



# DRAFT Minutes

## VSS Annual Membership Meeting October 19, 2023

**Meeting called to order at 6:17 PM**

### **Board Members Present –**

*League Commissioner – Kevin Conklin  
Internal Competition – Bill Hettinger  
Internal Competition – Tim Poloski  
Social Committee – Brian Battles  
Public Relations – Jack Frascarelli  
Public Relations – John Murphy  
Treasurer – Richard Nabel  
Umpire Committee – Matt Kellie  
Recording Secretary -Gail Gretzmacher*

- *Proof of Quorum was achieved with 47 members present. Attendance sheet recorded names. (attendance sheet attached below);*
- *Guest – Kari Martin (Ravens Manager)*
- *Opening Remarks by Commissioner – Kevin C*
  - *Congratulations were given to the Eagles for winning the Playoffs*
  - *All regular season schedule games were played with the exception of one*
  - *Owls had a better record this year and seemed to have an enjoyable season*
  - *Thank yous:*
    - *Ken Hartwright & Tim Poloski – purchased additional bats to provide a full set for each side of the playing field and colored grips for better organization of the bat sets. This was very helpful and allowed easier management and use of bats.*
    - *Mike Smith, Keven Busque, and John Massey were recognized for their significant time umpiring for the league*
    - *Kari Martin – for her contribution to securing new sponsors*
    - *Kevin Massey & Ken Hartwright for running another highly successful one-pitch tournament*
      - *Gail noted that Ken wanted to assure recognition/appreciation to Tim Cromwell for the music/sound system and Butch Talaga and wife for the wonderful lunch they provided at the tournament.*
    - *Matt and Brian, outgoing Board members for their contributions; Matt – running umpires and Brian – supported Sponsorship in 2022 and Social activities*
    - *The 2023 Board – John/Jack – building significant sponsorship , Dick – nice job as Treasurer, Tim/Bill – Internal Competition, web site, registration & Facebook, Gail-timely minutes as Recording Secretary; Jack then recognized the thankless but great job Kevin Conklin, our commissioner, has done for the league; the room then gave Kevin a round of applause.*
  - *Fall Ball- another successful fall season which ended October 19<sup>th</sup>*
    - *65 players in 5 teams including some new players to the league*
    - *Games were played to a full 7 innings*
  - *Holiday Party – planned for Dec 2 at Lena’s in South Windsor ; details to be provided at a later date. Last year there were 57 attendees with attendees bringing desserts to share which worked well.*

- *Motion was made and seconded to approved the minutes from the October 25, 2021 annual league meeting. Motion passed.*
- *Treasurer update- Dick (report attached below)*
  - *The Year-end Treasurer's report for fiscal year 10/1/2022 – 9/30/2023 was distributed*
  - *Report showed FY 2022 and Dick shared some notes:*
    - *Ending balance - \$3,796.18*
    - *Sponsorships were double thanks to the fine efforts of John, Jack, Kari; sponsor booklets were a professional and effective way to recognize sponsors*
      - *Sponsor monies allowed for the following league benefits*
        - *Chest protectors/masks for pitchers (safety)*
        - *Additional bats with grips*
        - *New screens for the backstop area*
- *Audit Committee Report – Joe Handleman (report attached below)*
  - *Representatives were Joe Handleman (committee chair), Joe Marsala, & Kevin Conklin*
  - *Process included an examination of the books and records on October 17, 2023 for activity during 10/1/2022 – 9/30/2023*
  - *Findings noted that books and records presented fairly the activity of the VSS league for the fiscal year October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.*
- *External Competition report - Kevin C*
  - *VSS-sponsored tournament the 2<sup>nd</sup> one-pitch tournament on Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup> at Community Field. Appreciation was given to Kevin Massey and Kenny Hartright for organizing and leading this quality tournament.*
  - *A 70s team was sent to the Cape Tournament and with better weather this year, the team actually played games.*
- *Umpire's Report- Matt*
  - *Thanks were given to those who umpired this season which is a thankless job*
  - *20 umpires with some new folks; was able to provide 2 umpires per game*
  - *An umpire contact list was setup so that umpires could work directly with others when substitute coverage needed*
  - *During playoffs, 3 umpires were provided*
- *Internal Competition – Bill, Tim*
  - *2023 was a balanced season with competitive games*
  - *Owls had a greatly improved team and finished in the middle of the pack*
  - *127 active members in the league*
  - *Receive 1800 hits a month on our VSS website (60 per day) which allows our site to be at the top of any internet search; web site annual cost is \$120*
  - *Facebook – daily updates and standings were posted all season, and more people were posting pictures – thank you*
  - *15 new players registered*
  - *\$10,435.53 collected with registrations*
- *Social Activities- Kevin C*
  - *Fall picnic had to be cancelled this year but we hope to resume in 2024.*
  - *Holiday Party – December 2 at Lena's in South Windsor; Board will contribute to the cost and price will be determined and publicized*
- *Public Relations- Jack, John*
  - *Sponsorship level was double that of 2022; a round of applause from the group to John/Jack/Kari for this success.*
  - *Recruiting VSS sponsors starts well before the season; most work is done in the off-season*
  - *Brochure was well-received and is solid advertising, going out to the 127 league membership*
  - *Jack requested teams to frequent our sponsors in 2024, especially the 5-6 eating places near the park where we play. With teams playing 28 games, it would be helpful if teams/partial teams*

