



# NSS Board Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2021

## Attendance:

Board Members			
	Steve Quinn	Rusty Jensen	X
X	Alan Hardt	Terry Hovorka	X
X	Mark Opfer	Rick DuVall	X
X	Tom Holder	Dave Sanderson	X
Others in Attendance			
X	Kathleen DuVall		

## Call to order

With Steve not in attendance, the meeting was chaired by Mark. The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

## Approval of the Minutes

The motion to approve the March meeting minutes was made by Mark, seconded by Tom and approved by all.

## New Business

*League Meeting* - Dave reported that Gary Kruse would be willing to manage the meeting this year. Dave will talk with Gary to have him get the reservation made for the meeting space and will confirm that he realizes that it will be on a Wednesday this year.

*Meeting Schedule Change* - Due to the noise created by Trivia Night at the restaurant, the Board made the decision to move the meeting time to 6:00 going forward.

## Director Updates:

### Scheduling - Dave Sanderson

The motion was made by Rusty that starting on 4/19, the 6:15 game on field 2 will be moved to 7:30 indefinitely until the Board re-evaluates and determines that it is safer to have the games back at 6:15. The motion was seconded by Terry and all were in favor. The managers will be notified and the schedule adjusted accordingly.

### Finance & Registration - Mark Opfer

All players have paid and a special thanks to all Board members for helping to secure the payments. There was a discussion around using Venmo but that is not a current option. For next year, the Board is exploring other options around payments in the future that are convenient and cost effective.

### Marketing, Publicity, & Communications - Tom Holder

*Coffee Cup sales* - There is a possibility to have coffee mugs made and sold to league members at a profit. There was no one on the Board that wanted to spearhead this but were willing to let the company market to the league.

*COVID survey* - Tom would like to send out a question to the entire team to request each player's Covid status with only Tom having access to the results. Rusty would prefer to have the managers talk with their team rather than doing something identifiable. After discussion, Mark made a motion to have Rusty contact the managers, collate the responses and report back to the Board. Alan seconded the motion and all in favor.

*New player survey* - Tom will send out a survey to the new players to determine how they heard about the league and get their feedback on the league, then report back to the Board.

#### Player Personnel - Rusty Jensen

*Review of 2021 Draft* - Rusty made a motion to send out to each of the managers what round each player was picked for their team only so each player will know in case of a substitution request. The motion was seconded by Terry and all were in favor.

*Assessment of aging players* - There is a need to evaluate some of the older players to ensure that they can still play safely in the current environment, meeting the league requirements. There were several options presented and the Board will come back to a meeting for further discussion.

*Sitting of players per game* - The rule states that the maximum is two innings per person unless the player indicates they are willing to do more. A replacement player does have to sit one inning. While this does make it difficult on the managers, the rule is still accomplishing the need to ensure that all players get to play. This will be re-evaluated again at the May meeting to ensure compliance and fairness.

#### Purchasing & Inventory - Rick DuVall

*Uniforms* - The uniform file will go to the vendor on 4/14 and there is an expected 14 working day turn around to receiving the jerseys/hats. Rick made a motion to use only last names on the jerseys, Alan seconded the motion and all were in favor.

*Softballs* - 24 dozen softballs have been received which will take the league into the fall season, with a reorder done if needed.

#### Rules & Umpires - Terry Hovorka

*Tie-breaker rule* - Terry provided the Board with tie-breaker rules from other sports/leagues as options for the tournament. The rule will be decided at the May meeting.

*Ten-run Rule* - In the ninth inning, if the visitor is up ten runs, they are done regardless of the number of outs and the possibility is that the home team could score more than ten and win the game. He asked that the Board consider the rule for further discussion.

*Final Rule Book approval* - On 4/14, Terry will send the Rule Book to Mark for posting to the website. Board members will review in the interim.

*First round draft replacement players* - The current rule is a five run penalty for a first round like-for-like replacement. The managers are recommending three runs instead. Rick made a motion to change the rule to three runs, seconded by Dave and all were in favor.

*Medical Injury* - When a player is out for medical injury, the same replacement rule applies. Since there have been players that are not able to play starting game 1 so a suggestion was to put a question to that effect on the registration. Mark to approach Chuck about adding more questions.

*Bat Stickers* - 150 stickers have been used and more are on order. Due to the cost, the approach will be to only put stickers on bats where they don't already exist. Stickers will good for the lifetime of the bat unless it is retested by national softball associations and determined to be illegal. All new players bats will need to be evaluated and tagged.

*Pitching Net* - There are some players that are still not going behind the net after a pitch. The umpires will be watching and offenders will be required, by the Rules, to use a mask instead.

*Replacement players* - Should rounds 9, 10 and 11 be equal? The decision of the Board was the 9th round player will stay as a separate group and will not be part of the 10/11 group.

### Field Operations - Alan Hardt

Alan made a motion that the league purchase some disposable ice packs that would be kept in the equipment shed for emergency use. The motion was seconded by Terry and all were in favor.

Tournament teams have been borrowing league equipment from the shed for tournaments without authorization from the Board. Tom will send out an email to the managers about the situation.

## **Adjournment**

Dave made the motion to adjourn, Rusty seconded and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.

## **Next meetings:**

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

All meetings held at 6:00 PM at Sean O'Casey's - 2523 S 140th Ave, Omaha, NE unless otherwise noted.