



New York State District Administrators Association

Minutes from the Winter Meeting

January 18, 2026

The Association Meeting was held via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by the Association's Director, Dan Cavallo at 7:07 P.M. Fred Cantor will be sharing images on the screen of paperwork that will be distributed by the secretary, Mike Kelsey.

Chris Amarosa started the meeting of with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The notice for this Meeting was sent by e-mail on December 16, 2025 to all DAs listed as members and the Eastern Region staff. The Zoom invite link, passcode and handouts were sent to all on January 15, 2026.

Roll call was taken, and we had representation from 28 Districts. The district not in attendance were District # 15, 19, 23 and 33. We had a quorum; therefore, the meeting began.

The minutes from the Fall meeting, that was held on October 4, 2025, were sent by e-mail to all Association members and Ken Leisegang on October 20, 2025 to be posted on our web site thereafter.

A motion was made by Larry Miller, District 4, to accept the minutes from the Fall 2025 Meeting. It was seconded by Todd Palmetier, District 2. The vote was unanimous with no abstentions.

Danny introduced the Associations Board of Directors: Executive Board: President: Danny Cavallo, Secretary: Mike Kelsey, and Treasurer: Luis Goncalves. These are 4 Year Elected Positions up after the 2026 season. Section Coordinators are also members of the Board: Section 1: Todd Palmetier, Section 2: Dan Salmon Section. 3: Chris Amarosa and Section 4: Jim McDaniels. Elections were held and the Section Coordinators were all re-elected to another term of (4) years, ending in 2028. They are elected by a majority of the DAs from their Section. The special consultants were then introduced: Challenger Consultant: Marissa Fremont, Safety Consultant: Steve Gratzon, Umpire Consultants: Josh Einhorn, Jeff Powell, Baseball Consultant Kevin Mahoney and Website Consultant: Rob Caluori.

Danny then introduced our special guest from the Eastern Region, Aaron Weber.

Anthony Sparacia was announced as the new District Administrator for District 28.

No Baskets of Cheer were sent out during the period October 4, 2025 through January 18, 2026.

Please call one of our members, if you know of anyone in our organization who is ill, so we can send them a Gift of Cheer.

Al D'Elia, retired from District 28, and Don Urban from District 30 each will be receiving a Retirement Memorial Wall Clock to honor the work they both have done in their districts with the association.

The Financial report dated December 31, 2025 was presented by Luis Goncalves. The checkbook balance as of December 31, 2025 is \$13, 358.75. Invoices will be sent out for the 2026 Association Dues in the next couple of weeks. Late fees will be charged if dues are not received by April 1st and then another if not received by May 1st.

A motion was made by Mike Bruno of District 18 to accept the financial report as reported. It was seconded by Jim McDaniels of District 29. Motion approved. The vote was unanimous with no abstentions.

Luis Goncalves reported that the Not-for-Profit IRS taxes have been filed and NYS CHAR500 is in process and will be completed before February 15, 2026.

Aaron Weber then took the floor. He thanked everyone for the invite. reminded everyone that the East Region Zoom meeting is on Thursday January 22, 2026 @ 7:00PM. He stated he was happy with the number of registrants for congress. Aaron encouraged all to hold off on questions regarding the new safety program until congress as it was new to him too and there is going to be a presentation about it at congress. There will also be a presentation about Play Metrix buying out Sports Connect regarding what it means for all of us. Aaron was asked if the presentations were being recorded for those that could not attend, he said that they were. Another question that was asked was if a league can depend on player eligibility being correct on Sorts connect. Reply: All leagues need to verify that players are eligible for participation in their program. There are many reasons one could reside outside the leagues boundaries and still be eligible. In the end it falls on the league. In conclusion he is looking forward to seeing everyone at congress.

Danny Cavallo reviewed the Membership status: A District Administrator who misses three (3) consecutive Meetings, including in person and zoom meetings is not in good standing in the Association. The third missed Meeting Removes Voting and Sectional/State hosting privileges and will require an appeal to the Board of Directors to be reinstated, prior to the next Meeting. District # 15 is currently not in good standing with the association. They must present their case to the executive board to be reinstated.

