

WPLL BoD Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, January 12, 2026 @ 6:25 PM Approved: February 25, 2026

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE: (11 of 13) Chris Hurtado, President. April Sterner, Vice-President. Dan Tipton, Treasurer. Heather Way, Secretary. Amanda Demarest, Player Agent. Mark Kistler, Safety. Mike Linares, Equipment. Doug Mercurio, Sponsorship. Chris Hitchcock, Brian Roakes, Jon Watson.
Not Present: Mike Shihadeh, Umpire-in-chief. Lindsay Hloska.

GENERAL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Domenic DeSimone, Brian Elliott, Rick Way, Kyle Sterner, Chris Demarest.

Meeting Minutes: Mark Kistler made a motion to approve the prior Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Chris Hitchcock. Discussion: none. All board members were in favor and none opposed. Prior Meeting Minutes are approved.

Treasurer's Report: WPLL bank account is at \$114, 206 in business checking. Discussion: field reservation fees, jerseys & hats, baseballs, and other 2026 spring expenses remain to be paid. April Sterner made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Mike Linares. All board members were in favor and none opposed. The WPLL Treasurer's report is approved.

Special Business: Requesting all WPLL BoD's to remain for a brief closed door meeting after adjournment.

Meeting Agenda:

Old Business (below is agenda items only - please see prior minutes for more details on agenda items):

- Welcome 2026 WPLL Board of Directors - Quick review
- DISCUSSION: Approval of the 2025 WPLL Fall slate of volunteers
- 2025 WPLL Fall - Review
- District 12 Leadership
- PCPRNR - Pasco County Parks Recreation & Natural Resources
- WPLL Financials
- ASAP Plan
- Level 2 background checks
- 2026 WPLL Spring
- Coaching Clinics and/or Player Positional Clinics
- D12 Travel Baseball Program
- Ensure proper email/contacts will send link to register as BoD, Abuse, and CDC certificate
- (TABLED) State of Florida Tax Exemption Certificate - expires 7/31/2026 - auto review 60 days prior?
- (TABLED) League Website URL - expires 11/20/2026

New Business:

- District 12
 - Plans to use an app called BAND in hopes of improved communication moving forward.
 - Hudson Little League has apparently rejoined D12 with nothing but a questionnaire sent out.
 - Expecting a decision on SE Region tournament location this week or next. Largo or WPLL.
- PCPRNR - Pasco County Parks Recreation & Natural Resources
 - Contacted Brian after our last meeting. He explained some of the changes but did confirm all things still flow through him. Thus he asked for more time and set up a meeting on 12/19 to discuss the issues we reviewed last board meeting. At the meeting were Brian Taylor, Robert Mahler, Ray Levan, and Chris White. Sarah Logan was ill. Overall a good and productive meeting.

- Fencing across the street to be adjusted to allow for more cars with better markings.
 - Tee ball lights were approved and will be installed and paid for by PCPRNR.
 - PCPRNR maintains WPLL request written permission for anything not temporary.
 - All but 1 in the meeting approved of the window for concession. Will be following up.
 - Speaker installation approved just needs a licensed contractor to install.
- Expenditures
 - Vista cooler in concession. 2nd PoS, Turf, if approved behind F1. Property/lot near the park.
- SAFE - Replaces ASAP plans as of 1/5/2026 throughout Little League
 - Mark Kistler: Abuse, 1st aid and Heads up to be completed for coaches and persons on the field.
 - Leagues are still eligible for discounts through on time and proper filings. A norm at WPLL!
- Level 2 Background Checks - delayed to 7/1/2026
 - Must still plan to absorb this expense on behalf of the program to not deter the best available.
- 2026 Spring
 - Review current slate of 2026 Spring head coaches - approve full slate at a later time.
 - Currently 29 registrations below last spring (was the highest registration total in 9 years) or -4.5%
 - Fully expect w/ 59 in cart, returners still expected, and the roster space we will have given number of volunteers we will definitely surpass 2025 spring, best #'s in a decade.
 - GHLL did end up doing free tee ball after a very poor start to registration for 4 - 7's.
 - We expect 11 tee ball, 5 coach pitch, 8 machine pitch, 10 minors, 6 majors, 3 50/70, 3 juniors, and 2 senior teams this season at this time. A total of 48. 6 additional.
 - Approximately 850 hats will be ordered, we expect, this week. Beating the rush. This is the new plan to stay ahead of stock issues in between seasons. The cost will be about \$10,000.
 - Tank Pro demo to set or not to set?
 - **DISCUSSION:** _The board would like to have a demonstration set up_
 - Sponsorships: Doug Mercurio: _requested help with sponsorships; difficult to find sponsors this season. We still need 30 sponsors, not including tee ball_
 - Head coach meeting set for January 21st at 6:00 PM. Upper Divisions start at 7:30 PM.
 - Umpire Clinics will be set this week as Mike Shihadeh just got back into the country today.
 - SE region Outreach Clinic - cost of \$33.64 per umpire. 8 AM - 5 PM on January 24th. - This is the clinic to assist WPLL umpires in getting District 12 numbered.
 - **DISCUSSION:** _Mark Kistler_ made a motion for WPLL to cover expenses for WPLL umpires approved by Mike Shihadeh and Chris Hurtado to attend. _Heather Way_ seconded the motion. Discussion: _none_. _All_ board members were in favor and _none_ opposed. The motion to cover WPLL umpires attending is _approved_.
 - Status of junior umpire shirts and kits? Heather Way states WPLL has ample umpire shirts available that just need patches, which Heather will apply as needed.
 - Board member on duty - daily/nightly. April will be tasked with coordinating.
- Clinics
 - Extended reservation specifically on Sunday's with the intent to offer (with some consistency) clinics for both players and coaches. WPLL coaching coordinators to spearhead.
- Equipment check-in
 - A few tee ball bats are needed. Good on helmets. Good on catcher's gear. Good on catcher's mitts. A new machine pitch is needed. Baseballs needed - ensure usual type.
- District 12 Travel program - West Pasco Select
 - Have dates and will be communicating to head coaches to put teams together right after head coaches meetings for the first tournament for 10U and 12U which is 2/14 and 2/15.
- 2026 Spring Opening Day
 - History on display or save for next year's 75th Anniversary?
 - **DISCUSSION:** _Consensus is to save larger plans for the 2027 spring season_.
 - Bounce houses? Face painters? Mascots? Balloon artists? Decorations? Dunk tank as a fundraiser? New ideas? Ensure a volunteer is set to watch at the bounce house.

tested again when registration opens in July for the 2026 fall program. In the interim Chris resumed the prior practice of being contacted directly via Facebook Messenger, email, or text message requiring a family to provide in written form a commitment date in order to lock in pricing on the date the family reached the check out screen and had provided the specific written commitment date to have the registration fees paid for in full by.

- ii. [REDACTED] one family, [REDACTED], is claiming they are entitled to early bird pricing despite either or both not contacting WPLL during the earlier registration pricing dates and/or reaching the checkout screen prior to the lower pricing period ending. Board discussion: There is no issue with this practice being used knowing all communications must be logged electronically in writing which then helps ensure families have avenues available to them to encourage earlier registration which in turn help WPLL prepare accordingly for each upcoming season.

Adjournment:

April Sterner made a motion to adjourn the special closed door session and adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by _Mark Kistler_. _All_ board members were in favor and _none_ opposed_. The WPLL BoD meeting was officially adjourned at _7:54_PM on January 12, 2026.