



Board Meeting Agenda

November 12, 2023

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 | - | Shelly Major , Player Development Director |
| - | Jeff Baskin , Vice President | X | Rich DiVito , Website & IT Director |
| X | Jen Rhoads , Treasurer | - | Jodi Coleman , Brand & Marketing Director |
| X | Stacy Nugent , Secretary | X | Kristi Cobbs , Community Liaison & Fundraising Director |
| X | Amy Bennett , League & Team Schedule Director | X | Josh Glood , Director at Large/Treasurer in Training |
| X | Derek Roe , Program Director | X | Carlo Faccini , Director at Large |
| X | Dan Berendes , Panther Classic Tournament Director | OPEN | Director at Large |

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

Additional Attendees: Mike Raymond, Sarah Gatlin, Zac Humphrey

2) Approval of November Agenda (Tanya)

Any additions?

No additions; motion to approve as is

Motion: Jen

Second: Rich

Vote: Unanimous Approval

3) Review and Approval of October Minutes (Tanya)

Any updates/revisions?

Correct Jen's Last name on minutes 😊; motion to approve

Motion: Jen

Second: Rich

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Financial Updates

1) **Treasurer's Report & 2024 Budget Discussion and Vote** (Jen/Tanya)

Treasurer's Report

Updates regarding monthly financials

Discussion Notes:

- All bills are up to date; 3 outstanding checks to be cashed
- Transition has begun with Josh; they will visit bank prior to next meeting

Updated 2024 Budget Review and Vote

Discussion Notes:

- Intent of budget is that it is a guidance and regular check ins will occur to ensure we're staying on track and the proposed expenditures still make sense
- Propose vote to approve the updated 2024 Budget with a future conversation to come around Fundraising opportunities to offset the current deficit

Motion: Stacy

Second: Jen

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Old Business

1) **Holiday Spiritwear Store** (Jodi)

- Link has been shared via email and social
- Open until 11/19 for ordering to receive in time for Christmas
- \$4 from every item will be donated back to SLPSA

Discussion Notes: No notable additions

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **(Tanya)** Send follow up email on 11/16 with last call reminder
- **(Jodi)** Post reminder to FB on 11/16 and help with distribution of any will call orders

2) **10U Winter Dome League Update & Vote** (Shelly)

Need to discuss and vote how we'd like to move forward given the below.

- Timing: Sunday mornings 1/14 – 2/24
- Where: Blaine Dome
- Program Cost: \$1050; now increased to \$1650 due to facilities cost increases
- Per Athlete Fee: \$120; now increased to \$170 per the increased program cost
- Need 10 athletes to field a team; currently at 8 interested athletes + 3 from Blaine
- Still need a coach; could consider asking Natalie Leet or Natalie Nusbaum but would need to pay them which isn't currently accounted for in the budget.

Discussion Notes:

- Unsure of firm deadline to commit to a team; need to confirm with Shelly
- Need to confirm with Shelly that follow-up communication has happened with those who have volunteered regarding the updates around cost and Blaine participants
- Amy and Zac offered to coach if needed

NO VOTE Occurred**Next Steps/Board Lead:**

- **(Shelly)** Reach out to families to communicate updates; circle back with board if further support is needed; gave families deadline to commit of 11/15

New Business**1) Board Member Position Votes** (Tanya)**New Board Member Vote:** Mike Raymond

Propose we vote Mike into the open At Large role on the Board

Motion: Jen

Second: Rich

Vote: Unanimous Approval**December Meeting Votes:**

- New Members: Sarah Gatlin & Zac Humphrey
- Open Roles: Vice President (TBD), Treasurer (Josh Glood) and Brand & Marketing Director (TBD)

Thank you to Jeff, Jen and Jodi for your years of service on the SLPSA Board!

Discussion Notes:

Shelly will be leaving after the summer season and Dan Berendes will also be rolling off but will stay with transition plan and help with 2024 tournament.

