



March Board Meeting Agenda + Minutes

March 24, 2024

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	X	Shelly Major, Player Development Director
X	Mike Raymond, Vice President	X	Rich DiVito, Website & IT Director
X	Josh Glood, Treasurer		OPEN, Brand & Marketing Director
X	Stacy Nugent, Secretary	X	Kristi Cobbs, Community Liaison & Fundraising Director
X	Amy Bennett, League & Team Schedule Director	X	Carlo Faccini, Director at Large
X	Zac Humphrey, Program Director		OPEN, Director at Large
ABS	Sarah Gatlin, Panther Classic Tournament Director		OPEN, Director at Large

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

Additional Attendees: Brad Hunt & Sarah Jordahl

2) Review & Approval of March Agenda (Tanya)

Any additions?

Motion to approve with the addition of Game Exchanges idea discussion

Motion: Kristi

Second: Rich

Vote: Unanimous

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

Any updates/revisions?

Motion to approve as is

Motion: Josh

Second: Zac

Vote: Unanimous

Financial Updates

1) Treasurer's Report (Josh)

Treasurer's Report

- March Financials update
 - February EOM Balance: \$37,118.95; hard to compare YOY due to shift in registration timing and earlier tournament registrations but feeling good against 2024 budget overall
 - All tournament fees have been mailed/paid (\$~\$1660 outstanding to be cashed)
 - Directors/Officers insurance renewal is paid
- Venmo Business Account – Complete! Connect with @SLPSA

Discussion Notes:

- We will have a better sense of where we are sitting overall come April due to YOY shifts in registration timing and tournament registrations; overall feeling good about where we are at though
- Roughly 50% of our athletes took advantage of the payment plan; the remaining is coming due May 1st

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- Brad and Josh to connect offline regarding whether or not additional financial visuals would be helpful to demonstrate budget pacing for the year

Old Business

1) Tryouts Debrief (Tanya)

Holding time for us to debrief on evaluations

- Key Learnings
- Parent Feedback
- Process Documentation
- Registration updates – have had a couple more 8U (21 total) & 1 more 16U (21 total) trickle in

Discussion Notes:

- Consider scheduling larger groups towards the end (ie. 10u) to help with flow & make adjustments
- Discussed concerns shared by a parent over board members in the same sessions at their athletes; verified we did not have board members of athletes in the room while their athlete's evaluations were happening so were not able to pinpoint where the concern/misunderstanding was coming from
- Will Westwood work for space again? Some feedback from older athletes about how the balls roll in the gym, but NSC would have same bouncing issues.
- Need more space for pre-tryouts; the smaller gyms made it hard to replicate what would happen during evaluations. Consider another location if we aren't able to get the big gym due to basketball.
- Discussed considering opening registrations prior to the holidays as we have the ability to split up payments up to 4 payments.
- If we have any additional players sign up, we'd need to move more quickly to submit additional jerseys.

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- A follow-up conversation is needed about evaluation timing for 2025 before we secure space; Tanya to add to a future agenda
- **Mike/Sarah** to finalize recap and documentation of tryout process from 2024 for future reference
- **Mike** to share jersey information with Twin Pines
- **Amy** to look into scheduling practice time for 14u prior to current schedule as we learned many are not participating in the High School program

2) Fundraising Updates (Kristi)

Updates and next steps on our various fundraising initiatives including:

- Raffle Tickets updates; ticket distribution and next steps
- Cub Bagging scheduling next steps
- Community Outreach/Sponsorships updates

Discussion Notes:

Raffles-

- Aim to get tickets to families prior April 11th; \$100 should be collected at the time of ticket distribution
- 20 tickets per family; Families can pay via cash, check or Venmo
- All tickets stubs should be submitted at the Panther Classic or make other arrangements.
- Families do have the option to opt out with the \$100 buyout per Anoka County gaming rules.
- 3000 tickets max can be sold.
- Distribution will come with a hand written sheet that will need to be submitted into the google sheet.
- The 16u & 14u families will need to distribute/collect tickets prior to their first practice; team liaisons should make arrangements accordingly

