

## SVLL Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 23, 2026

Location: Virtual/Zoom

Time: 7:00pm

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### 1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by **Mark Paulsen**. Quorum confirmed.

### 2. Approval of Previous Minutes

- Motion by Steve Vignato to approve prior meeting minutes, seconded by Liz Kramer. Motion approved.

### 3. Treasurer's Report (Maggie Torres)

- **Financial Status (as of meeting date):**
  - **Cash on Hand:** approximately \$129,000, not including incoming Hit-A-Thon deposit.
- **Season-to-Date Income:**
  - Registration: \$63,000
  - Snack Bar: \$5,000
  - Sponsorships: \$32,450
  - Hit-A-Thon (net after fees): \$28,696.86 (deposit pending)
- **Major Expenses:**
  - Field Improvements: \$14,000
  - Uniforms: \$18,200
  - Insurance: \$6,700
  - Hit-A-Thon Expenses: \$3,800
  - Snack Shack Inventory: \$5,200
- **Notes:** Cashless Snack Shack system is working well with daily batch deposits.

### 4. Player Agent & Division Updates

- **Lower Division (Jaclyn Downing)**
  - Scheduling adjustments made due to coaching changes.
  - Games moved earlier to accommodate staffing.
  - Communication sent to coaches; no issues reported.
  - Single-A hitting mat ordered to address degraded tee areas (Travis M handled).
- **Upper Division (Mark Paulsen)**
  - One Majors player transfer to Aptos LL finalized post-Opening Day.
    - District 39 and Western Regional approved
    - Player declared ineligible for All-Stars
- District discussions underway regarding:
  - 9-year-old All-Star Tournament site (unsanctioned, likely 8-9s)
  - SVLL declined hosting due to volunteer and field constraints

- SVLL to continue hosting 11s; Santa Cruz to host 12s

## 5. Majors Commissioner Update (Steve Vignato)

- Managers to submit full game scores at season midpoint.
- No majors-specific issues reported.

## 6. Opening Day Recap

- **Overall Assessment:**
  - Event considered successful.
  - Team photos executed smoothly.
  - Snack Shack sales very strong.
  - Cashless payment system working well.
- **Improvements / Feedback:**
  - Improve execution of card giveaways.
  - Front-load Majors/AAA games earlier in the day for future Opening Days (softball conflict).
  - Photo retakes scheduled and communicated.

## 7. Umpires / UIC Report (Greg Lukina)

- Workers' Comp completed; first umpire payroll scheduled.
- Coverage strong overall; some AAA gaps.
- Additional umpire training sessions conducted.
- Arbiter scheduling flexibility discussed; limits to be applied next season.
- Younger umpires being developed with veteran mentorship.

## 8. Volunteerism – New Business

- **Overview:**
  - Board acknowledges growing volunteer burnout.
  - Lower divisions (T-Ball / Single-A) show lowest participation.
- **Research Presented (Nicole Ulen):**
  - Other leagues use:
    - Volunteer hour minimums
    - Refundable deposits (\$125–\$250)
    - Buyout options (\$250–\$300)
  - Typical buyout participation is low (<5%).
  - Volunteer deposits refunded upon completion of hours.
- **Discussion Highlights:**
  - Snack Shack hardest roles to fill.
  - Consider:
    - Deposits tied to registration
    - Sponsorship credit substitutions
    - Incentives (e.g., team rewards for younger divisions)
  - Tracking and compliance tools exist but require setup.
- **Next Steps:**
  - Topic to continue as **off-season planning priority**.

## 9. Facilities & Field Updates

- **Fields (Jody / Carlos / Matt):**
  - Fields holding up well; watering ongoing.
  - AAA hose added for better coverage.
  - First-base double-bag stability being addressed
  - \$1,200 in donations saved on field doors.
- **Batting Cages:**
  - Structural reinforcement scheduled during Spring Break.
  - Budget:
    - Reinforcement: around \$2,000
    - Netting: around \$1,000 per stall (budget available)
  - Donated shade net identified for cages (to be fitted)
- **Additional Items:**
  - Exploring shade options for Majors spectators.
  - Camera system issues:
    - Plug disconnects identified; labeling and dedicated outlet planned.
    - Possible camera damage to be checked.
  - Sound system at Majors field needs review.
  - Refillable water station pending purchase & install (budget review needed).

## 10. Fundraising & Events (Liz Kramer)

- **Upcoming Events:**
  - Santa Cruz Warriors Game – March 29 (low ticket sales)
  - Eric's Deli Fundraiser – April 3
  - Laughing Monk Fundraiser – April 19
  - SJ Giants Night – April 25
  - LL Movie Night – May 8
  - SF Giants Fundraiser – May 9
- **Notes:**
  - Volunteer sign-ups to be released early for Movie Night.
  - Easter Egg Hunt deferred due to bandwidth.

## 11. Insurance Review

- Insurance renewal pending.
- New broker offered full coverage audit.
- Action to gather Little League International insurance policy for comparison.
- Goal: reduce redundancy and overall cost.

## 12. Communication & Transparency

- Proposal to create an email list for public notice of board meetings.
- Board meeting access remains open to all families.
- Recommendation to promote via Band app and website.

## 13. Adjournment

- Steve Vignato motioned to adjourn the meeting and Chris Kramer seconded. Motion approved.