

ESKO FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES 1/11/2026

BOARD MEMBERS Present

President–Katrina Foxx

Officials Manager- Clay Foxx

Vice-President- Tom Besonen

Equipment & Facilities Manager- Tom Kalkbrenner

Secretary- Troy Smith

Jerseys/Fundraising Manager- Drew Scherber

Treasurer- Ashley Lent

Communications Manager- Alissa Osvold

~~Mgr of Coach & Player Develop– Scott Hedlund~~

❖ Call Meeting to Order – 6:08pm

❖ Review notes previous meeting -

➤ EFA Meeting Minutes 10/20/25

Motion to approve: Tom B, 2nd: Clay, Motion carried by voice vote.

❖ Member Reports –

➤ President - Katrina Foxx

- We have received approval to cage off a section of the upper field dugout to store supplies. In the discussion of additional storage space, we will be given space in shed next to the building and share with both soccer and the school forest.

➤ Vice-President- Tom Besonen

- Vote on Expectations Communication Policy

Motion to approve: Ashley, 2nd: Alissa, Motion carried by voice vote.

➤ Treasurer - Ashley Lent

- [2025 Oct-Nov-Dec Treasurer Report](#)

- Treasury report was presented and reviewed.

Motion to approve: Tom B. 2nd: Clay Motion carried by voice vote.

➤ Secretary - Troy Smith

- Troy discussed his findings from visiting the Elite Sports Complex in West Duluth and briefed the board on both their current and future operations, as well as their desire to team up on a clinic or training event with Esko Fastpitch in the future. Troy will try to arrange a meet-n-greet at the facility for the board to attend so all members are aware of what the complex offers and how we can capitalize on using the facility in the off season.

- Manager of Coach & Player Development - Scott Hedlund
 - Updates about tournaments - **see Tournament Team below**
 - “Dates provided can work for 10u. There are other weekends that can work for 10u, but not for me as a coach of 12U.”
 - “I reached out earlier this week to the Hibbing board regarding the red ore rumble. I haven’t heard back on dates for that. I reached out to a guy that organized one in sandstone last summer. I’m waiting to hear from him.”
- Officials Manager – Clay Foxx
 - Vote: Umpires to chalk fields
 - **Further discussion on the issue was presented to clarify the issue prior to voting.**
Motion to approve: Tom B. 2nd: Drew Motion DEFEATED by voice vote.
- Equipment & Facilities Manager - Tom Kalkbrenner
 - **Plan to order new balls and replacement equipment bags right away and then conduct a full equipment layout to inventory all equipment in early March.**
 - **Motion was presented to increase the equipment budget for 2026 season. Previous seasons held a approximated budget of \$2000 with board approval for increases. Motion was made to increase budget to \$3000 with board approval for any increases per the need arising.**
Motion to approve: Tom B. 2nd: Drew Motion carried by voice vote.
- Jerseys/Fundraising Manager - Drew Scherber
 - [2026 Uniform Options](#) **The first mockup of the 2026 Esko Fastpitch uniforms was presented and discussed. The pin stripes were well received, with additional recommendations expected in the next mockup that will be sent out post meeting.**
- Communications Manager- Alissa Osvold
 - **Sponsorship requests will go out, same amount as last year.**
 - **Dick’s Sporting Goods coupon weekend was discussed, and we will request the weekend of April 11th-12th.**
 - **Flyers will be presented for signups again this year, last year was 350.**
 - **Line will be added to the player registration for coach interest for tournament teams as well as REC teams.**
 - **Ashley will fix dates for ages on the website.**

❖ **New business**

- 2026 Field scheduling

■ What fields and dates do we want?

- **All of June and July for lower field as well as April and May weekends**
- **Any times in April and May that we can add in the turf field between events on that field we want to also request.**
- **Upper field will be dependent on when Huff gives us the go ahead after H.S. season.**
- **Tournament weekend July 17-19 we will need both upper fields and the lower field reserved.**

➤ Tournament Team

■ Coaches:

- What is our plan for getting coaches? Baseball has coaches apply.
- **After discussion, a box will be added to the player registration.**
- **A date and location are still needed for the annual coaches meeting. There are two items to add to this meeting- 1. Field expectations when you are done with practice 2. The Wood City tournament is for REC teams and coaches will need to plan early for the event and communicate with their players and parents.**

■ Evaluations and Registrations

- Is this all set for the tournament teams? Scott brought up it would be nice to have coaches of the tournament teams help with tournament selection and evaluation.
- **Discussion on having coaches involved in the tournament team evaluations. The recommendation was for coaches to assist in evaluating players that are not their own child's age group to keep the evaluations sterile.**

■ Tournaments:

- For 10U: recommend 4-5 with 3 local. (Scott Hedlund)(Scott Hedlund - For 10u baseball I'm likely doing 5)
- For 12U: recommend 5-6 softball tourney with 3 local.
- **After discussion on number of tournaments, the following Planning factors were determined for the tournament teams:**
10U- plan for 4 tournaments, with 3 tourneys being local.
12U and up- plan for 5 tournaments, with 4 being local
- **Because of the planning factors with the soccer schedule (Alissa indicated the dates given might not be the right age group for 12 U) and the fact that Scott was not able to attend the meeting, the planning factors were left open (no vote) with the tentative plan to finalize in early February and vote via leadership quorum in necessary.**
- **2026 tournament team pricing: 10U= \$250 12U and up=\$300**

Motion to approve: Ashley 2nd: Tom Motion carried by voice vote.

- Options for 12U/10U:
 - ◆ May 29-31: Proctor Rail Rumble
 - ◆ June 12-14: Soderville Summer Slam (Ham Lake)/ Aitkin
 - ◆ June 19-21: 3 WI options. Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, or Shell Lake. (Leaning Shell Lake)
 - ◆ July 10-12: Chippewa Falls Fastpitch and Freedom
 - ◆ July 17-18: Esko
 - ◆ July 24-26: Zenith City Duluth
- WI: <https://www.infosports.com/?req=listing&s=sb&t=t&lr=WI&start=1>
- MN: <https://mnsoftball.com/pages/cms/minnesota-softball-girls-fast-pitch-tournaments>
- Practices:
 - Can we book practices for Sundays starting at the end of March for the tournament teams?
 - **Indoors practices, working around Spring Break and Easter, will look to schedule April 12, 19, 26 for the tournament team(s).**

❖ **Open Forum**

- **The next meeting will be a double meeting, with the team selection meeting at 4pm and the normal board meeting at 5pm.**
- **Going forward, items that require resolution outside of normal meetings will be discussed and voted on, with the secretary adding the item to the minutes annotating a “leadership quorum” resolution to the record the item into the record.**

❖ **Next meeting: MARCH 8th, 4pm- team building, 5pm regular meeting.**

❖ **ADJOURNMENT—** **Motion to adjourn: Clay 2nd: Tom B. Motion carried by voice vote.**