

Victoria Saanich Women's Softball Association

Annual General Meeting - Agenda

Date: Thursday, January 30, 2025 **Time:** 7:00 pm **Location:** Hyacinth Park 'Clubhouse'

1. Call to Order

- Welcome and Introductions – Start 7:03 PM
- Attendance – Zoe Kinakin, Paddy Strandlund, Pat Guiney, Johann Cherry, Kelly Milliken, Teresa Allen, Lisa Hayton, Howie Mace, Isabella Kennedy, Lucio Genzale, Kymber Gale, Jenna Will, Tracy Kirby

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Review and Approval of the Minutes from Last AGM – Zoe Kinakin
 - Previous years minutes are on the website VSWSA.ca and all are welcome to review and reach out with any questions or concerns.
 - **Minutes Approved**

3. President's Report

- Summary of the Year's Activities – Paddy Strandlund
 - A successful 2024 season with 6 women's teams and 4 men's team. Victoria Panthers were the regular season league champions, and Svee was the playoff champions. It was a very competitive and successful year. There were limited surprises and issues. We came together for repairs and maintenance. Moving forward we hope for an even better and successful year.
- Achievements and Challenges
 - A steady membership over the last few years and we hope to keep this. The number of teams we have are all we can accommodate with only having four nights a week unless we gain another night or weekend games.
 - The Tournament will be June 7-8, 2025 – We plan to host our Annual Invitational tournament again which will be open to all teams and have 2 playoff divisions.
 - Field Maintenance and Repairs - Leaky sprinklers have been replaced, Saanich has fixed dog related issues. Most of the buildings have been painted by a contractor. We had some limitations due to safety concerns and costs. We will continue on the painting and touch ups.
 - We have updated our website and Facebook/ Instagram. Zoe Kinakin has updated and maintained these throughout the season and post season. Our website is Vswsa.ca
 - Financially Stability is in good standing. We secured a small amount of sponsorships, some fundraising, and league registration to help offset some of the costs associated with repairs and other expenses. Our bank balance has remained approximately the same through the past couple of years.

- Our Challenges – Weather and Scheduling for cancelled/postponed games. We hope to have all the games played this year as much as possible rather than a disparity in the number of games for each team.
- We have field limitations but will hope to share knowledge of any additional field time available (If any is cancelled etc.) Please email ahead of time for additional slots for approval.
- Graffiti – Saanich has put it on us to maintain a clean environment and covering all graffiti, Saanich declines to take any control of this as they do not have enough man power.
- The bull pens were fixed and maintained by P Strandlund but alas someone still decided to dig out a pitching mound which will need to be fixed before the season.
- One of our scoreboards has fallen due to age and we will work to fix this
- Signage – team signs will be made for the scoreboards and will have this done before first game
- Umpires – We need to get more trained umpires and will need to work to help up the number of umpires we have. Umpire fees are increasing about 25% this year. The executive is looking at other options for umpires to ensure we get both good quality and enthusiastic umpires.

4. Treasurer's Report

- Financial Overview – Jenna Will
 - 2024 League Season
 - With a slight increase in team fees, tournaments etc we were able to maintain costs to cover umpires and upgrades/ repairs
 - 2024 June Invitational Tournament
 - Beer garden helped cover and create some funds. Our major cost from our tournament was the cash prize. We have decided to go away with this for the upcoming season.
- Presentation of 2024 Financial Statements
 - We had a Net gain of \$1,976.23 this year.
- Approval of Budget for the Upcoming 2025 Season
 - Umpires increase is going to two umpires for \$110 for Womens and \$120 for Mens for the 2025 season (Approx 25% increase). This will increase our budget substantially. (We are considering other options).
 - Team Fees are **\$2,150 for the women's teams** and **\$1,950 for the men's teams** there are no changes in cost from the previous year.
 - There are some expense increases as costs have gone. There are limited costs for repairs this year as we have prepared for those from the previous year.
 - The budget has been approved for the 2025 season

5. New Business

- 2025 Key Activities
 - The womens side will be 6 teams as long as the View Royal A team gets approval from the Softball BC (U17A). The Vipers have pulled out, the Glory team has been replaced by the Twisty Tornados (name potential to change)

