

VSS Board Meeting Minutes (draft)

Date: December 10, 2025. Time: 6:00 pm. Location: French Club, Vernon

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm. Attending: Dick Nabel, Cicci Quattropani, Bill Hettinger, Jerry Biancucci, Mike Smith, Steve Vera. Absent: Jeff Schivetti, Tim Poloski, Kevin Conklin.

2. The minutes of the September 29, 2025 meeting and October 30, 2025 meeting were approved.

3. Commissioner's Opening Comments: Dick expressed his thanks to Kevin for his efforts as commissioner.

4. Player/Manager comments: None

5. Treasurer's Report: The current checking balance is \$2,952.

6. The board adopted standing rules for the 2025-2026 year. See Attachment A.

7. 2026 Registration was discussed:

Registration will open on January 1, 2026 and close on April 1, 2026. Late registrations will be considered during team selection process if space is available (i.e. fewer than 120 players have registered), otherwise late registering players will be placed in the pool.

Registration fees for both the morning and afternoon leagues will be the same as last year (Afternoon league: \$75 for returning players, \$100 for new players. Morning league: \$50. \$10 discount if registering for both leagues. The late fee is removed).

New player practices will be April 13 and 14. Team selection will be April 16.

The season will start on April 20.

Questions will be added to the Registration questionnaire asking about days/dates players are not available and willingness to sub in the morning league. Copies of registration questionnaires for each team and new players (which have the notes players have written about availability) will be provided to managers before the team selection meeting.

Bill will update and post the registration forms for 2026.

8. Discussion was held on the use of electronic payment methods. Cicci will investigate the use the Venmo integration with PayPal as a possible tool.

9. The 2026 Schedule was discussed. A draft 2026 schedule will be prepared for board discussion based on the 2024 league schedule. (The 2024 schedule is considered more balanced than 2025 as it does not have the concentration of Thursday games).

10. An email will be sent to each manager asking for confirmation of their managing status for 2026.

11. Rules Committee:

An email will be sent to league members asking for suggested rule changes.

The board approved the rules committee members for 2026: Keven Busque; Steve Cervicci; Fred Valenti; Kathy Sunderland; ed Donofrio; Brian Michard; Scott Shaw; Jeff Cristaldi; Bill Gamen; John Hardy; and Matt Kellie. Steve Vera (internal competition) will non-voting chair the committee. Bill Hettinger (league secretary) will be non-voting secretary of the committee. Meeting date TBD.

12. 2026 Budget: Cicci has developed an expanded program expense report and a current year versus last year expense report.

13. The league email process was discussed. This discussion will be continued at a later meeting.

14. Social Committee: Holiday party update: 33 people attended the holiday party. The board believes earlier planning and better publicity is needed to increase attendance at future events.

15. Old Business: None

16. New Business:

The labeling, retrieval, and number of game balls were discussed. Discussion will continue at a future meeting.

17. Next meeting date: January 26, 2026. Location TBD

18. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm

VSS Board Standing Rules

The standing rules for 2025-2026 VSS Board shall be as follows:

- a) The board will establish an annual budget. Any expenditure that exceeds 25% of the budget amount will require board approval.
- b) Player/manager comments will be allowed at the beginning of a board meeting. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes and the subject/topic must be submitted in writing/email to the commissioner or a board member 48 hours prior to the meeting. The board will listen to player/manager comments at the start of the meeting but not comment/interact. If a board member wants to add whatever the comment was for board discussion, they can make a motion to add the item to new business, and if the motion carries, the board can talk about the item at new business. Once player/manager comments are complete, the meeting will be closed to non-board members unless players/managers/guests have been invited to the meeting at the request of the board for business such as for the draft or for other league business.
- c) Whenever possible, the board should follow our current rules and not pass any rule changes that are not safety related once the season starts.
- d) The board should involve the rules committee in any rules changes as per the bylaws. If the board wants to change a rule, they should send it to the rules committee. The rules committee recommends, and the board then accepts, rejects, or sends it back to rules committee for further analysis/revision. (Note - The board is limited to accepting, rejecting, or sending back, not modifying what the rules committee sent).
- e) The board should not vote on any new business items not on the published agenda (i.e. that were added during the meeting) at the first meeting. Any votes should come at a subsequent meeting. (This gives us a chance to think about the item and publish an agenda with the item as a topic)