



June Board Meeting Agenda

July 1st, 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	X	Brad Hunt, 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	ABS	Sarah Jordahl, Director at Large
X	Sarah Gatlin, Panther Classic Tournament Director		OPEN, Director at Large

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

Additional Attendees: John Garcia

2) Review & Approval of June Agenda (Tanya)

Any additions?

Motion: Rich
Second: Kristi
Vote: Approved

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

Any updates/revisions?

Motion: Josh
Second: Amy
Vote: Approved

Financial Updates

1) Treasurer's Report (Josh)

Treasurer's Report

- June Financials update

Discussion Notes:

- Amy is tracking umpire costs; they will be paid in total at the end of the season
- Overall healthy and tracking slightly more positive than previous years; skewed even more positive with additional revenue coming from the sale of the gator
- Stacy, Amy & Kristi will reach out to 3 families with open balances.

Old Business

1) Try Softball Events Updates (Kristi)

We are considering pivoting to multiple events in partnership with Sam on Sundays after Panther Pride; exact dates TBD

Discussion Notes:

- Aiming to have prior to the close of Fall registration

Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Kristi** finalizing and once the date is determined, will coordinate with **Brad/Tanya** on communication

2) Panther Pride & Rookies Program Updates (Shelly/Zac)

Panther Pride is starting Sunday! We have 17 athletes signed up and are working to get SLPSA teams assigned to help out during the sessions.

For Rookies, we will revisit this opportunity for summer 2025; ideally we'd have details figured out in advance of registration opening in January for our travel program so we can communicate all together

Discussion Notes:

- Sam prefers to wait until spring to re-launch Rookies program; we will revisit along with the broader spring program details
- Still need to get a few more teams signed up to volunteer with Panther Pride

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Zac** to a reminder note about this in your weekly Coach update if you haven't already
- **Brad** will communicate as needed regarding these programs.

3) Summer Schedule & Logistics Updates (Amy/Mike/Zac)

Discuss updates regarding:

- Notable practice schedules/locations updates
- Summer Season Survey; I'd like to send after the holiday - anyone want to take a stab at drafting?
- Tournament feedback; please send Amy any notable feedback you have on tournaments your athletes have participated in this season so we can document for next year

Discussion Notes:

- July practices are all set up in SE
- Aiming to get the Summer Survey out by mid-July

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Amy** to communicate with coaches regarding remaining schedules
- **Brad/Sarah** to start working on summer season survey
- **All Members** to provide feedback to Amy for tournaments for future documentation.

New Business**1) Field Maintenance Issues (Amy/Tanya)**

As many of you have experienced, we've had challenges with getting the fields prepped for games due to "staffing issues" per SLP Community Ed. Let's discuss short term solutions to get us through this season; would also like to discuss longer term solutions like using the proceeds from the Gator sale to purchase an alternative field maintenance machine (ie. [Sand Pro machine](#)) like they have for the baseball fields.

Discussion Notes:

- We may need to consider asking families/coaches to help with field prep for games next year
- Mike has been doing research on a sand pro & they are difficult to find. New units are approx. \$11-12K for the lowest model which is beyond budget. Should inquire with Chris about splitting the cost with the HS Booster program.
- Budget would like to keep it close to the \$7,500 we received from the Gator sale
- Hand raking is more time consuming & high school is only responsible for their games. We previously outsourced b/c fields were not being taken care of properly.
- Training would be required to integrate in parents into the process.
- Aligned that we will continue looking for used Sand Pro and revisit the discussion around costs once an opportunity has been identified

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Zac** to communicate with coaches regarding the location of the chalking template & guidance for field prep throughout the rest of the season
- **Mike** to take the lead on searching for used equipment with help from Zac.
- **Amy** to track needs for reimbursement/credits for field prep not completed for games
- **Tanya** to inquire with Chris about splitting the cost with the booster program

2) Fall Season Registration & Clinics (Tanya/Sarah J/Zac)**Registration & League Updates**

- Current Numbers | 28 total (90 last year)
- Registration will close on July 24th
- Team Requests:
 - Received a request to place Aria and Eva Szyperski on same team for family rideshare needs; we have previously accommodated so intend to continue unless others feel strongly otherwise

- Aria's mom also reached out requesting that Alexia Lindstrom be placed with them as it's her first year and thought it would be helpful if she had a buddy
- 8U League: Need to discuss if we repeat Centennial or consider Big West like the rest of our teams
- Fall Coaches: Where are we at on volunteers?

Skills Clinic Updates

These will be free offerings to our athletes and all will be hosted on the SLP HS Fields.

- **Hitting**
 - Instructor: Chris Bangle
 - Dates: Fridays; 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/27
 - Times:
 - 5:30 – 6:30 PM
 - 6:30 -7:30 PM
 - Current Cost: \$600/\$75 per hour (not currently budgeted; have headroom to cover with as we came in under budget on Summer Trainings)
- **Pitching**
 - Instructor: Hayley Dunning
 - Dates: Fridays; 9/6, 9/13, 9/27
 - Hayley was not available 9/20; do we want to consider an alt instructor for that date?
 - Times:
 - 5:30 - 6:00 PM
 - 6:00 – 6:30 PM
 - 6:30 - 7:00 PM
 - 7:00 – 7:30 PM
 - Current Cost: \$450/\$75 per hour (\$650 budgeted)
- **Catching**
 - Instructor: Olivia Major
 - Dates: Fridays; 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/27
 - Times:
 - 5:30 - 6:30 PM
 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM
 - Current Cost: \$200/\$25 per hour (\$200 budgeted)

Will be looking for a motion to approve the revised budget for Fall Training Clinics.

