

National Softball Association of the Deaf  
Softball Council Virtual Meeting  
August 1, 2021

Commissioner Kevin Bella called the meeting to order at 7:09 am (PST), before the meeting proceeded: Charles Trumble moved that we suspended the meeting article of 4.2 due to COVID-19 pandemic, seconded by Joshua Strack. (PASSED)

**Roll Call:**

**Board of Directors:** Kevin Bella- Commissioner, Sheri Mize-Secretary, Brian Fruits-Treasurer, Ronnie Zuchegno- By- Law Chair, Vance Rewolinski- NSAD Emeritus

**North Quadrant Reps.-** Whitney Riney, Scott Bradach, and Charles Trumbles

**East Quadrant Reps.-** Kara Gulvas, Joseph Kolcun and Joshua Strack

**West Quadrant Reps.-** Hilda Velez, Rod Jex, and Bert Enos

**South Quadrant Reps.-** Stephanie Hurwitz, Patrick Kintast, and Gwendolyn Haley

**Reading of minutes:**

The minutes from the Softball Council meeting in Joliet, IL and the executive board meetings were accepted as read.

**Executive Board Meetings** - 9/22/2020, 1/26/2021, 2/2/2021, 4/26/2021, 6/27/2021 and 7/28/2021 plus many were done by zoom meetings, Marco Polo, emails and texts.

**Officers' Report:**

Commissioner Kevin Bella:

1. Appreciated that the coaches/players continued stepping in despite of COVID-19 pandemic.
2. COVID-19 impacted the year of 2020 but was glad to find the place at Overland Park, Kansas to host this year. Tournament was supposed to be at Fremont.
3. We were busy trying to confirm the players' proof of residence but it seemed to go smoothly, thanks to the coaches and the players for turning in when we requested.
4. We, the executive board members, decided to purchase the software of Teamsideline for this year, it cost us \$499 but it is worthwhile saving our time and easier to track.
5. Shared the information that we have about 50 new players and 9 new coaches this year.
6. We have had many meetings via zooms, Marco Polo, emails and texts.
7. Shane, the softball complex staff asked us: how many states do the players, coaches and fans coming in this weekend. Replied with 40 different states.

Treasurer Brian Fruits:

**1. 2019 finance report (Joliet, Illinois)**

Income - \$24,887.73

Operating Expenses - \$28,206.66

Net Profit - **-\$ 3,318.93**

**2. 2020 finance report (COVID - no tourney)**

Income - \$200.00 - team sent ½ registration fee for 2020

Operating Expenses - \$348.40 - website and annual fees for the year

Net Profit - **-\$148.40**

Secretary Sheri Mize:

Thanks to the coaches/players for their quick responses via emails. Looking forward to seeing them at Overland Park, KS.

Law Chair Ronnie Zuchegno, Jr.:

Thanks to the law committee members, CJ Furzland, Cary McKeller, Kara Gulvan, Joseph Kolcun and Sheri Mize for the meetings to go through the motions. He explained that the motions were held at all divisions (Coaches) meetings.

**Motion #1:**

Moved that the tournament would be held on either of the last 2 weekends of July.

**Currently: Section 3 ANNUAL TOURNAMENT DATES (Tournament Policies)**

3.1 The annual NSAD Softball Tournament shall be held during the last weekend of July or first weekend of August.

Law committee's Recommendation: Keep the first weekend of August and add the last 2 weekends of July.

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All divisions amended to keep the first weekend of August and add the last 2 weekends of July. (Passed)

The main motion **passed** by all the divisions. (PASSED)

**Motion #2:**

Moved that the Hearing players are allowed to be Free Agent only if CODA/SODA/Spouse is on the team as an eligible player.

Currently: **Section 2 TEAM ELIGIBILITY RULES** (Rules and Reg.)

2.6.4 No Hearing players are allowed to be a Free Agent.

Law committee’s Recommendation: Oppose it.

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Women - motion was dead with no seconds.

COED - Failed

Men - Failed (Motion was dead due to no one seconded)

**Motion #3**

Moved that the pitcher’s Courtesy Runner would not be counted against “One Courtesy Runner per inning.” Effective this tournament.

Currently: **NSAD modified rules. NEW additional to #6**

Law committee’s Recommendation: In Favor.

