

ESSPA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes

Date: October 24, 2023
Start Time: 7:00 pm
Location Meridian Place (10142 – 111 Street)

In attendance: Bill, Darlene, Kerri, Tracie, Mary Ellen, Karen (on phone), Danny, Sue

Absent with regrets: Brent, Grant, Sandy

Absent: Rich, Barb/Tom, Medley

Call to order- 7:19

1. Approval of minutes from following meetings:

Motion: Approve February 16th minutes as shared with agenda by Darlene
2nd by Danny
Passed

Motion: Approve April 13th minutes as shared with agenda by Bill
2nd by Sue
Passed

Motion: Approve June 21st minutes as shared with agenda by Danny
2nd by Darlene
Passed

Motion: Approve August 29th minutes as shared with agenda by Sue
2nd by Danny
Passed

Motion: Approve September 14th minutes as shared with agenda by Bill
2nd by Danny
Passed

2. Winter inspection of ESSPA premises

- List of duties as part of the winter check required for insurance purposes
- Jamie Parliament performed this job for ESSPA in 2022, and as part of his inspection he was cleaning up garbage. With the new enclosure around the building, and the dugouts now closed off, is this necessary? Ask Jamie to record concerns re garbage/other in a log which can be reviewed at end of November

Motion: Offer Jamie \$15 per winter check visit to diamonds, which does not include any garbage pickup by Tracie
2nd by Darlene
Passed

3. Advertising discussion

- Good to know how a new person/player found out about us, did last year's advertising make any difference?
- Advertising raises awareness of what we do as a league – look at getting a TV spotlight done – picking up garbage, seniors playing ball
 - Tracie reach out to Global or CTV to see if possible to get (i.e., Shane Blakely does a spot on areas of interest)

4. Record email motion for diamond maintenance

Motion: To have a contractor come in with landscaping equipment to break up the remaining diamonds before it snows or freezes, the estimated cost is \$2,200.00 dollars. by Grant
2nd by Brent
Passed

5. Record email motion for Early Registration Discount

- Team registration - I am proposing we run an "Early Bird" package for all teams that runs Oct 2, 2023 (or asap to that date) through to Dec 21, 2023 Then after that the Teams packages will switch to regular pricing @ \$2100 / \$2500 (with umps).
- Div 1 & 2 - their early registrations can start Jan 1, 2024 - Feb 28, 2024 with regular fees packages rolling out March 1st (these dates need to be confirmed)
- Discount offered calculation - it would be 5% for teams on BASE price (not including the extra umpire fees for those divisions), which works out to \$105 off. For Div 1 & 2 amounts to \$8 off per player
- Worst case scenario, based on a generous 400 members, the league would be receiving \$3200 less in registration fees IF 100% of the members took advantage of the early bird registrations. In conversation with our treasurer, this is an amount we can live with.
- Hopefully adopting this method of registration for the coming season(s) will give us an advantage on attracting players and perspective on if more advertising is required as we see how the registrations are going each year.

Motion: To run an "Early Bird" package for all teams that runs Oct 2, 2023 (or asap to that date) through to Dec 21, 2023 and an early bird discount for Div 1 & 2 players (dates to be determined) by Sandy
2nd by Brent
Passed

6. Meeting adjourned 8:28 pm

Date for next meeting – Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 7:00pm at Meridian Place

ESSPA Field Closure and Game Cancellation Policy 2024

Edmonton Senior Slo-pitch Association (ESSPA) and its membership are required to adhere to any regulations and closures (field closures and health recommendations) as set out by the City of Edmonton and the Province of Alberta as per our Home Base Agreement.

FIELD CLOSURE

All ESSPA fields will be closed and no games or practices will occur if the City has closed the fields. Please check the City of Edmonton Field Closure line 780-496-4999 or the website <https://coewebapps.edmonton.ca/facilitynotifications/default.aspx?args=4,131>. You can subscribe to notifications for City field closures by clicking the link on that page.

We are considered a Natural Grass Unstaffed Field. Please pay special attention to specific comments around shale infields. Last updates are at 2 pm weekdays.

In the event that City fields are open as of 2 pm and there has been significant rain after that time, ESSPA's Maintenance or Facilities Director will check with maintenance staff and will make a call as to whether the diamonds are playable by 4:00 p.m. Every effort will be made to contact Division Co-ordinators and team leaders to let players know field status prior to game time.

If teams arrive at the diamonds and find standing water or conditions that would make it unsafe to play or if playing or practicing could cause damage to the field- use should be cancelled. Divisions will determine whether games will be re-scheduled depending on diamond availability.

GAME STOPPAGES AND CANCELLATION

In the event of a thunderstorm, umpired divisions will suspend or call the game at the umpire's discretion. In divisions where there are no umpires, team leaders should agree to suspend the game or cancel the game and have all players seek shelter. Consensus for most sport and work place governing bodies suggest 30 seconds between lightning and thunder is cause for suspension of play and that no play should continue until 30 minutes after last thunder.

