

Sooke Slopitch Annual General Meeting  
March 11, 2026

Meeting Minutes

Current Account Balance: \$18,895.00

- We are continuing to save for field improvements (filling in ditch at D2, pushing fence back and installing a proper backstop. Quoted \$100,000 to complete this work).
- Beer Trailer will need replacing within the next year. We have had many amazing seasons with our current beer trailer and Jason has done a wonderful job keeping it in working order. Unfortunately, we do need to replace it soon. We are hopeful to be able to use it for the 2026 season, or at least the Icebreaker tournament. If anyone knows of a possible replacement option please let us know.

League Fees \$2000.00: Deposit of \$100.00 due by April 1, 2026. Remaining \$1900.00 due by April 25, 2026

- Fees can be paid by eTransfer to [fees.ssp@gmail.com](mailto:fees.ssp@gmail.com) \*\*Please put the name of the team in the notes section.

League Fundraising:

- We will do another raffle this year, more information coming at a later date. Funds from this raffle will be put towards a new Beer Trailer and D2 field improvements.

Important Dates:

- March 12, 2026: Umpire Clinic at Spencer School. For those interested in becoming umpires it is \$130.00 which provides book, 2 Jerseys and the Course. Nick Grove will do a clinic in Sooke at a later date.
- April 1, 2026: \$100.00 Deposit due to hold your spot for the 2026 Season.
- April 19, 2026: Work Party at Diamond 1, 2 and possibly the Highschool. Please bring a shovel or rake and it is recommended to wear boots or footwear/clothing you don't mind getting dirty.
- April 25, 2026: Remaining Fee balance of \$1900.00 due.
- April 25-26, 2026: IceBreaker Tournament
- April 27, 2026: League Play starts.
- August 1, 2026: STYP Dance @ Community Hall.
- August 1-3, 2026: STYP Tournament.

Important Changes: The League is moving from SPN to NSA.

- NSA has offered better insurance coverage than SPN.
- The fees for NSA coverage is less than SPN.
- Prizing offered is significantly better than SPN.

- A pitching mask is mandatory under NSA rules. At this time, just the mask is mandatory, we may consider the full pitching helmet in the future.
- NSA Waivers: \*\*Please search their database to determine if you already have a profile, do not create a second profile! Creating a duplicate profile and providing false information could lead to a lifetime suspension with NSA Canada Slopitch. You can search your info here: <https://nsacanada.ca/player-search/>.
  - When filling out the waiver, choose the lowest denominator as your player rank or you will be stuck playing at that level should you join any NSA tournaments (e.g. Worlds).
  - Once you have signed up and agreed to the waiver, you are covered for any NSA leagues or tournaments across Canada. You will no longer need to sign the waiver annually unlike SPN.
- Strike 3 Foul Ball = Dead Ball. Players on bases can no longer tag up and run if the strike 3 foul ball is caught in the air.
- Balls: We will be using the Louisville balls this year, the equivalent of the Grey Dots used in previous years.

#### Divisions Split/Sparing Rule:

- 2026 season is currently projected to have 24 teams.
- There has been a lot of interest in keeping the league split into A/B divisions.
- Safety concerns were brought forward with respect to A division teams playing B/C division teams and potential for injury off harder hits.
  - Option for safety when higher teams are playing lower teams would be to change to a softer ball to avoid potential injuries.
- When put to the vote: A/B/C divisions with 8 equal teams were voted as the split for 2026 season.
- Sparing Rule: a player can be picked up from a lower division to play in a higher division. Higher division players can only play in a lower division IF the opposing team agrees before the game starts. Please have this conversation before the game and again at home plate with the Umpire.
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#### General Notes/Information:

- SSP rules being added due to the change from SPN to NSA:
  - No Bunting
  - Pitching height will remain between 6-12 feet.
- Stan Jones: SSP will have access to the field Monday-Friday.
  - Triangle has the field on Tuesdays from 5-6:15pm. Expect game delays on Tuesday's to allow for field exchange and warm up.
- Umpire incidents: last season saw a few fights and lots of disrespect towards fellow players and umpires. If you have any issues, please contact Jason or another member of the executive.
- Concession: Unsure if we will have the concession at the icebreaker or STYP tournaments. Currently there is no one to run it. If anyone is interested in

volunteering, please contact Jason or Ben. If cooking, food safe certification will be required.

- The Sooke Community Association is extremely grateful for the work done to Diamond 1. They will be providing funds to fill Diamond 1's infield.
- Note to Smokers and Spitz consumers: Please pick up the butts and seeds! As everyone knows there is no food or drinks aside from water allowed on the Turf but we are asking that all fields be cleaned up of any cigarette butts or sunflower seeds. Executive members, Sarah and Bruce have spent a lot of time cleaning our fields of these items.
- NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL AT TOURNAMENTS. Not only does this jeopardize our liquor license, but revenue generated from liquor sales at these tournaments helps keep the costs down from our league fees and helps us save for league improvements.
- Liquor during League Play, please ensure any alcohol brought to league games is transported in a cooler and drinks are either poured into a cup or cans are covered with a koozie/colster.
- Field set up/tear down. Home Team is responsible for setting up the fields. Visiting team is responsible for tearing it down. Please ensure the locker at D1 is properly locked after everything has been put away at the end of the game. Stan Jones set up and tear down is completed by SeaParc.
- Lindsay Coles will be bringing water bottles from her work to the IceBreaker tournament. These will be available for free for anyone to take. They will be available next to the Beer Trailer. Thank you Lindsay!