



West Valley Slammers Board of Directors Meeting  
September 11, 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, Michelena Goddard, Tera Murray, Mat Sims, Steve Eggers, Angela Heredia, Joe Rogove, Laura Ward**

1. Confirmation of Quorum and call to order @ 7:14pm.
2. Approval of previous meeting minutes August 14, 2023.
  - a. Motion to approve by Erin.
  - b. Seconded by JR.
  - c. Approved.
3. Financial Report for August/ Treasurer Update (Tricia)
  - a. Based off of last year's actuals
  - b. Sent out to board earlier this week for review
  - c. Some buffer for projects, but no specific projects budgeted yet. Open for discussion.
    - i. Joe suggested padding for back stops, which was planned for last year with new boards for back stops
    - ii. Jason, shades over the dugout: donated, work weekend on 9/23 to set up
    - iii. Marcy, permanent menu board and sign for snack shack. Marcy to price it out and send to Erin.
    - iv. Build small shed for dirt. May only be useful if they can dump dirt right in. Ryan Valtscheff volunteered time, to send quote for materials.
    - v. Signs/banners for fence. "Home of the West Valley Slammers"
  - d. Think between now and next meeting for additional projects.
  - e. Next meeting, discuss and vote.
4. Fall Ball - Rec Update
  - a. First games yesterday! Many thanks to chief and age division player agents.
  - b. "People" gate near childcare center was locked; need to work that out with school.
  - c. Church parking - Erin need to remind the league by email; Brian to send interleague email. Can post volunteers as parking lot attendants.
5. Play Up / Play Down Clarification
  - a. Confusion regarding policy to play at higher level for the year
  - b. New USA Softball Age Determination Policy
    - i. New cutoff Sept 1
    - ii. Could move up, but put into place process
    - iii. 4 in total played up
    - iv. Place stricter deadlines on when they can submit application to play up
  - c. Policy for all others who want to play up or play down
    - i. Others were asking to play up if they don't fall into that division

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- ii. Need to create consistency
- 6. Snack Shack WiFi - phone with wifi hot spot in the snack shack
- 7. Playing Rule Changes (Brian)
  - a. Discuss
    - i. Player ages/playing up or down (in rules, and in bylaws).
      - 1. Options: 1. Never and/or 2. Safety reasons and/or 3. Exceptional talent. Do we want to allow this for certain situations?
      - 2. Concerns over precedent, who's going to decide, shouldn't be up to 2-3 people, but the whole board won't know the level of play. Socially not a good experience to put younger girls 2-3 years older.
      - 3. Safety can be a reason to play down or up.
      - 4. Decision by vote:
        - a. Up or down for safety only, with specificity on definition of safety, with  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of the board vote
        - b. Whatever girl plays in spring, that's where she is eligible to play all stars the following summer
    - ii. Link to code of conduct on the website
    - iii. Returning score sheets to the divisional player agent, not snack shack
    - iv. Not use junior umps; trained parent volunteers; or pair junior umps together, and maybe additionally with a trained parent.
    - v. Pitcher must wear fielding mask; strongly encouraged for all other players.
    - vi. Reviewed divisional rules, primarily for consistency with interleague rules
  - b. Vote to Propose (post to website); passes by majority vote
  - c. Erin to update corrections and post on website
- 8. Select Program:
  - a. What will it look like for Slammers for 2023-2024?
    - i. Move for NorCal to match SoCal select rules
      - 1. Players can play B level select and rec, but with strict restrictions how activities can and cannot overlap. However, these rules have not been written yet.
      - 2. If select teams only want to play tournaments, then they become an A ball team and can't play NorCal, Western Nationals, etc.
    - ii. Need to determine if we are going to have a Select program in the Spring for 14U, 12U, 10U
      - 1. If so, plan for coach evaluation and selection in October
    - iii. Wait for USA softball rules to come out, send out to select committee, then to board; decide at next meeting.
- 9. Volunteer
  - a. Send more volunteer opportunities to Laura
  - b. Any volunteer requirements that don't mandate a specific date/time; some parents are saying they can't make currently offered spots
- 10. Jenny organized Mendocino Farms fundraising event
- 11. Scholarship Policy and Process (Holly) (deferred)
  - a. Discuss and Vote

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12. Slammers Merch (deferred)
  - a. short and long sleeve shirts, hoodies, baseball caps, visors, sun hats, stickers
  - b. Facilitate ordering custom shirts with Slammers logo?
  - c. Sell in snack shack?
  - d. Any volunteers to propose a budget / plan?
13. Next Meeting: October 2, 2023
  - a. Field Director and Equipment Chairperson inventory update
  - b. Sponsorship drive begins next month
    - i. Volunteer opportunities to solicit sponsorships.
14. Meeting adjourned at 9:16.

### **Upcoming Dates**

October 2, 2023 Board Meeting

October 28 Fall Ball rec Games End

Nov 6, 2023 Board Meeting December

Dec 4, 2023 Board Meeting

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