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All divisions - passed (PASSED)

**Motion #4**

Moved that NSAD follows USSSA’s Gender Classification.

Currently: **Section 3 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY RULES** (Rules and Reg.)

3.6 A transgender student athlete should be allowed to participate in any sports activity so long as that athlete’s use of hormone therapy, if any, is consistent with the National College Athletic Association (NCAA) existing policies on banned medications. Specifically, a transgender student-athlete should be allowed to participate in sex-separated sports activities under the following conditions on NCAA’s *On the Team: Equal Opportunity for Transgender Student-Athletes*, for further details please visit pages 28-34.

Law committee’s Recommendation: In Favor

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All divisions passed. (PASSED)

**Motion #5**

Moved that in the Co-ED game, if a man batter walked, he would always take 2nd base.

Currently: **NSAD CO-ED Modified Rules**

2... If the male batter walks, and another male batter succeeds the walked male batter in the batting order, the walked male batter would only be awarded one (1) base. If a female batter succeeds the walked male batter, the male batter will be awarded two (2) bases.

Law committee’s Recommendation: Opposed it. **COED - passed (PASSED)**

**Motion #6**

Moved that we revise our rules related to Championship game’s play time. First game of the Championship game will be 60 minutes or 7 innings (Mercy rule will be in place). The Second Championship game will be 75 minutes or 7 innings without Mercy rule.

Currently: **NSAD modified Rules #6c TIME LIMIT**

In the Championship game, Team A with one loss played against Team B with no loss will play 7 innings or 60 minutes. If both teams have 1 loss each shall play 7 innings with no time limit.

Law committee’s Recommendation: In Favor.

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**Women - failed**

**COED/Men- passed (PASSED)**

**Motion #7**

Moved that we revise our rule related to hitting to pitcher. If the ball hit a hard line drive toward the pitcher, the location would be above waist to the top of head and between the shoulder. The pitcher must be within the pitching rubber. It will be an out and a dead ball. It is recommended for play to continue until the umpire calls a dead ball.

Currently: **NSAD modified rules #13**

Protected Pitchers: If the batter hits the ball to an indefensible pitcher, the umpire will decide if the batter is out. The ball will be live until the umpire stops the game.  
Law committee's Recommendation: In Favor. We would recommend "Head to toe"

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All divisions - amended to be from Head to toe - passed  
As the whole motion was passed. **(PASSED)**

### Motion #8

Moved that we are allowed to have Team Representative meetings anytime within 14 days from the first game day of the tournament, and it could be held in person or virtual.

Currently: ***Tournament Policies 9.2 (NEW)***

Law committee's Recommendation: In Favor.

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All divisions - passed **(PASSED)**

### Motion #9

Moved that we are allowed to have Softball Council meetings anytime within 14 days from the first game day of the tournament, and it could be held in person or virtual.

Currently: ***By Laws Section 4 Softball Council***

4.2 The annual meeting of the Softball Council shall be held in the NSAD tournament city on Thursday before the NSAD Tournament.

Law committee's Recommendation: In Favor.

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The motion was amended 14 days before and 7 days after the Softball council meetings **(PASSED)**

The second amended that the meetings must be virtual. **(PASSED)**

The last amended meeting will be 14 days after the softball council meetings to review. **(PASSED)**

The main motion is that we will have the Softball Council meetings anytime within 14 days from the first game of the tournament and 14 days after the final of NSAD softball tournaments and it must be virtual meetings. **(PASSED)**

**New Business:**

**#1**

***Section 7 TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION FEES***

NSAD NATIONAL TOURNAMENT Section 1

1.2 Florida shall be the destination for NSAD tournament site for a maximum of 3 years. (Passed 2019)

The execution board's recommendation to change 1.2 : NSAD shall consider hosting at the State of Florida every other 3 years. **(PASSED)**

**#2**

moved that we create these incentives for youth players. If a team has the following number of players 21 years old and under the team shall receive \$15 per player discount toward team fee. NSAD shall refund after that player shows up at NSAD. **(PASSED) in 2019.**

Moved that we suspended this year and will continue next year due to COVID-19 and didn't add the age into the teamsideline column. (PASSED)

**Announcements:**

Tournament sites (tentative)

2022 - Las Vegas or Houston

2023 - Panama City Beach, FL

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Mize, NSAD secretary

