

**Attendance:** Terry Olson, Corryn Anderson, Nate Greene, Julie Cooley, Matt Herrmann, Sean DeCent, Stephanie Walschlaeger, Eric Potthoff, JJ Wilkins (virtual)

Guests: Joe and Stephanie Schmidt, Eric Sorensen, Kara Kocon, Joe Jensen and Marcus Perry

**Absences:** Stephanie Walschlaeger (1st 1/14, 2nd 2/18), Julie Cooley (1st 2/18), Nate Greene (1st 3/10), Eric Potthoff (1st 6/9)

1. Meeting **CALLED to ORDER** at 7:11 PM
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from Annual Meeting October 10, 2023  
*Motion to approve by Nate. Seconded by Randy. Motion passes.*
3. **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **President's Report**

Thank you to the Board members for their hard work, we wouldn't be here without you. Jade did an awesome job at concessions. Terry appreciates Corryn's work for requesting donations for field improvements, and acquired \$6,500. Corryn and baseball committee members had the baseball cages installed. She also did an enormous amount of work to get our concession stands up and running again. Our participant numbers were up slightly from the previous year, and the concern is now that we are running out of field space and the city has no intention to build more fields.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Registration 5 year trend data was shared. SBAA Statement of Activity with January-October 2024 data was shared, as well as anticipated SBAA revenue at end of 2024  
Financial Reports attached

#### **4. PUBLIC FORUM –**

Marcus Perry had a question about the difference between Soderville and Moose. Also inquired about keeping the girls together at the 10U level when they move up from 8U. The tryout process was explained.

Steph Schmidt had a question about the number of players on the 12U teams. There are 11 on 12UB, 11 on 12UB and 12 on 12UC.

#### **Baseball Report**

- For the 2024 season, Soderville Baseball had 436 kids registered in 6U to 19U. That is an increase of 9% (400 players in 2023). We had 35 teams, which is 3 teams more than 2023 and 5 teams more than 2022.
- We did not have any Tournament Teams last year for the first time since we started Tournament Teams. As the season went on, there was a lot of discussion about wanting to play more baseball amongst some teams and we have told them that Tournament Team is the way to accomplish that.

We are hoping to be able to field teams next season as it's a great opportunity for those players who want to play some more baseball.

- We had a lot of weather issues early in the season, but the fields at Ham Lake City Park held up well. The Richmond family (Pete, Denise, and Michael) did a wonderful job on the fields like usual. We purchased more clay and conditioner for City #3 and Soderville Field than we had in the past and I think it was worth it as the mounds were kept up nicely.
- Umpiring this year seemed to be really good. There were a few issues early on in the season with no umps, which is unfortunate, but somewhat expected every year. I heard wonderful feedback from the coaches about a lot of the umpires this year in Soderville. The biggest disappointment in umpires was when our teams played outside our organization. There were a number of instances I was informed about subpar officiating from other assigners so kudos to GT Officials.
- We hosted our share of tournaments this year. This year the City of Ham Lake made the decision to charge SBAA for field usage on the weekends. There was a fee of \$500 per facility per weekend. This put a big hit on our revenue that we make on tournaments. Our Soderville/Ham Lake Classic featured 32 teams at 3 different age levels. We had some major rainfall the day leading up to the tournament and even though we tried our best to make the fourplex at Lions Park playable, we had to move the 12U portion of our tournament up to Booster Park. The 10U stayed at Lions Park and they played on fields #5 and #6. There was a ton of work put into this tournament, but we pulled it off. With the fees imposed by the City of Ham Lake, we decided to move the 6U In-House Tournament back a couple weeks and had it the same weekend as the 8U Tournament. By all accounts, everyone at 6U was happy with the extended season. However, this was the weekend where we were shut down with selling concessions which was definitely a damper. After originally not being granted the opportunity to host the 13A/13Rec All-Star Series the first week in August, MYAS came to us later and asked us to take it on. We obliged and this is a fun tournament for those kids, especially the Soderville kids who got to participate in it. The MYAS State Rec Tournament was the second weekend in August. With the tournament being later than it ever has been, I believe this was the main reason numbers for this tournament were really down. We used to host just the 13 Rec portion of this tournament and would have 24-30 teams. With numbers being down across the board for this tournament, MYAS asked us to host the 13U, 12U, and the 10U State Rec Tournament. There is good reason to believe MYAS is very happy with how we host tournaments, that they are asking us to host more weekend tournaments in 2025. A shout out to all of the Baseball Committee members, Corryn Anderson, the Richmonds, Jade Bryant, and all who helped make our tournaments a success this year.
- Our teams had a great run in the MYAS State Rec Tournaments. At 13U, it was a battle of 2 Soderville teams for the Championship and Eric Laumeier's team defeated Ryan Aamot's team 12-9. Although we didn't win championships at the other age levels, Soderville represented us in each Championship Game. At 10U, 12U, and 14/15U the teams took home hardware for 2nd and 3rd place at each division. I truly believe we have the best recreational baseball program around.
- At the conclusion of the season, we were able to get the batting cages constructed at Ham Lake City Park. Money from the 2023 Hit-A-Thon was used to help purchase and install the cages. A big thank you to Tony and Cyndi Cain, along with Tina Neilsen for heading up the start to make the cages a reality. And also thanks to Jesse Sawyer with Custom Design Concrete and Eric Vickaryous for helping with surveying, along with Ryan Aamot and all the Committee Members anwho took the time to help out with this project. It took a while, but now they are up and we are excited to use them!