Next Steps/Board Leads:

- **(Tanya)** Investigate backfills for open Board roles in advance of Dec meeting

2) Winter Pitching & Catching Clinics Discussion and Vote (Shelly – Tanya to cover in her absence)

Working to finalize details but would like to discuss and vote on budget in the meantime so we can get communication out to families

- Timing: 6 weeks; first week in January – first week in February
- Location: Park Terrace Elementary
- Program Costs:
 - Pitching Coach: Lori George - \$780
 - Catching Coach: TBD; likely one of the previous HS girls - \$300
 - Facilities Rental: TBD awaiting confirmation of space rental - ~\$300
- Proposed Fee: \$75 per athlete

Discussion Notes

- Confirmed no overlap with Optimize clinics (ends in Dec) and this opportunity
- Suggestion to begin to posting minimums in addition to maximums to ensure we're covering the investment for trainings
- Weds or Thursdays evenings proposed due to coach availability
- Follow up with Shelly to determine who Catching coaches with availability
- Zac's sister Ashely could also be an option for Catcher coach
- Proposed to approve the budget portion for Pitching & Catching clinics; will revisit cost for catching if needed pending available coaches

Motion: Stacy

Second: Mike

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing (if approved):

- **(Shelly)** Communicate approval with Lori and secure catching coach
- **(Rich)** Get registration set up in SportsEngine
- **(Kristi)** Follow up with John A. to finalize space at Park Terrace
- **(Tanya/Jodi)** Get communication out to families once application is live

3) Rookies Program Discussion & Vote (Shelly – Tanya to cover in her absence)

Sam & Amber reached out to Shelly proposing bringing back the Rookies Program focused on 4-5 year old athletes. They also offered to facilitate it.

- Program Costs:
 - Coaching: Sam and Amber will donate their time
 - Facilities: TBC; likely SLP HS Fields if scheduling allows
 - T-Shirt Jersey: ~\$18 per athlete
- Timing: April – June
- Format: TBD; X times for X hours per week
- Proposed Fee: \$40 per athlete

Discussion Points:

- Ensure we have a suggestion to build in a leadership succession plan for when Sam & Amber's player ages out of the program
- Will revisit next month when we have more detail from potential partnership with St. Anthony on this program

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **(Shelly)** Continue scoping; will revisit during December board meeting

3) SLP High School Score Board Discussion and Vote (Tanya)

Updates from Will are as follows:

- They are now planning to make the South Field the new HS Field and will be installing the new scoreboard there vs. moving the existing one over
- Total Project Cost: \$80,000 for both Softball and Baseball
 - Will has asks out to SLP HS Softball & Baseball Boosters as well as SLP Traveling Baseball
- \$5000 ask that can be paid in a lump some or over the course of 5 years

- The topic of using the Gator as an in-kind donation has come up but will need to see if that's a viable solution knowing they are looking for cash to help fund
- It was also brought to my attention that the HS does have its own Gator (I think there was an impression they had been exclusively using ours)
- 6-month lead time for installation once ordered
- Confirmed with Will as well as Chris that regardless of when the new scoreboards go in, there should be no problem with us using the existing one for league games going forward
- As a reminder, we had previously approved a \$1000 donation which is reflected in our current budget

If we need more information and are not ready to vote at this time, we can discuss pushing to a future date.

Discussion Points:

- Concerns regarding making such a financial commitment above our original commitment of \$1000 when there are other projects such as Westwood Middle School fields that are priorities for us
- Would consider supporting additional fundraising opportunities in partnership with Softball/Baseball Boosters and SLP Traveling Baseball
- No vote needed as the \$1000 contribution in calendar year 2024 was already approved and there was not a motion to increase/modify original vote

Next Steps/Board Lead(s):

- **(Tanya)** Circle back with Will to inform that we did not approve increase in funding (complete)

4) Summer Season Details Discussion & Votes (Tanya)

Team Structure & Levels

- Anticipated Team Offerings
 - Rookies (if approved at a future date)
 - 8U (2 teams)
 - 10U (3 teams)
 - 12U (2 teams)
 - 14U (1 team)
 - 14/16U (1 team)
- Endeavoring to field an A level team at 10U, 12U & 14/16U but will adjust accordingly based on parent and coach feedback during the registration process

Discussion Notes:

- Will need an amendment to bylaws/handbook to account for athlete selection process for hybrid 14U/16U team
- Mixed feedback on whether or not to pursue A/B/C Level play. Will include a box for parents to opt in/out to A level of play within registration and agreed we'd revisit the topic if need be pending parent feedback.
- In the meantime, we'll err on planning for higher levels of play

Registration Logistics

- Overall Timing: Jan 2nd – Jan 31st
 - Early Bird Pricing: Jan 2nd – Jan 23rd (3 weeks)
 - Jan 24th – Jan 31st (Final Week)
- Early Bird Pricing would reflect the “base” regular season fees as agreed upon below
- Final Week Pricing would be “base” + \$25 for 10U and above and + \$10 for 8U

