

National Softball Association of the Deaf
Softball Council Virtual Meeting
July 24, 2022

Commissioner Kevin Bella called the meeting to order at 6:09 pm (PST) via virtual.

Roll Call:

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

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

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

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

South Quadrant Reps.- Stephanie Hurwitz, Patrick Kinast, and Paige Thompson

Reading of minutes:

The minutes from the Softball Council meeting in Overland, Kansas, Charles Trumble accepted the minutes as read as Bert Enos seconded.

Executive Board Meetings - 9/01/2021, 3/29/2022, 4/15/2022, 5/2/202, 6/13/2022, 7/10/2022 and 7/17/2022 plus many were done by Marco Polo, emails and texts.

Officers' Report:

Commissioner Kevin Bella:

1. Appreciated that the coaches/players continued coaching
2. His gratitude was expressed to the representatives from North, East, South and West..
3. Appreciated that the board of directors worked as a team, they were volunteers, and spent many hours.
4. Teamsideline-1st year of pilot last year, succeeded so continued using this year since that program was very effective and organized, Bella added the ages so we can view the average of ages and see what we can improve.
5. We have 52 new players compared to 50 last year and 3 new coaches since last year there were 9 new coaches.

Treasurer Brian Fruits:

1. 2021 - finance report (Overland, Kansas)

Income - \$20,035.47

Operating Expenses - \$24,580.44

Net Profit -**\$4,544.97 (Loss)**

Secretary Sheri Mize:

Remind the coaches to email if their player cancels coming to League City or add the player to pay \$25 at the Hotel.

Tournament Director Mathis Hediger:

1. Please share with your players that there is a construction on I-45 going to the Big League Dream sports complex. Be there earlier as we will have the schedule on time.
2. Dug out - shaded areas
3. Canopy can be set at the specific location, can't be near the dugout or the field nearby.
4. We can bring a small cooler (only water bottles) nothing else, Mathis will ask Rudy to make sure what size of cooler, can bring pickle juice? He will get back to you.
5. 5 miles to Kemah boardwalk.
6. BLD - 3rd time as NSAD host.

Law Chair Ronnie Zuchegno, Jr.:

The law committee members were CJ Fuzland, Cary McKeller, Kara Gulvan, Joseph Kolcun and Sheri Mize. He explained that the motions were held at all divisions (Coaches) meetings.

He mentioned that there are 2 that need clarification:

1. Clarification on "Hearing Rules":
 - 2.6.1 Only ONE (1) hearing per team.
 - 2.6.2 Must play within the same quadrant.
 - 2.6.3 Limited to on Family per team to be waived toward the Hearing rule.
 - 2.6.4 No Hearing players are allowed to be a Free Agent.

Changed to:

2.6 CODA/SODA/Hearing Spouse rules

- 2.6.1 Only ONE (1) per team.
- 2.6.2 Must play within the same quadrant and Free Agent is not allowed.
- 2.6.3 Limited to on family per team to be waived toward CODA/SODA/Hearing Spouse rules.

CODA/SODA/Hearing Spouse rules:

- a. That person must be biological or legal related to Deaf Adults.
- b. Must be an immediate family member.

To activate the “waive CODA/SODA/Hearing Spouse rules:

- a. Deaf Adults must be on the roster and present at the NSAD tournament.
- b. Must have at least ONE (1) complete at bat during the bracket play.
- c. Opposite gender must be Head coach of the team and comply with Head coach duties.

The purpose of the waiver rule is to give Deaf adults a chance to play with family, and it is not for teams to take advantage.

We have 7 motions: the other 3 motions that were submitted after the deadline so will have these 3 motions next year.

Motions

SB 22-01 moves that we remove the whole part of By-Laws: **Seconded** and **(PASSED)**

Article 4: Section 2 - The Rules Committee

2.1 The umpire in chief shall pick at least five (5) person (s) to be on the Rules Committee.

2.1.1 One member shall be a male player on the Men's team.

2.1.2 One member shall be a female player on the Women's team.

2.1.3 One member shall be a player or coach on the COED team.

2.1.4 Two (2) members shall be an umpire.

SB 22-02 moves that we add to the duty of the Tournament Director: **Seconded** and **(PASSED)**

Article 2; Section 2 - Tournament Director

2.4.10 May appoint a Coordinator of Umpire scheduling.

- a. Shall be responsible for umpire schedules
- b. Shall be responsible for the umpire's needs.

SB 22-03 moves that we remove the whole part of tournament policies: **Seconded** and **(PASSED)**

Article 1; Section 6

6.1.1 All umpires shall have an on-field clinic on either on Wednesday or Thursday, operated by an appointed Umpire-in-Chief (UIC).

SB 22-04 moves that we add this to Tournament Policies: **Seconded** and **(PASSED)**

Article 1; Section 6

6.1.1 Umpire in Chief (UIC) may be determined by Tournament Director with the current umpire roster at the tournament.

SB 22-05 moves that we add this to Tournament Policies: **Seconded** and **(PASSED)**

Article 6; Section 1

6.1 The tournament games shall be governed by registered USA softball, NSA or USSSA umpires, who are certified and listed in the ASA, NSA or USSSA Softball guide.

To this:

6.1 The tournament games shall be governed by certified umpires that are registered by any softball associations approved by NSAD.

SB 22-06 moves that we change NSAD modified rules #8c: **Seconded** and **(PASSED)**

Change from 10 runs to 12 runs:

Mercy Rule:

- a. Twenty (20) runs after completion of 3rd inning.
- b. Fifteen (15) runs after completion of 4th inning.
- c. **Ten (10) runs after completion of 5th inning.**

SB 22-07 moves that we change the time limit rule #7a:

- 1) Time Limit:

- a) Game length is seven innings or 55 minutes for round robin and 60 minutes for the bracket games.

To add this: Game length is seven innings or 60 minutes for round robin and 70 minutes for the bracket games.

1st amended seconded to add 55 minutes for round robin and 65 minutes for the bracket games.

2nd amended seconded that being on trial basis.

tabled this motion to the next meeting, **seconded** and **(PASSED)**

New Business: will refer to the next NSAD softball council meeting.

1. Riney's motion related to women(no hats)
2. Enos' motion related to MLB,Semi-pro not allowed.

Election on the new commissioner, secretary and treasurer:

Kevin Bella - Commissioner

Sheri Mize - Secretary

Brian Fruits - Treasurer

Announcements:

Tournament sites (tentative)

2023 - Panama City Beach, FL - first weekend of August.

Charles Trumble announced that they will have the MAAD tournament during the Labor Day weekend in 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm (PST)

Respectfully submitted,
Sheri Mize, NSAD secretary

