

	SGSL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
	VIRTUAL - ZOOM
	TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025 @ 8:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE – Members/Guests

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Elizabeth Gandza (President), Carol Pietrowicz (Vice President), Kristen Keska (Vice President), Peter Farr (Secretary), Philein Griffin (Secretary), Bryan Cohen (Equip. & Safety Mgr.) Alyssa Cohen (Assistant Equipment & Safety Mgr), Scott Kennedy (Assist Treasurer)

MEMBERS

Jennine Albert, Heather Cohen, Jim Sarantides, Jillian Gentile, Chris Ouellette, Jen Ouellette, Liz Callahan, Natalie A, Adam Ferrari (1), Matthew Fontaine (1)

GUESTS

Michelle Kenney (2), Kim Troccoli (2)

CALL TO ORDER

President Elizabeth Gandza

Elizabeth Gandza called the meeting to order at approximately 8:02 p.m. and welcomed all board members and guests.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Peter Farr

Peter Farr conducted a silent roll call. The February 2025 SGSL Board of Directors meeting minutes were reviewed and presented. Minutes were Approved via motions made by Jenn Ouellette and seconded by Peter Farr.

TREASURER'S REPORT

(Vacant)

Liz temporarily reviewed the Treasurer's Report and the accounting details with the Board:

- Player Registrations - \$9,349.39
- Interest Checking - \$0.52
- Expense Transactions consisted of: Special Events – (\$90.84)
- Insurance – (\$885.00), Administrative – (\$999.60)
- Player Equipment – (\$1,825.04)

- Total Profits - \$5,549.43
- There were no questions or concerns regarding the Treasurers Report

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Fundraising and Sponsorships:

Nothing to Report.

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT

Carol Pietrowicz/Kristen Keska

- Carol Pietrowicz reviewed the upcoming calendar of events and practice schedules for each division:
 - March – Coaches Information
 - Coaches Meet & Greet – 3/13/2025
 - Panthorn Opening and Cleanup – 03/15/2025
 - SGSL Day @CCSU – 3/29 1 pm and 3 pm
 - April – BOE 04/15/2025
 - USA Elite April Vacation Clinic
 - Scrimmages 4/14-4/18 – Minors/Majors
 - Opening Day HS – 4/19
 - Majors/Minors - 4/21
 - SHS Blue Knights Softball Clinic – TBD
 - May
 - Photo Day – 5/3
 - BOD 5/13/2025 @TBD
 - Travel Tournament Memorial Day Weekend – 5/24 – 5/26 (No SGSL)
 - Playoffs First Round:
 - Minors 5/29 & 5/31
 - Majors 5/31
 - HS – 6/2
 - June
 - Jewel Classic – Sun 6/1
 - BOD 6/10/2025 @TBD
 - Playoffs – Championships:
 - Minors 6/5
 - Majors 6/4

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Elizabeth Gandza

- a. Volunteer Update – Liz thanked all the league volunteers for all of their time, and organization efforts to get this season up and running.
- b. Evaluations – A committee was created to assist in organizing and coordinating evaluations this season for Minors and Majors in order to create more balanced teams. We had over 90% participation.
 - Liz thanked Jenn Hapanowicz and USA Elite for the use of their facility. • Liz also thanked Bryan and Heather Cohen and all the other volunteers who assisted with gear, crowd control, drill stations and sign-ins
 - We received a lot of positive parent feedback regarding the evaluations and the organization of the event.
- c. Division Days – Liz presented a new idea regarding “Division Days” and would like to ideally involve whole league. The idea would be: After a short ceremony, the entire division would play games on the same day, at the same time. Liz asked for volunteers.
 - Liz Callahan volunteered to assist with Division Days.
- d. Meet and Greet – At SHS Café on 3/13

PLAYER AGENT’S REPORT

Vacant

- Liz temporarily presented the Player Agent report as both Anya Bounds and Jennine Albert both resigned from the position.
- Liz reported that we will have the following number of teams based on the registration for 2025:
 - 5 rookie teams
 - 6 Farm teams
 - 6 Minors teams
 - 6 Majors teams

- 4 High School teams
- Registration continues for Diamond Divas, hoping to have a team of at least 10. If you are interested in volunteering for Diamond Divas – See Jennine Albert.
- Southington Athletic will sponsor Diamond Divas jersey w/names on back. Thank you, Southington Athletic!