Bagging-

- There are still spots available for players and board members to fill shifts
- Priority is to get sign ups for the 14U/16 event in April
- There seems to be some misunderstanding that this is separate from the HS; will continue to manage with families

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Kristi** to look into having Parker the Panther at the drawing during the Panther Classic.
- **Kristi** to follow up with coaches to ensure bagging information was communicated to teams; work with coaches for 14u/16 to ensure they understand the bagging opportunity is separate from high school.
- **Kristi** to send Tanya a draft for the raffle communication to parents & **Tanya** will send Email communication should be sent out by coaches to families.
- **ALL Liaisons** to communicate to families about raffle opportunity when they attend practice to introduce themselves
- **Tanya** will send out a coverall letter regarding the opportunities regarding bagging to encourage sign up.

3) Panther Classic Tournament & Volunteer Updates (Sarah/Stacy/Amy)

Ongoing tournament tracking document/to-do list can be found [HERE](#).

Registration Status

Full at all levels except 10U as we had one team drop out; actively seeking a replacement

Other Potential Discussion Topics - TBC

- Volunteer Commitment – status update on sign-ups/outstanding checks
- Concessions
- Umpires
- Porta Pottys

Discussion Notes:

- Back to full at 10u with OMGAA signing up; have one on waitlist for 8U
- We were going to forgo the Chick Filet breakfast option and focus on getting breakfast items (doughnuts) donated
- Good to go with Jimmy Johns and Nautical Bowls; need to get a list pulled together for the rest of the concession items
- 2 porta pottys have been secured
- Volunteer commitments are looking good; only a few shifts left in the afternoon to cover; need to follow up on outstanding checks
- Some discussion about reconsidering Chick Fil A however we stand to make a larger profit on the JJs items so are going to focus there for now; will revisit next year

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Rich** to update the website with food options
- **Stacy** to work with **Rich** to cross check families needing to sign up for a volunteer shift and send out reminders if needed.
- **Stacy** to follow up with those who have outstanding volunteer checks
- **Tanya** to start concession food google sheet so we can start populating

4) Spring Schedule & Logistics Updates (Amy/Mike/Zac/Rich)

Discuss updates regarding:

- Practice schedules/locations updates; practices start Tuesday 3/26!
- Skills Clinics updates (hitting/pitching/catching)
- Coaches Meetings approach updates (season kick-off & training)
- Team Liaisons next steps; final assignments document can be found [HERE](#)
- MN Softball – status of athletes accepting team invitations
- MN Softball league game scheduling meeting follow-ups
- Coach/Assistant Coach Background checks/required training next steps
- Umpire Scheduling for league night games

Discussion Notes:

- Need to get equipment to coaches prior to practices
- Scoping for skills clinics is well underway; finalizing details for hitting/pitching/catching clinics and are likely to land on Sunday evenings starting mid-April
- Coaches training session coming up April 7th
- Pitching Coach (Haley) asked for \$75 an hour; aligned that was a reasonable rate and within current budget allocations

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Shelly/Amy** to follow up on Sunday night options for catching/pitching/hitting clinics and finalize details
- **Zac** to follow-up with coaches re: recapping the coaches kick-off meeting
- **Zac/Amy/Mike** to continue coordinating of the coaches training meeting
- **Amy** to schedule umpires for league night games once schedules are confirmed
- **Amy/Zac** to review league night game schedules and ensure there aren't conflicts after the coaches scheduling meetings on April 8th

New Business

1) New Board Member Votes (Tanya)

Nothing for March; will be voting in April on Brad Hunt for the open Marketing & Brand Director role and Sarah Jordahl for an At Large role

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Tanya** to add topic to the April agenda

2) Community Event Updates & Discussion (Kristi)

Discuss updates and next steps regarding upcoming community events

- 4/25 SLP HS Youth Night
- 6/6 Tower Days Parade
- TBD Try Softball Event

Discussion Notes:

- SLP youth night at the University of Northwestern led by Chris and is on everyone's team calendar
- We are excited to off the Bat Girl opportunity again; need to get "application" form out to families
- Tower Days application has been submitted/approved; we currently don't have plans for a vehicle so if that's something we want to do again we'll need to update the application

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Tanya** to add parade participation logistics to future meeting agenda
- **Tanya** to send a google survey/email out regarding interest for a bat girl

3) Panther Pride & Rookies Program Updates (Zac)

Update on where we are at with the Panther Pride and Rookies programs and discuss next steps

Sarah has requested to step back on this one; anyone else willing to jump in and help Zac here?

