

THSSDL Spring Board Meeting Minutes

Type of Meeting: Regular Spring Board Meeting

Date: April 23, 2026

Time: 6:10 PM to 9:49 PM

Location: Chop House

Chair: Kevin Rogers

Assistant Chair: Linda Starnes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by Chair Kevin Rogers.

2. Roll Call / Attendance

Members Present:

Kevin Rogers (also voting member for Camryn Pitts)

Linda Starnes

Jeff Robbins

David Weatherly

Shane Cunningham

Josh Wilson

Gabby Wexler

Peggy Russell

Laura Humphrey

Danielle Smallwood

Members Absent:

Doug James (represented by proxy: Mo Tate)

Camryn Pitts (Kevin is voting member in her absence)

Additional Attendees:

Hunter Graybeal

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion: To approve the August 2025 meeting minutes as written.

Moved by: Jeff Robbins

Seconded by: Shane Cunningham

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried.

The August 2025 minutes were approved as written.

4. Reports of Officers

Executive Director Report – Dr. Danielle Smallwood

- Expressed appreciation to Kevin Rogers and Linda Starnes.
- Thanked all members for their work.
- Located missing checks from a previous State tournament.
- Directional signage has been made and can be taken to each state tournament.
- Fall Conference:
 - Not all attendees pay; Hall of Fame members are exempt.
 - Sessions should expand beyond novice coaching; new ideas encouraged.
 - Suggested bringing in a successful coach from another state.
- Hotel blocks must be secured early (January recommended).
- Lot of questions she fielded could be answered in the manual
 - Binders distributed to all members.
 - Members encouraged to review and annotate.
 - Discussion of assigning oversight for updates.
- Additional discussion:
 - Liability insurance requirements.
 - Possibility of having a nurse present at tournaments.

Report received as information.

Financial Report – Dr. Danielle Smallwood

- Report provided (see distributed document).

Report received as information.

(Break for supper at 7:00---resumed at 8:00)

5. Reports of Committees

Manual & Ballot Edits / NSDA Alignment – Kevin Rogers

Discussion:

- Outdated procedures (e.g., certified mail) need updating.

Action:

Committee formed: Kevin Rogers, Jeff Robbins, Gabby Wexler, Hunter Graybeal

Fall Conference Committee – Kevin Rogers

Discussion:

- Need for strong, relevant content and preparation.
- Kevin requested additional support.

6. New Business

A. Complaint or Disqualification Procedure – Linda Starnes

Discussion:

- Proposal presented and well received.
- Suggested addition: “purposely disrupt” as grounds.
- Clarification of intentional misquoting or falsification.
- Consideration of alignment with existing interp DQ rules.
- Recommendation for board member availability during district tournaments.

Motion: To approve the disqualification procedure with amendment adding “intentional” to the second violation clause.

Moved by: Shane Cunningham

Seconded by: Jeff Robbins

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried.

B. Additional Meetings (Virtual Meetings) – Kevin Rogers

Motion: To allow additional virtual meetings as needed.

Moved by: Jeff Robbins

Seconded by: Shane Cunningham

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried.

C. Bid Tournaments – Jeff Robbins

Discussion:

- Seems State is not felt to be as prestigious as it should be
- Address low district participation.
- Encourage participation in multiple tournaments.
- Provide data for program advocacy.
- Points based on participation and event size.
- Concerns:
 - Impact on smaller programs.

- Potential reduction in participation opportunities.
- Who will keep track of things
- Suggestions:
 - Open events.
 - Maintain district championships alongside the system.

Motion: To adopt the THSSDL Bid Tournament system.

Moved by: Shane Cunningham

Seconded by: Kevin Rogers

Vote: 4 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstentions

Motion Carried.

Action: System will be presented at Fall Conference and Kevin will send something out to address the things discussed and to get feedback—will do as a pilot program

7. State Tournament Preparation

State Deadlines – Kevin Rogers

- All district tournaments must be completed **3 weeks prior to State.**

State 2027 – Peggy Russell / District V

- Tentatively scheduled for April 23–24 at Northeast State Community College.
- Confirmation pending.

State 2028 – Kevin Rogers / District I

- Proposed location: Collierville.

Job Assignments

- Reviewed and discussed.

8. Nominations

A. Krider Award

District II – LuEllyn Wilcox

District III – Matt Grimes

District V – Meg Foster

Voting concluded by paper ballot

B. Hall of Fame

District II – David Weatherly

Voting concluded by paper ballot

C. Lifetime Achievement

Harriet Medlin—nominated by Linda Starnes

Voting concluded by paper ballot

Motion: If Harriet Medlin is selected, the award will be named in her honor.

Moved by: Jeff Robbins

Seconded by: Laura Humphrey

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried.

Voting conducted by paper ballot.

9. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved by: Shane Cunningham

Seconded by: Laura Humphrey

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:49 PM by Chair Kevin Rogers.

10. Approval of Minutes

Submitted by: _____ Date: 5-1-26
Linda Starnes, Assistant State Chair

Approved by Board on: _____