The Agenda, NYSLL District Administrator's contact page and the 2026 NYSLL Tournament Schedule were sent to all along with the password for this meeting.

DA Discussion items: Jim McDaniels took the floor regarding "Found Money" NYS Unclaimed funds. He encouraged all to look to see if their district had any leagues with any unclaimed funds. He stated that there is an application to fill out but it is not complicated to complete. Other offered that they were able to claim funds available to them. The website is <https://www.ny.gov/services/find-lost-money>

The Executive board met, along with the consultant committee, on Wednesday January 14, 2026 at 7:00 PM to review the agenda for this meeting. There were 11 people in attendance; 5 from the Executive board and 6 from the consultant committee. We reviewed the financial report, Hotel meeting arrangements, State Tournaments, Fundraiser, and all met the new Consultants.

Mike Kelsey is working on a new State Map that will have a more defined boundary area of each section. He is also looking to provide all Section Coordinators with a map of each district so they can see if an area is not being serviced.

We have appointed the following Consultants for the 2026 Season As we move into the fifth year of our consultants, we need and will use them more. Mike Gentile is the program coordinator that will be overseeing the coordinators and the 4 section coordinators. Every consultant has years of experience and are looking to help anyone that reaches out in regards to their area of expertise. Mike took the floor stating that the consultant's goal was to expand the network of people by utilizing secondary voices from every district. He reminded all that he sent out an email asking for a contact from each district for each of the consultant areas. He then introduced the consultants while giving each a few minutes to speak.

Challenger Consultant: Marrisa Fremont has been involved with the Challenger program for the past 23 years and been the Executive Director for her district for the past 11 years. Wants to create a network throughout the state to help grow the program. Hoping to get Challenger programs involved in some capacity at State tournaments were available.

Umpire Consultants: Josh Einhorn and Jeff Powell U-IC for their district. Looking to help recruit Umpires to help with LL Tournaments with neighboring districts. Have attended multiple LL training courses. Looking to help train umpires throughout the state.

Safety Consultant: Stephen Gratzon has been the district 20 safety officer since 2015. He is looking to help all navigate through LL's new Safety program. Will help anyone that reaches out to him with their safety plan.

Website Consultant: Rob Caluori is working on the State Webpage so that it includes a District page, a consultant landing page while updating the contact page and adding the 2026 NYSLL tournament schedule. He is also planning on working on a sponsorship page for the website. Encouraged all to send him their website URL

Baseball Consultant: Kevin Mahoney is involved with Minor League Baseball and is looking to help develop and increase participation with the younger divisions and to get all Districts/Leagues on the same page.

Softball Consultant position is open and the board will look at any applications that are received.

Consultant Election Discussion: T.J asked how the consultants were selected as he heard that the Section coordinators were not included in the selection, while Mike Gentile was, and thought they should have been included and Mike Gentile should not have been involved. This was due that Section coordinators being Vice Presidents which are stated as being part of the executive board in the association's constitution. Danny expressed that he explained the process we would take during the October meeting. No One objected so we moved forward as noted. Danny noted that he would look into the executive board and vice presidents. Fred came on and stated that the Constitution states that the Executive board is made up of the President, Treasurer, Secretary and the (4) Section coordinators. We should have had an executive meeting to review the election of the consultants. President can appoint committees and take action off the committee's recommendations. Danny stood behind the fact that it was spelled out for everyone in October, we apologize and will do it correctly in the future.

The executive board is looking to have 4 meeting a year: two using the Zoom platform and 2 in person. The dates are as follows January 18, 2026-March 15, 2026-May 30, 2026 and October 3, 2026. The Spring meeting was moved back one week to give all more time to get prepared for the International Tournament. In person meetings will start at 9:00AM and end at 1:00PM with lunch from 1:00PM-2:00PM.

Chris Amarosa stated that the Hotel is booked for May 30, 2026 and October 3, 2026 meetings. The hotel has been great to work with and very accommodating to the association. Chris will provide Mike Kelsey with the link to send out for rooms when it becomes available in the spring. Mike Gentile asked who approved the Menu: Chris said the board did a while back and it has stayed the same, if anyone has any other suggestions they could reach out to him. It is recommended to book early if you are planning on staying Friday evening.

