



February Board Meeting Agenda

February 18, 2024

7:00 PM, Zoom

Our Mission: To provide the youth in the Spring Lake Park School District #16 attendance area the opportunity to learn and enjoy the game of fastpitch softball at a competitive level.

Our Focus: Teaching fastpitch softball fundamentals, promoting team play, improving individual skills and having fun in order to promote a life-long enjoyment of fastpitch softball.

Call To Order

1) Welcome & Role Call (Tanya)

Present	Board Member	Present	Board Member
X	Tanya Hartwell, President	X	Shelly Major, Player Development Director
X	Mike Raymond, Vice President	X	Rich DiVito, Website & IT Director
X	Josh Good, Treasurer		OPEN, Brand & Marketing Director
X	Stacy Nugent, Secretary	X	Kristi Cobbs, Community Liaison & Fundraising Director
X	Amy Bennett, League & Team Schedule Director	X	Zac Humphrey, Director at Large
X	Derek Roe, Program Director	X	Carlo Faccini, Director at Large
X	Sarah Gatlin, Panther Classic Tournament Director		OPEN, Director at Large

**Board Quorum for Approval Decisions: 50% of filled roles required*

Additional Attendees: Welcome Brad Hunt and Sarah Jordahl!

2) Approval of February Agenda (Tanya)

Any additions?

Motion to approve as is.

Motion: Rich

Second: Mike

Vote: Unanimous Approval

3) Review and Approval of January & February Ad Hoc Meeting Minutes (Tanya)

Any updates/revisions?

Motion to approve as is.

Motion: Rich

Second: Kristi

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Financial Updates

1) Treasurer's Report (Josh)

Treasurer's Report

- February Financials update

- Venmo Business Account – Updates?

Discussion Notes:

- Notable uptick in revenue due to spring season registrations
- Expect an uptick in expenses next month due to tournament registrations completed in the last few weeks
- Still working through set-up for the Venmo account and needed to open a verified PayPal charity account as a part of that process. More updates to come next month.

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Josh** to continue working through Venmo account set up and provide update during March meeting

Old Business

1) Fundraising Raffle Updates (Kristi)

Application was submitted to the Fridley City Council; expecting approval during their 2/12 or 2/26 meeting

Raffle Ticket Details: \$5 per ticket; 20 tickets (\$100) per family required

Proposed Prize Format: \$2,650 total in prizes

- 1st Place: \$1000
- 2nd Place: \$700
- 3rd Place: \$500
- 4th Place: Bat (\$350 Value)
- 5th Place: 100

Implementation Costs:

- \$100 Application Fee (do we need if under \$5000 in prizing?)
- 8.5% Revenue Tax
- \$70 Ticket Printing

Estimated Revenue: \$4,850+

Discussion Notes:

- We have not received approval from the City Council yet however are expecting it during their 2/26 meeting and do not anticipate issues
- Still considering if we offer a Bat vs. a cash prize as sizing can be personal for the athlete
- Aligned that we will keep it simple for now with the prizing under the \$5000 mark so we don't have to apply for a license and pay that fee; may reconsider for future pending how it goes for families
- Aligned that we will ask for the \$100 from families up front; if a family is not in a financial position to do this we will discuss the potential of special accommodations on a case by case basis
- Proposed having Board liaison distribute tickets and collect cash when they meet with their teams
- Any additional tickets will be available to sell during the Panther Classic
- Winners will be drawn at the conclusion of the Panther Classic Tournament

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Kristi** to follow up with City of Fridley on application approval
- **Kristi** to order raffle tickets; collaborate with **Josh** and needed for payment
- **Tanya/Kristi** to draft up communication to families with the details

2) Panther Classic Tournament & Volunteer Updates (Sarah/Stacy/Amy)

Ongoing tournament tracking document/to-do list can be found [HERE](#).

Registration Status

We have never been so full this early! Hooray!

- 8U: (2) Spots Remaining
- 10U: Full
- 12U: Full

Logistics

Umpires?

Port A Poty?

Concessions

Nautical Bowls confirmed

Other updates?

