

October 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes/Retreat

Board Members Present: Toi Gile, Erika Lindsey, Traci Gilmore, Rachelle Bonnett (new board member) Danielle Larson.

Board Members Online: Myria Shakespeare, Joe Deluna, Madison Gambala, Daniel Singh, Nick Andrews (new board member)

Board Members Absent: AJ Votion (EX), Kelsey Hagan (EX), Tanya Lewis (EX), Tim Shockley (EX), Jesse Conrad (JEX)-new board member

ED: Kyle Scholl- present at meeting

Member online: Suzanne Bavard

Meeting called to order at 8:10 am

Rachelle and Nick accepted the board positions Still need Jesse to accept.

We started off with an ice breaker- everyone said what is the best place they have visited.

Board Orientation: we welcomed the new board members of Nick & Rachelle

The board member guidelines and duties were handed out to all members and we talked about what is required from the board.

The VP votes were counted, and Tim was voted in per motion from Traci/Toi.

The communication on issues or concerns on our JSA board page has worked out well. it really clears out all the back in forth emails we have been getting. This was to be added to our Bylaws.

We had an overall board discussion about the 75% attendance requirement, and it needs to be specified what that means. If someone is participating in the committees (which is where most items are talked about) but not attending meetings-how is that judged. Or how many excused absences can you have in the year. We have a running list on top of the agendas with all the attendance. The executive board will need to talk about the attendance rule and determine how that will be enforced and report back to the board.

We discussed what each committee does and have updated each one. All budgets will be due by Jan 2021.

Rules Committee:

Kelsey-Chair, Myria, Tim, Traci (USA Softball Liaison), Danielle, Everett (JDOA Liaison)-added Nick & Erika.

Nick would like to discuss in the Rules committee being able to use metal spikes. Per Traci the USA Softball league does not allow them but JSA is different rules and we could modify the rule if needed. Traci would like Nick to type up why he would like to have them be used and they will go over it in the next Rules meeting.

Nick would also like to purchase a bat tester and we can make sure the bats are still ok to use and not too hot of a bat. Erika will research the costs and bring to the next meeting.

A motion was made by Nick/Toi seconded to allow men to use multi-walled bats in coed games for all leagues. It was a great thing this year for women to be able to use in the coed games. It allowed women who might not hit very far or newer players to be able to hit the ball further. Many positive responses.

Some comments from board was they feel the speed will still be same if it is a single or multi-walled since the balls have been changed. Some are concerned that some guys in the lower league may still really hurt players if they hit it with multi-walled bat, especially if you have someone with lower reaction time as a pitcher or on 3rd base. Some mentioned that we need to really encourage masks for players on 3rd or SS. But no matter what bat you use if you get hit on body it will still hurt and masks will only help for face. Some board only wanted it for upper leagues, and some wanted it for all leagues.

A vote was made to allow men to use multi-walled bats in all leagues and passed with majority vote with Traci and Madison opposing it.

We will have the marketing get the information out to the leagues about encouraging the wearing of masks on other bases as well. We will have to revisit the sticker issue now that all players can use. Another thing that some members wanted back to the rules committee was the runs rule and revising that again.

Bylaws Committee:

Traci-Chair, Myria, Suzanne, Madison, Erika, added as advisors-Jane Mores & Megan Wallace

The committee met a few times, and the bylaws/articles need some serious revamping. They do not match up. They were originally written in 1987 and looks to have had 4 revisions since then. The committee has updated the articles and was presented to the board to vote on. Motion presented by Traci/Rachelle. Motion passed. They are working on the bylaws and hope to have them done and presented at the January meeting.

Concessions Committee:

Toi-Chair, Myria, Tanya, Erika, Daniel & Joe

They will be using a spreadsheet tracking the items bought and sold each year. They are working on what we can do with the leftovers each year after tourneys. We do return what we can, give to members or hold till the following year if we can, maybe try to use at the retreats. Other suggestions are do an end of season BBQ and use the leftovers, have a fundraiser, or give to the food bank.

Was agreed that Tom Trager was an awesome cook this year for the tourney and would like to continue to use him. Maybe putting a tent over his area to keep the rain off him and grill area. Was mentioned that Costco will no longer be selling pretzels and we may need to look at a distributor to get them.

Nick asked about running concessions every day during week of season. We did try that, and it did not really work. We could not get enough people to be in the stand to sell and we will need to clean it out every night if we do not use it every day.

We liked having the shirts to sell in the concessions and would like to do that again. Maybe a different thinner shirt. They will look into it.

Marketing/PR Committee:

New Chair-Rachelle, Suzanne, Erika, Toi, Kelsey, Rob, Danielle-added Nick & Traci

The committee will meet soon and come up with ideas on some marketing ideas. Some ideas brought up today were wine tasting(a lot of work when Traci looked int it) but now that Rachelle in the chair we might be able to come up with an easier way to accomplish it-she works for Juneau Arts and they have done many wine/beer fundraisers. The whale watch was a good one a few years ago, renting Gold Town theater or bowling alley.

Nick brought up might be just a good idea to have events that may not make much money but to bring the softball and community together for more comradery. Maybe try to target other groups like hockey players, do a darts night at Imperial or put advertising on coffee cups.

We should also put the sponsors on our website with a link to their business. Was talked about to have a social media subcommittee of 3 people to get things online. The committee will meet and bring back ideas.

Tournament Committee:

Erika-Chair, Myria, Tanya, Kelsey, Suzanne, Toi, Madison, AJ-added Rachelle

The tourney went well this year to have Coed added. The giveaways were also a big hit. Was brought up maybe not do left-handed gloves or different batting glove sizes. Maybe it would be good to search for donations instead of buying all the items and contact some bat reps for donations.