All three Executive officers are up for Election this year. Fred Cantor has been appointed the election Chairperson. Fred will be assisted by Jason Miller and Mike Bruno. All have accepted to be on the committee. They will be reaching out to see if those in office now would like to be included on the ballot and to take nominations for all positions. They will then present the slate of officers running for office in May. The election will take place at the Fall meeting on October 3, 2026. The elected officers will start their four-year team with the 2027 season.

Mike Kelsey and Luis Goncalves will lead the 2026 NYSLL Tournament Advisors committee. They, along with the Section Coordinators and a few other selected will focus on all levels of the NYSLL tournament sites including the reviewing and selection of the NYSLL 3yr Softball host sites. They will be reviewing all applications for the 3yr Softball plans and will be visiting host

sites. One or more members of the committee will visit the sites chosen for the 3yr plan prior to the tournament being granted to them. This is to make sure the sites have everything that the packet promotes and it will be a safe site for all involved. The committee is led by Mike Kelsey and Luis Goncalves. The DA's assisting in this process will be contacted soon. The State tournament hosts and District Administrators will be contacted prior to any visits.

Applications for the 3yr NY State Softball Tournament Host plans 2027-2029 seasons will be sent to all District Administrators. Bids are being accepted until May 30, 2026. The committee will review all applications and be setting up appointments with the League and District Administrator to review the sites applying. The Lower levels of Softball have done well as a package with the 8-10, 9-11 and Little League levels all being at one site. Although it is encouraged to host together, applications will be accepted for any level of Softball 8-10, 9-11, Little League, Junior and Senior. The winning bids will be announced on October 3, 2026 at the Associations fall meeting with the tournament being granted starting with the 2027 season.

Sections should look at bringing both parts of the section together if one part of the section doesn't have a host. If this was to happen it would be recommended to not play a championship game so we could send two teams to the State Tournament.

NY State Baseball Tournament sites for 2026:

8/9/10 BB: Great Kills LL- Section 3
9/10/11 BB: Baldwinsville LL- Section 1
Little League BB: West Nyack LL-Section 3
50/70 BB: Half Hollow LL-Section 4
Junior BB: Half Hollow LL-Section 4
Senior BB: Binghamton LL-Section 1

NY State Softball Tournament Sites for 2026:

8/9/10 SB: St James-Smithtown LL-Section 4
9/10/11 SB: St James-Smithtown LL-Section 4
Little League SB: St James-Smithtown LL-Section 4
Junior SB: Host Site-TBD- If no one steps up Leagues entered will host, Their District Administrator as Director
Senior SB: Host Site- Warwick LL- Section 3

The NYSSL District Administrators Association will purchase Flags, Championship Rings and Medallions for all levels of the Intl. Tournament for Baseball and Softball. A package for each tournament will be put together and awarded to the tournament hosts at the State meeting in May.

The 2026 Tournament Host Site Directors meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May 13, 2026 @ 7:00PM. All 2026 Tournaments Hosts will meet with the Tournament Committee and Executive board. Marrissa Fremont may join as well as she is going to try to coordinate a challenger event at each State Tournament site where applicable.

International Congress: February 6-9 in Indianapolis Indiana. Danny is disappointed that he cannot attend due to an operation on January 29th. He thanked Todd Palmetier, TJ Koerner and Chris Amarosa for getting the shirts together for all to order. Todd said that they are going to look at putting something on the State website to help generate funding for the state Association. We will be voting for the East Regional Field Director at Congress Mike Bruno and George Serrano have put their application in for the position.

Our next meeting will be on the Zoom platform Sunday March 15, 2026 at 7:00PM. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Meeting Date for next meeting

March 15, 2026

7:00 PM

Being there was no further business there was a Motion from Todd Palmetier, District 2 to close the Meeting @ 8:50PM it was seconded by Mike Bruno, District 18. The vote was unanimous with no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Kelsey
NY State DA Association Secretary

01/27/2026