



March Board Meeting Agenda

March 23rd, 2025

7:00 PM, Virtual

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
X	Mike Raymond , Vice President	X	Rich DiVito , Website & IT Director
X	Josh Glood , Treasurer	X	Brad Hunt , Brand & Marketing Director
	OPEN , Secretary	X	Kristi Cobbs , Community Liaison & Fundraising Director
ABS	Amy Bennett , League & Team Schedule Director	X	Sarah Jordahl , Director at Large
X	Zac Humphrey , Program Director	X	Bree Minor , Director at Large
X	Sarah Gatlin , Panther Classic Tournament Director	X	Tom Doran , Director at Large

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

Additional Attendees: TBD

2) Review & Approval of March Agenda (Tanya)

Any additions?

Motion: Josh
Second: Kristi
Vote: All Approved

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

Any updates/revisions?

Motion: Sarah
Second: Kristi
Vote: All Approved

Financial Updates

1) Treasurer’s Report (Josh)

- March Financials Review
- Discussion Notes:**
- Overall financially healthy; seeing an uptick from last year due to a sponsorship Donation from Disney and earlier collection of raffle ticket funds
 - Checks for all tournaments except Cardinal Classic have gone out
 - Have most tournament registration checks for Panther Classic have come in

Old Business

1) Panther Classic Discussion (Sarah G)

Check-in on timely updates regarding the Panther Classic Tournament

- [Current Registrations](#) Review - Officially FULL!
 - 8U: 6/6 (1 SLP team)
 - 10U: 8/8 (3 SLP teams)
 - 12U: 8/8 (3 SLP teams)
- Review [To-Do List](#)
- Discuss volunteer numbers/approach to shift schedule and request from SK
- The Braid Dugout

Discussion Notes:

- (1) 8U team had to bow out so we're on the hunt for a replacement
- T-shirt vendor has been contacted; still awaiting a design proof
- Nautical Bowls and Jimmy John's sandwiches are lined up for concessions
- Revise rules to make games 65 minutes with the exception of championship games
- Need to revise concession shifts to be slightly longer to accommodate overall volunteer numbers
- Mike E was approached about UIC before Mike R. realized Bill L had offered. Discussed having Sarah/Mike share the situation with Bill and offer him a position along with Mike E

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Sarah** to get revised rules posted
- **Sarah** to get food license request submitted
- **Mike** to follow-up with t-shirt vendor
- **Sarah/Mike** to finalize umpires

New Business

1) Evaluations Debrief (Tanya)

Holding time to discuss any feedback/adjustments we want to consider for next year. A few we've already discussed include:

- Putting more rigor/explicit direction in our parent handbook around what happens if athletes can't attend due to various reasons
- Reconsider evaluation dates (ie. having one weekend day and one week day for evaluations, days in the Fall/Spring etc.)

Discussion Notes:

- Continue to look for ways to find consistency with how high school tryouts are run
- Ask all evaluators to come early on day one to physically walk through all of the drills
- Is there a way to include a scrimmage component? Would be hard in a gym but perhaps we could look into the dome or other turf facility (pending costs)
- Consider alternative independent evaluators (ie. Optimize staff)
- Agreed on the above notes; if we did a Fall evaluation would need to ensure it's the same as the spring as we'd look to average scores like we do now
- Are we able to find a location that allows us to use a pitching machine

2) Outstanding Spring Season Logistics (Mike/Zac/Amy)

Discuss updates on outstanding items

- Coaches Meeting Materials & Updates
- [Coach Background Check/Required Training tracking](#)
- Practice and Tournament Schedules
- League Night Games Field Prep
- League Night Games Umpires
- Game Changer Next Steps

Discussion Notes:

- Coaches meeting scheduled for 3/28; asked to have all compliance items done by first week April
- Coach manual has been completed; will be very helpful particularly for our newer coaches
- Aligned that we'd continue to use Community Ed for field prep; need to be clear on expectations to avoid issues from last year
- Discussed it being helpful to add Board Liaisons to teams in SE
- GameChanger training is in the works; coaches need to confirm they're planning to use before we invest in it for their teams
- 7 families haven't picked up raffle tickets; please connect them with Kristi if you hear from them
- Identify a more streamlined way to collect jersey size information when we're in year 2 of the jersey cycle

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Rich** to add Board Liaisons to teams in SE
- **Zac** to facilitate GameChanger training
- **Mike** to facilitate field maintenance needs with CommEd

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

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

Discussion Notes:

- Opportunity with Abby at Optimize for a joint training with Coaches and athletes to
- Feel that it would benefit our newer coaches to get some training/direction on drills and would be a good way to invest in our less experienced athletes
- Cost: \$300 per hour; initially looking at 4 (1) hour sessions but Abby advised that (2) 2 hour sessions might better
- Would do it for the Red and White teams for 10s and 12s and need to be able to schedule in the next few weeks
- Need feedback from coaches on Blue teams about what specialized training they would like
- Need to figure out how we supplement/replace pitching, catching and hitting trainings from last year within existing practices

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Mike** to work with Abby on getting outstanding questions answered
- **Zac** to communicate with coaches presuming Abby can accommodate the timing requested
- **Carlo** to follow up on additional training opportunities

4) Rookies Update (Brad)

Sam reached out with interest about resurfacing the Rookies program. Discuss and review details from Brad's conversation with her.

