

Softball Advisory Committee

UT Club

June 1, 2023, 8:30am

1. Introductions of all present, including committee members, THSCA executives, UIL, and TASO
2. AJ Martinez – UIL
 - a. Discussed how well the state tournament is running
 - b. Looks forward to feedback at coaching school on how to better things
 - i. Questions asked before he had to leave to attend state tournament games
 1. Can we change the testing date rule?
 - a. We should have an update by coaching school, the testing dates playing rule is state law, not a UIL rule.
 2. Who will be the softball rep next year?
 - a. This is still to be determined
3. Mike Fitch – TASO
 - a. Season went well until a play-off game last Friday where there were 24 instance reports in a single game
 - b. 2023-2024 update:
 - i. Athletic Directors, Superintendents, and game administrators will now be given only one incident report and it will be brought to TASO (they previously did not have this rule, and TASO feels too many occurrences are happening with this group – they should be setting a better example)
 - ii. New law – assault of an official by a spectator will result in a 1-2 year ban of UIL sponsored athletic events.
 - iii. 3 things TASO will be focusing on
 1. DP/Flex issues
 2. Obstruction
 3. Interaction with coaches
 - c. TASO encourages all schools to have a TASO (umpire) appreciation night – THSCA encourages coaches to use their first district home game for this night.
4. Joe Martin and Libby Pacheco – THSCA
 - a. Expectations of Advisory Committee Members
 - b. Want ALL coaches to understand they can reach out to us for anything they may need
 - c. Advisory Committee selection process
 - d. 2022-2023 goals and where we stand
 - i. We want to be so good that coaches can't afford to not be a part of what we are doing

- e. Representation
 - i. Advisory committees
 - ii. IDEA committee
 - iii. PAC committee
 - iv. Urban ISD committee
 - v. Superintendents committee
 - vi. Athletic directors committee
 - vii. Awards committee
- f. Advocacy
 - i. Permanent injury program
 - ii. Memorial benefit program
 - iii. Benevolence fund
 - iv. Our Day to Shine
 - 1. Use a scrimmage day to help raise funds
 - v. Coaches professional liability insurance and legal assistance
 - 1. Annual premium is only \$58.00
 - vi. Seat at the table
 - 1. The request for this was greater than what we could have ever expected
 - vii. ROCK mentoring program
 - 1. We need nominees for mentees and we need mentors
 - 2. Working hard to keep good coaches in the profession
 - 3. Nominations open at Coaching School and close in December
 - 4. March meeting is in Arlington
 - viii. Collaborations with other associations / programs
- g. Professional Development
 - i. Coaching school
 - 1. Future dates and locations through 2031
 - 2. Demographics
 - 3. Registrants by sport – softball last year was 811
 - ii. 4-Ls: Listen, Learn, Love, Lead designed by Stephen Mackey
 - iii. Name Image Likeness (NIL)
 - 1. Already 29 states where it is used at the high school level
- h. Awards and Recognition
 - i. Texas Officials Appreciation (encouraged to use first district home game)
 - ii. THSCA Awards
 - 1. Academic all-state
 - 2. Coach of the week – we need to do better nominating coaches (we do a great job nominating our kids, have the same mindset for other coaches)
 - 3. Coach of the Year

4. Super Elite Teams

5. General Discussion

- a. Revisited the 15 after 3 run rule for first two rounds of softball play-offs
 - i. Does not have to go through legislative council
 - ii. Billy Hicks' questionnaire shows it is favored as long as we keep "by mutual consent" in the verbiage
 - iii. THSCA and TGCA committee members need to get together
 - iv. An email has been sent to Sam Tipton of TGCA to start the process with their committee
 - v. THSCA is willing to go to Arlington to meet with TGCA softball committee members
- b. Do we need a state softball association similar to other sports?
- c. 2024 live demos at coaching school
 - i. There will be more space in San Antonio, and therefore safer
 - ii. Keeping attendees safe from flying softballs is a major factor for the delay vs other sports
- d. Baseball's proposed amendment
 - i. Must play 2 out of 3 game series UNLESS mutually agreed upon to play a one game
 1. Softball Advisory Committee does not agree with this for softball
- e. State legislation
 - i. Alerts
 - ii. Call your individual reps

6. Meeting adjourned

Advisory Committee Members in Attendance:

Region 2	Cynthia Herrera, Breckenridge HS
Region 3	Kathy Schoettle, Allen HS
Region 5	Katie Roberts, Brenham HS
Region 6	Sam Weeks, Troup HS
Region 7	Audra Troutman, Sinton HS
Region 8	Jennifer Fox, Alamo Heights HS