

Minutes from MGSA 12/13/23 Board Meeting-FAST Athletics

Attendance

- Kelly Wischmeier, President
- Matt Kusilek, Vice President*
- James Montgomery, Treasurer
- Tia Simpson, Deputy FP Director / Int. Pract. Scheduler
- Kristin DeRock, Volunteering
- Bill Patton, Marketing
- Cally Scholtec, Sponsors
- Laura Tober, Apparel
- Eric Nordin, Game Scheduler
- TBD, Practice Scheduler*
- Keith Wandrei, SP Director
- Justin Long, Deputy SP Director*
- Kristine Hochbaum, FP Director
- Brenna Ramy, Compliance Director/Secretary*

*Not in attendance

- Current Board Members/Needs:** Need new practice scheduler. Several ideas discussed, though no concrete solution yet. BOD to continue to brainstorm/reach out to potential candidates. Kelly to send out an email to solicit volunteers for the Practice Scheduler position.
- Website Update (Kelly):** All website update ideas due to Kelly by Dec 20th. Updates needed from Kristine (FP) and Laura (apparel). Keith requested one change to a SP picture. Registration fees to be published – Slowpitch has tiered registration fees. Additional \$50 due if registered by date communicated. No tiered pricing for Fastpitch given that players are not guaranteed a spot on a team if they register past a certain date/miss tryouts. B
- Becoming Compliant (Brenna):** Tabled since Brenna was not in attendance.
- Treasurer Report (James):** James reported that Fastpitch umpires provided a refund for ~\$13,000, increasing the fiscal year end 9/30/23 surplus to ~\$107,000 (comprised of FP - \$32K, SP - \$18K, and MGSA general - \$57K). Money Market Account is open and earning interest. Venmo up and running to pay coaches that are able to receive payment via Venmo.
- Sponsorship Update (Cally):** Cally meeting with Minnetonka Foundation to see if there are any overlapping sponsors/potential sponsors. MGSA needs to donate two registrations (one FP, one SP) to Dream Makers.
- Equipment Report (Jesse):**
 - Slow Pitch:* Keith requested blue laced balls and new catcher gear. Need to ensure that catcher gear is sized appropriately (ie: small enough). Equipment list to be updated to remove pitching rubbers since SP does not use them. SP will no longer need pitching machines since SP is moving to strictly coach pitch.
 - Fastpitch:* Ask coaches if they want equipment bags. Several coaches who own/use wagons do not use equipment bags. FP bags could be repurposed to SP. Bags are ~\$180/each.
- Practice Fields Report (Kelly/Eric):** Eric/Kelly met with Bennett fields leadership (currently under a leadership transition Alan Landers stepping down). MGSA is extended through the 2024 season but did not sign a long-term contract. Price went up for 2024. Excelsior Commons is a challenging field due to size and parking fees in Excelsior. MGSA won't pursue Excelsior Commons field for 2024.
- Marketing (Bill):** Bill to reach out to Scheel's to switch from Dick's for the Spring Coupon due to popular demand. Coupon to be sent out by Jan 22nd. Coupon to run weekend of Jan 26th-28th. Kelly is going to create a postcard. New legislation changed rules for mailing lists, so we will likely use last year's mailing list though consideration given to looking into Every Door Direct with USPS. Facebook posts have been

effective/received significant views. Consider increasing FB budget (including post “boosting”). There will be two signs posted at each school.

- Volunteering Report (Kristin):** We are going to keep volunteer fees/structure the same for 2024. Though there was some confusion regarding the need to volunteer for 6U, structure generally works well. Kristin will include on the website that we do not accept Venmo since Venmo would charge a fee.
- 2024 Tonka Softball Events (Kelly):**
 - o *Mulch Madness:* Kelly working directly with Creekside Soils. We received permission for Mulch Madness to be held in the Minnetonka High School Parking lot (vs. Cub Foods in previous years).
 - o *Equipment Swap:* To be held on Jan 21st in North Annex. Kelly to send email requesting coaches with equipment from prior seasons to return it. Look into holding this event in the Black Box Theatre. Also look to have uniform fitting at the same time/location. BOD discussed having computers/tablets onsite during the event so people could register for the season while there.
- Concessions Report (Kelly):** Kelly received approval to keep concessions trailer at Legacy over the winter. Fridge/freezer to be located onsite which will greatly reduce inefficient use of time with multiple pick-ups/week from food vendors.
- Apparel Report (Laura):** Board discussed coaches apparel for Spring season. Decided to engage Squad Locker for Spring, though may work with Spirit Gear in the Fall. Laura to update website to communicate that Spirit Gear is able to screen print and embroider Tonka gear on demand. Fall uniforms discussed for late registration planning. Last year 12 extra jerseys ordered, 13 late registrant.
- Miscellaneous Topics (All):**
 - Slowpitch/Pitching Machines:* to strictly be coach pitch (no more pitching machines).
 - High School Summer Construction (track/field):* Kelly met with two members of construction planning team to discuss turf, lights, and summer construction. Construction to begin week of June 10th. The tennis court parking area to be used for construction parking so Legacy parking should be largely unaffected. Construction to cease by 5pm daily. The track will be completed no later than August 12th. MGSA will not be able to host State Tournament this year due to construction given that State will be the week before July 4th this year.

Meeting Adjourned.