



November Board Meeting Agenda

November 17th, 2024

7:00 PM, Zoom

Our Mission: To offer a community-based fastpitch softball program that allows opportunities for all Spring Lake Park female athletes to learn and enjoy fastpitch softball.

Our Vision: Provide a fastpitch softball program that teaches fastpitch softball fundamentals in a fun and supportive learning environment by promoting team play, providing individual skill development opportunities (physical & mental), and developing competitive teams regardless of age or level of play.

Call To Order

1) Welcome & Role Call (Tanya)

Present	Board Member	Present	Board Member
X	Tanya Hartwell, President	X	Carlo Faccini, Player Development Director
ABS	Mike Raymond, Vice President	X	Rich DiVito, Website & IT Director
X	Josh Glood, Treasurer	X	Brad Hunt, Brand & Marketing Director
Resigned	Stacy Nugent, Secretary	X	Kristi Cobbs, Community Liaison & Fundraising Director
X	Amy Bennett, League & Team Schedule Director	X	Sarah Jordahl, Director at Large
X	Zac Humphrey, Program Director		OPEN, 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: Tom Doran and Bree Minor

2) Review & Approval of November Agenda (Tanya)

Any additions?

Motion to approve as is

Motion: Rich

Second: Brad

Vote: All Approved

3) Review & Approval of October Meeting Minutes (Tanya)

Any updates/revisions?

Motion to approve as is

Motion: Sarah J

Second: Sarah G

Vote: All Approved

Financial Updates

1) Treasurer's Report (Josh)

- o November Financials Update
- o 2025 Budget Recommendation Review

Discussion Notes:

- o Reviewed 2025 proposed budget; it is indented as a framework to start from and we'll vote on line item actuals and any adjustments as needed throughout the year
- o Main drivers in revenue projections being lower is due to a \$5K donation from the Lions to support Panther Pride and \$2K in revenue from the Optimize camp last year.
- o Notable changes in expenses being driven by increased costs for coaches to implement skills trainings within practices, decreases in some costs that were over estimated last year, and increased costs to filed space at Airport/Lakeside to host early season games.
- o The addition of early season games will also increase umpire costs; discussed increasing the umpire budget to \$4000

Motion to approve budget with the adjustment of the umpire budget to \$4000

Motion: Sarah G

Second: Kristi

Vote: All Approved

Old Business

Incorporated below so that we can keep all of the spring season topics together.

New Business

1) Panther Classic Location & Entry Fee Discussion & Vote (Sarah G)

The City of Fridley has notified us that Community Park Fields will be available on May 10th for the Panther Classic however field 4 will be under construction as it is transitioning to a baseball field. Additionally, this is likely the last year we will have access to fields 5 & 6 for our 8U games as they are converting them to soccer fields. Sarah G. will bring some potential scenarios for us to discuss.

Please note - we have already had 4 teams reach out to inquire so we should also discuss and align on registration fees for this season. Last year, 8U registration was \$150 and 10U/12U \$350.

Discussion Notes:

- o Discussed various scenarios including a one hour earlier start time and potentially leveraging fields 5/6 for 10U if needed; would need to confirm with the City that those fields are viable for that
- o Also discussed staggard start times throughout the morning (vs. 8U/10U starting at the same time)
- o Discussed if we need to relook at game time limits to ensure we're able to accommodate
- o We increased registration fees last year; they are still feeling good compared with other tournaments who have similar offerings
- o Need to consider the new OMGAA tournament being added for 10U the same weekend as ours

Motion to approve keeping Panther Classic Registration fees flat to last year - \$150 8U and \$350 10U/12U

Motion: Sarah G

Second: Josh

Vote: All Approved

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- o Sarah G to get our tournament posted on MN Softball as soon as possible
- o Sarah G to prep the following for discussion at our December meeting
 - o Draft brackets
 - o Tournament To-Do list

2) Spring Season Registration & Pre-Evaluation Updates (Tanya)

Registration opened 11/4; not exactly coming in hot, but some are starting to trickle in. Most have opted to participate in the raffle for fundraising (vs. the buyout).

