



June Board Meeting Agenda + Minutes

June 22nd, 2025

7:00 PM, Hybrid

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, Introductions & Role Call (Tanya)

Present	Board Member	Present	Board Member
X	Tanya Hartwell , President		OPEN , 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
X	Amy Bennett , League & Team Schedule Director	X	Sarah Jordahl , Director at Large
ABS	Zac Humphrey , Coaches 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: Amanda Tschakert, John Garcia, Malynda Zuleger, Carolyn Balmer, Kari Gregory

2) Review & Approval of June Agenda (Tanya)

Any additions?

Motion: Kristi

Second: Bree

Vote: All Approve

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

Any updates/revisions?

Motion: Josh

Second: Mike

Vote: All Approve

Financial Updates

1) Treasurer's Report (Josh)

June Financials Review

Discussion Notes:

- Overall sitting in a positive financial position both YOY and YTD
- Registered two teams (10U Blue & 12U Blue) for Nationals; will need to get reimbursed for gate fees
- Will have payments coming for Gopher trainings and pitching sessions

Old Business

1) Summer Season Check-In (All)

Discuss any updates on the season in progress

- 10U White Parent Feedback (Carolyn Balmer)
- Rookies Updates (Brad)
- 10U Jamboree Recap (Sarah G)
 - Something we should consider repeating?
 - Something we consider expanding to 12U?
- Updates on how Gopher trainings went and other outstanding/in-progress team trainings (All)
- Start drafting the end of season survey with a goal of ending out mid-July; any volunteers to review last year's survey and take a stab a refreshing for this year?
- Anything else?

Discussion Notes:

- 10U White Parent Feedback; key themes from parents surveyed included:
 - Challenges due to team size and a mixed age team; would have preferred larger teams -up to the 14 allowed in the handbook-and a 10U only team
 - Desire to more clearly articulate expectations going from 8U to 10U; how to do we ensure families are clear this is a travel program (vs. rec) and the commitment expectations that come with it
 - General lack of commitment from families; many athletes aren't showing up for practices and games resulting in having to reschedule and even forfeit games in some instances due to lack of players
 - Competitiveness; were not registered for the appropriate level of tournaments from the start but very much appreciated the Jamboree that we set up
 - Continued need for more specialized training; pitching and catching in particular
 - The girls have generally had fun and enjoyed playing together
 - Board acknowledged the challenges and provided some contextual feedback around some of the decisions that were made and how they ended up in the tournaments they were registered for.
- Rookies is off and running; will start next week
- 10U Jamboree was a success!
 - Should definitely consider again for next year and is perhaps a format we could consider evolving the Panther Classic into knowing the demand for C level tournaments and that it wasn't competitive for our B teams this year
 - Other teams mentioned being interested if they had more advanced notice
- The Gopher trainings that we were able to complete were well received; weather continued to be a challenge though. Consider again for next season and plan on the schedule farther in advance.

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Tanya** to send out Summer Season Survey by early July; review results in July meeting

2) **2026 Panther Classic Alternative Site Updates** (Sarah G/Tom)

Check in on scoping [Alt locations](#) for next year

Discussion Notes:

- Did not have an opportunity to discuss

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- Agreed to move to July due to running tight on timing during June meeting

3) **Community Event Updates & Next Steps** (Kristi)

- **5/28** SLP Youth Activities & Athletics Expo at SLP High School Debrief
 - Over 200 people in attendance; highly benefited from a band concert that night
 - Would recommend doing again next year if it's offered and try to get some of the youth athletes in attendance to help promote the program
- **6/5** Tower Days Parade Debrief
 - Overall seemed to go well, good turnout and girls had fun
- ***NEW* 7/10** Try Softball Event
- **Fall TBD** SLP Homecoming Tailgate

Discussion Notes:

- Could we have families bring used gear to the try softball event for families interested?
- Amanda/Kristi made a flyer to communicate the try softball event; will send to board for help with communication

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **All** to help with recruiting folks to attend the Try Softball Event

New Business

1) **Board Role Transitions Discussion and Votes** (Tanya)

Tom Doran | Transition from Director at Large to President Role

Tom has volunteered to transition into the President Role at the conclusion of Tanya's 2-year term of service (July 27th Board meeting). Propose we vote on this now to become effective in July so training and transition plans can be put in place between now and then.

Motion: Sarah G

Second: Josh

Vote: All Approved

Brad Hunt | Transition from Brand & Marketing Director to Website & IT Director Role

Brad has volunteered to transition into the Website & IT Director Role at the conclusion of Rich's board service (July 27th Board meeting). Propose we vote on this now to become effective in July so training and transition plans can be put in place between now and then.

Motion: Kristi

Second: Mike

Vote: All Approved

Bree Minor | Transition from Director at Large to Brand & Marketing Director Role

Bree has volunteered to transition into the Brand and Marketing Director Role once Brad has transitioned into the Website and IT Director Role. Propose we vote on this now to become effective in July so training and transition plans can happen in tandem with the above.

Motion: Amy

Second: Kirsti

Vote: All Approved

Amanda Tschakert | New Board Member

Propose we vote to accept Amanda as a new member of the Board and that she transitions into one of the upcoming open Director At Large Roles opening in July.

Motion: Kristi

Second: Josh

Vote: All Approved

Future Vote

Kari Gregory | Expressed interest in Treasurer role (potential July meeting vote)

Carlo Faccini resigned as Player Development director on 6/19 effective immediately.

