



America's Finest City Softball League Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 11th, 2023

Time: 6:30pm PST

Location: Google Meet

Type of Meeting: Monthly Board Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Douglas Hotaling

Invitees: Joel Trambley – Open Commissioner
Jessica Sica – Women+ Commissioner
David Carlos – Assistant Commissioner
Joel Lillegraven – Treasurer
Douglas Hotaling – Secretary
Bart Bauer – Open Operations
Sara Sica – Women+ Operations
Michael McCarthy – Open Division Rep
Kim Yuhos - Women+ Division Rep
Veronica Rivera – Marketing Coordinator
David Drew - Social Media / Events Coordinator
Sandi Diaz – UIC (Optional)
Calysta Brown – Intern
Jim Costello – Hall of Fame Committee Chairperson
Kreg Harsha – Hall of Fame Subcommittee Chair
Michael Martin – Hall of Fame Committee Member

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm PST.

II. Roll Call

Joel Trambley – Open Commissioner
Jessica Sica – Women+ Commissioner
David Carlos – Assistant Commissioner
Joel Lillegraven – Treasurer
Douglas Hotaling – Secretary
Bart Bauer – Open Operations
Sara Sica – Women+ Operations



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Michael McCarthy – Open Division Rep
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Veronica Rivera – Marketing Coordinator
David Drew - Social Media / Events Coordinator
~~Sandi Diaz – UIC (Optional)~~
Calysta Brown – Intern
~~Jim Costello – Hall of Fame Committee Chairperson~~
Kreg Harsha – Hall of Fame Subcommittee Chair
Michael Martin – Hall of Fame Committee Member

III. Hall of Fame Committee Policies and Procedures Change Requests

The item was moved to the beginning of the meeting to accommodate Hall of Fame Committee members in attendance.

Kreg Harsha presented the proposed changes submitted by the Hall of Fame Committee to the Policies and Procedures, Policy 15 Hall of Fame Committee. Each change was reviewed and explained to the Board. There was considerable discussion. Some Board members questioned the timing of the changes, as the nomination process for 2023 is already underway. Many felt that changing the induction threshold back to 2/3 would hinder qualified nominees from being inducted. Statistics were given on how this would have changed the number of inductees over that past 2 years. It was noted that the ASANA requirement is 50% for induction.

MOTION to table the review of the proposed changes at a later date.

SECONDED.

APPROVED 7 In Favor, 2 Opposed, 2 Abstentions.

IV. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

a. Approval of April 13th Board Meeting Minutes

MOTION to approve the April 13th Board Meeting minutes.

SECONDED.

APPROVED unanimously.

V. Old Business

a. Spring 2023 Season

i. General Discussion

None.



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ii. Forfeits

The two forfeits fees that were imposed have been paid.

iii. Hellfire

The Hellfire team has reorganized but has no one on the roster capable of pitching. As there is a precedence, the Board will assist with providing Hellfire with a pitcher for their remaining games of the season. The team has addressed the issue with their previous Manager and he will no longer play for the remainder of the season. There was also discussion on the shorthand, where the 10th at bat is an out each time. This rule is not being followed consistently. It seems to punish a team that is already playing shorthanded.

iv. Used Balls

Sara Sica discussed her idea for backup balls. Typically, we give them away, as needed, but could possibly run short on backup balls. New and existing teams would be offered to purchase used balls for \$2 each. It was suggested that used balls be given to clinic teams. This is an idea to be further discussed at the next meeting.

v. Pub Crawl

The Pub Crawl went well. It was suggested that the timeline did not allow enough time at each sponsor. Participation could be increased if done prior to the season as a recruiting event. There should be some discussion on how to make it more successful when planning for next year.

vi. Skills / Pitching Clinics Session

The Women+ Section hosted an outfield skills clinic that went very well. There were around 20 participants.

vii. AFCSL Connects

No discussion needed.

viii. Picture Day

The team photos came out great. Goals were not reached for individual photos. The photos will be posted on the AFCSL website.

