difference in the skills of each child after practice.

To end our 2024-2025 season, we decided to rent out the gym at our local rec center and through a pizza party for the kids. It was a blast! The kids told us about their favorite times and practices throughout the season, some funny stories and of course all the bloopers. Everyone is excited to return for the new season.

Mount Pearl Minor Basketball

Mount Pearl Minor Basketball operated out of Several Community Recreation facilities in the Mt. Pearl and St. John’s Metro area this year.

We had 3 Boys U16 and U14 teams as well as 2 Boys U12 teams. Finally, we had our Jr. Celtics

programming for the ages of 5-10 years old.

We travelled with 4 teams to the crossover challenge in Montreal.

In conclusion we had a successful year and are looking forward to 2025-2026 season.

Tks

Bobby

Mount Pearl Minor Basketball

Facebook - Mount Pearl Minor Basketball

Twitter - @MPMBA1

www.mountpearlbasketball.com



Next Level Basketball Training (NLBT)

This was our 9th year running both club teams and skills training programs. We currently have over 275 athletes registered with NLBT and range from K-2 to U16 both boys and girls. We are in our 4th year running programs in Bay Bulls and we had a K-2 program, U10 Girls club program, U12 and U14 Girls Skills Program for a total of approximately 75 athletes. All programs operate out of the Bay Bulls Regional Lifestyle Centre.

NLBT operates mainly out of Paul Reynold's Community Centre, Kenmount Terrace Community Centre, NL Sports Centre, Bay Bulls Regional Lifestyle Centre and some schools in St. John's for our various programs.

The highlights from this year were that we took our U16/17 girls travel team off the island twice, once in Toronto where they won the U17 div of the Scarborough club tourn. The second one was a recruiting ID trip to Halifax where we had 3 school visits and 4 exhib games. We were 3-1 in the games and since the trip there has been interest from the coaches in some of our players. This is something we will continue to do to help our players gain exposure and have an opportunity to play at the next level.

At Club Provincials this year our U10 Boys Competitive team received silver. U12 Girls T1 won A division, U12 Girls T3 won C Division, U12 Boys T2 won D Division. Our U14 Girls T3 won D Division, U14 Boys T1 won B Division, U16 Boys T3 won D Division, U16 Boys T2 lost in the B semis. U16 Girls T1 received silver in A Division.

This summer we are happy to announce that we will have 3 travel teams competing in the Royal City Classic Basketball Tournament in Montreal from July 25-27. We will have a U14, U15 and U17 girls' team.

Paradise Minor Basketball

PMB FALL/WINTER/SPRING PROGRAMS: Paradise Minor Basketball provides programs for kids' Pre-K to U14, six programs in total for the 2024-2025 season. We run our programs out of a Paradise Elementary, located in a centralize area of the town of Paradise. Please see the following breakdown of PMB programs.

K-2: Co-Ed Skill Development (Ages 4-7). Capped off with our "PMB K-2 Showcase Game", which has been a huge success the past two seasons.

U10-U14 CLUB

Boys U10 Club - Competitive

Girls U12 Club - B Division

Boys U12 Club - C Division

Girls U14 Club - C Division

Boys U14 Club - D Division (Champions)

Our 2024-2025 season was our biggest and most successful to date with over 90 athletes, 6 coaches and 5 team managers! We are already planning for expansion next year and adding more players & coaches to our program, notably the addition of an U16 Boys program for 2025-2026.

SUMMER CAMPS: Although we do not offer PMB specific summer camps, we operate under the RockSports umbrella of companies, the same as SJMB, therefore we are happy to refer any of our players & parents to the SJMB Summer camp offerings. This year SJMB will be offering 9 weeks of camps. Three camps for each age group:

K-2

Gr. 3-4

Gr. 5-6

SJMB hire 3 summer students to run our programs & it's been a huge hit every year!

SUMMER PROGRAMS: PMB offers group skill training sessions to our athletes during both July & August. These sessions are focused on individual skill development as opposed to a team concept which takes precedence during the season.

We are very excited to continue our upward trajectory in the 2025-2026 season.

