

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

REGION ONE	REGION TWO	REGION THREE	REGION FOUR	REGION FIVE
Bob Jacques	Tom Bussey	John Reedy	Sam Scott	Pete Lewis
Don Angle	Darryl Watson	Steve Gibson	Joe Lewis	Bill Picht
	Paul Rogers	Bob Holly	Kevin Richmond	Rick Bowlby

Minutes of the July 15, 2026 NCSSA Board Meeting Held at Big League Dreams, Manteca

Bill Picht called the meeting to order at 10:59 AM

Directors Present: Bill Picht, Don Angle, Pete Lewis, Darryl Watson, Paul Rogers, Sam Scott, Joe Lewis, Kevin Richmond, John Reedy, Bob Holly, Rick Bowlby, and Tom Bussey.

Directors Absent: Bob Jacques and Steve Gibson

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2026 Board Meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Rick Bowlby presented the Treasurer's Report as of July 15, 2026. Income received since the prior report totaled \$650 consisting of team registration fees, tournament fees and tournament insurance. Expenses over the same period totaled \$699.20 resulting in a net reduction of \$49.20 and leaving an account balance of \$21,827.17. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and approved by all present.

New Rule Pertaining to Appeal of Team Ranking: Darryl Watson representing the Rules Committee, presented a proposed new rule related to the Team Ranking Appeal Process that was approved by the Board for implementation in 2027. Beginning in 2027, teams will be able to appeal their team ranking for various reasons. The proposed new rule would apply in those cases in which a team's appeal was based on the loss of key players. The proposed rule (which would be added as Rule #33) reads as follows:

- 33. Appeal of Team Ranking:** Team Managers can appeal their team's ranking by submitting a Ranking Appeal Form which is available from the Chair of the Ranking Committee. If the team's appeal is approved **based on lost or injured players** and those players return to the team, the team manager must immediately notify the Chair of the Ranking Committee and the Tournament Director before those players are eligible to play with that team in an NCSSA tournament. Failure to comply with this requirement **will may** result in the team being declared "Exhibition" for any tournament in which the ineligible player(s) participate. The Exhibition tag may be applied before, during or after a tournament depending upon when the ineligible players are discovered.

The proposed rule was approved by the full Board with the change highlighted in yellow.

Teams Opposed to Moving up in Grouped Rankings due to Age Difference: It was reported that some teams have expressed concern and an unwillingness to move up to a higher Group in the rankings when that move would result in them playing against teams that are 15 – 20 years younger, with fear of injury being the chief concern. The Board discussed some potential options that could be implemented, one of which would allow the team to remain in their current Group rather than move up, but requiring the team to give up 3 - 5 additional runs to any opponents ranked in the same or lower Group. This 3 – 5 run penalty would be in addition to any runs the team was required to give to lower ranked teams. Following a lengthy discussion no motion was made on the item.

Scheduling/Bracketing Issues: Pete Lewis is still working on developing new 4, 5 and 6 team bracket formats to try to address concerns such as (1) 4-team brackets with teams playing less than 5 games, (2) teams having to play late games on both days, (3) teams playing their 3rd game versus a team playing their 1st game, etc. Pete plans to present new brackets to the board for approval at the next Board Meeting.

Issue – Teams Being Allowed to Pick Up Non-Rostered Players and Still Receive Runs: Some teams have voiced concern over the fact that teams are allowed to pick up 2 non-roster players from any Group, without restriction, and still receive runs from higher ranked opponents. For example, a Group 6 team playing against a Group 4 team would receive 5 runs from the Group 4 team even if the Group 6 team picked up 2 players from a Group 3 team. Players and managers have suggested that in a scenario like this one, the Group 6 team should not receive both (i.e., the two Group 3 players AND the 5 runs). It should be either/or, not both. This problem/concern only arises when the lower ranked team picks up players from a team that is ranked much higher than their team (as in the example). President Picht appointed Don Angle and Darryl Watson to look into this issue and develop a possible alternative(s) to present to the full Board for approval.

Round Table Discussion:

Additional Facilities for NCSSA Tournaments: Sam Scott and Kevin Richmond are working on securing additional venues to host NCSSA tournaments. They have identified 49 cities/localities to contact regarding the availability of sports complexes that can host senior softball tournaments. To date they have received positive responses from 17 localities including Antioch, Concord, Danville, Visalia, Folsom, Pleasant Hill, Twin Creeks and 10 others. They still have more than 30 localities they plan on contacting and will provide an update at the next Board meeting.

Hall of Fame: Don Angle is coordinating on Hall of Fame nominations for 2026. He reported that he has received two nominations to date and is targeting August 1 for completion of the nomination process.

Roster Changes: Pete Lewis reported that the number of teams registered for NCSSA tournament play totals 63. 30 teams have made 0 roster changes during the year; 24 teams have made 1 roster change, and 9 teams have made 2 roster changes.

Bob Holly to Step Down: Bob Holly informed the Board that he will be stepping down from his position as a board member effective July 31 but indicated that he wants to continue as a member of the Ranking Committee (which is made up of Board and non-Board members). Bob was thanked for his contributions to the Board and to NCSSA.

Next NCSSA Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16 at 11:00 AM at Manteca Big League Dreams.

Meeting adjourned by Bill Picht at 1:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Darryl Watson, Secretary

7/31/2026