



West Valley Slammers Board of Directors Meeting
November 6, 2023

Attendees: Erin Skarbek, Holly Carwana, Tricia Johnston, David Ordonez, Brian Skarbek, Shannon Hoffman, Bobby Palacios, Jason Griggs, JR Sandoval, Marcy Sandoval, Jenny Rempel, Megan Wikramanayake, Lindsay Kouvaris, Michalena Goddard, Mat Sims, Steve Eggers, Joe Rogove, Laura Woolard

1. Confirmation of Quorum and call to order @ 7:06.
2. Approval of previous meeting minutes October 2, 2023.
 - a. David contested 6.c.ii; does not recall that being an option
 - b. Discussion:
 - i. Intention to record conversation of how attendees interpreted of draft rules
 - c. Motion to approve by Erin.
 - d. Seconded by Bobby.
 - e. Vote of 6; minutes not approved by majority.
3. Approval of previous meeting minutes October 16, 2023 minutes.
 - a. Motion to approve by Holly.
 - b. Seconded by Shannon.
 - c. Vote of 11; approved by majority.
4. Financial Report - October 2023
 - a. Tricia reviewed report on shared screen
 - b. No questions
5. Fall Ball Recap
 - a. Erin thanked the board; new members stepping into new roles (Uniforms, Player Agents, Volunteer
 - b. 8U and 10U end of season tournaments
 - c. 263 participants!
6. 2024 A Ball / Tournament Teams Update
 - a. Select committee conducted interviews, coaches selected
 - i. Mike Hilloerfer - 14U Saturday November 18, 2023
 - ii. Ryan Valtscheff - 12U Saturday November 11, 2023 and Wednesday November 15, 2023
 1. David contested language 8.8.4
 2. We don't have 2 select teams in 12U, there's a select and an a ball team
 3. We had to make decisions as a board when we did to allow us to open up rec registration
 4. Discussion tabled until Ken comes to meeting
7. 2024 Spring Select Teams Update

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- a. Select committee conducted interviews, coaches selected
 - i. Brian Skarbek 12U
 - ii. David Ordonez 10U
8. Spring Planning / Dates:
 - a. Registration Opened Nov. 1, 2023
 - b. Suggestion to find a time below, before opening day, when everyone will already be there to set up fingerprinting (e.g., eval day).
 - c. Team formation bylaws: player agents should read through these before the draft. Mat and Angela will switch player agent roles for the draft to reduce perceived conflict of interest since their daughters are in the respective age divisions.
 - d. Proposed Dates (subject to weather):
 - 12/31/23 Registration Closes
 - 1/4/24 &
 - 1/6/24 12 U Select Tryouts
 - 1/13/24 Free Coach Pitching Clinic
 - 1/15/24 Late Registration* Closes and Rec Coaches Finalized
 - *Anyone registering late will not be eligible for select
 - 1/20/24 Rec Evals: 10U, 12U, 14U
 - 6U & 8U Coaches Clinic
 - Coaches Meeting (all divisions)
 - 1/22/24 Draft for 10U, 12U, 14U
 - Teams formed for all divisions
 - 1/27/24 *Make Up Eval Day if rained out*
 - 1st day available to Practice
 - Pitching Clinic Week 1
 - 2/3/24 Practices should begin by today
 - Pitching Clinic Week 2
 - 2/10/24 Pitching Clinic Week 3
 - 2/17/22 Field Day ?
 - 2/24/24 Field Day ?
 - 3/2/24 Opening Day!
 - 3/24/24 Hit-A-Thon / Picture Day (?)
 - 4/6/24 All Star Coach Applications Due
 - 4/7/24 All Star Coach Interviews/ Coaches Selected
 - 4/8/24 -
 - 4/13/24 Spring Break - NO games (April 8-12 Cambrian School District Spring Break)
 - 4/27/24 All Star Tryouts
 - 5/4/24 Regular Season Ends (last 6U games)
 - 5/11/24 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U Playoffs / Championship Saturday

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5/?/24 Closing Ceremonies (?) - TBD

