



**January Board Meeting Agenda**

January 26th, 2025

7:00 PM, Virtual

**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 & Role Call (Tanya)**

Present	Board Member	Present	Board Member
X	<b>Tanya Hartwell</b> , President	X	<b>Carlo Faccini</b> , Player Development Director
X	<b>Mike Raymond</b> , Vice President	X	<b>Rich DiVito</b> , Website & IT Director
X	<b>Josh Glood</b> , Treasurer	X	<b>Brad Hunt</b> , Brand & Marketing Director
	<b>OPEN</b> , Secretary	X	<b>Kristi Cobbs</b> , Community Liaison & Fundraising Director
X	<b>Amy Bennett</b> , League & Team Schedule Director	ABS	<b>Sarah Jordahl</b> , Director at Large
X	<b>Zac Humphrey</b> , Program Director	X	<b>Bree Minor</b> , Director at Large
ABS	<b>Sarah Gatlin</b> , Panther Classic Tournament Director		<b>OPEN</b> , Director at Large

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

**Additional Attendees:** Tom Doran

**2) Review & Approval of January Agenda (Tanya)**

Any additions?

**Motion:** Mike  
**Second:** Kristi  
**Vote:** All Approved

**3) Review & Approval of December Meeting Minutes (Tanya)**

Any updates/revisions?

**Motion:** Brad  
**Second:** Josh  
**Vote:** All Approved

**Financial Updates**

**1) Treasurer’s Report (Josh)**

- January Financials Review

**Discussion Notes:**

- Closed December/EOY with more than double our bank account balance to last year; mainly due to last year's fundraising efforts and early registration opening for 2025
- We also got our SportsEngine refund after being double charged

**Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:** N/A

## Old Business

### 1) Panther Classic Discussion (Sarah G)

Check-in on timely updates regarding the Panther Classic Tournament

- [To-Do List](#) Review; assign leads as needed; priority items include ordering medals and assigning a UIC (Joe P. last year)
- [Current Registrations](#) Review
  - 8U: 6/6 (1 SLP team)
  - 10U: 3/8 (2 SLP teams)
  - 12U: 5/8 (3 SLP teams)
- Adding machine pitch for 8U in tournament details on MN softball site
- 2 Ball requirement discussion
- Umpire language updates; we list 1 Certified MN HS umpire per game but isn't the case for 8U
- Umpires for 10U/12U Championship - should we consider having 2 at each?
- Food vendors; moving forward with Jimmy Johns and Nautical Bowls again? Any other vendors? What food donations do we want to look in to?
- [Youth First](#) on site?

#### **Discussion Notes:**

- Ok to move forward with same medals from last year; Mike will take the lead on ordering
- Discussed some other potential options for UIC (Bill Lewis, Mike Ellingson etc.); Mike to reach out and do some preliminary investigating
- Move forward with updating language on site around pitching machines and umpires for 8U
- All agreed to moving forward with having (2) umpires for the 10U and 12U championship games
- 2 balls seems like the industry standard; aligned that we're ok to keep that requirement
- Would like to move forward with JJs and Nautical Bowls again; need to do some investigating on options for donated items for the concession stand
- Need more information about Youth First and what their role would be on site

#### **Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:**

- **Bree** to draft a FB post promoting tournament registrations after summer season registration is closed
- **Mike** to order medals and reach out to potential UIC options; follow up with **Sarah** on what he finds
- **Sarah/Rich** to make necessary updates to tournament documents
- **Amy** to coordinate Jimmy Johns and Nautical Bowls again

### 2) Tournament Registration Updates (Amy)

Review and discuss [current tournament registrations](#) for the 2025 season

#### **Discussion Notes:**

- Most teams are in pretty good shape; have some gaps to fill in at 14U/16 once we know how many teams we'll field
- We can drop 8U from Bloomington; if they'd like to add another tournament the team will have to fund the cost of entry
- Will likely make some additional adjustments once the head coaches are announced

#### **Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:**

- **Josh/Amy** to cancel 8U registration in Bloomington tournament

### 3) Raffle Elements Discussion (Kristi)

The bulk of our current registered families have indicated their intent to participate in the raffle fundraiser.

