



West Valley Slammers
Board of Directors Meeting
Sept. 9, 2024

Meeting Minutes

I. Roll Call

Nikki Pirotta (President), Lindsey Kouvaris (Secretary), Holly Carwana, Ben Skinner, Joe Rogove, Mat Sims, Brandon Rosato, Angela Heredia, Lisa Fukuyama, Jenny Rempel, Brandon Studley, Sarah Mudgett, Cat D'Aulerio, Dan Fukuyama, Steve Eggers, JR Sandoval (via proxy to Mat Sims), Marcy Sandoval (via proxy to Mat Sims), Megan Wikramanayake (via proxy vote to Lindsey Kouvaris), Jason Griggs (via proxy vote to Joe Rogove), Michelena Goddard (via proxy to Jenny Rempel), Carrie Moreno (via proxy to Dan Fukuyama)

II. Confirmation of Quorum and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 p.m.

III. Public Comment Time (2 min. per comment)

No members of the public were present.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- A. A motion was made to approve the minutes from Aug. 26, 2024. The motion was seconded and approved.
19 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain

V. Cause for Applause

- A. Thanks to Marcy and JR for holding down the fort during our Fall Ball opening weekend. The Snack Shack had a successful first weekend.
- B. Thank you to Jason for having fields ready and for responding quickly about parking at the church.
- C. Shout out to Cat for getting uniforms distributed quickly.

VI. Financial Report

- A. Signatories on the bank account are squared away.
- B. A payment request form has been created to centralize payables and reimbursement requests. The form will help create better work flow, transparency, and tracking of expenditures.
- C. Summer and fall coaches have been notified that they can use the payment request form to seek reimbursement for expenses incurred.

- D. Coaches have also received notice that they can submit for their promised coach registration reimbursements.
- E. It is time to begin our annual budget planning with the goal of sharing a draft at the October Board meeting.
 - 1. Board members were asked to review last year's expenses in their areas and to let Nikki and Ben know if they anticipate changes for the coming fiscal year. Our fiscal year runs Oct. 1 - Sept. 30.
- F. A tax extension for 2023 needs to be filed.
- G. Our Bylaws specify that several board members need to be bonded. We will discuss whether this is necessary and make adjustments, as needed, during our discussion of Bylaws revisions.

VII. Field Director, Operations & Safety Director, and Equipment Chairperson

- A. According to the calendar guideline in the Bylaws the Field Director, Operations & Safety Director, and Equipment Chairperson should be performing inventories at this time of year.
 - 1. JR has already completed an inventory and has ordered needed equipment.
 - 2. Jason has also reviewed and ordered the materials he needs.
 - 3. Angela will inventory first aid kits and ice packs. Supplies will be ordered as needed.
- B. We will be adding field maintenance days (dates TBD) to the SignUp Genius for volunteers.

VIII. Fall Ball Underway

- A. The schedule is 99% complete. We are waiting on information for two games.
- B. There was some confusion about parking at the church over the weekend. Nikki will send another email to the league to clarify that there is absolutely no parking at the church on Sundays. Sarah will create a sign to post at the church parking lot entrance.
- C. The Curtner lot remains closed on weekdays and so far families seem to be abiding by the rule.
- D. Fall Stars payments were handled differently this year than last year. Every player registered for a base fee in Sports Engine. Additional fees were collected via Venmo since each team owed a different amount based on tournament registrations and left over funds from summer.

IX. Continue Discussion and Review of Constitution, Bylaws, and Playing Rules

The following elements of the Bylaws were addressed as noted below. In all cases, the exact language agreed upon by the board is recorded in the working draft of the Bylaws document. Unless otherwise noted all revisions were approved through the process of unanimous consent.

- 1. **Article V-A.3** - The Board decided to remove language requiring electronically approved motions to be ratified at each board meeting. However, they agreed it should become our practice to list electronically approved motions in the Board

meeting minutes for more transparent record keeping. The motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

21 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions

2. **Article VII:** The board agreed that language should be added to specify that A-Classified teams must use the official Slammers name and colors. Currently, several All Stars/A teams have created their own logos. The Board discussed whether all A/B/C teams should be required to use an official, approved Slammers logo. They agreed that a unified logo can build the brand, create a stronger sense of community, build connections, and foster pride in the league. The board discussed what changes would need to be made, how it would affect uniforms going forward (especially for families who are more financially impacted), when the change would take effect, how we would “police” the change, etc.