could go to our sponsors occasionally and even leave a card (found in the shed & pictured below) to indicate VSS was a customer.



- *Historical Record of VSS – Kevin Massey*
  - *31st year of VSS play with 21 of the 31 binders completed*
  - *Most significant binders produced => 2021,2022,2023*
  - *There was insufficient information for some of the earlier year binders*
  - *Kevin is seeking a member to assume ownership of the VSS Historical record going forward and indicated it is now a turn-key operation*
- *Member Comments:*
  - *Jerry Biancucci felt a pitcher's net should be a requirement for this league. He noted there was significant risk not using a net and wanted to head off potential injury*
    - *Board recommended he join the Rules Committee*
    - *Joe Marsala felt he had no issues using a screen; although he noted that not restricting pitchers using a screen from defensively catching an easy pop-up would be good.*

### ***New Business/Discussion***

- Election of Board Members
  - Board members whose term is ending: Bill, Matt, Brian, Tim, Dick
  - Tim, Dick, and Bill expressed interest to continue on the Board
  - Members who expressed interest to join the Board: Jeff Schiavetti and Jim Kenney
  - The following were nominated, voted and approved to be on the 2023 Board:
    - Tim Poloski (re-elected)
    - Dick Nabel (re-elected)
    - Bill Hettinger (re-elected)
    - Jeff Schiavetti
    - Jim Kenney
- Proposed By-law change:
  - Proposed by-law change was discussed and voted down, not passing.
    - Feedback- cumbersome, procedure challenges, unnecessary

Article III: Section 4: Current Language

*Thirty percent (30%) of the dues paying members at any Annual or Special Meeting shall constitute a quorum. To determine the actual number of members required to constitute a quorum, fractions of one percent (1%) shall be dropped (i.e. if 30% equals 29.75 members, 29 members shall constitute a quorum).*

Article III: Section 4: Proposed Language

*Thirty percent (30%) of the dues paying members **present in-person or by written proxy** at any Annual or Special Meeting shall constitute a quorum. To determine the actual number of members required to constitute a quorum, fractions of one percent (1%) shall be dropped (i.e. if 30% equals 29.75 members, 29 members shall constitute a quorum).*

***Written proxies shall be submitted to the Secretary at the start of any Annual or Special Meeting and shall be signed and in a format approved by Secretary and Board.***

- Formation of a Rules Committee:

- A Rule Change Committee, to be chaired by an Internal Competition Board member, will be formed to discuss potential rule changes for the 2024 season.
  - Volunteers for this committee: Matt Kellie, Fred Valenti, Keven Busque, Jerry Biancucci, Paul Davies
- The winner of the 3 raffle gift cards from VSS sponsors:
  - \$25 Paul's pizza – Rich Hallberg (donated by Paul's)
  - \$25 – Shea's - Joe Handleman
  - \$25 -Frankie B's Tavern – Tim Cromwell

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting which was seconded at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Gretzmacher, Recording Secretary

10/19/2023

Addendum:

Attendance sheets:

