



Softball SAC Meeting Tuesday August 1, 2023 Meeting was called to order by Dean Vissor Roll Call :

In Person: Dean Vissor AIA

Melissa Hobson O'Connor HS Coach Rich Hamilton Red Mountain Coach

Keery Reeder Williams Field Coach AZSCA Rep Shannon Woolridge - Empire Coach & AD Darrell Allen East Mark Coach

On Zoom: Eric Tatham - Benson

Jim Chavez - Umpires Association Tommy Eubanks Mesa District AD Thom Luedamann Willow Canyon AD Daniel Hutchin - Joe City

Meeting minutes from last meeting were approved Motioned by Rich Hamilton

Second by Kerry Reader

New Agenda Items:

Schedule/ format/game times/travel

1A - Daniel Hutchins - 1st round at home was good, 2nd round at complex only concerns were regarding the outfield and the pitching circles needed more attention.

2A - Eric Tatham - No complaints from any of the 2A coaches. Question was brought up about how many rounds do they go to high seed and then go to complex? Would it be Quarters & Semis?

3A - Shannon Woolridge - regular season ended then teams were waiting too long for start play-in bracket and then 3A state bracket. Schedule for the tournament was stretched out. Coaches have talked about wanting a double elimination tournament to match up with 4A.

4A - Darrell Allen - Good tournament, good competition

5A - Thom Luedamann - Tournament ran smoother at Papago Fields. Parking was a struggle, and bleachers were limited many fans needed lawn chairs. Discussion of moving times of game a little further apart was discussed to help with limited parking at Papago fields.

Keery Reeder expressed an interest in 5A having a double elimination tournament like 6A.

6A - Rich Hamilton - tournament ran smoothly liked using Quail Run - has worked with city to improve on the Lights, and adjust game time.

Championship locations - all agreed that ASU & UofA were good sites

Open division discussion was lead by Tommy Eubanks on the process for opening that discussion, giving insight on how basketball currently runs their open division. Discussion went around that softball power depends on pitching and comes and goes in waves, which in turn would make it difficult to collect data on teams for open division. This is something that this committee continues to keep an eye on and keep it in the conversation.

Suspended Game 28.1.3.3 Bylaw Language was discussed. Jim Chavez gave us the interpretation of the NFHS rule, and then the AIA bylaw rule. Discussion about cleaning up the language, Picking up the game where it left of in the suspension, using a complete game not 4 ½ or 5 innings. Would like to consistent enforcement of the rule. Jim will work on a Softball Suspended game proposal for the committee.

Safety bases - Discussion of safety bases and the need for them in the high school setting. Jim gave input on safety base. Darrell, Rich & Melissa all gave input on the increasing need for safety base. Rich motioned for Safety bases to be put into place, Eric second that motion. Yes on safety bases all the way around the discussion.

Required Facemasks - Melissa gave input and rationale for not having them from time on NFHS rule committee, There is currently not enough safety data to support requiring them. Dean added that currently there is not a NOCSE approved face mask. It was agreed around the table that is a personal/parental choice at this time.

Player Coach Regonition - Rich Hamilton and Kerry Reader lead this discussion.

2nd Catcher would like to be added to the voting - this was agreed upon around the table. Region reps need to be put back into place to have consistency in the voting process.

AZSCA - has put together a rationale and format for future conference voting, each member of the SAC committee was emailed those. Each conference would send that region representative to vote on Conference honors with a neutral rep to run the meeting. Rationale is for each conference to get a better picture of the athletes getting voted for all conference honors

Dean thanked everyone for attending. Meeting was adjourned