- Align on number of tickets we want to purchase
  - Need to order in increments of 500
  - ~1600 should cover those interested in participating so 2,000 - 2,500 should suffice pending where we land on the incentive discussion; LY we had 2,000
- Discuss and align on prizing. Last year was as follows:
  - \$1000 Cash Grand Prize
  - Additional Cash Prizes: \$700, \$500, \$350, and \$100
- Revisit the topic of a team incentive for selling the most tickets

#### Discussion Notes:

- Aligned on 2,000 tickets
- Will keep prizing the same as last year; prizes will be drawn in reverse order with the Grand Prize being the last winner drawn
- We will not be moving forward with a team incentive for selling the most tickets

#### Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Kristi** to order raffle tickets

### 4) Apparel RFP Updates (Brad)

- Confirmed we can have an always on store
- Working to refresh the store have spring store ready prior to the 2/3 parent meeting
- New design review (TBC)
- Any special item requests? Speak now!

#### Discussion Notes:

- We have some design options that can be shared with the group for feedback; Brad to send asap so we can get them up on the site prior to launching

#### Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Brad** to send design options to the group for feedback
- **Brad** to work with Twin Pines to get apparel website launched

## New Business

### 1) Board Member Votes (Tanya)

#### **New Board Member Candidate: Tom Doran**

Propose we vote Tom into an open At Large role on the Board; as they become available he is open to considering other roles like IT & Website Director and Player Development Director

**Motion:** Kristi

**Second:** Rich

**Vote:** All Approved

**Board Member Role Transition: Sarah J.**

Sarah has offered to take on the open Secretary role. Propose we vote to move forward with transitioning her from an At Large role to the Secretary position.

**Moved to next month as Sarah was not able to attend due to sickness**

## 2) Spring Season Registration Updates (Tanya)

**Total Registrations: 70** - as of 1/26 @ 8:00 AM

- 8U: 15 (many are willing to play up; one is Kaiya Larson who is requesting to play 10U regardless)
- 10U: 18
- 12U: 25
- 14U: 8
- 16U/HS: 4

Let's discuss what we'll do for 14U/16U if we don't have numbers for two teams.

### Discussion Notes:

- Will need to discuss at the end of the week what we'll plan to do at the 14U/16U level
- For 8U/10U we'll allow all 8U players the opportunity to participate in evaluations to be considered for a 10U team to help balance across the age groups; will need to pre-communicate how many spots we plan to be open

### Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Tanya** to follow up with the group after registration closes to provide an update

## 3) Spring Season Coach Identification Updates (Zac)

Discuss the below updates related to spring season coaches. Additionally we'll discuss the approach to Coach interviews as well as who will be allowed in the gym during evaluations.

### 8U

- Brian Swanson (application received)
- Kevin Knock (application received)
- Tom Doran (TBD - potential new coach)

### 10U

- Connor Stolz (TBD)
- Derek Ruff (TBD)
- Kristina Hunt (TBD - potential new coach)
- Amy Bennett (willing to coach 10U C if needed)

### 12U

- Mike Jeziorski (TBD)
- Anna Nagle/Karen Higgins (TBD)
- Ashley Assaf (TBD)
- Jackie Oliver (potential new coach; need to discuss age group with her)

### 14U

- Jer Johnson (application received)
- Ashlyn Peterson and Kiley Alguire (applications received)

## 16U/HS

- Aaron Mortenson (application received)

### Discussion Notes:

- Mike Raymond has also applied to coach either 10U or 12U; he will not participate in evaluations for those age groups through due to his role on the board
- Anna Nagle is no longer interested in coaching; can remove from the list
- Discussed the need for returning coaches to be interviewed; general consensus is that they should not have to so long as there weren't issues previously and they follow the compliance requirements. We would also still vote prior to making any decisions on potential coaches and coach assignments.
- Will move forward with getting outstanding coach interviews complete asap

### Motion to not interview returning coaches per the parameters noted above

**Motion:** Mike

**Second:** Rich

**Vote:** All Approved

### Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Mike/Josh/Rich** to conduct outstanding coach interviews in the next few weeks

## 4) Spring Evaluations Skills Assessment Discussion (Mike/Zac)

- Discuss initial recommendations for adjustments to the skills assessed during evaluations.
- Pending where 14U/16U nets out, do we will still want to hold evaluations for this age group?
- Note: there is a possibility that several 12U athletes will have hockey Districts the same weekend as evaluations

### Discussion Notes:

- Discussed challenges with evaluating throwing/catching when athletes are participating with each other as it may be hard to evaluate based on the partner they get.
- Discussed making some adjustments to the drills for infield to accommodate; would also like to have the HS girls do the throwing to help better evaluate catching
- Discussed pros and cons of looking at athlete scoring looking at their top score/day total for evaluations vs an average of their total after participating in both days

### Motion to change evaluation scoring to having athletes ranked by top total score (by day) vs. an average across the two days (when applicable).

