



Travel Ball Caucus Minutes
December 6, 2017 --- Bally's Las Vegas

- I. BYLAWS APPROVAL
- II. JODY SYKES – Senior Associate Athletic Director - University of Oregon
 - A. Recruiting Calendar for D1 Review
- III. SHELLI NOLTE – NFCA TRAVEL BALL REP ON BOARD
 - A. STAY TO PLAY
 - a. Families are overpaying for hotel stays
 - B. TEAM JUMPING
 - a. Problem with kids changing teams in the middle of the year
 - C. TRAVEL BALL 12 MONTHS A YEAR
 - a. Over extending kids
- IV. Questions posed to Shelli/group:
 - a. Is it all ages?
 - b. Why do you think kids are playing too much?
 - i. It is not in all areas of the country but some areas like California.
 - ii. See more burn out now
 - iii. Concern about regulating it, should be up to the parents
 - iv. Take into consideration the calendars of recruiting, HS/Travel coaches do not like the idea
 - v. Purpose should be to educate parents
 - vi. Need to work with HS coaches, college coaches, and find a solution for the best interest of the kids, find a way to talk about it together
 - vii. Issue is quality of HS coaches is mixed
 - viii. Symptom of the issue of too many kids playing with lack of quality coaching at younger ages
 - ix. Upset that the college coaches are pointing the finger at travel ball coaches
 - x. Education of coaches is huge key
 - xi. Have coaches take responsibility for the amount their team plays – take time off
 - xii. Club directors should schedule time off for their clubs
 - xiii. Issue is no coordination of rules by one sanctioning body
 - xiv. Suggestion for national certification coaches
- V. CAROL BRUGGEMAN – WELCOME – NFCA Executive Director
 - a. Programs for travel ball
 - b. Awareness of how NFCA can help travel ball, would like for coaches to spread the word about NFCA

NATIONAL FASTPITCH COACHES ASSOCIATION



- c. Would like your help in awareness and education
- d. NFCA wants to help travel ball and it's important to bring forward action items in order to do so

VI. EMILY – HOW CAN NFCA HELP

- a. Conversations impact kids
- b. More than 1 hour for caucus discussion – 2 sets and/or longer time frame
- c. Education by doctors on overuse
- d. Certification – HS, state level
- e. Include Sunday for education
- f. Exhibit Hall open on Sat and Sun
- g. Funding a study on overuse
- h. Put education on social media
- i. Educating parents
- j. Working committee with HS coaches
- k. Video on website on overuse at NFCA
- l. Certify parents – video, info
- m. Social media information
- n. Joint meetings with HS coaches

VII. TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS – make decisions on stay to play, needs to change, too many holiday tournaments

Minutes taken by:
Karen Linder