Coach Identification Updates

- Logistics:
 - Application is now live with an 11/30 due date
 - Held a roundtable discussion on 11/9 for input/feedback on 2024 season
 - Coach Selection Committee (Derek, Rich, Tanya) to conduct interviews and present recommendations at January Board Meeting
- Expected Coach Candidates
 - 8U: Steve Kleppen*
 - 10U:
 - Jamie Larson (Fall 10U Blue)
 - Connor Stolz (Spring & Fall 10U Red)
 - Zac Humphrey (new)
 - Amanda Preisinger (new – previous coach with SLP HS program)
 - 12U:
 - Anthony Vertalino (Spring & Fall 12U Blue)
 - Mike Jezorski (Fall 10U Red)
 - Jer Johnson (Spring 12U Red & Fall 14U Blue)
 - Amanda Preisinger (new – previous coach with SLP HS program)
 - 14U: None identified to-date
 - 16U/HS
 - Joe* & Natalie Nusbaum (Spring 14U Blue & Fall 16U Blue)

**Official Application Received*

Proposed 2024 Fee Adjustments Discussion & Vote

- Rookies : \$40 - New for 2024 (assuming it's approved above)
- 8U : \$50 - No Change
- 10U/12U/14U/16U : \$50 increase per athlete (overall \$10 net increase YOY)
 - \$10 to cover increases in costs for umpires, league fees, facility space and tournament fees
 - \$40 towards jersey cost (flat to LY) which will now be procured by SLPSA

| 2023 | | | Proposed 2024 | | |
|---------|-------|--|---------------|-------|--|
| Rookies | - | - | Rookies | \$40 | T-shirt top included No additional uniform elements required |
| 8U | \$50 | T-shirt top included No additional uniform elements required | 8U | \$50 | T-shirt top included No additional uniform elements required |
| 10U | \$450 | T-shirt top included All required uniform elements purchased separately (\$40 jersey, pants, belt, socks) | 10U | \$500 | T-shirt & jersey tops included Other required uniform items purchased separately (pants, belt, socks) |
| 12U | \$450 | T-shirt top included All required uniform elements purchased separately (\$40 jersey, pants, belt, socks) | 12U | \$500 | T-shirt & jersey tops included Other required uniform items purchased separately (pants, belt, socks) |
| 14U/16U | \$525 | T-shirt top included All required uniform elements purchased separately (\$40 jersey, pants, belt, socks) | 14U/16U | \$575 | T-shirt & jersey tops included Other required uniform items purchased separately (pants, belt, socks) |

Motion: Carlo

Second: Josh

Vote: Unanimous Vote

Note Jodi sent email to board after meeting expressing concern for increasing costs for the older ages and that we should also be increasing costs for 8U to \$65 - \$75 to be more in line with other programs

Notable Outstanding Items

- Update website with Spring Season info
- Discuss evaluation process/approach
 - Secure Evaluators/Evaluators Fees: \$2000 Current Budget Need to discuss with Chris (LY cost HS Coaches \$825 each + SLPHS Athletes \$550)
 - Team Genius (LY cost: \$750)
 - What refinements do we want to make to the process?
- Discuss procurement of (borrowed or purchased) nets/safety fence for hitting velocity exercise
- Secure space with SLP Community Ed for pre-tryout practices ((1) 1.5 hour practice per age group week of 2/26; includes 8U even though they don't participate in evals)
- Spring Uniforms
- Secure Parent Meeting Date for early February
- Parent communication with full-season info
- Potential reversible uniforms

Next Steps/Board Lead(s):

- **(Rich)** Confirmed we can modify pricing via SE within the application to account for early bird pricing
- **(Rich)** Update website with spring season information and get draft application started
- **(Tanya)** Scope uniform options
- **(Derek)** Follow up with Steve to see what level he intends to register his daughter for

5) Westwood Field Space Update (Kristi/Tanya)

Meeting with Shane Givens on 11/9 to discuss updated estimates for Westwood Softball Field restoration. Will plan to provide updates on that conversations so we can align on how we'd like to proceed.

Discussion Notes:

- Costs for fields were higher than expected; ~ \$60K per field
- The school district can likely cover a portion of the costs; awaiting direction from Shane around how much they can fund vs. what we'd be asked to support
- Mike and Krisi are looking at additional options for sourcing fencing
- HOM furniture could be a potential sponsor but need to fully understand sponsorship rules/signage

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **(Kristi/Mike)** Scope additional leads around fencing and materials
- **(Tanya)** Reach out to HOM Furniture contact Zac provided
- **(Tanya)** Get fencing dimensions and sponsorship rules from Shane for signage

6) Mental Health Training Opportunities Discussion (Sarah)

We've been exploring the potential of offering some training around mental health skill development athletes coming out of feedback received during the Rountable event. If we have time – would love to discuss some options and get the group's POV on where we'd like to focus. If time doesn't allow, we'll push to December.