Awards

Medals have been ordered; we're good to go!

Berths?

Volunteer Commitments

We have roughly 47 families available to volunteer based on current registration numbers; we're expecting 2-3.5 hour shifts pending the role (ie. Concessions 2 hours vs. Field Raking 3.5 hours)

Notes- Proof of Medal was approved. Nautical bowls confirmed. Jimmy Johns ½ sandwiches at \$2.16 (sell for \$5), in lots of 12.

Discussion Notes:

- Aligned on offering JJs sandwiches as an additional option for the afternoon
- We'll also scope Chick Filet breakfast sandwiches for the AM and the potential of getting some Kwik Trip doughnuts donated
- Need to finalize details with the city for the porta pottys
- Umpires have been secured with the exception of 8U. HS athletes helped with 8U umpire needs last year however there may be scheduling conflicts this year though so need to scope viability of them returning.
- Aligned on volunteer commitment needs as outlined above

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Sarah** to reach out to the city regarding ordering 2-3 porta pottys
- **Sarah** to look into any costs to secure and distribute Berths
- **Rich** to set up DIBS for volunteer hours
- **Amy** to explore JJ for tryouts and look into Chick filet breakfast

3) Spring Practice, Clinics & Invitational Tournament Scheduling Updates (Amy, Shelly & TBC Program Director)

2024 Practice & Clinic Schedules

- Updated WIP Practice schedule attached; HS field space confirmation is pending (Thanks Amy!)
 - If weather/outdoor space permits – can we cancel our indoor space?
- Spring Pitching/Catching/Hitting Clinics (Shelly to coordinate in collaboration with Amy)
 - Do we want to continue to offer these separately or try to weave them into existing schedules?

- Timing wise, ideally earlier in the season (April – early May) to provide additional trainings before games/tournaments start; especially if we’re considering scheduling weekend days
- We have the following budgeted for these assuming a 6-week clinic:
 - \$780 Pitching
 - \$600 Catching
 - \$600 Hitting
- Coaches Clinic/Training (TBC Program Director to coordinate)
 - Amanda attended a MN Twins Coaching Workshop and is willing to share the learnings with our SLPSA Coaches group
 - Do we want to try and set something up with the HS Coaches again? Did the coaches find that valuable last year? We currently have \$250 budgeted for this.

WIP Invitational Tournament Schedules

Tournaments filled up FAST; especially with the increased number available for easy registration on MN Softball. Need to consider even earlier planning for next year. After consulting with identified coaches, here is what we have planned thus far; we can explore adjustments if needed once outstanding coaches are named.

8U

- 5/11 Panther Classic (All teams)
- 6/7 - 6/9 Cottage Grove Pride in the Pack (All teams)
- July TBC Soderville League Tournament (All teams)

10U

- 5/11 Panther Classic (All teams)
- 5/18 – 5/19 Orioles Opener St. Louis Park (B1 team)
- 6/2 – 6/4 Rookies St. Paul (B1 team)
- 5/17-5/18 Centennial Lakes (B2 & C teams)
- 6/7 - 6/9 Cottage Grove Pride in the Pack (B2 & C teams)

12U

- 5/11 Panther Classic (All teams)
- 5/18 – 5/19 Orioles Opener St. Louis Park (B team)
- 6/7 – 6/9 Wayzata Warmup (B team)
- 5/31 – 6/2 Cardinal Classic (C team)
- 6/7 - 6/9 Mendota Heights Masher (C team)

14U & 14U/16U Hybrid

- 6/2 – 6/4 Rookies St. Paul (All teams)
- 6/14 – 6/16 Andover A Town Showdown (14U & 14U/16U Hybrid team)
- 6/28- 6/30 Woodbury Battle Royal (14U/16U Hybrid team)
- (1) TBC (14U)

Discussion Notes:

- Tournaments filled up quickly; need to start even earlier next yet and get alignment with coaches in January
- Coaches really appreciated the ability to provide feedback early on regarding scheduling
- Working on documenting tournament registration process so future board members have for reference in transition
- Alignment that we’d like to move forward with getting the clinics scheduled as outlined above; earlier in the season the better