- Season opener is SATURDAY MAY 10th
- There will be a Saturday double header again which allows us to shorten the season to 10 weeks and allows us to have 2 weeks of playoffs.
- Playoffs will be early July and start on June 30th for two weeks, Season playoff final will be Thursday July 10th.
- Proposals for Upcoming 2025 Year – Paddy Strandlund
- 3 Motions to amend the constitution.
 - **MOTION TO AMEND ‘SECTION A’ To Read:** The name of the parent organization shall be the “Victoria -Saanich Womens Softball Association”, Hereinafter referred to as the “Association” , within which shall operate the “Victoria-Saanich Women’s Softball League”, hereinafter referred to as the “VSWSL” and the “Victoria Men’s Fastpitch League”, hereinafter referred to as the “VMFL”. The two leagues will be combined within the parent organization but will maintain separate operating procedures. – **Motion Passed**
 - **MOTION TO AMEND THE ‘SUPPLEMENTING ROSTERS’ SECTION TO READ AS:** Where a team would otherwise be unable to field enough players to play a regular scheduled or playoff game, that a team may use up to a maximum of three pick-ups in a game provided that: a) any pickup player is signed on a softball Canada or Softball BC Roster of another team of any style of pitch and classification. b) any u19 Pickups must have the approval of a minor coordinator and the league prior to the game. U19 players from any division are eligible as a pick-up by any team. c) any u19 pickup must have a signed waiver on file with the current league executive. This waiver releases the League of any liability of player injury. d) No players registered in U17 or younger may be used as pickups by any team. e) If a team does not or is unable to meet these requirements before game time, that team will default the game.– **Motion Passed**
 - **MOTION TO AMEND THE ‘LEAGUE FEES’ SECTION TO READ AS: 1)** Annual League Fee amounts are determined by the executive at a rate deemed necessary to carry out the needs of the league. a) League Fees and deposit cheques will be due at a time determined by the executive in timely deposits and then the remaining balance to be paid ‘in full’ no later than the pre-season park cleanup. 2)Any teams paying the Softball BC portion of their league fees through their respective organizations or by other means outside of the league registration will have that amount deducted from their league fees. 3) each team is to provide (3) three \$50 “good Behaviour” Deposit cheques. Cheques are to be cashed under any of the following circumstances a. A team fails to supply the requisite number of people to the annual preseason park cleanup. A team fails to complete their assigned park-duty responsibilities. A team cancels a game with less than 24 hours notice or does not show up for a scheduled game. A team has cancelled two or more scheduled games and is unwilling or unable to make up the games by the end of the season – **Motion Passed**

6. Election of Officers

- Election of Board Members/ Officers
 - President – Paddy Strandlund, Second and accepted
 - Vice President – Tracy Kirby (accepted) (Seconded) (Approved)

- Treasurer – Jenna Will (accepted) (Seconded) (Approved)
- Secretary – Zoe Kinakin (accepted) (seconded) (Approved)
- Director at Large – Mel Caton (accepted by Tracy) (Seconded) (Approved)
- Director at Large – NO ONE STANDS – we are looking for volunteers
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7. Open Forum & Discussion

- Questions & Comments, Upcoming Meetings & Important Dates – Executive & Members
 - 2025 Season goals - 20 games for each womens team. Playoffs “Double Knockout”, Hosting 3rd annual tournament, Keeping up on Maintenance and minor repairs, Have FUN!
 - Suggestion to pay more for umpires as an incentive to come. Umpires prefer to ump with a partner and would be willing to take a small cut to have one. (Executive to look into Umpire alternatives)
 - **Park cleanup date April 19th 2025 from 10AM – 2PM**
 - **Coaches meeting date – March 20th 2025 @ 7pm**
 - Please let us know if there is anything we should contact Saanich about for repairs or any park questions.
 - Website and social media – Please contact Zoe Kinakin with any changes or requests. If any teams are looking for players, please contact Zoe to distribute information. Also please share photos throughout the season.
 - We have discussed doing a City Championship with the other womens league having a three-tiered tournament. Potential for that to go forward which could be a 16-team tournament.
 - Gamechanger – for the season will be done again please contact zoe with any questions or about rolling the team over.
 - Theresa introduced herself as the District Umpire and has generously offered her expertise and if anyone has rule questions or anything else, please feel free to contact her – d1umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
 - Fees are due and can be e transferred – Jenna.will@live.com OR prez.hyacinth@gmail.com : each deposit is \$500
 - 1st Deposit February 1st, 2025 (\$500)
 - 2nd Deposit March 1st, 2025 (\$500)
 - 3rd Deposit April 1st, 2025 (\$500)
 - Final Deposit Balance Due at the League Work Party on April 19th.

8. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 PM

IMPORTANT DATES:

New Executive Meeting – Thursday February 20th @ 7:00 PM

Coaches Meeting – Thursday March 20th @ 7:00 PM

League Work Party Saturday April 19th from 10AM – 2PM