



FINAL Minutes

VSS Board of Directors Meeting August 7, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:14 PM

Board Members Present –

League Commissioner – Kevin Conklin

Internal Competition – Tim Poloski

Recording Secretary -Gail Gretzmacher

Internal Competition – Bill Hettinger

Public Relations - Jack Frascarelli

Missing: Social Committee – Brian Battles

Treasurer – Richard Nabel

Umpire Committee – Matt Kellie

Public Relations – John Murphy

Guests (Managers): Kari Martin, Mike Calabro (Ravens). Ken Hartwright (Hawks), Mike Smith (Cardinals), Kevin Massey (Blue Jays)

- Motions were made and seconded to approve the minutes of the July 12 2023 meeting. Motion passed and Bill will post to the league website.
 - **Opening Comments**
 - none
 - **Treasurer Update** – Dick provided earlier
 - \$5636 in the Operating Account
 - **Internal Competition-** Bill, Tim
 - Season update –
 - Commissioner is in contact with the Rec Dept on number of games and whether payment made to date covers VSS season
 - VSS web site statistics – 1800 hits in the month of June, indicating strong access
 - Regular season standings
- | Team | Wins | Losses | Ties | Win % | GB |
|------------------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| Falcons | 17 | 8 | | .680 | - |
| Ravens | 15 | 10 | 1 | .596 | 2 |
| Eagles | 13 | 10 | 1 | .563 | 3 |
| Owls | 14 | 11 | | .560 | 3 |
| Blue Jays | 12 | 13 | | .480 | 5 |
| Cardinals | 12 | 13 | | .480 | 5 |
| Orioles | 9 | 15 | | .375 | 7.5 |
| Hawks | 7 | 19 | | .269 | 10.5 |
- Playoff readiness
 - Hawk pitching situation discussed; Hawk team will provide their own pitching with no substitute pitchers to be used
 - **Public Relations** – Jack
 - The remaining sponsor brochures will be distributed at the One-Pitch tournament
 - Sponsors continue to be posted to Facebook by Tim - now twice a week with 3 sponsors remaining to post

- **Umpires:- Matt provided earlier**
 - Appreciation extended to the collective group of volunteer umpires this season
 - Umpire updates:
 - one umpire has decided not to continue
 - one umpire out on medical issue
 - Suggestion/discussion – Have 3 umpires cover the playoff games
 - Not enough umpires per team to provide 3
 - Commissioner/Board will work with Matt to secure umpires for Playoff games

- **Social Committee –**

- *Sept 24 – picnic date*
 - *Our Board member/coordinator is out on medical leave and so alternate coverage is needed*
 - *Thanks to the following for helping with coverage:*
 - *Kari – soda, water, chips, plates napkins, salad dressing*
 - *Jack – order pizza for 70 attendees; bowls of salad*
 - *Tim to ask Sean for cold storage opportunity*
 - *Kevin C – utensils, bringing coolers & ice*

- **External**

- *1-pitch tournament – scheduled for August 12 (Kenny & Kevin M)*
 - *Additional field preparation may be needed on Saturday morning if games are played on Friday that would impact the field lining put down by the Rec Dept*
 - *Championship hats to be picked up on Wednesday 8/10*
 - *Honorees are Mary Gracyalny (will try to make it to the tournament) and Norm Taylor*



- *Board expressed appreciation to Kevin Massey for his time and effort to collect background information on these 2 retired Falcon players and make these wonderful plaques for them and their families.*
- *The tournament will open with an 8:45 welcome by Kevin M, to be following by award presentations and then the playing of the national anthem. Tournament play then begins at 9am.*

3rd Annual VSS Memorial 1 Pitch Softball Tournament
 Saturday, August 12, 2023 at 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Community Field, 375 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, CT

9:00 AM
Diamond Dawgs Vs Nor'easters

10:00 AM
Talaga v Vipers

11:00 AM
Nor'easters vs Vipers

12:00 PM
Diamond Dawgs vs Talaga

1:00 PM
Diamond Dawgs vs Vipers

2:00 PM
Nor'easters vs Talaga

3:00 PM
Championship Game

- *Members are encouraged to come and support the tournament as well as to help with taking pictures*
- *Need to evaluate the cost for team entrance in 2024 (2023 team entrance fee is not covering expenses)*
- *Cape teams: (Kevin C)*
 - *Tournament team jersey sets will be used for the Cape team*
 - *65s – no team has been formed due to lack of response*

- 75s- Joe Marsala has a team formed and will play in the Cape tournament
- **Historian (Kevin M)**
 - Team Picture status – Cardinals, Ravens, Blue Jays pictures taken; need other team managers to take their team photo
 - History book is in progress for 2023
- **Fall Ball**
 - Registration:
 - Form created and posted on web site (Registration opened August 1)
 - Managers are encouraged to promote Fall Ball to team members
 - Extra forms can be found in the shed
 - Registration forms to be given to Kari, Dick Nabel or Bill by August 25
 - Team Managers:
 - Kevin C, Kari, Bill, Dick
 - Managers will collect money at 1st game
 - Manager meeting - August 30
 - Some rules:
 - No runners from home
 - Hit to outfield, automatic 1st base

Player/Manager comments –

Mike C-

Q: inquired about teams that bat 11 versus 15 in the playoffs and the advantage that provides.

A: Board recognized this as a possible situation but are in agreement that registered members should be able to participate as per VSS rules and that teams should play with their full team as they did in regular season.

Kari –

Q: asked for better delineation of players that can use a Senior bat as an umpire

A: Sr Bat eligible players are denoted on the VSS web site (Roster) but a better list could be created. Also, managers/players can confirm eligible players prior to the start of the game.

Next meeting : September 14

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting which was seconded at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Gail Gretzmacher, Recording Secretary
 8/7/2023