Discussion Notes:

- General agreement that this is a topic that is of interest in exploring support for
- Concern over costs of programs when we have other funding priorities (ie. Fields, equipment, scoreboard)
- Leaning towards easing in with opportunities vs. a full on program out of the gate; could be a joint training session with athletes, parents, coaches to learn about tips/tricks

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **(Sarah)** Continue to scope what an introductory offering could look like for discussion in December meeting

Wrap Up and Adjourn

- Reminder: Next Meeting: December 10th at 7:00 PM
 - Do we want to find a place to do this one in person?
- Need to develop 2024 Board Meeting Calendar

Motion: Jen

Second: Kristi

Vote: None opposed

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **(Stacy)** Develop 2024 Board Meeting Calendar Draft for December Meeting
- **(All)** Aligned on in-person for Dec meeting – scope potential locations
- **(Tanya)** December Meeting Invite

Potential November/Future Agenda Topics:

- Panther Classic Tournament Kick-off
- Updated Handbook & Bylaws Document
- Winter Try Softball Event (last year was in Feb)
- Spring SLP HS Youth Night 4/25
- Rental Equipment (Inventory and Go-Forward Plan)
- Field Space Assessment
- Spring Field Maintenance

Appendix A | 2023 Board Meetings

| Day | Date | Location |
|----------|---|----------------------|
| Sunday | January 22, 2023 @ 7:30pm | TBD |
| Sunday | February 19, 2023 @ 7:30pm | TBD |
| Sunday | March 5, 2023 @ 7:00pm | TBD |
| Monday | March 6, 2023 @ 7:00pm (Parent Meeting) | ZOOM |
| Sat/Sun | March 25 & 26, 2023 @ TBD (Evaluations) | NSC Expo Center |
| Monday | March 27, 2023 @ 7:00pm (Team Selection) | TBD |
| Saturday | All Teams must be registered on the BigWest Website | N/A |
| Monday | April 10, 2023 (Big West Schedule Meeting) – 10U/12U @ 6pm & 14U/HS @ 8pm | Medina Entertainment |
| Sunday | April 16, 2023 @ 7:30pm | TBD |
| Sunday | May 7, 2023 @ 9:00pm | TBD |
| Sunday | June 11, 2023 @ 8:00pm | TBD |
| Sunday | July 16, 2023 @ 8:00pm | TBD |
| Sunday | August 2, 2023 @ 7:00pm | Zoom |
| Sunday | September 10, 2023 @ 7:30pm | TBD |
| Sunday | October 15, 2023 @ 7:30pm | TBD |
| Sunday | November 12, 2023 @ 7:00pm | TBD |
| Sunday | December 10, 2023 @ 7:00pm | TBD |

Appendix B | Important Dates

| Event | Dates | Location |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Big West Director Meeting | 1/23/2023 | Medina Entertainment Center |
| Big West Coach Schedule Meeting | 4/10/2023 | Medina Entertainment Center |
| 8U League Meeting | 4/13/2023 | Maxx Bar and Grill |
| 10U & 12U State Qualifier | 6/24/23-6/25/23 | TBD |
| 10U & 12U State Tournament | 7/8/23 – 7/9/23 | TBD |
| 14U & 16U State Qualifier | 7/15/23 – 7/16/23 | TBD |
| Monsta Championships 10U | 7/20/23-7/23/23 | TBD |
| NAFA Nationals 10U & 12U | 7/20/23-7/23/23 | Cottage Grove & Eagan |
| 14U & 16U State Tournament | 7/22/23 – 7/23/23 | TBD |
| USA Softball Nationals | TBD | TBD |
| NAFA Nationals 14U & 16U | 7/27/23-7/30/23 | Prior Lake/Lakeville & Coon Rapids |
| Club Evaluations can begin | 7/31/23 | TBD |
| Monsta Championships 12U/14U | 8/3/23 – 8/6/23 | Mounds View |
| Fall Ball Meeting | 8/9/2023 | Medina Entertainment Center |
| Fall Ball Weekend #1 | 8/19/23 – 8/20/23 | TBD |
| Fall Ball Weekend #2 | 8/26/23 – 8/27/23 | TBD |
| Fall Ball Weekend #3 | 9/9/23 – 9/10/23 | TBD |
| Fall Ball Weekend #4 | 9/16/23 – 9/17/23 | TBD |
| Fall Ball State Tournament | 9/23/23 – 9/24/23 | TBD |
| Year End Directors Meeting | 10/25/23 | Medina Entertainment Center |

