



FINAL Minutes

VSS Board of Directors Meeting April 4, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM

Board Members Present –

League Commissioner – Kevin Conklin

Internal Competition – Bill Hettinger

Internal Competition – Tim Poloski

Treasurer – Richard Nabel

Recording Secretary -Gail Gretzmacher

Umpire committee -Matt Kellie

Public Relations - Jack Frascarelli

Social Committee – Brian Battles

Missing: Public Relations - John Murphy

Guests: Kari Martin, Ken Hartwright, Mike Smith, Mike Calabro, Paul Davies, Carl Schaefer, Robert Marquis, Joe Handleman, Jim Colter, Frank Amodio, Carroll Grant, Jimmy Greeley

- Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion passed and Bill will post to the league website.

○ **Opening Comments**

- Purchased a replacement green tarp/screen behind home plate for ~\$180; to be installed by the Rec Dept
- Registration for the field has been sent ; confirmed VSS to continue paying their share for the Port-o-potty
- Rec Dept will continue to mow the left side of the field
- CPR training – plan to determine options this coming week

○ **Treasurer Update – Dick**

- \$7525 in the operating account
- Insurance payment of \$1755 made

○ **Internal Competition- Bill, Tim**

- Registration update – 102 members have registered (30 more than last meeting)
 - 8 new members to the league
 - 5 players opted out of their current team
 - Expect about 120 core members which support having 8 teams
- VSS web name has been renewed for 5 years
- A draft league schedule has been posted on the web site (3/8)
- New bat stickers have been printed
- Bats inventory – Tim/Kenny
 - Current VSS bat inventory- Tim

	ASA/USA	SSUSA
25 oz.		Worth Krecher**
26 oz.	Worth Krecher * Miken Ultra 750 Easton Hemler Easton Hemler	Worth AT18* Dudley Lightning Suncoast Melee 2 Miken Ultra Fusion**
27 oz.	Worth Krecher * Miken Ultra 750 Worth Krecher** 2024	Dudley Lightning Suncoast Melee 2 Miken Ultra Fusion** 2024
28 oz.	Miken Primo* Miken Ultra 750 Miken Ultra 750 2024	Worth AT18* Dudley Lightning Miken Freak 2024

* 2022 bat purchase
** 2023 bat purchase

- *Each side of the field will now be able to have league bats:*
 - *Non-senior bats – 26,27,28*
 - *Senior bats – 26,27,28.*
- *League bat identification -Kenny*
 - *Bat Grips:*
 - *A motion was made and passed to purchase 20 bat grips at a cost not to exceed \$600. Picture of grip below:*
 - *The senior bats will have a red grip and the non-senior bats will have a green grip to match the decals for non-league bats.*



- *Etching tool –will be used to clearly indicate a VSS bat asset*
 - *Rules - Kevin*
 - *Proposed rule changes that were discussed.*
 - *Result: the following motions was made and approved:*
 - ***A pitcher. using the pitching screen, will be allowed to field an 'Infield Fly' as called by the umpire.***
Context: It was felt the defense was limited when a pitcher using the pitching screen was unable to field any batted ball. The original intent was for the protection of the pitcher. But the situation with an infield fly (routine pop-up) could be fielded by the pitcher without a safety issue.
 - ***Any foul-tipped ball that is caught by the catcher is an out***
Context: SSUSA rule has the ball must be over the batter's head for the catcher to make the catch for an out on a tipped ball. There is interest in effecting a rule change to adjust the rule to say any caught ball by the catcher would be an out.
 - ***A runner who has one foot down on or beyond the 3rd base line is considered to have crossed the line.***
Context: There was confusion about the definition of 'beyond the 3rd base line' and when the baserunner has crossed it.
 - *Result: the following had a 'No Vote'*
 - *First base. Our rule is the runner can only touch the orange bag if they aren't going to second. The first base fielder can only touch the white bag. SSUSA now allows the first base fielder to use the orange bag to avoid a collusion (errant throws) and then the runner from home can touch the white bag.*
 - *Context: It was felt this change would introduce too much confusion.*
- ***Public Relations – Jack***
 - *The sponsor brochure will be finalized this week with plans to go to print next week*
 - *Sponsors:*
 - *Kari recruited 9 sponsors*
 - *Jack/Murph recruited 9 sponsors*
 - *Additional – Battles, Sheas, Star Hill, Honorary Hawk Dave Coppoloili*
 - *Sponsor appreciation letters will be sent once Jack/John provide a final listing*
- ***Umpires - Matt***
 - *Volunteer listing being finalized and will be distributed to umpires*

- *Umpires will work out any substitution coverage needed during the season themselves using the list*
- *Kevin will see if Hutch could be available to host an umpire training session (highlight some key rules and positioning)*
- **Social Committee** – Brian
 - *League picnic will be held on September 24th in South Windsor (Nevers pavilion)*
 - *Time is 8am – 8 pm; alcohol is permitted*
 - *Special thanks to Mike Smith for getting a great discount on the price \$200 (normally \$600)*
- **External Competition** – no update
- **Player Comments:**
 - *Joe H – suggested the use of his physical therapist who, at no cost, could come to the field and review stretching exercises with league members. (great suggestion)*
 - *Mike C – wanted clarification on the result of leaving the bases early for a non-batted ball (from all bases) (an out situation)*
 - *Carl S – wanted confirmation that the screen is to be used for batting practice (yes)*
 - *Jack F- noted 1 of our 2 pitching screens was broken. (velco strips will be added)*
- **New Business:** none

Next meeting : April 19th after new player assessments on 4/18 & 19

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting which was seconded at 659 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Gretzmacher, Recording Secretary
 4/4/2023