In conclusion, we had a successful season and are already preparing for 2025 and looking forward to Spring!

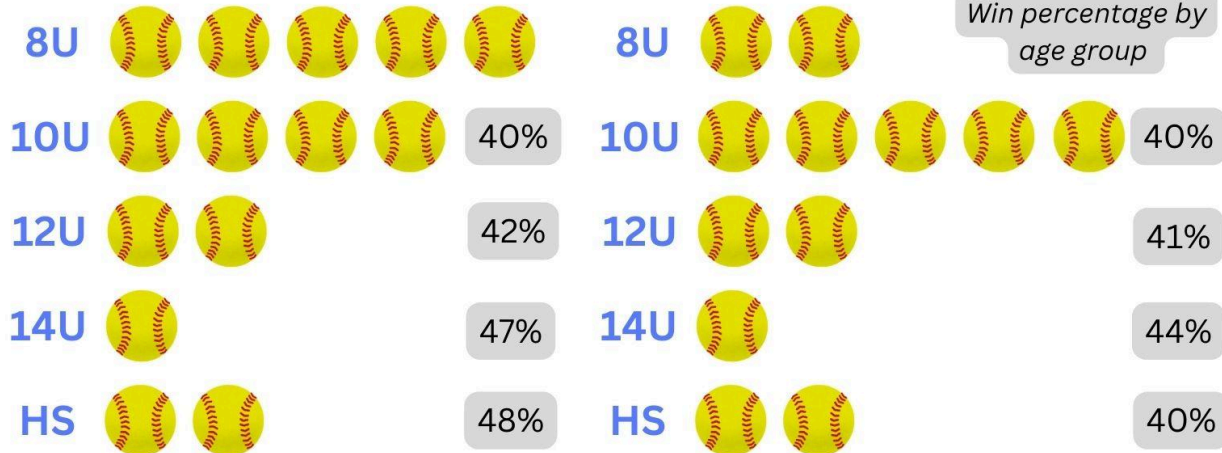
## Fastpitch Report

# Soderville Fastpitch 2024 Annual Report

## Summer Teams

## Fall Teams

Win percentage by age group



### Nationals Appearances:

- 10U A Sparre - Monsta
- 10U B Cooley - NAFA
- 10U B Law - NAFA
- 12U B Dufrene - NAFA
- 12U C Herrmann - Monsta

### Notable Finishes:

- 10U Sparre - Monsta Platinum Bracket (13th Overall)
- 10U Law - NAFA 4th Place Bronze Division
- HS Wright - 1st Place Summer Qualifier
- 10U Law - Fall 2nd Place Tier 7
- 10 Wilkins - Fall 3rd Place Tier 1
- 12U Herrmann - Fall 4th Place Tier 7

### Winter Training

Hosted Friday evenings at Complete Game from January to April. 10U players utilized the Mini-Moose training program. Many players also took hitting and pitching lessons at Complete Game or other training facilities.

### Clinics Offered

- MN Moose & SBAA hosted Coaches Clinic
- Winter Beginning Pitching
- August Beginning Pitching
- Fall Coaches Kick Off

### Challenges

Field drainage and conditions with very wet spring/summer. Concessions shut down due to Dept. of Health.

### Changes in 2024

- Julie Cooley assumed the role of Fastpitch Director in July
- Matt Herrmann assumed the role of Fastpitch Assistant Director in October
- Julia Velner became the new uniform coordinator in October
- Tryouts were completed in-house and utilized Google Forms

### Looking Ahead

- Concession stand to receive a cosmetic makeover
- Lions Fields to be leveled by HL City

### **Townball Report**

Record was 4-12, Minnesota Baseball is trying to make the leagues more equal. They will stay at the C level. Sandlot leagues are hurting the town teams since they play two games on the weekend, as opposed to playing during the week and weekends.

### **Elect New Board Members**

There are 11 members and each serve 3 year terms, on a rotating basis.

Kara Kocon is newly elected to the Board. *Motion made by Matt, seconded by Sean. Motion passes.*

Joe Jensen is newly elected to the Board. *Motion made by Randy, seconded by Matt. Motion passes.*

Justin Wilkins and Stephanie Wallschlager are re-elected for their Board positions for another term.

*Motion made by Matt, seconded by Sean. Motion passes.*

### **5. NEXT MEETING & ADJOURN at 9:15 PM**

Regular Board Meeting immediately following this meeting. Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Location: Ham Lake Lanes