Discussion Notes:

- Shelly offered to help Zac get the details finalized for these programs
- Sam requested to move Rookies to Mon/Wed due to another commitment that surfaced; we should be able to accommodate

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Zac/Shelly** to get details finalized for both programs ASAP and send to Rich
- **Rich** to set up registration and update the website

4) Team Picture Updates (Stacy)

Update on where we are in terms of scheduling the photographer, securing a date/location etc..

Discussion Notes:

- Stacy reached out to photographer & is working on it; target date is Friday 5/13

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Stacy** to finalize details with photographer; collaborate with **Amy** to ensure date works and work with **Rich** to get added to team schedules in SportsEngine

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Closing Notes/Reminders:

- 4/8 Coaches scheduling meeting for 10U+ teams
- 4/10 Coaches scheduling meeting for 8U teams
- Next Board Meeting: April 21st; do we want to meet in person? **YES – Mike to reserve room at Bricks**
- Zac/Amy to look further into equipment purchases, specifically catchers gear.

Motion: Stacy

Second: Kristi

Vote: Unanimous

Potential Future Agenda Topics:

- Mission/Future Vision for SLPSA – we're trying to serve the needs of both ends of the spectrum (club feel vs competitive community team feel) which is making decision making/prioritizing hard. I would also like us to discuss and align on our financial goals.
- Equipment Inventory & Future Budget Planning (saw your note Zac but still need to dig in)
- INSports Training Session

Appendix A | 2024 Board Meetings

Day	Date	Location
Sunday	January 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Thursday	February 2, 2024 (Ad Hoc)	Zoom
Sunday	February 18, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	March 24, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
Sunday	April 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	May 19, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	June 23, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	July 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	August 18, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	September 22, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	October 20, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	November 17, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD
Sunday	December 15, 2024 @ 7:00pm	TBD

Appendix B | Important Dates

Event	Dates	Location
SLPSA Summer Season Registration	1/2-1/31	
MN Softball Director Meeting	1/22 (2/19 reschedule)	7:00 PM Medina Entertainment Center
Summer Parent Meeting	2/5	7:00 PM via ZOOM
Summer Team Evaluations	3/2 – 3/3	Westwood Middle School
Summer Team Selections Communicated	3/4	
Teams Registered with Big West	4/1	
SLPHS Season Starts	3/11	
SLPHS Tryouts	3/18 – 3/22	
Big West Coach Schedule Meeting	4/8	Medina Entertainment Center 10U/12U @ 6:00PM 14U @ 8:00PM
8U League Meeting	TBD	
SLPHS Youth Night	4/25	University of Northwestern
Try Softball Event	TBD	
SLPSA Picture Day	TBD	
Big West Summer League Games (10U & 12U)	4/29 – 6/20	
Panther Classic Tournament (8U/10U/12U)	5/11	Fridley Community Fields
Big West Summer League Games (14U)	5/21 – 7/9	
MN Softball Metro HS League Games (16U+)	6/3 – 7/10	
SLP Tower Days Parade	6/6	Spring Lake Park
10U & 12U State Qualifier	6/22 – 6/23	
SLPSA Fall Season Registration	6/24 – 7/19	
10U & 12U State Tournament	6/29 – 6/30	
Fall Team Selections Communicated	7/22	
14U & 16U State Qualifier	7/13 – 7/14	
NAFA Nationals 10U & 12U	7/18 – 7/21	10U Cottage Grove 12U Eagan & Mendota Heights
14U & 16U State Tournament	7/20 – 7/21	
USA Softball Nationals	TBD	
Monsta Championships 10U	7/25 – 7/28	
NAFA Nationals 14U & 16U	7/25 – 7/28	14U Prior Lake & Lakeville 16U Champlin Park & Coon Rapids
Monsta Championships 12U/14U/16U	8/1 – 8/4	Mounds View