	Name	Ticket #
1	Ivan Cromwell	6981746
2	Joseph Handleman	1747
3	Ivan Koleski	1748
4	PAUL PAULIE	1749
5	Brian Bates	
6	Peter Shibley	
7	Kathy Sunderland	1750
8	Kevin Massey	1751
9	Bruce Chamberlain	6981752
10	Jimmy Greeley	6981753
11	Rich Hallberg	69
12	Edwin	1755
13	Bill Blum	768
14	Bill Holtz	1756
15	John Massey	757
16	Craig Tanner	758
17	Joe Capello	759
18	Mike Sins	760
19	JOHN MURPHY	761
20	Jeff Scharf	762
21	Tom Kagan	763
22	Dick Nelson	764
23	Kevin Conk	765
24	JOE MARSAWA	766
25	Dave Gilmartin	767
26	FRED VALANTI	769
27		770
28	Ken B...	771
29	Matt Kellie	770
30	Warne Marshall	772

	Name	Ticket #
31	Mo Vughan	773
32	Greg McGowan	774
33	Sean Banks	775
34	Jessy Corcoran	776
35	Bill Kotkosky	777
36	Bruce Winot	778
37	MIKE BARD	779
38	Jim Keeney	780
39	MIKE FOLLO	781
40	Rich Krajewski	782
41	Ed Coum	783
42	JACK FRASCARELLI	784
43	Mike Howell	785
44	Cynthia Gardner	786
45	SCOTT MACDONALD	787
46	Jerry Biancucci	788
47	Ronny Giffith	789

## Audit Committee Report:

Vernon Seniors Softball  
 Audit Committee Report  
 September 30th, 2023

On October 17, 2023 the Audit Committee of the Vernon Seniors Softball League (VSS) performed an examination of the books and records of the treasurer Dick Nabel for the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023. The Audit Committee included Joe Marsala, Commissioner Kevin Conklin and Joe Handleman, the Audit Committee Chairperson.

The Audit Committee examined the receipts and disbursements for the above mentioned period and tied the amounts to external information such as the number of dues paying members, the number of sponsors and various invoices, as well as to the checking account statements.

In our opinion, the books and records referred to above present fairly the activity of the Vernon Seniors Softball League for the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

*Joseph A. Handleman*

Joseph A. Handleman  
 Audit Committee Chairperson  
 October 17, 2023

## Treasurer Report:

VERNON SENIOR SOFTBALL		
YEAR END TREASURER'S REPORT		
FISCAL YEAR 10/1/2022 - 9/30/2023		
	FY 2023	FY 2022
<b>Beginning Checking Account Balance</b>	<b>\$3,123.17</b>	<b>\$4,093.02</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Sponsorships	\$4,135.00	\$2,025.00
Registration Dues	\$10,455.53	\$7,657.97
Banquet Ticket Sales	\$1,241.56	\$380.01
Returns, Refunds, Donations	\$200.00	
Vernon Senior Shirt Sales	\$240.00	\$140.00
Tournament Registrations (Veterans)	\$500.00	\$750.00
Fall Ball	\$397.47	
Variance to the Bank	\$103.84	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$17,273.40</b>	<b>\$10,952.98</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,396.57</b>	<b>\$15,046.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Internal Competition</b>		
Vernon Parks and Rec Fee	\$4,840.00	\$4,321.00
Hats and Shirts	\$1,374.00	\$1,541
Bats & Grips	\$2,173.52	\$1,302.00
Balls	\$1,205.76	\$638.00
Printing of Programs	\$531.95	
Internet/Software	\$100.85	\$326.88
Chest Protectors	\$325.20	
Bank Fees	\$54.00	\$33.00
Refunds	\$320.00	\$50.00
Masks	\$79.98	\$164.99
Mailing	\$13.20	
Secretary of State	\$250.00	
Miscellaneous (Stickers/Scorebooks/First Aid Class)	\$220.47	\$113.67
Screens	\$356.41	
USAA Registration		
<b>Internal Total</b>	<b>\$11,845.34</b>	<b>\$8,806.96</b>
<b>External Competition</b>		
Tournament Fees & Expenses	\$910.00	\$800.00
<b>External Total</b>	<b>\$910.00</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>\$1,755.52</b>	<b>\$1,609.92</b>
<b>Social</b>		
Annual Picnic	\$300.00	\$494.40
Holiday Banquet	\$1,747.01	
<b>Social Total</b>	<b>\$2,047.01</b>	<b>\$494.40</b>
<b>Public Relations</b>		
Banner		
Certificates For Sponsors		\$154.15
Awards	\$42.52	\$57.40
<b>Public Relations Total</b>	<b>\$42.52</b>	<b>\$211.55</b>
<b>Expense Total</b>	<b>\$16,600.39</b>	<b>\$11,922.83</b>
<b>Ending Checking Account Balance</b>	<b>\$3,796.18</b>	<b>\$3,123.17</b>