A lot of teams stood in front of the sponsorship banners when they did team photos and that was good. We want to try to get as many sponsors as we can for tourneys, and we will do up a letter to be able to present to businesses. Traci will work with Rachelle on trying to find corporate sponsors and will bring to the marketing committee. We want to continue to list all the sponsors on the back of the winning shirts.

Another suggestion is to see about doing cash pot for winners or maybe for the winning team to have their fee paid the following year. Might give teams from out of town more incentive to come to Juneau to play.

Was brought up about having a list to sign up on to help at the tourneys for the board. This is hard to do after the brackets games since we do not know when people are playing. Was suggested that if we can get people who are not playing in tourney to sign up to help out and then when the board members are not playing to come check in to see if there is anything they can do. We have not had full board help on tourneys for many years. It gets hard when only a few of the board are running the whole thing.

We do have red vests in the office that say, "Board Member". This would be good to have and wear when not playing so members can easily know who to talk to if they have a concern or question. Was suggested to start sending flyers or getting thigs started for the tourneys in January.

Awards Committee:

Traci-chair, Erika, Kelsey, Danielle, Tim, and Madison

Seemed like things ran smoothly for the plaques and shirts. They will do meeting in January and Traci will send out the criteria for the Pioneers at that time as well. Since we really did not have nominations this year

for Pioneers, Traci made a motion with Myria seconded it to have Pete Caran as the player and The Imperial as the sponsor as this year's winners for 2020. Motion passed. Was talked about doing the presentation over Facebook Live.

Improvements Committee:

New Chair-Traci, Toi, Kelsey, Scott G, Garry R, Rob- added Nick

The big thing was selling the house. Latitude 58 does have someone there that can do a market analysis and we will reach out and get that done. Traci will reach out to SE abatement to see about getting info on what would take to update the house as well.

Still trying for the container but it is not looking good, hard to find one and get it delivered. Still working on it.

Traci might have a lead on another place to buy instead and will get back to the board. We are still needing to get the back boards on the scorekeepers' boxes up and was brought up the jox boxes on DP #2 was backwards. Will let CBJ know. CBJ also has a schedule rotation of fields on a rotation basis and we will try to see if we can find out what field will be this next year.

Nick wanted to know if we might be able to add some pavement to enter the fields put down so players do not have to walk over the huge puddles and get feet wet before we even get on the fields. Traci will look into that with CBJ.

Finance Committee:

Chair-Suzanne, Toi, Erika, added Rachelle

Our accountant is still struggling with classifying items in the correct accounts. Maybe we need to do a form with the categories on it for Kyle to use and he can mark what he is depositing to make it easier for them. We would like to have the accounts reviewed monthly to make sure the money is being classified correctly and to bring that back to the board for review. Would also be helpful if we can get an Actual vs EST Budget so we can see if we are on track or not.

On the financials we are losing money the last few years and we need to find out why and what costs we can cut. Need to generate more revenue.

Was asked about selling our softballs to members and after looking at the cost we pay it comes out to \$5-6 per ball and that is too much for members to pay. We do have an overstock of balls so we will not have to buy any more this year so that will save some money.

Was brought up that the board would like an end of the season report from the ED. One thing Traci would like to know is how much was made in the one night playing of \$10. She is still not comfortable with giving money to ED/EX board on the fields. Would like to have committees let the Executive board know if they are wanting any specific information for the report.

Polling Ad-Hoc Committee:

Erika-chair, Myria, Kyle-added Toi

Erika wanted to do an end of season poll but had a family emergency and did not get it done. Will maybe get it out and back for our November meeting. Board is asked to send her any questions you might want to include.

Calendar Ad-Hoc Committee:

Toi-Chair, Madison-added Erika

The calendar options were presented and the revised one is attached. Traci/Rachelle made motion to accept calendar attached motion passed with Nick & Erika opposed to the Preseason/Regular season and Rainball the 4th week of June.

There was some feedback that players did not like to play into August but then a lot of positive feedback of this year's schedule. Seemed like we had more high school/college players this year, maybe due to Covid and not being able to play in their own leagues. It seemed like we have less forfeits this year and the sub rule really was taken advantage of which prevented a lot of the potential forfeits.

We have also moved Rainball to end of June. Was discussed that more out of town teams may come (KTN, PTG, Sitka) if we did not have it during July and the fishing season.

Was decided to have the board meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month (March-Sept) from 6-8 pm and the 2nd Sunday of the month (November-February) from 11-1pm.

Covid-19 Ad-Hoc Committee:

Erika-Chair, Myria, Toi, Danielle, Traci, Suzanne Jack & Bob as JDOA Liaison

Nothing really to report, just hope we can get rid of this committee.

NEW Committee-Strategic Planning:

Rachelle-Chair, Myria, Kyle, Erika, Toi & Traci.

This is a new committee that will come up with long term goals that JSA wants to accomplish. We are wanting to do a 5-year forecast and will be presented at every retreat we have yearly. We would like to get a polling done about what the members feel like is important. There actually was something done from members last year and Erika will forward to Rachelle to review. They will meet in the next month or so and hope to have something in the next 3-4 months.

USA Softball Update:

Not much to alke about. She just went over the timeline of events that USA Softball does.

End of Season Classifications:

Coed-only change is the move Misfits from D to E; Refuse to lose from E to F and Joes Team from F to G. Traci motioned to approve/Toi seconded motion passed

Men's-nothing changed. Motion to approve Traci/Toi-motion passed
Women's-nothing changed-Motion to approve Erika/Danielle-motion passed

Kyle will make sure to update the calendar and board members on the web site as well as his normal monthly tasks.

Next meeting November 11th from 6-8 pm, most likely over Webex.

Motion to adjourn at 3:45pm by Traci/Erika seconded it.