



FINAL Minutes

VSS Board of Directors Meeting September 19, 2022

Meeting called to order at 6:26 PM

Board Members Present –

League Commissioner – Kevin Conklin

Internal Competition – Bill Hettinger

Public Relations – Brian Battles

External Competition - Ken Hartwright

Treasurer – Richard Nabel

Recording Secretary -Gail Gretzmacher

Social Committee – Tim Poloski

Historian - Kevin Massey

Umpire Committee – Matt Kellie

Guests: Kari Martin (Team Manager Ravens) & Mike Calabro (Ravens)

Motion was made and seconded to approve the amended minutes of the August 8, 2022 meeting.
Motion passed and Bill will post to the league website.

○ Commissioner comments - Kevin

- Season went well
- Playoff final was a 2-run difference (17-15) with Blue Jays being the winner
- 70+ people signed up for fall ball; 5 teams formed
- Picnic had best attendance ever – great location; less money than East Windsor by \$50; appreciation extended to Mike Smith for securing this new South Windsor venue and Wicked Slice pizza for providing the food
- This season VSS lost sponsors and need to recruit additional sponsors for 2023 season

○ Treasurer Update – Dick

- Operating account is \$2571
- Picnic cost was \$468
- Audit committee meeting to be scheduled in early October
- March 2023 – need \$1800 for insurance; will need more balls and hats for 2023

○ In Internal competition – Bill

- Congratulations to the Blue Jays for winning the playoffs (final game - Blue Jays vs Eagles)
- There were 7 balanced teams during the season (good competition during the season)
- Need to better support the Owls in 2023
- 128 members in the VSS; 126 were active at the end of season
- Lost one of our new 27 Sr bats ; next year plan to etch the VSS-owned bats
- Rules committee to be scheduled soliciting candidates for committee and for changes
- Note from Kenny: site that might be helpful to buy/sell/trade Senior softball equipment (eg: bats)

<https://www.facebook.com> · Facebook Groups

■ Senior Softball Buy,Sell,Trade - Facebook

This is a board to buy sell and trade bats and equipment or other items that may be of interest to other fellow Senior Softball Players and to list up coming tournaments .

Please post a selling price as this is not EBay. If you are looking to trade post that also .If you post asking for offer to try to start a bidding war then the post will be deleted. Thanks [See less](#)

○ Social Committee-Tim

- League picnic summary
 - 75 people attended
 - Food donated by Wicked Slice (pizza, salad, chicken wings donated)
 - VSS supplied drinks and desserts

- Next year consider pot luck options
 - Music – provided by Tim Cromwell
 - Activity - Corn Hole
 - Thanks to Mike Smith for securing the venue
 - There was representation from all teams
- Facebook update
 - Game results posted weekly
 - Playoff results posted daily
- VSS year-end party: there was interest expressed by membership to consider having a year-end party again (previous parties were held in early December on a Sunday afternoon)
 - An option to consider – Georginas - \$41/person (\$33+tax), minimum of 50
- *External Competition – Kenny* (supplied via email)
 - One-pitch tournament update
 - 4 teams participated; Talaga Construction beat The New England Vipers in the Championship game
 - Great partnership with Kevin M on the tournament
 - Ceremony recognizing Paul went well, honorees attended
 - Talaga team had Paul’s number and #44 on their shirts
 - Kevin M wrote a wonderful tribute to Don Graves who has played in the league since the inception but had to retire this season
 - Ed Donofrio used his tractor to drag the infield; needed from the rain received the night before
 - The paid umpire at the tournament did a fabulous job
 - Sept Cape tournament – Joe Marsala’s 70s team participated
 - Mon-Wed were the scheduled tournament days (
 - Our team played 1 game on Monday, no play on Tuesday (rain) , Wed – played the #1 team); and so only got to play 2 games in this tournament where most teams had 4 games
 - Next year we have credit for entry to the tournament in 2023 (per the tournament leader); board would like this in writing so we can plan accordingly
 - Suggestion was made to update the web page on External competition with all the tournament dates so that members can better plan their schedules
 - CT Masters Date is in June, Cape tournament is in September
- *Umpire update- Matt*
 - Expressed thanks for volunteers who umpired
 - More experienced umpires used during the playoffs
 - Some new candidates expressed interest in
 - umpiring next season
 - Dave Hutchins to give a session before the 2023 season for umpires on positioning & guidance
- *Public Relations – Brian*
 - Sponsor update – volunteers took the recognition certificates for personal delivery to our sponsors
- *Historian update – Kevin M*
 - 2022 binder is 95% done; one-pitch tournament and team pictures included
 - To be added:
 - VSS membership meeting minutes from October
 - Cape tournament pictures to be added
 - The Trophy shop – purchased recognition awards for Joan Youngs & Rich Gesser; trophy for Life-time achievement to Don Graves.
 - Trophy shop owner Adam might consider being a sponsor to VSS in 2023

New Business:

- Annual VSS membership meeting
 - October 24 at 6pm
 - Vernon Community Center venue being pursued
 - There will be Board openings that will need to be filled with a vote
 - 4 Board members have their term up: Ken Hartwright, Kevin Massey, Kevin Conklin, Gail Gretzmacher
 - Kevin Conklin and Gail Gretzmacher are interested in continuing service
 - Ken and Kevin M wish to step down

- Anyone interested in being considered a candidate can contact the Commissioner
 - A nominating committee of 3 Board members will be created (Kenny, Kevin M, ?)
- Motion was made and passed to have 4 raffle prize winners for the annual membership meeting attendees:
 - Wicked slice – 2 gift certificates @ \$25/ea
 - Sheas - 2 gift certificates @ \$25/ea
- Fall Ball league
 - Fall Ball league has started with 5 teams
 - For safety, the pitcher screen will be implemented for the last 3 weeks of the season to determine its value and potential use for the 2023 season;
 - A batted ball hit into the screen will be a dead ball
 - A thrown ball into the screen will be a 'live' ball
 - Pitchers will be required to go behind the screen after delivery (side step after the ball is pitched)

Next meeting: October 24, 2022

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting which was seconded at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Gretzmacher, Recording Secretary 9/19/2022