**Motion:** Mike

**Second:** Carlo

**Vote:** Motion does not pass

- **For:** Mike, Amy, Bree, Carlo
- **Against:** Tanya, Brad, Rich, Kristi, Tom, Josh

### Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:

- **Rich** to make adjustments to the evaluation scoring document as needed

## 5) Athlete Evaluation Performance Scorecards (Mike/Zac/Carlo/Rich)

Discuss initial recommendations for how we might approach providing athletes with evaluation performance details/feedback including the potential implementation of athlete evaluation performance scorecards

**Discussion Notes:**

- Aligned on working towards a template that we can provide families if they reach out for feedback; this will not automatically be sent
- We will not share specific scores, rather general feedback on where the athlete's scores landed comparatively to their peers
- We should also remind in the parent meeting about the process for how team selection works and coaches picks
- Need to put pen to paper on what metrics we'd actually share out; would like this prior to the parent meeting on Monday

**Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:**

- **Mike** to draft template of the areas of feedback we'd provide

**6) Game Changer Implementation Discussion (Rich/Josh)**

Discuss pricing and make a final decision on if we'd like to implement for next season

**Discussion Notes:**

- While we want GC capabilities for stat tracking, we also want it for families to be able to follow along with their teams while they aren't there
- If we implement, it will be important to provide training to families for consistency purposes
- Helping with GameChanger for your team does not meet your volunteer requirement
- \$90 per team; would get 4 admin access
- We have an option to use SportsEngine however it isn't as easily accessible for families and most teams we play against are using GC making the lineup process easier for coaches

**Motion to approve purchasing GameChanger for our Summer teams**

**Motion:** Rich

**Second:** Zac

**Vote:** All Approved

**Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:**

- **Rich/Josh** to get GameChanger teams set up once we have teams established
- **TBD** Board Lead to facilitate GameChanger training

**7) Summer Skills Training Approach Discussion (Amy/Carlo/Mike)**

Review a framework for how we could integrate skills trainings into our regular schedule

**Discussion Notes:**

- Meeting this week to discuss; move to next month for board discussion

**8) Sponsorship Discussion (Kristi/Sarah J)**

Review and discuss our new [Sponsorship Flyer](#) and [Fundraising Ask Tracker](#).

**Discussion Notes:**

- Reviewed flyer and asked board members to share out with their network

**Next Steps/Board Lead/Timing:**

- **ALL** please shared and update the tracker accordingly
- **Bree** post on social

**Wrap Up and Adjourn**

Closing Notes/Reminders:

- 8U MN Softball Meeting: 2/10; Tom to attend
- Next Board Meeting: February 23rd at 7:00 PM
- [Strategic Plan Workstreams](#); reminder that initiative leaders are responsible for facilitating next steps with committee members and bringing updates back to the broader Board

**Motion:** Rich

**Second:** Kristi

**Vote:** All Approved

*Potential Future Agenda Topics:*

- Picture Day Scheduling
- Field Maintenance (Ongoing + Game Prep)
- Future Financial Planning Discussion
- Revisit Board Roles & Responsibilities
- Coach Certification Tracking

**Appendix A | 2025 Board Meetings**

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

Items in black are confirmed; red is still outstanding

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
SLP HS Softball Youth Night	5/12	University of Northwestern
SLPSA Picture Day	5/17	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
Big West Summer League Games (14U)	5/20 – 7/8	
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	6/24 – 7/19	
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	7/22	
USA Softball Nationals	TBD	
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	8/12	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	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
Carlo Faccini	Player Development Director	October 2023	September 2024	-
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	-
Open	Director At Large			
Open	Director At Large			

\*Officer roles have 2 year term limits per SLPSA bylaws