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Shelly/Amy/Zac** to coordinate with Chris on coaches clinic for early April
- **Shelly/Amy/Zac** to coordinate with Amanda on a share out session with coaches for the MN Twins clinic she attended
- **Shelly/Amy** to start identifying coaches and building out schedule for early season pitching, hitting and catching clinics

New Business

1) Board Role Transition Discussion & Vote (Tanya)

As some of you may know, Derek's daughter has decided not to play softball this season. As such, February will be his last board meeting. He has graciously agreed to help through tryouts and with any transition needs. Thank you Derek for all you've done for SLPSA!

Zac has offered to transition from an At Large role to the Program Director role. If any others are interested in this role – please let me know! Otherwise – would propose voting Zach into the Program Director role.

Motion to vote Zac into the Program Director role.

Motion: Stacy

Second: Mike

Vote: Unanimous Approval

2) 2024 Season Coach Salary Discussion & Vote (Tanya/Derek)

Discuss and vote on proposed coach salaries for 2024 season.

- Head Coach Salary:
 - For those with athletes on the team, propose we continue offering full registration refund including tank jersey costs; tank jersey cost would be new this year (~\$210 additional cost)
 - Amanda Presinger: Propose \$1000 as a first season head coach for 14U
- Assistant Coach Salary:
 - Natalie Nusbaum: Propose \$500; flat to LY

Motion to approve as proposed.

Motion: Rich

Second: Mike

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Derek/Zac** to communicate approval to coaches

3) Parent Meeting Debrief & Registration Updates (Tanya)

Discuss anything of note/feedback we're hearing coming out of the 2/5 Parent Info Meeting.

A few more registrations have trickled in; current registration numbers are as follows:

- **8U | 17 athletes** (2 new registrations; registration will continue to stay open)
 - Blue Team: 8
 - Red Team: 9
 - Neva Gust, Caylin Tokle and Lachlyn Mickelson requested to be placed together for carpool
 - Charlotte Hunt and Emma Ghelf requested to be placed together for carpool
 - Jamie requested for Kaiya to be placed on Steve's team
- **10U | 35 athletes** (1 new registration)
 - Blue Team (B Level – B1 for internal purposes): 11 players
 - Red Team (B Level – B2 for internal purposes): 12 players
 - White Team (C Level): 12 players
 - Taylor Higgins requested to be evaluated during the 14U/16U group on 3/2 due to conflicts
 - Isabella Garcia will not be able to participate in tryouts due to surgery she is due to have; she is expected to be recovered in time for practices at the end of March
- **12U | 23 athletes** (1 new registration)
 - Blue Team (B Level): 11 players
 - Red Team (C Level): 12 players
- **14U/16U | 19 athletes** (registration will continue to stay open)
 - 14U Team (B Level): 9 players
 - 14/16U Team (A Level): 10 players

Discussion Notes:

- Since 8U doesn't participate in tryouts, could keep registration for 8U could go through March/early April. Just need enough time to get jerseys before games start in May.

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **All** continue recruiting 8U and 14U players

4) Pre-Evaluation Practices & Tryouts Logistics Discussion (Mike/Derek)

Discuss outstanding logistics

Discussion Notes:

- Will need Board members to participate both in the gym and at the check in table; please follow-up with Derek on availability so he can finalize the coverage calendar
- Still need to connect with Chris to discuss logistics for the day; have a good framework though based on previous years
- Discussed how we can identify pitchers/catchers for team selection process; we will add to check in form as a starting point
- We also may need to identify a 12U athlete to move up to 14U for team balancing; should add that question to check in form as well

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Derek/Mike** to schedule time with Chris to walk through logistics for evaluation days
- **Rich** to update check-in documents per the above

5) Equipment Evaluation Discussion (Amy/TBC Program Director)

Equipment Rental/Inventory/Go-Forward Plan

Discussion Notes:

