

WHGSL

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

18 November 2025 / 7:00 PM / Elmwood Community Center

Sarah Winiarski - meeting minutes

Attendees: Joslyn Austin, Mike Talbott, Mike Moran, Sarah Winiarski, Amanda Moras, Matt Danziger, Tara Rafferty, Jess Bula, Amy Bieniek, Donna Fisch, District 6 representatives: Mike Mentone (District Administrator), Mike Comeau (Umpire in Chief), Sam Gossett (Asst Umpire in Chief)

Start Time: 7:05pm

D6 Update-Mike Mentone

- LL International had asked for CT to redistrict
- D7- some teams went to 8
- D6-largest in state, 12-13 leagues in district
- 4-5 teams in 12 tournament
- D6 Presidents' meeting-Jan
- June (mid) - meeting for all tournament managers, coaches, site directors to go over expectations, etc for tournament

Tournament:

- June 21-July 6, 3 teams in each division last year, went to double elimination
- If 4+ teams = pool play, cap at 4 games per team
- Games in Simsbury & Granby-have lights can result in late start times
- Jr level tournament team involvement varies from year to year
- 9th graders play 50% of games & register for team before hs season starts
- Teams can be announced as early as May 15th
- Players have to meet 8 game requirement (players), 12 game requirement (team)

Umpires:

- D6 organizes umpire clinic in Harwinton (March)- plate & base mechanics, basic 6 (may have small fee)
- 16+ yrs old for tournament games, will be paired with experienced umpire

Board Updates:

- Confirm 12/1 registration opening - early bird pricing
 - Delay Juniors?
 - Update Website descriptions
- Lawn Signs at Elementary and Middle Schools
 - Volunteers to put at schools
 - Contact Superintendent's office for permission
 - Sarah to contact superintendent's office to put info in newsletters

Election Committee (Mike Talbott, Josh Brier, Lindsey Leung)

- 2 year term from Jan 2027 - Dec 2028 (Pres, VP, Treas, Sec)
- 11/30: submissions close
 - One Entry for President to date
 - President & VP open positions

Treasurer Report**Total Funds (as of 11/18/2025): \$65,003.85**

- Checking Account: Bank of America: \$9,861.59
- CD: Bank of America: \$51,251.26
- Cash: \$892.00
- Venmo: \$2,999.00
- PayPal: -
- Online Registration/StackPay: -

Money Market Account

- Moved \$50,000 from BOA Checking to high yield CD; 7-month term, interest rate of 3.74% APR (3.80% APY). Interest earned to date: \$1,251.26
- CD extended by 7 months through 4/26/26
 - Explore potential endowment funding

Significant Expenses Since Last Meeting:

- \$5,600.00 - Christmas Carol Tickets
- \$2,292.75 - Fall Jerseys to Fresh Ink

Pending Expenses:

- \$400 - WH DPW for Winter Registration Signs in WH Center

- Portolet

Reports/Updates: By Committee

Food & Entertainment:

- No Update

Scholarship:

- No update

Fundraising & Sponsorship (Amanda Moras Chair):

- Hartford Stage Christmas Carol
 - Purchased 100 tickets for 12/13 matinee show @ \$56/ticket
 - Have sold 32 of the 100 to date
 - Plan to follow up with additional marketing and promotion this week
- Review 2026 Sponsorship pricing - start selling
- Joslyn to reach out to this past year's sponsors for renewal.

Fields & Facilities: (Mike Talbott Chair - John Colonese Chair in Training)

- Hang District 7 Banners - ***RECEIVED. DISCUSS CEREMONY/HANGING AT NORFELDT FIELD***
 - MM will work on putting together a celebration for hanging the banners
- Banners hanging at Norfeldt need new clips
- Winter activities - store screens in the batting cage; change locks if weather is nice, golf cart maintenance
- Norfeldt Shed/scoreboard project - Moran
 - Will have to be powered by solar vs. electric
 - Town doesn't allow permanent corporate sponsorship in public parks. We can put up a banner that is removable.
 - Will have to go through WH planning & zoning committee
- Cotter Pin - newest field liner

Communications (Mike Moran - Chair):

- Continuing to do more social media
- Followers are up to 155, +25 net new in the last 90 days
- Facebook Group has 264 members, +19 in the last 90 days

- Additional push for board nominations this week
- Plan to roll out registration promotion beginning in early December

Equipment & Uniforms (Jess Bula/Beth Hamilton Co-Chairs):

- Fall Equipment Bag organizing and inventory happened on 11/8; 6-7 volunteers helped out.
 - Rookies - 4 bags - 4 done (Shed)
 - Training - 6 bags - 2 done; 4 incomplete (Shed)
 - Minors - 8 bags - 2 done (shed); 4 incomplete (storage); 2 missing (fall/summer - MT to track down)
 - Majors - 4 bags - 0 done; 4 incomplete - need new catchers (storage)
 - Juniors - 3 bags - 0 done; 3 incomplete - need new catchers (storage)
- Bownet Parts - Amy Bieniek will order and submit receipt
 - Once Amy/Mike fill in unfinished bags we can count and order more
- Catchers gear - majors (3-5), minors (3-6), juniors (3)
- 1st Aid Kits - 2 - 3 dozen needed
- Game Balls, Practice Balls
- Umpire Masks (6)
- Scorebooks/Line up cards - NO WE NEED

Player & Coach Development (Open Chair):

- Saint Joe's Clinic, Monday, March 2 from 6-9pm (training through Juniors)
- Update on potential league run clinics to be held at KO (have a meeting with Sherry tomorrow)
- Assessments at KO
KO fieldhouse is usually not booked on Friday nights and later Sundays

KO fieldhouse costs:

\$285.00 per hour full facility
 \$190.00 per hour ¾ of facility
 \$95.00 per hour ½ of facility

- New facility in Plainville, Premier Sports Arena (86 Whiting Street) will tour it this weekend-5000sq feet. 3 batting cages, turf. Can open all cages for a 3000 sq ft area. Cost is 35.00 per hour per cage, 105.00 per hour for the facility.
- **Rules & Competition (Matt Danziger Chair):**

- Juniors Division Discussion after this meeting
 - 18 projected 8th graders
 - 28 projected 7th graders
- Potential solutions:
 - 8th grade team & middle school team
 - Juniors division composed of higher talented 8th graders
 - Majors become 5-7th grade- What to do with 8th graders who aren't at the higher level to play on the 8th grade team?
- No resolution made, discussion to be continued

Travel Committee (Joslyn Austin NCGSL Chair/Matt Danziger Little League Chair)

- No update

2025 Important Dates/Information

- Annual Meeting - Tuesday, 12/16 at Elmwood Community Center
- 11/30 - Nominations for EBO 2027-28 positions close plus EBO voting to follow

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30pm