Total Registrations: 9

- o 8U: 3
- o 10U: 4
- o 12U: 2
- o 14U: 0
- o 16U/HS: 0

Pre-Evaluation Location/Dates

The large gym at WW is not available the week leading up to evaluations for the pre-evaluation practices. There was lots of feedback last year about the challenges with the little gyms as WW. That said - the Saturday before (2/22) is available. I know another weekend day isn't ideal for our multi-sport athletes, so let's discuss pros/cons and align on how we want to proceed.

Discussion Notes:

- o Small gyms really were a struggle last year and ideally we're replicating the evaluation experience as close as possible
- o No 8U this year, would just be offering for 10U - 16U/HS group
- o Need to account for set-up time, as well as 2 hour blocks for each age group so we can include the pitcher/catcher showcase
- o We also discussed Marketing opportunities to spur registrations including flyers with the elementary levels and getting the signs put out
- o Also discussed team levels based on the anticipated number of teams and aligned on:
 - o (1) 8U C
 - o (2) 10U B/C
 - o (3) 12U B/C/C
 - o (1) 14U B

- (1) 16U/HS Open

Motion to approve moving the pre-evaluation practices to the afternoon (space permitting) of 2/23

Motion: Sarah

Second: Brad

Vote: All Approved

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Amy** to move forward with reserving the gym space for 2/23
- **Rich** to get placeholder teams set up in MN Softball
- **Rich/Kristi** to put out signs
- **Brad** to work on flyers for schools

3) Spring Season Coach Identification Updates (Zac)

Discuss the below updates related to spring season coaches

8U

- Brian Swanson (application received)
- Tom Doran (TBD - potential new coach)

10U

- Connor Stolz (TBD)
- Derek Ruff (TBD)
- Kristina Hunt (TBD - potential new coach)
- Amy Bennett (willing to coach 10U C if needed)

12U

- Mike Jeziorski (TBD)
- Anna Nagle/Karen Higgins (TBD)
- Ashley Assaf (TBD)
- Jackie Oliver (potential new coach; need to discuss age group with her)

14U

- Jer Johnson (confirmed - awaiting application)
- Ashlyn Peterson and Kiley Alguire (requested 14U)

16U/HS

- Aaron Mortenson (application received)

Discussion Notes:

- General consensus is that some parent coaches are worried that throwing their hat in the ring early may impact team placements; working to reassure them that it won't and that we're just trying to identify potential coaches for each age group at this point

- o Ideally we're able to vote them in, in December so they have the opportunity to weigh in on tournaments, practice plans etc...

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- o **Zac** to continue communicating with potential coaches

4) Spring Evaluations Skills Assessment Discussion (Mike/Zac)

Discuss initial recommendations for adjustments to the skills assessed during evaluations

Discussion Notes:

- o More discussion needed by the committee for this project; revisit in December meeting

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- o **Mike** and **Zac** to prepare side by side comparison of proposed changes
- o **Mike** and **Zac** to share proposed changes with Chris Bangle and Rich for initial feedback prior to the December board meeting

5) Athlete Evaluation Performance Scorecards (Mike/Zac/Carlo/Rich)

Discuss initial recommendations for how we might approach providing athletes with evaluation performance details/feedback including the potential implementation of athlete evaluation performance scorecards

Discussion Notes:

- o More discussion needed by the committee for this project; revisit in December meeting

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- o **Mike/Zac/Carlo/Rich** to discuss and prepare a recommendation for December board meeting

6) Summer Skills Training Approach Discussion (Amy/Carlo/Mike)

Review a framework for how we could integrate skills trainings into our regular schedule

Discussion Notes:

- o More discussion needed by the committee for this project; revisit in December meeting

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- o **Amy/Mike/Carlo** to discuss and prepare a recommendation for December board meeting

7) Panther Foundation Silent Auction Donation Vote (Tanya)

The SLP Panther Foundation's Panthers for a Purpose Event is coming up on Feb 22nd and they are looking for silent action items. Our Rocker Chairs and Yeti Cup donations did VERY well last year going for nearly twice their value. Propose we repeat up to a \$200 donation to put towards silent auction items again this year.