Regards,
Steve Earles

2025 NLBA AGM Booklet
Placentia Jr. NBA Program

The Placentia Jr. NBA Program launched in Winter 2024 and has quickly become a popular program in our community. The program has provided such wonderful opportunities for young athletes to learn and play and strengthened community ties, drawing together parents, coaches, children and supporters who share a love for the game of basketball! Our program operates out of our local elementary school and serves a diverse roster of 35 coed players from ages 5-12. Our community of Jr. NBA'ers have not only begun to hone their skills on the court but have begun to build friendships and teamwork that extend beyond the game! Although we are new and just getting started, we had the opportunity to host the Clarendville Jr. NBA team which was a fun-filled day of basketball and friendship! Our dedicated coaching staff brings a wealth of passion and experience to our program! As we look to the future, we are eager to continue to drive a love for basketball in the Placentia area and are genuinely excited to see it evolve and bring lasting impact to our community!

Thanks,
Tiffany

Random Island Academy J. NBA

What a great year of basketball! It has been a pleasure to have had the opportunity to bring the Jr. NBA program to our small school. Random Island Academy is a K-12 school with approximately 135 students. It is located in the rural community of Hickman's Harbour, Random Island. Having been a coach of multiple sports for many years and a lover of basketball myself, I thought it would be a great program to introduce to our school. As an elementary teacher and having a son in primary, I knew I would love to open the program to ages 5 through 12. I honestly was not expecting the numbers to be as high as they were. We had a total of 38 students participate from grades K-6. The program is very well organized and very helpful with any questions I may have had. The lesson plans were very easy to follow and helped guide me in teaching beginning skills. It was especially helpful with the younger players who were new to the sport. My elementary group was extremely excited to have the opportunity to play competitively against a neighboring school, who were also part of the Jr. NBA program. Overall, it was a successful year. I ran the program every week from October to May, alternating weeks for primary and elementary. There were many skills learned this year and lots of fun was had. A big shout out to the Jr. NBA and NLBA for a successful program. We celebrated the end of our season with a Subway party. We can not wait to start up the program again in the next school year!

Thank you,
Mrs. Fallon Marsh
(Coach & Program Coordinator)



Riverside Jr NBA Program Summary

The Riverside Jr NBA is a thriving basketball program for elementary-aged children in Clarendville and surrounding communities. Since its inception in 2021, the program has doubled in size, growing from 30 to 60 participants over four years. Led by Jordan Constantine, Riverside Jr NBA offers weekly coaching sessions and enriching weekend camps featuring experienced coaches

like Amy O'Reilly and Pam and Dave Constantine. The program has also hosted special events with Coach Mark English and his Memorial University Seahawks, including camps in Clarenville and player visits to St. John's for university games and halftime scrimmages.

Riverside Jr NBA collaborates with other club programs across the province—such as those in Paradise, St. John's, Witless Bay, and Arnold's Cove—to organize basketball jamborees and skill sessions. In addition to focusing on youth development, the program supports coaching development within its ranks. Looking ahead, Riverside Jr NBA will expand its offerings to include summer camps in partnership with the Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association (NLBA).

Regards,
Jordan Constantine

[St. John's Minor Basketball](#)

FALL/WINTER/SPRING PROGRAMS: St. John's Minor Basketball provides programs for kids' Pre-K to U18. We run our programs out of several locations including Ches Penney YMCA & Paul Reynolds Community Centre, East Point Elementary & Roncalli Elementary.

K-2: Co-Ed Skill Development (Ages 4-7)

U10-U16 CLUB

Girls U10 Club
Boys U10 Club
Girls U12 Club
Boys U12 Club
Girls U14 Club
Boys U14 Club
Girls U16 Club
Boys U16 Club
Boys U18 Club

Our 2024-2025 season was our biggest and most successful to date! We are already planning for expansion next year and adding more players & coaches to our program.

SUMMER CAMPS: Another huge highlight of our program is our Summer Camps. This year we will be offering 9 weeks of camps. Three camps for each age group:

K-2

Gr. 3-4

Gr. 5-6

We hire 3 summer students to run our programs & it's been a huge hit every year!

SUMMER PROGRAMS: We offer both summer league & skill training programs to our athletes during both July & August.

SUMMER TRAVEL: This summer we will be traveling to Quebec with 1 team of U12 Boys to compete in the Royal City Classic from July 24-27.

We are very excited to continue our upward trajectory in the 2025-2026 season!

Regards,
Jon Pye

Western Avalanche Basketball Club



The Western Avalanche Basketball Club, based in the Humber Valley of Western Newfoundland, is excited to join the NLBA for the 2025-26 season.