- In dire need of catchers gear; much of it is in disrepair or outdated
- Many helmets are not dated; typically have a 2 year lifespan
- Discussed the need for labeling equipment and creating an inventory to catalog and plan for replacement needs
- Discussed that going forward, any fees for equipment rentals (\$25) are kept vs. returned so that we can use those dollars to reinvest in new equipment as needed

Motion to approve \$600 to be spent on new equipment needs with the bulk going towards catching gear

Motion: Mike

Second: Rich

Vote: Unanimous approval

Next Steps (if any)/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Zac** to follow up on equipment needs and purchase new catcher's gear/other equipment
- **Zac** to propose a solution for how we catalog and plan for future equipment needs going forward

6) Summer League Games Field Maintenance Discussion (Amy/Mike)

Awaiting a response from John Angel re: some questions we had on next steps here.

Discussion Notes:

- Confirmed that SLP staff can take this on for \$50 per game night; this cost is flat to what we had been previously paying Jen's father for this service
- Aligned that centralizing this makes sense and will move forward with this approach for future

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Amy/Mike** to let John know we're good to move forward with this approach
- **Josh** to update the budget accordingly

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Closing Notes/Reminders:

- MN Softball Directors Meeting: Rescheduled for 2/19; will send recap after
- Team registrations due to MN Softball by April 1st. Checks to be sent to the state office or brought to the Coach/Schedule Meeting.
- **Next Board Meeting: March 24thth via Zoom**

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Josh

Second: Mike

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Potential Future Agenda Topics:

- Cub Fundraiser Bagging Schedule/Family Signups
- Rookies Program Updates
- Panther Pride Program
- INSPORTS Session Updates
- Team Liasson Assignments
- Team Pictures Scheduling
- Mission/Future Vision for SLPSA – we're trying to serve the needs of both ends of the spectrum (club feel vs competitive community team feel) which is making decision making/prioritizing hard. I would also like us to discuss and align on our financial goals.
- 4/25 Youth Night (Kristi)
- TBD Try Softball Event (Kristi)

Appendix A | 2024 Board Meetings

Day	Date	Location
Sunday	January 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Thursday	February 2, 2024 (Ad Hoc)	Zoom
Sunday	February 18, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	March 24, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	April 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	May 19, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	June 23, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	July 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	August 18, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	September 22, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	October 20, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	November 17, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	December 15, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD

Appendix B | Important Dates

Event	Dates	Location
SLPSA Summer Season Registration	1/2-1/31	
MN Softball Director Meeting	1/22 (2/19 reschedule)	7:00 PM Medina Entertainment Center
Summer Parent Meeting	2/5	7:00 PM via ZOOM
Tryouts	3/2 – 3/3	Westwood Middle School
Summer Team Selections Communicated	3/4	
Teams Registered with Big West	4/1	
SLPHS Season Starts	3/11	
SLPHS Tryouts	3/18 – 3/22	
Big West Coach Schedule Meeting	TBD	Medina Entertainment Center 10U/12U @ 6:00PM 14U @ 8:00PM
8U League Meeting	TBD	
SLPHS Youth Night	4/25	University of Northwestern
Try Softball Event	TBD	
SLPSA Picture Day	TBD	
Big West Summer League Games (10U & 12U)	4/29 – 6/20	
Panther Classic Tournament (8U/10U/12U)	5/11	Fridley Community Fields
Big West Summer League Games (14U)	5/21 – 7/9	
MN Softball Metro HS League Games (16U+)	6/3 – 7/10	
SLP Tower Days Parade	6/6	Spring Lake Park
10U & 12U State Qualifier	6/22 – 6/23	
SLPSA Fall Season Registration	6/24 – 7/19	
10U & 12U State Tournament	6/29 – 6/30	
Fall Team Selections Communicated	7/22	
14U & 16U State Qualifier	7/13 – 7/14	
NAFA Nationals 10U & 12U	7/18 – 7/21	10U Cottage Grove 12U Eagan & Mendota Heights
14U & 16U State Tournament	7/20 – 7/21	
USA Softball Nationals	TBD	
Monsta Championships 10U	7/25 – 7/28	
NAFA Nationals 14U & 16U	7/25 – 7/28	14U Prior Lake & Lakeville