A motion to add language requiring all A/B/C teams to use official, approved Slammers logos was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

21 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions

3. **1.2.1** - The process for counting election ballots has changed now that the league uses an electronic system. Language was updated to reflect current practice.
4. **1.2.2** - Language was added to prohibit more than one member from the same household from serving on the Exec Board at the same time.
5. **1.2.3** - A discussion began regarding the definition of “League Officer.” The board agreed to table the discussion until there was more clarity around the purpose/value/necessity of having a designated league officer.

Lisa left the meeting early. She assigned her proxy to Dan Fukuyama.

6. **1.2.5** - The definition of Board Qualifier was updated to reflect the same language as agreed upon on Aug. 26 for Article IV-D.
7. **1.7** - Phrasing was adjusted to clarify actions taken for a member who is not in good standing.
8. **1.8.1** and **1.8.2** - These sections were adjusted to be consistent with Article VII of the Constitution.
9. **2.6 Umpires** - Brandon Rosato explained what it means to be a USA Softball-registered umpire for both minors and adults. He also explained what being USA Softball-certified means. The Board discussed the viability of using USA Softball-registered umpires for all 10U and up games. Language was added to specify that USA Softball-registered umpires should be used for 10U and up when available.
10. **2.10** - Minor adjustments were made to the calendar guideline to reflect current practice.
11. **2.10** - The issue of bonding was raised in conjunction with a calendar listing for “Apply for bonding and D&O insurance.” It was determined that bonding is not

needed and the decision was made to remove all references to bonding in the Constitution and Bylaws.

12. **3.3.1** and **3.3.2** - Language was updated to provide clarity and consistency with other elements of the Bylaws.
13. **3.4.3** - Language regarding play up and play down requests was modified to point readers to the Playing Rules, where the procedure is clearly outlined.
14. **3.6.6** - Language was updated to ensure practices end before dark.
15. **5.1** - The Board agreed that players will be required to wear a helmet, not just a face mask, when warming up a pitcher.
16. **5.4** - The Board discussed how appropriate clothing should be defined and the text was modified accordingly.
17. **7.4** - The Board agreed to leave open the possibility of a developmental or “light” All Stars team in the summer. The phrasing was modified slightly to reflect the board’s intention.
18. **7.6-1** - All Stars teams will carry 12-14 players. The clause regarding coach’s discretion was removed.
19. **7.10** - The divisional player agent will join the Chief Player Agent and President as a tiebreaker to determine if a player may re-join a team after quitting.
20. **8.0** - The Board agreed to table discussion of Select and A-Classified teams until USA Softball has updated their rules for the 2025 season. The motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously.
21 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions
21. **League Policy 7** - Payment for umpires will require only a simple majority vote, not $\frac{2}{3}$ majority.
22. **League Policy 8** - This section was modified to give more flexibility for paying approved, budgeted expenditures (i.e., uniforms and tournament fees) without seeking Board approval.
23. **League Policy 14** - The Board agreed to add a clause that prevents dogs from being on Bagby campus, per school district policy.
24. **Position descriptions** - Positions descriptions were reviewed and edited for accuracy and consistency (where applicable).

X. Next Meeting: Monday, Oct. 7, 2024

- A. The proposed revisions to the Bylaws will be posted online by Wednesday, Sept. 12. The Board will meet again via Zoom on Wednesday, Sept. 25 (time TBD) to ratify the changes.
- B. The meeting adjourned at 10:39 p.m.

Items Approved Via Email

Full Board Approvals

- \$2,270.01 - Fall Ball uniforms
- \$1,030.49 - Fall Ball socks
- \$2,907 - USA Softball Fall Ball registration (players, coaches)
- \$2,474.97 - balls, catcher’s gear, tees

Exec Board Approvals

- \$821.15 - Fall Stars uniforms
- Scholarship application - 12U player

Upcoming Dates

Oct. 7	Board meeting, 7 p.m.
Oct. 19-20	Alexis Briski Tournament (using Bagby fields)
Oct. 27	Fall games end
Nov. 4	Board meeting, 7 p.m