- Sam wants to do more of a clinic-style of program, rather than teaching the mechanics of hitting, fielding, sliding, etc.
- The goal is to give kids who have never played softball the opportunity to learn how to play softball specifically (rather than tee ball).
- Less focus on playing games, and more focus on keeping the kids moving and playing, with the infusion of softball into that adaptive play along the way
- 1 hour broken out into a series of 10-15 minute activities
- Amber Hegland would also be there (her partner)
- Would like to start the second week of June and go through July, ideally. Maybe a 7-8 weeks commitment, possibly twice a week starting after 5:00 PM.
- Prefer the high school fields since their equipment is already there, but would be open to Airport or wherever they can get space.
- Demographic would ideally be incoming kindergarteners, and the cutoff would be girls that were ready to age into 8U.
- They discussed about maybe there being potential to pair their program onto the 8U practice times, and they could practice in the outfield. The win could be to have parents (on both sides) see the progress being made with the Rookies program, as well as Rookies parents seeing how 8U practices are run so we can secure their interest early.
- Outstanding items to discuss:
 - How much would we charge?
 - Is she looking to offer t-shirts?
 - What days of the week would there be space be available for this?

This is a separate topic, but should also ask Sam about her intent for Panther Pride this year.

Discussion Notes:

- Generally aligned that we should give this a try if Sam is willing to run it
- Cost should be inexpensive as possible; \$15 - \$20 to cover the cost of shirts

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Brad** to follow up with Sam on next steps
- **Brad** to coordinate with **Amy** on requested timing/secure field space
- **Brad** to ask Sam about Panther Pride
- **Rich** to help get a registration set up
- **Bree** to post on Social once registration is open

5) Community Event Updates & Next Steps (Kristi)

- **5/12** SLP HS Softball Youth Night at UNW
- **5/28** SLP Youth Activities & Athletics Expo at SLP High School (**NEW!**)
- **6/5** Tower Days Parade
- **Fall TBD** SLP Homecoming Tailgate

Discussion Notes:

- Need to connect with Chris to better understand the flow for Youth Night
- The A&A Expo is a great (free!) opportunity for exposure; should get Fall registration open before that to drive registrations

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Kristi** to get follow up with Chris regarding youth night logistics
- **Kristi** to get us signed up for the SLP Youth Athletics & Activities Expo
- **Brad/Bree** to start drafting communication elements for all of the above

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Closing Notes/Reminders:

- Next Board Meeting: April 27th at 7:00 PM
- [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: Kristi**Second:** Bree**Vote:** All Approved*Potential Future Agenda Topics:*

- Board Member Recruitment and Succession Planning
 - President and Treasurer Roles are required for us to maintain our 501 C3 status
- Future Financial Planning Discussion
- Revisit Board Roles & Responsibilities

Appendix A | 2025 Board Meetings

Day	Date	Location
Sunday	January 26 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	February 23 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	March 23 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	April 27 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	May 18 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	June 22 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	July 27 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	August 17 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	September 21 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	October 19 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	November 16 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	December 14 @ 7:00pm	TBD

Appendix B | Important Dates - 2025 Dates

Items in black are confirmed; red is still outstanding

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
MN Softball 8U Directors Meeting	2/10	7:00 PM Medina Entertainment Center
Summer Team Evaluations	3/1 – 3/2	Westwood Middle School
Summer Team Selections Communicated	3/3	
SLP HS Softball Tryouts	3/17 – 3/21	
Big West Registration Deadline	4/7	
Big West Coach Schedule Meeting	4/8	Medina Entertainment Center 10U/12U @ 6:00PM 14U @ 8:00PM
SLPSA Picture Day	4/29 & 5/9	SLP HS Fields
Big West Summer League Games (10U & 12U)	4/28 – 6/19	
8U League Games	4/30 - 6/21	
Panther Classic Tournament (8U/10U/12U)	5/10	Fridley Community Fields
SLP HS Softball Youth Night	5/12	University of Northwestern
Big West Summer League Games (14U)	5/20 – 7/8	
SLP Youth Activities and Athletics Expo	5/28	SLP High School
MN Softball Metro HS League Games (16U+)	6/2 – 7/9	
SLP Tower Days Parade	6/5	Spring Lake Park

8U State Tournament	6/28 – 6/29	
10U & 12U State Qualifier	6/28 – 6/29	
SLPSA Fall Season Registration	6/24 – 7/19	
10U & 12U State Tournament	7/12 – 7/13	
NAFA Nationals 10U & 12U	7/17 – 7/20	10U Cottage Grove 12U Eagan & Mendota Heights
14U & 16U State Qualifier	7/19 – 7/20	
Fall Team Selections Communicated	7/22	
Monsta Championships 10U	7/24 – 7/27	
NAFA Nationals 14U/16U/18U	7/24 – 7/27	14U Prior Lake & Lakeville 16U Champlin Park & Coon Rapids 18U Eden Prairie & Chaska
14U/16U/HS State Tournament	7/26 – 7/27	
Monsta Championships 12U/14U/16U	7/31 – 8/3	Mounds View
Club Softball Evaluations can begin	8/4	
MN Softball Fall Ball Meeting	8/12	Medina Entertainment Center
Fall Ball Weekend #1	8/23 – 8/24	
Fall Ball Weekend #2	9/6 – 9/7	
Fall Ball Weekend #3	9/13 – 9/14	
Fall Ball Weekend #4	9/20– 9/21	
Fall Ball State Tournament	9/27 – 9/28	
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	-
Bree Minor	Director At Large	December 2024	December 2024	-
Tom Doran	Director At Large	January 2025	January 2025	-

*Officer roles have 2 year term limits per SLPSA bylaws