

WestmiASA Meeting Minutes

12/14/2025

Board Members Present:

Dan VanderMyde, Jack Nummerdor, Sean Greene, Dave Elliot, Paulina Halmon

Absent:

Jamie Burton

Agenda Items:

1. Replacement Board Members-

- Need to fill positions for the resignation of Secretary Jason Schultz and Director Teresa Dunson.
- Paulina Halmon voted onto the board as a trustee
- **All organizations will be notified of the remaining open board position and nominations will be taken to fill it.**
- Dave Elliot (Currently Assistant Director) will serve as Interim Director until a permanent replacement is found.
- Board roles moving forward will be determined after the position is filled,

2. Age level cutoff date-

- Confirmed we are moving our age level eligibility determination date from January 1st to Sept 1st for the 2025 season. Age level charts have already been emailed to all directors. **A Players age level for SPRING 2026 will be determined by their age on September 1, 2025.**
- This change aligns with all National organizations who have made this move in recent years, and, more importantly, should do a much better job of keeping grade levels together in an age group.
- **Important to note:** Because of when our Fall season begins, the September 1st date of THE CURRENT YEAR will be used to determine a players age eligibility for that year's Fall season. **So a players age level may change between Spring and Fall Ball.** In essence, September 1st is now the beginning of our "league year" and Fall Ball will be our first season of that league year.

3. Pitching Rules for 10u)-

- After much consideration and discussion, it was decided that **10u will still follow the “pitcher’s development” rules used the previous 2 years** with “Coach relief” on ball 4 instead of a walk. Pitchers will still be limited to 2 innings per game.

4. Approved Rule Changes for 2026-

- **AT 8U ONLY** A batter hit by a pitch will be given the option of whether they would like to take their base or keep hitting.
- The Junior Elite/Middle School Softball season will have a hard start date of 12 weeks prior to the Junior Elite/Middle School tournament. This will include the first date of tryouts, organized practice, and competitions. Off-season workouts before this date **are** permitted. If found to be in violation of this rule, it can result in disciplinary action upon the club from the WMASA Executive Board that can include forfeiture of eligibility for the tournament, suspensions of players, coaches, and entire clubs from the Junior Elite/Middle School program. **The hard start date for 2026 will be March 2nd**

5. Residency requirements clarification-

- **In the Middle School League**, a player who attends a school that has a team in the Westmiasa program must play for that team. Any exceptions to this **must have an approved waiver from the league**.
- For a variety of reasons, In the lower age levels, *at this time*, there is no such requirement. **However**, we still appeal to all clubs to do the right thing and not “stack teams” with girls who should be playing for a different club.

Personally, when I (Dave) see a registration come through for someone who lives somewhere else, I will reach out and make sure they know they have a closer “home” club. Sometimes they weren’t even aware and will sign up there instead. Other times, there is a good reason for the player to need to play elsewhere (Shared custody situation, school of choice student, etc).

If we start to see some organizations collecting girls from other ones (that are also offering that age level/season) just to build “super teams” or play with travel teammates, we will be left with no choice but to institute residency requirements/boundaries at the lower levels as well. Please help us avoid this headache by doing the right thing.

6. Proposal to eliminate the standings/ playoffs for the 10u age division to make it “less competition focused” and more “developmental focused”-
 - Tabled for future discussion (before season starts)

7. Proposal for clearly written discipline/penalty policy for unsportsmanlike fan/coach/player behavior
 - Tabled for future discussion (before season starts)

Minutes Completed by Dave Elliot