

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		Kevin Richmond	Rick Bowlby

Minutes of the October 21, 2026 NCSSA Board Meeting Held at Big League Dreams, Manteca

Vice-President Paul Rogers called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM

Directors Present: Don Angle, Tom Bussey, Darryl Watson, Paul Rogers, Sam Scott, Kevin Richmond, John Reedy, Rick Bowlby, Steve Gibson and Bob Jacques.

Directors Absent: Bill Picht, Joe Lewis, and Pete Lewis

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

Treasurer's Report: Rick Bowlby presented the Treasurer's Report as of October 21, 2026. Income received since the prior report totaled \$100 from team registration fees. Expenses over the same period totaled \$1105.20 for insurance and website services resulting in an account balance of \$20,347.17. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and approved by all present.

Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 5 at the Manteca City Council Chambers. Don Angle is coordinating with the city to confirm the date. This year, the Annual Meeting "Pre-Meeting" which traditionally takes place on the same day as the Annual Meeting, will be moved to Wednesday, December 2 at the Manteca BLD and in its place, the Board will hold a Manager's Meeting to discuss changes to specific rules and policies pertaining to team rankings and tournament bracketing (see "Manager's Meeting", below).

At the Annual Meeting the Board will present a proposed change to our by-laws pertaining to Board structure and election of Board members. Don Angle is drafting the wording for the proposed change and will make it an agenda item for the December 2 Pre-Meeting.

Manager's Meeting: A decision was made to hold a meeting with team managers to discuss and resolve certain recurring issues pertaining to teams being moved up/down in the rankings, teams picking up players from higher ranked teams and teams having to play against other teams that are much younger. This meeting will take place immediately before the Annual Meeting. Bill Picht will send an email inviting and encouraging all team managers to attend.

Rules: There was a discussion regarding courtesy runners. Our NCSSA rule (Rule 20) says that if a batter is walked and that batter is going to get a courtesy runner, then the batter does not have to touch first base; he can go directly to the dugout. This rule differs from the SSUSA rule which requires the batter/runner in this

situation to touch first base before going to the dugout. Some Board members felt that not requiring the batter to touch first base speeds the game up; others felt it does not speed the game up, and causing confusion for players who play in both NCSSA and SSUSA tournaments; it also complicates things for the guys who umpire in both organizations. A motion was made to change NCSSA Rule 20 and prohibit batters from going directly to the dugout without touching first base. The motion failed on a vote of 5 – 4.

There was also a discussion to amend Rule 14 (Homerun Rule) to allow teams in Groups 1 – 6 to hit six homeruns with any homeruns hit after that, resulting in out. Currently, the six-homerun rule only applies to teams in Groups 1 and 2. No motion was made on the item.

Rankings: Darryl Watson reported that the Ranking Committee did a pretty good job in attempting to meet the goals of (1) having as many different teams as possible win at least one tournament and (2) try to prevent a handful of teams from dominating. He provided the following information:

- A total of 59 teams played in an NCSSA tournament in 2026
- 34 of 59 teams (58%) won at least 1 tournament
- 9 of 59 teams won 2 tournaments
- 2 of 59 teams won 3 tournaments

Darryl also reported that the committee is adding a second page to the Rankings that shows how each team performed in each Group they were ranked in, as the Rankings page by itself can be misleading.

Hall of Fame: Don Angle reported that this year there are 4 HOF candidates and that voting is currently in progress.

New Business:

- Don Angle is looking into hosting an NCSSA tournament in Carson City in 2027.
- Sam Scott and Kevin Richmond are continuing to contact cities & counties throughout Northern California to see if NCSSA can acquire more tournament venues. They have received several positive responses thus far and will continue to make inquiries. It was noted that if/when additional venues become available, we will need individuals and/or teams who are willing to serve as tournament directors.
- Paul reported that he called several of the team managers from Groups 1 and 2 that only played in one NCSSA tournament, to try to determine if they were unhappy with our tournaments and what we can do to make them more attractive to the younger teams. It appears that most of the younger teams prefer the 1-day tournament format versus the 2-day format. It was noted that Bill Picht will be establishing a new committee that will be responsible for following up with teams after completion of a tournament, to get their feedback on how the tournament went, and what if anything can be done to make the tournaments more appealing.

Next NCSSA Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2 at 11:00 AM at Manteca Big League Dreams.

Meeting adjourned by Paul Rogers at 1:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Darryl Watson, Secretary

10/29/2026