



NSS Board Meeting

September 14, 2021

Attendance:

Board Members			
E	Steve Quinn	Rusty Jensen	x
E	Alan Hardt	Terry Hovorka	x
x	Mark Opfer	Rick DuVall	x
x	Tom Holder	Dave Sanderson	x
Others in Attendance			
x	Kathleen DuVall	Bob Dalziel	x
x	Roger Clapper		

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01. Rick chaired the meeting in Steve's absence.

Approval of the Minutes

The motion to approve the August meeting minutes was made by Mark, seconded by Tom and approved by all that were in attendance.

New Business:

Tie Breaker Rule and Runs Against - Rusty

Ed Tworek had approached several Board members about putting "runs against" as an tie-breaker rather than run scored. There are currently five tie-breaker criteria listed on the NSS website. After discussion, Terry made a motion to keep the rules as is. Dave seconded and all in attendance were in favor. The motion carried.

Umpires: Training New or Self Umpiring - Rusty

There is a level of discontent with the existing umpires and the discussion was would it make sense to use league members to do the work instead. Terry would like to do some investigation on possible other options. The discussion was tabled until Terry can do his investigation and will be placed on the November agenda.

Survey Questions - Rusty

Rusty indicated that if the Board has any topics that they would like as part of a league survey, please send them to him for collation in preparation for the December Board meeting. The survey generally goes out in the new year.

Mandatory Pitching Helmets - Tom

Tom brought up making pitching helmets mandatory vs. just face masks. The rules state that the Umpire can make the pitcher wear a mask if they are non-compliant with the screen. Historically, players do not want mandatory pitching screens. There was a thought of a possible subsidy to help with the cost of pitching helmets.

There was secondary discussion around strengthening the verbiage in the rule book for those pitchers who choose to use a screen instead but do not remain behind that screen until after the ball is hit.

Both topics were postponed until the October Board meeting and each member is tasked with coming up with pitching screen rule verbiage that is clear and has a consequence.

Early Registration Fee vs. Late Registration Fee - Mark

Chuck Cantoya had two suggestions for registration:

- a) Give those who sign up on time (before the deadline) a lower price than those who wait until after the deadline. Rusty would like that to be "in the first two weeks" to give more time to prepare for the draft.
- b) If you don't sign up by the deadline, you are automatically a pool player. This would solve the problem of those new players to the league that don't have the same visibility to the deadlines.

Mark also commented that he does have to chase people down at the beginning of the year for payment. His suggestion is that registration AND payment are the criteria.

This item is to be brought back to the agenda in December.

Player Discipline - All

There was a player ejected from a game and this player had previously been warned for the same behavior. The Board agreed that this player earned himself a suspension for the next game. Rick to communicate to Steve who will contact the player and his manager.

Overall player discipline will be covered in the November meeting.

Director Updates:

Marketing, Publicity, & Communications - Tom Holder

Rick just communicated with German American Society about the banquet so he is working on the pricing. Tom will send a "Save the Date" email to the league in the interim.

Tom believes that there should be clearer communication around the Golf Tournament and that it does not benefit the league. This needs to be stated as a fundraiser for the tournament team and possibly the name of the tournament should reflect that rather than being presented as an NSS golf tournament. Mark will update that formsite page for the future. As an possible alternative, there will be an effort from the league to work with the golf tournament organizer to reimburse NSS for our involvement.

Player Personnel - Rusty Jensen

No further updates

Purchasing & Inventory - Rick DuVall

Rick did a presentation on the Tournament Jackets and Division Champion Shirts. Mark did not have the budget numbers at the meeting but believes it was estimated enough to cover the cost. Rick will get the order placed for the summer season jackets and shirts now so as not to overwhelm Central States Printing with a large order before the Banquet.

Rules & Umpires - Terry Hovorka

No further updates.

Field Operations - Alan Hardt

Alan was excused from the meeting and the items below were part of a Board member discussion.

The lights have been updated and are better.

Field three has a PVC valve that is dangerous and has been for a while.

Batting cage between fields 1 and 4 are locked and someone wondered why NSS could not use. This is probably a vandalism issue. Rick to contact Alan to see if we can get an explanation that he can get back to the player who approached him.

Scheduling - Dave Sanderson

No further updates

Finance & Registration - Mark Opfer

No further updates

Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Dave, seconded by Tom and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Next meetings:

Tuesday, October 12, 2021
Tuesday, November 9, 2021
Tuesday, December 14, 2021

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