ix. End of Season Party



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The event will be held at Richs on June 11th. Team trophies and MVP trophies have been ordered and should arrive soon. We should put together a presentation to be displayed at the event with team photos. David Carlos will check with Roman Jimenez as to what will be needed. In the past we have done individual "fun" awards. Managers should provide information for 2 awards per team and certificates could be distributed to the Managers at the field on the last day of play.

x. **End of Season Survey**

The survey will focus on 3 areas: (1) your experience (2) EDI and (3) new player. David Carlos will put together a list of questions and send them to the Board for review and comment. The plan is to distribute the survey on June 5th.

b. **Board Laptop Computers**

New laptops for the Treasurer and Secretary have been received. There was discussion on using Microsoft Office or Google Docs. The data transfer service included a 1-year license for Microsoft Office. The decision can be made prior to renewal. Microsoft offers a grant for non-profits that will be looked into.

VI. **New Business**

A. **April 2023 Financial Report**

The account balance is \$120,180. Joel Lillegraven provided an overview of the income and expenses for April 2023. Joel Trambley complimented the Board on their fiscal management.

B. **Autumn Classic**

The rules and dates have been set. We will need to do more marketing and advertising to get teams to enter. To date there are 2 teams registered: 1 Open C and 1 Open D. There needs to be a conversation about what to do next year. The dates for the NAGAAA GSWS included the initially planned dates for the 2024 Autumn Classic, however, there are no GSWS games being played on that first weekend. Hotels will need to be made aware of any date changes.

C. **ASANA Series Update**

There is a lot of interest and we may need to make some contingency plans to accommodate additional teams. 53 teams are already interested and the current capacity is 70 teams. Money continues to come in from fundraising and



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sponsorship. Joel Lillegraven asked that Board members reach out to their personal networks to solicit sponsorships and donations.

D. Whaddup Pitches Issue

There was an issue with how a player was treating their Manager, Coach and teammates. The issue has been addressed and resolved. It was suggested that team issues should be addressed by each team and not the Board. Teams should be empowered to make a decision that is best for their team. We could create a document for teams to assist with handling conflict without Board intervention.

E. Committees

a. Hall of Fame Committee

i. Policies and Procedures Change Requests

The item was moved to the beginning of the meeting to accommodate Hall of Fame Committee members in attendance.

It was suggested that the Board reach out to meet with the Hall of Fame Committee next month to further discuss mutually agreeable Policies and Procedures changes.

b. Election Committee (Nominations May 7th – 28th)

On May 4th a motion was made via email:

MOTION to appoint the following to the Election Committee: Joel Trambley (Open Section, volunteered to serve), Jessica Sica (familiar with Election Buddy) and Veronica Rivera (Women+ section)

SECONDED.

APPROVED 7 In Favor, 4 Abstentions (no vote received).

Nominations will open this evening. Nominee bios will be distributed June 1st. Voting via ElectionBuddy will take place on Sunday, June 4th.

c. EDI Committee

There are 4 new members. They will begin working toward what their focus will be and what they would like to accomplish. There was discussion on the current state of diversity within our league and sections.

F. Other New Business



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a. **NAGAAA GSWS Berths**

The NAGAAA document has been updated and leagues with 29 or more teams get 3 C and 3 D berths. 7 berths can be distributed between C, D and E. We could also send 2 Masters C and 2 Masters D. All Women+ ratings will need to be entered into the NAGAAA database.

b. **End of Season Party Announcements**

In keeping with the current coronation theme, it was suggested that a crown / scepter be presented to the incoming Co-Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner. It was also suggested that Tito Berry be recognized for all of his efforts as a first year participant.

c. **ASA Rule Modification**

MOTION to take the steps necessary to allow a team with only 9 players to play without the 10th spot being recorded as an out.

SECONDED.

APPROVED 10 In Favor, 1 Opposed.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm PST.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 8th, 2023 at 6:30pm PST.