

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

REGION ONE	REGION TWO	REGION THREE	REGION FOUR	REGION FIVE
Bob Jacques	Tom Bussey	John Reedy	Gary Tryhorn	Bill Picht
Paul Enriquez	Darryl Watson	Darryl Cabral	Joe Lewis	Pete Lewis
Don Angle	Paul Rogers	Bob Holly	Sam Scott	Rick Bowlby

Minutes of the August 21, 2024 NCSSA Board Meeting Held at the Home of Gary Tryhorn

Directors Present: Bill Picht, Pete Lewis, Don Angle, Gary Tryhorn, Sam Scott, Joe Lewis, Tom Bussey, Darryl Watson, John Reedy, and Rick Bowlby.

Directors Absent: Darryl Cabral, Bob Holly, Bob Jacques, Paul Enriquez, and Paul Rogers.

Board President Bill Picht called the meeting to order at 11:10 AM.

Reading of the Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the April 17, 2024 Board Meeting as written. The motion was approved by all present.

Treasurer's Report:

Rick Bowlby presented the Treasurer's report showing a current account balance of \$20,333.78. Income received since the prior report totaled \$1,500. Expenses over the same period totaled \$3,250.24 resulting in a net reduction in the account balance of \$1,750.24. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and approved by all present.

Rankings:

Darryl Watson mentioned that the Rankings Committee had had a discussion regarding NCSSA Rule 23 and that there were differences of opinion among the committee members regarding the rule and how it is applied. Rule 23 states that any team that has played in a minimum of four tournaments and has won more than 50% of the tournaments they've entered, must give up an additional 5 runs, over and above any run equalizers, to every team within their tournament bracket. Some committee members felt that the rule was too harsh because not only does the team get moved up in the rankings to play against stronger competition, but they also must give runs to teams that are ranked the same or higher than them.

Board members who were familiar with the history of Rule 23 and why it was added stated that Rule 23 helps prevent a team from winning multiple championships and dominating the teams in their Group. It was also pointed out that the rule only applies to teams that have won more than 50% of the tournaments they've entered, therefore, they are usually only subject to the rule for one tournament. They then fall back below the 50% tournament-win criteria when/if they lose their next tournament. With regard to giving runs to teams in their bracket that are ranked higher than they are, it was pointed out that the 5 runs that they are giving to the higher ranked team are offset by the "equalizer runs" (3, 5, or 7) that the higher ranked team has to give them.

Any managers that have a significant issue with Rule 23 should be encouraged to attend the Annual Board Meeting in December to discuss the rule and offer suggested revisions.

Hall of Fame Update:

Don Angle reported that he is emailing the *Hall of Fame Nomination Application* to current HOF and Board Members. Nominations must be submitted by September 10, 2024. The HOF Committee will review the nominations and provide a list of qualified candidates to the voting members in November. The 2024 HOF inductions will again be held at the year-end Annual Meeting in December.

Defibrillators:

The possible purchase of defibrillators for NCSSA tournaments was discussed. It was stated that defibrillators, which are fairly expensive (\$1,200 to \$1,500 each) are frequently stolen from park facilities and in addition, must be diligently maintained to ensure that they're in proper working order. The consensus of the Board members was that the Board should not be responsible for providing defibrillators. Instead, each tournament director should be encouraged (but not required) to provide defibrillators and/or ensure that a hospital or fire station is in close enough proximity that there can be an adequate response time.

Tournament Status:

There was a short discussion regarding occasional conflicts between NCSSA and SSUSA tournament dates. It was mentioned that there are no significant issues at the present time, and that there is not much we can do when/if scheduling conflicts arise.

Don Angle stated that there have been some issues recently regarding teams adding players after the tournament has started. Apparently, there is some confusion as to whether players must be added before the first game of the tournament or, before that team's first game of the tournament. It was decided

that Rule 10 needs to be amended to clarify that the requirement is for teams to add players before that team’s first game, and not the tournament’s first game. It was also decided that since this is a rule clarification and not a rule change, the Board did not have to wait until the Annual Meeting to make the clarifying edits. There was also agreement that if a Board Member happens to be attending a tournament and notices this or a similar “irregularity”, the Board Member should privately bring it to the attention of the Tournament Director.

Registration Status:

Pete Lewis provided the current number of team registrations for 2024 and compared the numbers to 2023 and 2022:

	2024	2023	2022
Number of Teams	73	78	95
Number of Players	1,494	1,406	1,953

Pete Lewis and Don Angle stated that there are a large number of players that are being dropped from one roster and added to another team’s roster for one or two tournaments and then they get off of that roster and return to their original team roster (note: players can contact Pete and request to be dropped from a team roster, it doesn’t have to be the manager). This mostly comes into play when teams are trying to circumvent the rule that says that you can only add 2 players for any tournament. This is also resulting in numerous roster revisions and a lot of work for Pete and the Roster Desk. Don Angle volunteered to draft language restricting the number of roster changes and bring it to the Board for review and discussion at our next meeting.

Other Business:

Roundtable:

- John Reedy presented a new softball, the ONYX, that he feels is better than the other NCSSA approved softballs that we are currently using. He said that although the ball is slightly most expensive, it stays cleaner and more durable throughout the game, and also seems to withstand the heat much better. He used the ONYX ball in his August 17 – 18 tournament in Lodi and the majority of players seemed to like it. John will also use the ball at his August 24 – 25 tournament in Galt. If reviews are favorable, he plans on presenting it at the Annual Meeting in December and, if approved, having it added to the list of NCSSA official softballs.

Next NCSSA Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23 at 11:00 AM at the home of Gary Tryhorn.

Meeting adjourned by Bill Picht at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Darryl Watson, Secretary

8/26/24