



NSS Board Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2021

Attendance:

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

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Steve at 6:01 PM.

Approval of the Minutes

The motion to approve the April meeting minutes was made by Terry, seconded by Rusty and approved by all in attendance.

New Business:

Golf Tournament - Gary Kruse

The date for the tournament will be August 15th at Tara Hills. There will be no charge to NSS for sponsorship since Gary will be using the NSS website and PayPal account. He is looking for ways to advertise using banners or koozies handed out to the golfers. The banner could be used for other uses such as at the field or parades. Gary and Rick to work on getting price quotes on the banner and koozies.

Registration will start July 1 and he will need some assistance with updating the NSS website. Mark will help Gary with those changes.

Summer Meeting - Gary Kruse

The summer league meeting is now scheduled for July 27th. Tom will do a league-wide communication.

Board Member replacements - Steve Quinn

As there will be three open seats on the Board this year (two Directors and Commissioner), Steve requested that the existing members start recruiting players in preparation for the election.

Director Updates:

Finance & Registration - Mark Opfer

Additional Registration Questions - Everything for registration is now hard-coded by Chuck so there will not be any additional questions added. Mark indicated that any people wanting to register as a pool player will have to pay directly since the registration site is now closed.

Choice Hotel Checks - Bill Weller gave Mark two checks for less than \$20. This is less than anticipated but probably due to Covid but there have been some tournament teams now traveling and there could be an increase in the future.

Marketing, Publicity, & Communications - Tom Holder

New Player Survey - Tom is now ready to send out the survey to all new players. Possible questions could be:

1. How did you find out about the league?
2. How are you enjoying the league?
3. Possibly a text box for additional .
4. Will you be a return player next year?
5. Would you recommend the league to a friend?

Player Personnel - Rusty Jensen

Assessment of aging players - This was previously discussed at an earlier Board meeting. After further discussion, the group consensus is to leave the situation alone and let attrition occur for those already in the league but to also be more critical in the decisions made about people new to the league that don't meet the physical challenge requirements of the skills test.

Sitting of players per game - The rule has been widely accepted and there are no issues that have been brought to the Board.

Long term Injury & Illness substitutions revisited - If a person leaves the league, just like injury and illness, the replacement rule applies as "like for like minus one round".

Covid Survey Results - Rusty reported that based on the informal manager survey, the responses from 12 of the 16 managers is that approximately 79% of those reporting are vaccinated.

Purchasing & Inventory - Rick DuVall

Lacrosse helmets for pitchers - Mike McKnight contacted Rick suggesting that the league buy three lacrosse helmets for the pitchers. The Board agreed that if a player wanted to wear one, there would be no objections, but that the league would not be purchasing any since there are nets available.

Infield Rake Purchase - Dave suggested having a rake in the shed to use for spot field prep before or between the games. Rick to find out costs and return back to the Board via email. Tom made a motion to give Rick leave to purchase a rake up to \$100. Motion seconded by Rusty and all were in favor.

Annual Banquet - Rick will contact German American Society to ensure the November 5th date is reserved for NSS.

Uniform updates - They are in production and will arrive on Friday/Saturday. Rick will send an email to all managers that uniforms will be given at the Monday games. Additional uniforms ordered for the off full draft year may be different due to vendor supply but the cost will be the same.

Rules & Umpires - Terry Hovorka

Tie-breaker rule - Terry had previously sent the Board rules from other professional organizations. The Board decided to have Terry and Rusty bring a proposal based on the current rules and the other suggestions.

Final Inning Ten-run Rule - This will be reviewed at the end of the season to see how many times this occurred to determine if it needs to be reviewed.

Home Run Rule - The Board discussed and determined that the existing rule will remain: after two home runs, any subsequent are walks.

Field Operations - Alan Hardt

Tournament Team Borrowing of Equipment - The Board agreed that if a tournament team wants to use the equipment they need to contact the Director of Field Operations for permission ahead of time. That team is then liable for any damage or loss.

Cold Weather and Field Cancellation Policy - Rick presented the attached materials to help address cold weather related cancellations. He proposed changing the cold procedure from a "guideline" to a "rule" and to use wind chill as the factor used to determine cancellations like heat index is used for warm weather cancellation. After discussion, the following was proposed by Rick:

Section 2 currently reads:

2. Hot Weather Procedures: All games are canceled if the projected heat index is 105 degrees Fahrenheit or higher at 6:00 PM or later per Accuweather (La Vista location) with the earliest call being made at 3:00 PM.

Section 2 will be replaced by the following:

2. All games are canceled if the Accuweather Real Feel temperature is projected to be 105 degrees Fahrenheit or above at 6:00 PM at the La Vista location, with the earliest call being made at 3:00 P.M.

Section 3 currently reads:

3. Cold Weather Procedures: As a guideline, games will not be played when the ambient temperature is less than 45 degrees Fahrenheit.

Section 3 will be replaced by the following:

3. All games are canceled if the Accuweather Real Feel temperature is projected to be 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below at 8:00 PM at the La Vista location, with the earliest call being made at 3:00 P.M.

Section 4 will be added with the following:

4. The information referenced in Section 2 and Section 3 can be obtained following the "**LaVista, NE**" link in the weather section on the NSS main web-page to the Accuweather web-site. Once in Accuweather, use the HOURLY function in the ribbon across the top of the page to find the hourly projections.

Alan proposed that the Hot Weather Procedure be changed to a Real Feel temperature of 100 degrees. Rusty seconded the motion. Alan was in favor and the rest of the Board was against so the Real Feel temperature will remain at 105 degrees.

Rick proposed accepting the above change to the Cold Weather Procedure. The motion was seconded by Dave. Alan and Terry were opposed. Mark, Tom, Dave, Rusty and Rick were in favor so the motion carried.

Rainout Number Usage - LaVista will still be responsible for making the call to not use the field, without NSS second-guessing, and update the rainout number by 3:30PM. If LaVista does determine the fields are playable, if there is a weather situation after they make that call, it can be up to NSS to make a secondary determination to not play.

Scheduling - Dave Sanderson

Field 2 game times - The games on Field 2 will return back to 6:15 as originally scheduled starting in mid-May. The schedule on the website has been updated and is current.

Adjournment

Rick made the motion to adjourn, Tom seconded and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Next meetings:

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

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

Addendum A

- Climate cancellations
 - Issues
 - ◆ Cold Weather Procedures are defined as a Guideline vs. Rule.
 - ◆ I believe this is the only "guideline" in our rule book.
 - ◆ Hot Temperature Procedure takes into consideration heat index. Cold Temperature Procedure does not take into consideration wind chill.
 - ◆ Lack of transparency to the league and cumbersome for the Board to determine whether or not games should be canceled.
 - Proposal
 - ◆ Set minimum wind chill temperature of a specific wind chill temperature (see chart).
 - ◆ Change Cold Weather Procedure to a Rule.
 - ◆ Change Cold Weather Procedure to mirror the Hot Temperature Procedure:

All games are canceled if the wind chill temperature is projected to be below "xx" degrees Fahrenheit at 7:00 PM per Accuweather (La Vista location), with the earliest call being made at 3:00 P.M. This information can be obtained from a LaVista, NE weather link on the NSS main web-page.