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EQUIPMENT and SAFETY MANAGER'S REPORT

Equipment and Safety Manager Bryan Cohen and Alyssa Cohen

- Alyssa reported that socks were received for Minors/Majors and HS. If there is a size issue w/socks, we can get them in a week's time.
- Bryan reported that they were working on Equipment Bags. Uniforms are in already.
- Liz had a couple of brief questions regarding uniforms.

FIELD MAINTENANCE MANAGER'S REPORT

Field Maintenance Elizabeth Gandza

- Liz Gandza reported the following on Field Maintenance matters:
 - Field opening on Sat 3/15 9am – 12:00 pm.
 - Cutting of fields in a couple of weeks (warmer weather).
 - Bathrooms are not open yet.
 - Need to freshen up batting cage/pitching lanes.
 - Rock settling on upper fields needs to be done.
 - Batting cage nets need to be installed.
 - Sheds need to be filled with raking tools, lime, turfacer
 - Bryan said tees and bow nets will be put into sheds.
 - Picnic tables need to be checked as kids used them for snow boarding.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Minors/Majors/HS Procedure Committee** – Committee goal. Current
 - i. Evaluations – Lessons Learned
 - 1. Minors evals- Pitching, coaches need to see all pitches.
 - 2. Majors – need more time to see pitching, importance of

- keeping 5th-7th graders in majors.
3. Players reported being nervous, more time in the beginning and end meeting.
 4. Try smaller groups that allows more time per station.
 5. Minors more time warming up.
 6. Majors 5th and 7th together to have time for questions 6yth grade more rushed. All groups need thorough explanations/time for warm-ups.
 7. Minors – a lot of time lost getting girls their gear (helmets, gear, lining up etc.)
 8. Check-In outside or next door
 9. Hold evaluations well of advance of draft.
 10. Give Numbers, in order, for pitching.

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11.Reinforce scores are secondary.

B. Scholarship Committee – Scholarship applications were postmarked by 3/8. Submitted to Pete Farr ASAP. Follow Local Scholarship guidelines and deadlines at SHS website. Scholarship committee will meet early April after applications are received. SHS Scholarship Awards Night is scheduled for Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Deadline for Scholarship recipient submissions April 11, 2025.

C. Diamond Divas – see Player Agent Report

D. DOUBLE Play Swap – Liz Callahan will collect gently used donations of bats, gloves, and cleats at meet and greet.

E. Jewel Classic Committee –Will be getting together soon to discuss items to be taken care of in preparation for this seasons Jewel Classic games.

F. Committees on Hiatus: Summer Sandlot

OLD BUSINESS

President Elizabeth Gandza

A. AED – Kristina taking the lead in preparing a grant to help subsidize purchase.

B. MOU w/Travel – Liz explained that she met with Pete Cowen and Kevin Rogers – getting items together for insurance purposes.

- C. Outreach and Fundraising – Liz asked the board to put out more feelers in community outreach for sponsors.
- D. Southington Orthodontics – interested in sponsoring something in our softball community, possibly a batting cage, but wasn't tied to one specific idea, maybe a Capitol Project, such as a ramp from the top side of the stairs between the upper and lower field, maybe more concrete pads, benches or covers over the benches
- E. Background Check updates – we are using a third-party vendor Protect Youth Sports, appears to be user friendly quick response on results.

NEW BUSINESS

President Elizabeth Gandza

a. Wolcott Request

Wolcott (Letter from Wolcott League President Chuck Cammarata) was wondering if we could accommodate a team or two from their league to play with

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SGSL players. After a brief discussion ensued by the board regarding the offer, it was determined that we would not be able to accommodate Wolcott for several reasons at this time including By-Laws, Insurance, and financially. Jim Sarantides added that historically, we receive these types of requests yearly. Jim brought up several points to consider; If you let Wolcott, why not let others etc. What type of teams are they a mix of travel and rec. There needs to be some caution thrown toward these type of requests, possible town involvement.

NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION:8

Liz introduced Matt Fontaine, a new Farm Division coach, to the Board of

Directors There were no new BOD Nominations.

Open Floor topics consisted of Jenn Ouellette thanking Liz for her work as President, Additional Lights on Fields,

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jillian Gentile and seconded by Pete Farr at 9:37 p.m.

The next board meeting: Virtually on Zoom on April 8, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Farr
SGSL Secretary