Our club is dedicated to fostering a vibrant basketball community by emphasizing youth skill development, teamwork, and community engagement. While the 2024-25 season focused on establishing our foundation and local participation, we are thrilled to launch U14 & U16 male travel teams for the upcoming 2025-26 season. As we grow, we plan to expand our offerings to include additional age groups and female teams, further strengthening basketball in the region. The Western Avalanche Basketball Club looks forward to contributing to the NLBA's mission and building lasting connections within the Newfoundland and Labrador basketball community.

Email: wabcavalanche@gmail.com

Location: Humber Valley

President: Andrew Sheppard

Coaches: Jonathan Snow; Andy Moss; Kevin Hull; Trevor White; Nathan White

Senior Club Reports

Geezers Basketball

Geezers Basketball is a recreational basketball league playing seasonally during fall/winter and early spring sessions with a short summer break. The group has been playing the two games weekly for the past three years at the Paul Reynolds Centre in St. John's. The group consists of a wide age range of individuals from 30+ to 70+ in years which is remarkable in itself but a love of basketball is the glue that bonds this group together. It currently consists of about 50 % of individuals still at work and the rest from retirees but continue to strive to remain physically active. Although the Geezers recreational group continues to recruit new players, some of the guys have been playing since their formative years and continue to play well beyond expectation at 70+ years. The other remarkable feature of this recreational basketball group is the respect of the younger players for the older ones. The goal of our recreational games is to focus on fun and physical activity. I believe this simple formula has kept this group together for all of these years and we hope to continue this motto into the future. It's been a privilege for me to be part of this group for the past 20 years and organizing the games at PRC for the past 3 years.

Sincerely,
Gary Maillet
Geezers Basketball

Grand Falls Windsor Donnini's Men's Basketball

The GFW Donnini's Senior Men's League hosted 4 teams this year: Donnini's Powerade, Central NL U16 and Central NL U18. All players enjoyed playing Men's Basketball in GFW this season. Games were played on Sunday and Wednesday nights. This was followed by a best 2 out of 3 Final in the Grand Falls Windsor Donnini's Men's Basketball league.

Donnini's defeated Powerade 2 games to 0 to claim the 2024-2025 GFW Donnini's Men's Basketball League Championship.



Front Row (l/r): Matt Stagg, Darren Toope & Kyle Bursey. Back Row (l/r): Nathan Mitchell, Mike Burns, Nathan Sullivan, Mike Butler, Ryan Hunt & Jonah Pittman.

This year was a great success and gives our Central NL Club Boys Basketball Teams extra games in their hometown. Players from the GFW Donnini's Men's League participated in The NLBA D2 Provincials Hosted in Deer Lake this year. We hope our league will continue in the future. We would like to Thank NLBA, CNABO, Exploits Valley High School, the Town of GFW and the Sponsors for their assistance throughout the year.

For further information about our league please contact me at 709 486 3136.

Submitted by Brian Cooke (President)

[Metro Ladies Basketball League](#)

Metro Ladies Basketball League (MLBL) is a senior ladies basketball league open to all players in the St. John's metro and surrounding areas, with all games played at the PowerPlex facility & Waterford Valley High School in St. John's. The MLBL allows non-division one players to register and currently runs with 15 teams. Rosters are continuously changing each year with more players interested in registering with the MLBL, so we may consider new teams for the 2025/26 season. We have placed an emphasis on encouraging involvement for players of all levels, and we play our season in ranked tiers and playoff accordingly to ensure that play is both competitive and fun.

The MLBL is voluntarily managed by its elected executive and runs from October to April.

Contact info:

President - Donna Gibbons

Vice President - Lisa Woodrow

mlblgeneral@gmail.com

[Metro Basketball League](#)

Introduction: The metro basketball league is a "35 years and over" men's league operating in St. John's. The league has been in existence for over 50 years and each year our registration includes approximately 60 full-time players plus a call up list of 10 to 30 players. The league includes a wide range of ages (from late 30's to 60+) and skill levels (many players have played in various city leagues in past seasons). Our leagues' regular season includes six rounds of play and a total of 30 games per team. Each team plays two games per week: Tuesdays at Waterford Valley High, and Thursdays at the provincial Training Centre (Powerplex).

