



**General Board Meeting
Monday, Nov 27, 2023
Minutes**

Board Members:

Scott Beseda	Randy Netherda	Tom Bose	Rick Baker
Scott McCoubrey	Bruce Drinkwalter	Rich Christiansen	

**League Members:
13 Attendees (4.3% of 305 Members)**

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2023 -24 Season Underway:

- American, Mid-American and National Leagues began on Oct 21st with one game from each league on Opening Day. Great job by everyone who participated in the opening ceremonies and volunteers who made it all run smoothly.
- Two changes that will be implemented now in the National League
 - Game start times moved to 10am, 11:30am and 1pm to allow for games running longer and to reduce time teams are waiting around to start their games.
 - Designated pitchers will be allowed from all Leagues to pitch for the teams. Currently have 10 players signed up to volunteer to pitch. Designated Pitchers will pitch and play defense only. They will not bat. Teams who have designated pitchers will continue to bat their 11 players but only have 10 on defense (plus the pitcher). Teams will rotate a player sitting out every inning. Initial test indicated that this will significantly improve the competitiveness and quality of the games while also reducing the time of games.
- Volunteer Umpires are also off to a good start. We are getting feedback from managers that they feel there is some inconsistency with the calling of illegal pitches and with umpires needing to be more vocal in calling them earlier. They also shared that they would like to see the umpires being more vocal in calling in-field fly and timeout. There has also been numerous occasions where players have been displaying unsportsmanlike conduct toward the umpires. We all need to remember that our umpires are volunteers, our friends and our neighbors. Our umpires have been very fair and will discuss among themselves the rules and seek clarity when needed. Steve Ward is doing a great job mentoring them. They are trying to be great umpires and will continue to get better with time. Players need to stay calm and let their managers work with the umpires during game situations. We appreciate everyone's cooperation.
- 5 new players will be evaluated on Nov 29th. We anticipate most or all of these individuals will fill ghost positions. The Board is currently working on the policy and procedure for determining who

gets any player when there is a new player or when a players becomes available off the sub list to play full time.

Miscellaneous:

- The Board will work to provide portable home plate mats for teams to use during off-site practices in order to assist pitchers in improving their skills. Great idea from Steve Gaines.
- Some individuals are not aware of the Rain-Out Policy. If and entire day of schedule games are lost, these games will NOT be re-scheduled. Standings at the end of the season will be determined by winning percentages. If a portion of the games are lost, they will be re-scheduled at the earliest possible date. This will ensure that every team plays the same number of games.

Rick Baker
PCSSA Secretary