Games and practices will be cancelled if the Air Quality is rated 7 or higher. If the Air Quality changes during the course of the game and players start to exhibit difficulty breathing, itchy or watery eyes, etc. the game should be suspended or cancelled. Divisions will determine if there will be make up games depending on diamond availability. Check the following website for up to date information. <https://airquality.alberta.ca/map/>
https://weather.gc.ca/airquality/pages/abaq-001_e.html

Games and practices will be cancelled if AHS has issued a heat advisory recommending suspension of outdoor sporting activities. Typically this is when the temperature is in excess of 36°C - 40°C depending on the Humidex.

You can sign up for alerts at

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/weather-general-tools-resources/weathercan.html>. or

<https://www.alberta.ca/about-emergency-alerts.aspx>.

ESSPA will try to contact team leaders in a timely fashion should any of these advisories be issued but team leaders should use their discretion should situations arise during games or practices.

ESSPA takes the health and safety of its members seriously as well as the protection of the league's assets. This policy has been put in to place to ensure the well being of members and the league.

Enjoy the season and play safe!

INSURANCE PROGRAM

Our program covers your sanctioned team activities including practices, games and tournament play, regardless of what organization or group is hosting the event.

LEAGUE EXECUTIVE INSURANCE PACKAGE:

NSA CANADA WORLD SERIES

NSA Canada has the unique ability to offer your league teams the opportunity to compete for berths to the Coed Canadian World Series, Men's and Women's Canadian World Series and Various Provincial World Series. Your league will receive a select number of berths to the Coed Canadian World Series, Men's and Women's World Series and Provincial World Series, whichever pertains to your league.

COED WORLD SERIES:

The Canadian Coed NSA World Series has quickly become the slopitch event of the summer. It features over 200 teams from all over Canada and as interest in NSA Canada continues to grow, so does the caliber of teams that participate. We are the only National Championship that offers cash rewards plus team awards for winning your division. The emphasis is not only on the top caliber teams, but also on the recreational teams. Any level of team can come out, have a great time and have a legitimate shot at winning a National Championship.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S NSA WORLD SERIES:

Our Men's and Women's Program is a top priority for NSA Canada. We will be hosting qualifying tournaments all over Canada in hopes of improving even further on last year's World Series. This year's World Series promises to be interesting, with teams from all over Canada looking to be crowned the NSA Canadian World Series Champions.

NATIVE CANADIAN NSA WORLD SERIES:

Every year we hosted the Native World Series, with over 40 teams participating from across Canada. With each year's experience, we can plan to host a greater event.

NSA UMPIRES

NSA Umpires are one of the fastest growing organizations in Canada, comprised of a large group of men and women. With ongoing training and our Crew Chief Designation Program, they strive to provide a professional and objective attitude toward each and every game they are involved with. With each year our umpire association grows, attracting not only junior, but senior umpires as well.

RULE BOOKS

NSA Canada is committed to all levels and types of slopitch. Our rule book is the only rule book that features rules for the following types of slopitch: 7 & 3, 6 & 4 and 5 & 5 Coed, plus Men's and Women's. As an organization, we realize each league has their own identity and do not force leagues to follow the rule book, it is there to provide a guideline for you to use. Each sanctioned league team will receive an official NSA Canada Rule Book at no charge upon request.

SCOREBOOKS

The League will receive an NSA Scorebook for each team sanctioned for this season. - UPON REQUEST

OFFICIAL NSA SOFTBALL

NSA Canada and Louisville have combined to develop the best softball in the market. It is Louisville's guarantee to you that this is the longest lasting, best performing and most economical softball on the market.

WEBSITE

nsacanada.ca gets over 30 million hits per year and is the market leader in slopitch. Our website is a great source for the latest slopitch information. Check it out!

LEAGUE COMMITMENT

All league teams are required to submit a NSA Roster. When umpires are in use, they must be NSA Canada Sanctioned. All NSA Canada leagues must use the Louisville softball. This is the official softball of NSA Canada. Note: Some exceptions to the league Commitment may apply. Contact your local NSA Canada Director.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

League Membership - \$95-\$110 Includes applicable taxes

Full Benefit Membership includes: League awards, Scorebooks, Rulebooks, League Website, Sports Accident/Liability Insurance

Insurance Membership - \$80 Includes applicable taxes

Insurance Membership includes: Sports Accident/Liability Insurance, Scorebooks, Rulebooks, League Website and ability to purchase League Awards

Membership - \$65 Includes applicable taxes

Membership includes: Liability Insurance only (No sports accident) and League Website

Once again, thank you for awarding us the opportunity to present our program to you!

We look forward to your league partnering with NSA Canada.