

**Minutes of the
Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission Advisory Board
April 23, 2025**

Members Present:

Doyle Adams, Chairman
Stacy Brown, Visit Shreveport-Bossier
Shaun Houston, City of Shreveport
Stormy Gage-Watts, Caddo Parish Commission
Shantel Hardison, Caddo Parish Commission
Keith Sutton, Bossier Parish Police Jury
Mary Ward, Bossier City Parks & Recreation
Patrick Wesley, City of Shreveport

Not Present:

Brian Hammons, Bossier City Councilman

Guest / Staff Present:

Aaron Bronson
Sara Nelms
Cicely Parson
Charlie Rice
Claudell Stanford – City of Shreveport

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission (SBSC) Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at the Visit Shreveport-Bossier office, at 629 N. Spring St., Shreveport, LA. Doyle Adams, Chairman, called the meeting at 8:54 a.m. A quorum was present.

Agenda

The agenda of the April 23, 2025, meeting was reviewed. Mrs. Gage-Watts accepted the agenda with a motion approved by Mr. Hardison. All in favor, none opposed with no public comment.

Minutes

The Minutes of the March 26, 2025 meeting was reviewed. Following the review, Mrs. Gage-Watts moved to accept the minutes. Mrs. Ward approved the motion. All in favor, none opposed, with no public comment.

Financial Report

Mr. Bronson reviewed the March financials with the board. Mr. Sutton moved to accept the financials. Mrs. Gage-Watts seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed, with no public comment.

Grant Applications

- A. ***NAIA National Tournament Baseball Opening Round*** - LSUS Baseball Team will host the event. Budgeted \$10,000; staff recommend staying at \$10,000.

- B. **Damon McCoy Swim Meet** - Requested \$4,000; budgeted \$3,000; staff recommend staying at \$3,000 as no new items have been added to increase event.
- C. **47th Annual Sickle Cell Disease Association of America** – July 11 -13 – with 1,500 athletes from the tri-state area. A major family-friendly event. Budgeted \$20,000; staff recommends staying at \$20,000.

Events Update/Discussion Items

- A. **Sports ETA Recap** – 25 appointments, winning four events, including Major League Fishing with events on Lake Bistineau, Caddo Lake, and Earl Williamson. To keep winning business, each fishing venue will need improvements. Southern Pickleball Association in talks to discuss possible events near Lash Family YMCA. National Horseshoe Pitchers Association for 2026, a regional event at Moose Lodge in Shreveport; Stand Beside Her tour; just hired a coach for the USA Softball team; Gram Slam Baseball Tournament needs dates for future events. Fishers of Men asked us to bid on their future events.
- B. **HBCU Athletic Conference Track and Field Championships Recap** – May bid on Soccer Championship for 2026. Recent rebranding has led to a lack of marketing resources to promote correctly. Will include criteria in future contracts with deadlines for marketing materials.
- C. **Archery Shooters Association Update** – over 1,500 participants worldwide stay in SBC hotels.
- D. **Grambling v. Langston Update**—The promoter visited Shreveport-Bossier and is happy to receive local support for the game. The City of Shreveport is meeting to discuss the contract with Grambling, as ASM Global will manage the game to assist SPAR with gameday management. The plan is to build events in Independence Stadium, working on a long-term agreement to host the game with ancillary events. The promoter will announce the game in May 2025.
- E. **2026 FIFA** – Agreements have been sent to SBSC and LSUS for June 6 – 27, 2026.
- F. **SCAC Basketball Tournament** – Centenary College Conference Basketball Tournament is scheduled for February 2026.

Upcoming Events

- USSSA Twin City Shootout
- Region XIV Softball Tournament – BPCC with East Texas colleges
- 2D Sports
- NAIA National Tournament Baseball Opening Round
- Fit for Life – Memorial Day weekend
- Red River Rumble F1 Powerboat Races - Memorial Day weekend during Mudbug Madness

Adjournment

Next meeting is May 28, 2025, at The Visit Shreveport-Bossier office. With there being no further business, Mrs. Gage-Watts made a motion to adjourn, and Mrs. Ward seconded, which was voted on and passed with no public comment. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Doyle Adams, Chairman