

Stillwater Area Fastpitch Association
Board Meeting Agenda
Wednesday
10/23/2024
6:00pm
Acapulco Meeting Room

Purpose

The Stillwater Area Fastpitch Association (commonly referred to as Stillwater Fast Pitch) was established in 1984 to promote the development of a quality, competitive level of girls fastpitch softball in the St. Croix Valley Area. This program is committed to the development of potential Stillwater Area High School (SAHS) softball players

- 1) Call to Order
 - a. Time – 6:09 PM
 - b. In-person: Damen, Jeff, Carly, Leah, Mike M., Terisa, Jen
 - c. Remote: n/a
2. Review and Approval of September Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve – Jeff Boser
 - b. Second – Leah Gross
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Jeff Boser shared no major expenses: Will be sending taxes off.
 - b. Checking: \$7,999.78. Savings: \$28,871.00
4. Board Members
 - a. Damen shared that as we end the calendar year, Board Members should decide if they will renew for another year.
 - b. Let Damen know the plans and discuss decisions in the November board meeting.
- 5) 2025 Planning
 - a. Tournaments
 - i. Positive feedback on tournament selection from 2024. The exception was a tournament where 10U Grey was scheduled to play in an Open tournament and placed in A/B level.
 - ii. 2025 - 12U tournament levels covered in September minutes.
 - iii. 2025 - 10U A teams in A/B and Open Tournaments. 10U B/C teams in B/C and Open Tournaments. Do not require B/C to be NAFA/MONSTA qualifiers.
 - iv. 2025 - 8U tournament - teams very positive about the Eagan Down n' Dirty Tournament - mid June timing allows 8U time to practice/play games leading up to the tournament.
 - v. Tournament for all teams in SAFA: Eagan Down 'n Dirty - keep 12U, 10U, and 8U in this tournament for 2025. Discussion was that City of Eagan handled field maintenance and Eagan Fastpitch recovered very well given rain impact to Saturday tournament play.
 - b. Pitching - 12U and 10U
 - i. Chrissy Taylor works with 18U Boom. Damen shared that he'd like to discuss having SAFA support pitching coaches for 12U and 10U team members.
 - c. Coaches training
 - i. Damen shared he would like to have the coaches training on the field with mandatory attendance this spring.
 - ii. Damen would like to ask JV Coach, Sophia Peterson, to provide guidance to SAFA coaches.
 - d. 10U and 8U tryouts
 - i. As discussed during the September meeting, SAFA board recognizes they should be earlier in 2025.
 - ii. Will discuss date options at the November 2024 SAFA board meeting. Jeff reminded everyone that gym time does not open for 2025 until later. However, it was discussed and aligned that we can provide date options and when district scheduling opens, provide those options right away to secure a date. Date options will occur at the next SAFA board meeting. Terisa Roemer will provide recommendations on dates.

5. 12U Winter Training
 - a. Tom Sebo attended the board meeting and shared a proposal to replicate 10U winter training from 2024 for 12U winter training in 2025. Training to include small group stations where players get many reps. The objective is to have 12U teams ready to play right away at the beginning of the spring season. Tom recommended 10 sessions; could be 2 practices per month - Nov 2024 - Mar 2025.
 - b. Tom to send out emails to families to give them a heads-up on the winter training and determine what best days of weekend work best (Saturday vs. Sunday). Also, Tom will email the pitchers and identify if there are specific dates that a pitching coach could be available.
 - c. Jeff Boser shared that it is easy to schedule an additional 30 minutes ahead of gym start times at SMS. This gives time for coaches and board members to set-up gear and stations early and not cut into practice and tryout time.
6. SAFA Bylaws and P&P Reviews
 - a. Damen will send SAFA Bylaws and P&P reviews to the SAFA board this month. Board will review in November and December 2024. Will vote in January 2025 on SAFA bylaws and P&P reviews for 2025.
7. Equipment
 - a. Bats: continue to purchase fewer bats for 10U and 12U teams. Will continue to purchase more bats for 8U teams.
 - b. PowerNets: continue to buy red PowerNets as they are lighter and easier to use than black BowNets.
 - c. Catchers Equipment: Carly shared that the catchers equipment is very old for 10U teams. Terisa confirmed. Catcher helmets are falling apart. Dates on equipment for catchers is 2012. Discussion was that we need to purchase new catching equipment, one set for each 10U team.
8. Open Forum
 - a. Volunteers: need SAFA PARENTS to support additional volunteers on November 2 to take down the Field 2 batting cage.
 - b. Skill Expectations: Jen to send a draft of the PowerPoint for the November SAFA meeting.
9. Next meeting – TBA: November 13 or 20, 2024
10. Adjourn
 - a. Motion to approve – Jeff Boser
 - b. Second – Terisa Roemer