Motion to approve up to a \$200 donation to put towards the Panther Foundation silent auction

Motion: Rich

Second: Amy

Vote: All Approve

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- o **Tanya** to procure silent auction items and deliver to the DSC

8) 2025 Board Meeting Calendar Review (Tanya)

Please see below for proposed 2025 Board Meeting dates; let's discuss if any adjustments need to be made

- o January 26th
- o February 23rd
- o March 23rd
- o April 27th
- o May 18th
- o June 22nd (may move to following week pending when Qualifiers/State land)
- o July 27th
- o August 17th
- o September 21st
- o October 19th
- o November 16th
- o December 14th

Discussion Notes:

- o Nothing notable; will use these dates as placeholders for now and adjust if needed

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- o **Tanya** to add to the SLPSA google calendar
- o **Rich** to add to the website

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Closing Notes/Reminders:

- Next Board Meeting: December 15th; shall we meet in person??
- [Strategic Plan Workstreams](#); reminder that initiative leaders are responsible for facilitating next steps with committee members and bringing updates back to the broader Board

Motion: Rich
Second: Kristi
Vote: All Approved

Potential Future Agenda Topics:

- Spring Spiritwear Store (Dec Meeting)
- Raffle Fundraiser Ticket Sales Incentive (Dec Meeting)
- Game Changer Use for all teams
- Field Maintenance (Ongoing + Game Prep)
- Future Financial Planning Discussion
- Revisit Board Roles & Responsibilities
- Coach Certification Tracking
- Panther Classic 2025 Planning/Alternative Panther Classic Sites

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	Zoom
Sunday	April 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Gatlin Residence
Sunday	May 20, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	July 1, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	July 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	August 18, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	September 22, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	October 20, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	November 17, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	December 15, 2024 @ 7:00pm	In Person (TBD)

Appendix B | Important Dates - 2025 Dates TBD

Event	Dates	Location
SLPSA Summer Season Registration	11/4/2024 - 1/31/2025	
MN Softball Director Meeting	1/14	7:00 PM Medina Entertainment Center
Summer Parent Meeting	2/3	7:00 PM via ZOOM
Summer Team Evaluations	3/1 – 3/2	Westwood Middle School
Summer Team Selections Communicated	3/3	
Teams Registered with Big West	4/1	
SLPHS Season Starts	3/11	

SLPHS Tryouts	3/18 – 3/22	
Big West Coach Schedule Meeting	4/8	Medina Entertainment Center 10U/12U @ 6:00PM 14U @ 8:00PM
SLP HS Softball Youth Night	5/12	University of Northwestern
SLPSA Picture Day	5/17	SLP HS Fields
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	7/17 – 7/20	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/18U	7/24 – 7/27	14U Prior Lake & Lakeville 16U Champlin Park & Coon Rapids 18U Eden Prairie & Chaska
Monsta Championships 12U/14U/16U	8/1 – 8/4	Mounds View
Club Softball Evaluations can begin	8/5	
MN Softball Fall Ball Meeting	9/6	Medina Entertainment Center
Fall Ball Weekend #1	8/24 – 8/25	
Fall Ball Weekend #2	9/7 – 9/8	
Fall Ball Weekend #3	9/14 – 9/15	
Fall Ball Weekend #4	9/21 – 9/22	
Fall Ball State Tournament	9/28 – 9/29	
Fall Roundtable Event	9/30	
MN Softball Year-End Directors Meeting	11/6 (11/13 reschedule)	Medina Entertainment Center

Appendix C – Board of Directors Roles

Name	Current Role	SLPSA Board Appointment Date	Current Role Appointment Date	Role Expiration (2 year term for Officers)
Tanya Hartwell	President*	August 2022	July 2023	July 2025
Mike Raymond	Vice President*	November 2023	December 2023	December 2025
Open	Secretary*			
Josh Glood	Treasurer*	September 2023	December 2023	December 2025
Amy Bennett	League & Team Schedule Director	September 2023	September 2023	-
Zac Humphrey	Program Director	December 2023	February 2023	-
Sarah Gatlin	Panther Classic Tournament Director	December 2023	December 2023	Intending to roll off July 2025
Carlo Faccini	Player Development Director	October 2023	September 2024	-

Rich DiVito	Website & IT Director	August 2022	October 2022	Intending to roll off July 2025
Brad Hunt	Brand & Marketing Director	April 2024	April 2024	-
Kristi Cobbs	Community Liaison & Fundraising Director	September 2023	September 2023	-
Sarah Jordahl	Director At Large	April 2024	April 2024	-
Open	Director At Large			
Open	Director At Large			

****Officer roles have 2 year term limits per SLPSA bylaws***