9. Publicity

- a. Yard Signs - cost for ~50 is \$600 (18 x 24)
 - i. Suggestion to add QR code
 - ii. Suggestion to remove "2024", try to reuse signs
 - iii. Lindsay and Bobby to work together to see if we can do a main registration page that can be updated each season
 - iv. Exec board approved \$600 expense
- b. Facebook Ads / Instagram Ads
 - i. Lindsay to look into it
- c. Flyers for Schools
 - i. Lindsay created list of schools, read at meeting, other suggestions taken
 - ii. Lindsay to look into proper channels for distribution, languages

10. Sponsorships: Michelena

- a. 4-5 people who have committed to sponsorship at \$900+ level
- b. Not a lot of feedback from email, but we still have time

11. Volunteers:

- a. Update from Fall: No single team from all of fall had 100%, did not charge then
- b. Changes to Spring:
 - i. Incentive for volunteering
 1. First team to 100%, prize (pizza party, snack shack voucher, softball equipment, e.g., bownet, wiffle balls, etc)
 - ii. Buyout is in bylaws and registration language - suggestion to make this option more public sooner rather than later
 - iii. We still need mechanism for buyout collection
 1. Bobby said if they select that on registration, it will collect up front
 - iv. Discussion of what qualifies for volunteering
 1. Discussion regarding assistant coaches, 1 dedicated/regular assistant coach eligible for meeting volunteer requirements.
 - a. Does not count if only occasional help at practice here and there.

12. Spring Uniforms:

- a. A Ball Teams: connected with Megan, working out uniforms
 - i. Proposal that they match select and all-stars
 - ii. Would like to use the same company
- b. Rec: ordered after draft
- c. Select: match A ball

13. Field Days: Jason

- a. Would like a day in December
- b. Shades on the dugouts
- c. Hang some banners on fences for registration
- d. Get batting cage sponsor - help with machines and balls
- e. Need to add dirt, move mounds that are crooked
- f. Need 3 total before the beginning of Spring

14. NorCal Select B Rules

- a. Ken from NorCal USA Softball

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- i. History of Select Program
 - 1. Looking to define rules better, as things have “gotten out of hand”
 - 2. Goal of B Select - keep stronger players involved in the league
 - 3. Still need to focus on rec program, while giving stronger players chance for tournaments
 - ii. Clarity on new rules and where the program is headed
 - 1. 2024 - encourage girls to play rec, but boards have flexibility to have select teams play tournament
 - 2. NorCal looking to make 4 USA softball tournaments available
 - 3. Need permission to play anyone not USA Softball
 - a. Penalty is not playing in NorCals, or possibly all USA tournaments
 - 4. Question: if there is a B Select Tournament team, is the first All Star team out of rec B or C
 - a. Answer: Things are shifting, but they should all be classified as B coming out for the first couple weeks
 - 5. Many other leagues are choosing hybrid, but several are still choosing tournament only teams, especially 12U and above
 - 6. If B Select in Spring, then cut for summer, cannot play B All Stars
 - 7. A rec league can sponsor an A team; they are separate from B Select
 - a. B Select - must play other B Select, can play A tournaments with permission, but if they do a lot and do well, they run the risk of being reclassified
15. Select Program Follow-Up Discussion
- a. Review of previously approved rules/select values
 - b. Current 10U B Select asking to be tournament-only
 - c. New rules/new information, asking for a revote
 - d. Two options for a select team
 - i. One that incorporates in rec
 - ii. One that plays tournaments only
 - e. Steps that would need to be taken in revote passes to allow 10U tournament-only B Select
 - i. Bobby would have to change registration
 - ii. New emails sent out explaining the change
 - iii. Select committee meet/interview coaches?
 - f. Joe makes a motion to allow 10 U B select team to be a tournament only; Mat seconds;
 - i. 8 votes yes, doesn't pass by majority
 - g. Lindsay makes alternate motion to change bylaws to create flexibility for this year to allow for B teams to decide if they will play tournament only or integrate at coach's discretion with the approval of the board for the 2024 season
 - i. 15 votes
 - ii. Lindsay to make suggestion to reword language
 - h. David voiced preference to play tournament only
 - i. Lindsay motions to approve

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- ii. Steve seconds
 - iii. 10 vote in favor, passes by majority
16. Next Meeting: December 4, 2023
17. Meeting adjourned @ 9:56 pm

Upcoming Dates

December 31, 2023 - Rec Registration Closes (late registration still open until teams filled)

January 8, 2023 - Board Meeting

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