Zac Humphrey resigned as Coaches Director effective in August.

The Secretary Role also remains open.

2) Scheduling Resource Proposal (Amy/Rich)

All of the weather related reschedules this year have posed many challenges and time required manage across coaches, umpires, fields, community ed etc. is significant. As such, Amy & Rich are proposing we add a new tool called Book A Field that will allow us to more seamless manage our field availability for games and practices. The first 6 months is free and would be \$350 per year thereafter.

Discussion Notes:

- Rich and Amy developed a proposal that includes giving volunteer hours to Team Managers to manage schedules for the teams.
- They would be responsible for managing schedules through the Book a Field Ap on a weekly basis.
- Fields would be available on a first come first serve basis.
- Anyone with a log in would be allowed to book fields.

- While there was general alignment that we need to move to a more automated and efficient system, after some initial discussion it was determined that a more time was needed to review and evaluate the proposal and the implications
- Aligned on adding to July meeting for further discussion

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **All** to review detailed proposal in advance of July meeting for discussion

3) Fall Season Planning & Next Steps (Tanya)

- We will start pushing out communication more aggressively towards the end of June
- Registration will close 7/25
- Will discuss team formation in July meeting
- Should start getting temp checks from Coaches to see who is willing to stay for Fall in advance of July meeting
- Supplemental skills trainings; do we want to offer? If so, how do we want to approach?
- Practices start week of 8/11; 1-2x per week
 - o 8U/10U Tue/Thurs
 - o 12U/14U Mon/Wed
- Games start 8/23 – 8/24 (MN Softball will handle scheduling)
 - o 8U/10U Saturdays
 - o 12U/14U Sundays

Discussion Notes:

- A Board Liaison role would likely be a valuable addition to Fall teams
- Need to get communication out to start the fall team recruiting push
- Reminder that our “new season” technically starts with Fall; athletes will play at the age level for Fall that they would play for Summer 2026

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Tanya** to send out communication that Fall registration is open
- **Zac** to reach out to coaches and get a temp check on if any are interested in coaching Fall

4) Fall Financial Aid Request (Tanya)

Every season we receive a handful of financial aid requests; we just received our first for Fall. I know we had on seeing up a financial aid program on our strategic planning roadmap so wanted to use this as an opportunity to revisit that discussion.

Discussion Notes:

- Still interested in exploring this; need time to put parameters around how we would evaluate, what the financial framework would look like, the max per family etc.
- Would likely follow suit with other organizations and just ask for what they submitted to qualify for SLP Free/Reduced Lunch program
- Would need to discuss how we would handle temporary hardship requests (ie. loss of job)
- Will aim to have this set up so we can implement for Summer 2026 Season

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Tanya** to respond to family who reached out
- **All** need a Board volunteer to lead development of this initiative

5) Team Size Guidelines Discussion (Tanya)

As we head into Fall team formation in July, there is appetite from some Board members to revisit our current team size guidelines; see below for reference. A few considerations as you think about our options:

- 12 is generally considered the optimal team size; it allows for balance in event of injury, conflicts and multi-sport athletes as well as a good amount of playing time for all athletes within games
- We always strive to avoid cuts; the reality is though we are bound by registration numbers and sometimes our hands are tied based how many athletes register at any given age level
- We can't force players to play up to balance teams; we can ask for volunteers but we can't make them. And even if they volunteer – we should consider if their ability is the right fit.
- For our newer folks, our families tend to register very last minute making early planning hard; we've tried to incentivize earlier registrations with early bird pricing which helped some but didn't drastically move the needle

10.7 Team Sizes

The maximum number of players on a team is 14. For the SLPSA program, team sizes are based on the number of players who register. Typically, Table 2 is used as the guideline for making team size decisions.

Table 2 | Team Size Guidelines

Number of Candidates	Team	Players
19 or Fewer	One team only	12-14
20	A	10
	B	10
21	A	10
	B	11
22	A	11
	B	11
23	A	11
	B	12
24	A	12
	B	12
25	A	12
	B	13
26	A	13
	B	13
27	A	12
	B	12
28	A	12
	B	12
29	A	12
	B	12
30 or more	A	10
	B	10
	C	10

Discussion Notes:

- Did not have an opportunity to discuss

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- Agreed to move to July due to running tight on timing during June meeting

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Closing Notes/Reminders:

- 2024/2025 Strategic Plan Reflection
- Next Board Meeting: July 27th at 7:00 PM – Raymond Residence

Motion: Kristi

Second: Josh

Vote: All Approved

Future Agenda Topics:

- 2025/2026 Strategic Planning/Priority Setting
- Spring 2026 Uniform Design Development

Appendix A | 2025 Board Meetings

Day	Date	Location
Sunday	January 26 @ 7:00pm	Virtual
Sunday	February 23 @ 7:00pm	Virtual
Sunday	March 23 @ 7:00pm	Virtual
Sunday	April 27 @ 7:00pm	Virtual
Sunday	May 18 @ 7:00pm	Virtual
Sunday	June 22 @ 7:00pm	Virtual
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

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	5/24 – 7/24	
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	Week of 8/4	
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	TBD (LY was early Aug)	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	Intending to roll off July 2025
Amy Bennett	League & Team Schedule Director	September 2023	September 2023	-
Zac Humphrey	Coaches Director	December 2023	February 2023	Intending to roll off August 2025
Sarah Gatlin	Panther Classic Tournament Director	December 2023	December 2023	Intending to roll off July 2025
Open	Player Development Director			
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