

# Prince Edward Island Cricket Association

## Annual Report 2017



2017 was another year of growth for the Prince Edward Cricket Association (PEICA), in key areas, including player involvement, community recognition and governance.

A newly established team and the installation of a mat pitch in the city of Summerside expanded our presence to the northern part of the Island for the first time and garnered some good local coverage from news and media outlets.

### Membership

We had 44 senior registered players this year for our outdoor league, which is an increase on 2016.

We had a further 10 non-playing members – who acted as officials/scorekeepers and team managers, which was hugely beneficial in general.

Our indoor winter league had about 20 players attending on a regular basis – again, an increase on previous years.

We also had our first 3 official junior members join this year – aged 13-16, which is a great sign of developing interest and commitment.

### Governance

Our AGM is scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup>, with a number of positions on the board available for election this year, including the Vice-President Position, as our VP has had to resign to focus on some personal matters.

We will be presenting a number of updated documents, including; by-laws, constitution, code-of-conduct and discrimination and inclusion policies to our members at the meeting for adoption and acceptance.

There has been a significant amount of work put into these documents, some of which have not been updated since the foundation of the organization, and we believe this will greatly improve the structure and adherence to guidelines within the organization.

## **Cricketing Activities**

Our local league structure shifted somewhat to incorporate the team from Summerside, and we struggled at times with keeping the league on track due to poor weather, but all round there was definitely a marked difference in the quality and competitive nature of the games, which was great to see.

We played a higher number of games last season and this meant the players were pretty tired out by August, so we will be adjusting the schedule this year to reflect those issues.

We were very pleased with the performance of the provincial team at the Eastern T20 in NL this past year, and great credit must go to Cricket Newfoundland and Labrador for hosting such a terrific event.

While we did not win any games, we were far more competitive in all of our matches and had some excellent performances from some of our newer players, experiencing the provincial game for the first time.

## **Development & Community Engagement**

Our primary goal remains developing cricket on a grassroots level.

We continue to initiate connections to schools and summer camps to introduce Island youngsters to the game.

We once again ran our clinics at Holland College during their summer camps in July and August, consisting of teaching the basics to 50 children ages 5-12, and hosting a series of fun games, putting their newly learned skills into action.

## **Challenges**

As always, membership numbers, while increasing, remain an issue.

Membership numbers, and as such player fees collected, are understandably smaller than other provinces, so we continually seek sponsorship and fundraising opportunities, which in turn limits the time and resources we can spend on the implementation of our development strategies for the game on the Island.

Awareness of the game on the Island has increased dramatically; however, we need to be able to implement more programs for Island youngsters to grow the association to the next level. We are woefully short on the children's equipment needed to do this, and this is an issue that needs addressing before we can push this program further.

We also need to have more training available to those who wish to get involved in the game on a basic level, and to do this we need more coaches. We currently only have 1 provincially recognized coach and would like for him and others to be able to take coaching courses, but our finances were not able to support this in 2017.

Unfortunately we recently had our turf wicket at Tea Hill vandalized. The RCMP has looked into the matter and the Town of Stratford has offered support, however, so close to the start of the season, this is a significant issue for us. NSCA has kindly offered to assist us in trying to repair the damage, but we will most likely have to invest in a new surface for the next season.



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