Motion: Zac

Second: Carlos

Vote: Approved

Discussion Notes:

- For 8U, Soderville & Coon Rapids are participating in Centennial Fall ball

- We've had a few coaches express interest: Brian S 8U, Connor & Matt Minor in 10U, 12 is Ashley and John G. (possibly Mike J), Jer J. 14U
- Homecoming is 9/27 so will be busy near the high school and likely low attendance; could use as a make-up day
- For winter training, aligned that we'd forgo domeball and focus on winter skills clinics
 - Open gyms could have more participation being facilitated by coaches (vs parents)
 - Additional Optimize sessions could also be good training option
 - Domeball participation was low and was a challenge not having practice time; we played against A level competitive teams
- As we consider allowing 8U players to play on 10U teams for Fall, Athlete skill & maturity are taken into consideration in addition to the need to balance teams

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **Sarah J./Shelly** to create a master contact list of coaches we've used for clinics
- **Rich** to set up DIBS sign ups for the fall skills clinics; keep hidden until after registration closes
- **Tanya** to communicate DIBS sign up for fall skills clinics within team announcement communication so everyone has an equal opportunity to sign up.
- **Zac** to connect with 8u coaches regarding previous concerns with Centennial league.
- **Rich** to open up the coaches application for new coaches.

- **Zac** to reach out to Anna Nagle & Karen Higgins regarding interest in co-coaching.
- **Sarah J.** to connect with coaches regarding potential shift in clinic dates.
- **Sarah G., Sarah J, & Amy** to start developing winter training options.

3) Strategy Session Outputs (Tanya)

A link to the draft of our 2024/2025 Season Strategic Plan Document was included in the meeting prep materials. We'll spend some time walking through the intention of this document and the group will have some homework in terms of reflecting/providing feedback on priorities in advance of our July meeting.

Next Steps/Board Lead(s)/Timing:

- **All Members** to send feedback to Tanya for consolidation in advance of next board meeting

Wrap Up and Adjourn

HUGE THANK YOU to Shelly for all of her contributions to the SLPSA Board/Organization! You will be truly missed and we wish you all the best as you join the SLP HS Softball Boosters!

Closing Notes/Reminders:

- We need to get ahead of filling open Board positions; please consider anyone you think may be a good fit and encouraging them to attend an upcoming meeting!
- Next Board Meeting: July 21st at 7:00 PM via Zoom; a good chunk of this meeting will be used to discuss fall team formation as we should have a good sense of numbers by that time

Motion: Stacy

Second: Shelley
 Vote: Approved

Potential Future Agenda Topics:

- Alternative Panther Classic Sites
- Game Changer Use
- 2025 Spring Evaluations
 - Confirmation of Evaluation Dates: 3/1 – 3/2
 - Pitcher/Catcher Evaluations Approach
- Future Financial Planning Discussion
- Revisit Board Roles & Responsibilities
- Confirmation of 2025 Spring Tryout Dates 3/1 – 3/2 (tentative)
- Community Outreach/Sponsorship; Ham Lake Chamber
- Coach Certification Tracking
- Athlete Feedback/Scorecards

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	Gatlin Residence
Sunday	May 20, 2024 @ 7:00pm	Zoom
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	5/17	SLP HS Fields
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
Club Evaluations can begin	8/5	
USA Softball Selects	TBD	
MN Softball Fall Ball Meeting	TBD	Medina Entertainment Center
Fall Ball Weekend #1	8/24 – 8/25	
Fall Ball Weekend #2	9/7 – 9/8	
Roundtable Feedback Meeting	Week of 9/9	
Fall Ball Weekend #3	9/14 – 9/15	
Fall Ball Weekend #4	9/21 – 9/22	
Fall Ball State Tournament	9/28 – 9/29	
MN Softball Year-End Directors Meeting	TBD	Medina Entertainment Center

Appendix C – Board of Directors Roles

Name	Current Role	SLPSA Board Appointment Date	Current Role Appointment Date	Role Expiration <small>(2 year term for Officers)</small>
Tanya Hartwell	President	August 2022	July 2023	July 2025
Mike Raymond	Vice President	November 2023	December 2023	December 2025
Stacy Nugent	Secretary	August 2023	September 2023	September 2025
Josh Glood	Treasurer	September 2023	December 2023	December 2025
Amy Bennett	League & Team Schedule Director	September 2023	September 2023	-
Zac Humphrey	Program Director	December 2023	February 2023	-

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	-
Carlo Faccini	Director At Large	October 2023	October 2023	-
Sarah Jordahl	Director At Large	April 2024	April 2024	
Open	Director At Large			-