

Draft

**VSS Minutes  
May 4, 2020 (Virtual Meeting)**

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. Present: Craig Tanner, Dave Hutchins, Kevin Conklin, Bill Hettinger, Kevin Massey, Keven Busque, Ronny Griffth, Dick Nabel. Missing: Mary Gracylany

2. The minutes of the January meeting were approved with no changes. The March revised minutes and April minutes were not available.

3. Player comments: None

4. Committee reports:

Dick Nabel reported the current checking balance was \$5,569.43. Discussion was held of upcoming expenditures. Sponsorship letters have not been sent yet due to the virus and we are not expecting significant sponsor payments this year. Payment for the fields, which we expect to be pro-rated, will need to be made once the timing of the season is known. Other expenditures the board will consider as more is known include cape tournament fees and picnic and Christmas party subsidies.

Kevin Massey reported the fee had been paid to the town for the Aug 22 tournament date. Per the terms, we can cancel 30 days prior and get most of the money back. Discussion was held. The board deferred a decision until closer to the refund deadline.

No other committee reports were presented.

5. Old business: None

6. New business: The disciplinary policy for section T of the rules was discussed. Several minor edits were made. Motion to approve by Kevin Conklin, second by Dick Nabel. Motion approved

Start of the season was discussed. The season cannot start until the governor opens up the state and allows more than five people to congregate and the town allows the league access to the fields. We would like to start the season within a week or two of these events.

The maintenance of safety of league members when/if a 2020 season starts was discussed including adhering to the SSUSA guidelines on social distancing, disinfecting, and masks for catchers and umpires. Talking points attached as Attachment A. An additional suggestion was to return to the commitment line, overrun the base, no tag rules used previously to mitigate potential contact on the field and different positioning of the umpires.

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Managers will call their teams to get a status of interest in playing for 2020 given the guidelines and circumstances. Craig/Dave will call the opt outs and new players. Hutch will send out a league email with the SSUSA guidelines. The board will discuss at the next meeting.

7. The next meeting will be May 18 at 6 pm (virtual meeting)

8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm. Motion by Dick Nabel, second by Kevin Conklin. All in favor

Submitted May 5, 2020  
Bill Hettinger

## Talking points for BOD meeting regarding VSS season

- What health concerns are there and what safeguards do we put in place?
- What, if anything, do we adopt from **SSUSA** initiative?
- 1. No contact, no handshake before, during or after game
- 2. Maintain social distancing at all times
- 3. Spectators must abide by the same
- 4. 6' of distance maintained on bench and in dugout
- 5. Masks or shields for catchers and umpires
- 6. Players wear masks when in dugout
- 7. Managers keep and disinfect balls between innings
- 8. Umpires had disinfectant and rags
- 9. On deck batter to wear gloves and handle bats
- 10. No community water containers to be used
- 11. One umpire per game
- What are the minimum # of games and teams we consider for a season?
- How “necessary” is it to have playoffs?
- Is (3) games per week realistic and if so, every week?

### **Additional concerns:**

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- The dugout is only for players on the participating teams. No former players, spouses, grand kids, or players from the next game will be allowed on the bench.
- Biggest concern is the time between games. All players from the first game must leave the dugout area before any new team player can enter. All players are responsible for removing all trash, water bottles and personal belongings at the conclusion of the game.
- Discussion on tryouts, practices, scrimmages, etc