Team Structure: Our teams are organized each year through a draft. Each of our six teams begins the draft process with a team rep plus 3 protected players. The remaining spots are then filled through the draft. As a league we strive for competitive balance, and our draft model supports this philosophy.

Playoff format: Each season concludes with a three round playoff model where the first and second place teams in the regular season receive a bye in round one and then play the two

remaining teams from the 3-6 and 4-5 matchups. This is followed by our championship series to finish the year.

The social side: The Metro league also strives for a balance between competitive play and a strong social component. This is reflected in our draft based approach whereby most players will have played with multiple teams over their time in the league. In addition, the league encourages players to “team up” for external tournaments ranging from provincial masters championships to international invitational tournaments.

Individual awards are voted on each year by our team reps and presented at our year-end social following our playoffs.

Our current executive includes:

Mark Dawson: President

Bruce Helm: League Convenor

Doug Furlong: Registration Manager

Jason Morris: IT Manager

In addition, our **6 team reps** are included in our executive decision making.

[St. John's Amateur Basketball Association \(SJABA\)](#)

Location: St. John's & Metro Area

Division: Adult Men's Recreational League (Divisions 1–5)

The St. John's Amateur Basketball Association (SJABA) continues to be a cornerstone of adult recreational basketball in the St. John's and metro area. For the 2024–2025 season, SJABA held 57 men's teams registered across six competitive divisions

This season also saw the launch of a new and improved website, making league information, schedules, and standings more accessible to players.

Looking ahead to the 2025–2026 season, our focus is on growing capacity to welcome even more teams. We're actively exploring additional gym and facility options to expand our schedule, which will depend on the availability and support of our dedicated game officials.

The SJABA Executive team congratulate the winners of the 2024-2025 season;

Division 1: D1 Banshees

Division 2: D2 Breton

Division 3A: Celtic Property Management

Division 3B: Breens Deli

Division 4: ZYN

Division 5: Bordeaux Ballers

The SJABA 2025 summer league is currently under way, set to operate until July 31st, with 36 teams competing across 6 divisions (including a women's division).

SJABA remains committed to providing a fun, competitive, and well-organized league experience for adult basketball players of all skill levels.

Austin St John

[St. John's Ladies Division 1 Basketball League](#)

The St. John's Ladies Division 1 Basketball League finished up another successful season in 2024-5. Our League's purpose is to offer high-calibre, high-level basketball competition to female basketball players in the St. John's Metro area.

We had four adult teams this season, Banshees, Dynamic Physiotherapy, Golfshotz, and Hickman Automotive Group / Nutra Holdings, as well as a youth team, the NLBA's U17 girls' Canada Games pod. In total, we had almost 60 players in the league this season.

This year's League ran from October 2024 to April 2025. In the championship playoff bracket, Banshees beat Golfshotz to claim the title of league champions.

Please let me know if there's anything else I can provide to you and I am happy to help.

Thanks,
Melissa

Forms



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR
BASKETBALL
ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION / MOTION

TO BE PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

June 28, 2025

WHEREAS:

RESOLVED:

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

DATE: _____



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR
BASKETBALL
ASSOCIATION

2025 NLBA Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Numbers:

Home (709) _____ Cell (709) _____ Email: _____

Position Seeking: (Please Circle)

President

Vice President

Finance Director

Governance Director

Eastern Regional Director

Central Regional Director

Western Regional Director

Labrador Regional Director

Nominations may be made by an Active Member in which the nominee resides or by two members of the Board.

Nominated By: _____ Date: _____

Endorsed By: _____ Date: _____

I hereby agree to be nominated for the NLBA Basketball Board of Directors and consent to serve in that capacity if elected:

Nominee's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Completed forms must be presented at the AGM. Nominations may be presented from the floor.



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR
BASKETBALL
ASSOCIATION

2025 TRAVEL EXPENSE CLAIM

Name: _____ Telephone: (H) _____
 Address: _____ (C) _____
 _____ Postal Code: _____

Particulars	Total
Air Fare: Travel _____ km @ .40 / km	
Meals: Breakfast @ \$10.00 Lunch @ \$12.00 Supper @ \$20.00	
Accommodations:	
Total	

Claimant's Signature: _____

Date: _____ Approved _____ Cheque # _____

Note: Please attach any receipts for air / bus travel or taxi fare to and from airport / bus station to this form.

Affiliated Member _____

Executive Member _____