



Executive Director's Report – AGM 2025

Baseball PEI

Submitted by Rhonda Pauls, Executive Director

2025: A Year in Review with an Eye to the Future

To say that 2025 has been an amazing year in baseball on Prince Edward Island would be premature...like Yogi said – “it ain’t over yet.”

With the Toronto Blue Jays winning the ALCS and advancing to the World Series for the first time in 32 years, it feels like we’re all still on the field. Whether or not you’re a Blue Jays fan, we all know the ripple effect this has — it reignites national unity, boosts interest and registrations in grassroots baseball, and shines a national spotlight on our sport. While this moment may seem far removed from PEI, its impact will be felt right here at home.

Island Pride and National Success

This past year brought extraordinary accomplishments for Baseball PEI as an organization and for our province as a whole.

Our Senior Islanders captured the nation’s attention, winning a national GOLD medal — a moment that felt like a victory for every coach, umpire, volunteer, and player who helped build baseball on PEI. Many of these athletes grew up here, playing youth baseball in our programs, nurtured by our communities and dedicated leaders.

Our 17U Selects, representing PEI at the 2025 Canada Summer Games in St. John’s, NL, also made history — achieving our best-ever placement of 4th overall, narrowly edged out of a bronze to Saskatchewan. Their performance was an incredible display of teamwork, discipline, and pride that captured the respect of the entire country.

PEI is now ranked #1 in Canada for improvement in overall provincial standings under the Centennial Cup Rankings, with baseball showing a 7-point increase in

40 Enman Crescent
Charlottetown, PE
C1E 1E6



902-368-4203 [com](http://www.baseballpei.com)
www.baseballpei.com
baseball@sportpei.pe.ca

points since 2022 — the highest jump of any sport in our province. Overall, PEI improved by 14 points, with only Quebec coming close (+9 points) — a province with over 9 million people. This speaks volumes about the heart, work ethic, and determination of Islanders. We may be the smallest province, but like the Grinch on Christmas morning – our heart is three sizes bigger.

Breaking Barriers in Female Baseball

For the first time ever, PEI fielded a female baseball team at the Canada Games. Although the team placed 10th overall, the result does not reflect the skill, resilience, or potential of these athletes. Competing with one of the youngest teams and smallest player pools in the country, our female athletes showed tremendous promise and set the foundation for a bright future in women's baseball on PEI.

Championship Hosting and Growth

PEI proudly hosted the National Old Timers Baseball Championships, with games played at multiple venues across the Island. Our teams brought home an unprecedented two Gold medals out of four age categories. In addition, PEI teams captured medals in five of eight Atlantic Championships this past September — another testament to our depth and strength across all divisions.

Facility Development and Sustainability

Baseball PEI continues to be accessible and support municipalities and associations to ensure that facilities grow with participation. With membership rising 4%–11% annually over the last five years, sustainability is now our top priority.

Key facility highlights include:

- New fields in Stratford are underway and plans for a new field in Cornwall have been approved.
- Refurbishment of decommissioned fields in Tracadie and Murray River, expanding access for Northside, Sherwood, and Three Rivers.
- Summerside's continued leadership in national hosting has brought upgrades to VIV and Legends fields.

40 Enman Crescent
Charlottetown, PE
C1E 1E6



902-368-4203 [com](http://www.baseballpei.com)
www.baseballpei.com
baseball@sportpei.pe.ca

- Baseball PEI has built the province's first artificial turf baseball field at Mill River in West Prince — opening Spring 2026 as part of a multi-sport community park.

Development Programs and Summer Clinics

Our Summer Clinics program continues to be one of Baseball PEI's greatest program offerings. This year, five clinicians delivered a record 91 clinics across the Island (out of 102 scheduled) with more cancellations due to heat than rain, a rare milestone!

This year's focus was on regionally accessible camps open to all players, rather than team-specific sessions. This approach expanded reach and ensured that every athlete had access to development opportunities. With over 900 athlete interactions, the program continues to provide accessible, high-quality training that directly supports player skill and coach development across PEI.

Ongoing Challenges and Strategic Direction

Despite our successes, we continue to face challenges in grassroots player development and officials recruitment and retention. Progress is being made through expanded mentorship and strong collaboration between PEIBUA and Baseball PEI, particularly in enforcing non-confrontation policies and strengthening officiating structures.

Our focus remains on:

- Prioritizing development over competition at the "A" level, in alignment with LTAD principles.
- Strengthening grassroots coaching competencies and support systems.
- Advancing our five-year Strategic Plan, emphasizing quality, inclusion, and sustainable growth.

At a time when federal sport budgets are shrinking, Baseball PEI continues to thrive, driven by our people, our culture, and our unwavering commitment to the game.

40 Enman Crescent
Charlottetown, PE
C1E 1E6



902-368-4203 [com](http://www.baseballpei.com)
www.baseballpei.com
baseball@sportpei.pe.ca

In Gratitude

There is always more to report, but much of that detail lies within our directors' reports. I will conclude by extending sincere gratitude to our Baseball PEI Board of Directors for their leadership, integrity, and tireless effort on behalf of our members.

The work at this level is not easy — the challenges are many, and the recognition is often scarce — yet this Board continues to demonstrate courage, fairness, and dedication to sound governance and member support.

I am very proud of what we have accomplished together, and I remain grateful for the opportunity to serve this organization, its membership, and the game we love.

Rhonda Pauls
Executive Director, Baseball PEI