

2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting January 13, 2012

The regularly-scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10:18 a.m. by President Davidson. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board Members Denny Davidson, Mike Core, Ed Sowney, Roger Spark, Jesse Washington and Larry Wolfe were present. Board Member Henry Ellis was absent. Mr. Bob Deken attended as Treasurer. Association members attending all or portions of the meeting were Ken Brenden, Bill Corso, Evan Hansen, Dennis LePore, Bob Reeves and Frank Tanner.

Mr. Core moved that the minutes of the December 16, 2011 meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Dr. Spark and unanimously approved.

Mr. Deken reviewed the balance sheet, income statement and check reconciliation reports for the period October 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. He noted that through the first three months of the fiscal year the SLSSA had a net profit of \$4109 vs. a budgeted net income of \$2954. The positive variance of \$1155 is primarily due to the net profit from the sale of field advertising banners being \$1204 in excess of the budgeted amount.

Mr. Core and Mr. Reeves presented the results of the survey of members regarding their preferences related to scheduling byes. Following are the results:

1. Are you interested in playing every Tuesday and Thursday during the league season keeping in mind the need for late afternoon games and the problems with the afternoon sun? Yes: 23 No: 31

2. Will you be a sub and play a second set of games the same day?
Yes: 29 No: 22
3. Will you volunteer to be an umpire, scorer or scoreboard operator on the same day as your games are scheduled? Yes: 33 No: 16
4. If the current practice of byes continues, on the days that tournaments involve a large number of players, are you in favor of scheduling just batting practice and pick-up games instead of trying to fill out teams with a large number of subs to replace missing players? Yes: 36 No: 15

Based upon the survey results and other factors considered by the Board, it was agreed that the league schedules will continue to include byes. Mr. Wolfe will prepare a draft spring schedule for the Board's review and approval. The Board also agreed to consider canceling games and playing only pick-up games when a large number of players will be missing due to tournament conflicts. Mr. Davidson will request tournament schedules from the Travel Team Managers. He will also ask the Travel Team Managers to consider scheduling fewer conflicting tournaments in the future.

Mr. Core thanked Messrs. Giordano and Reeves for their help in conducting the survey.

Mr. Sowney presented a draft of proposed changes to the Player Conduct rules and the workings of the Grievance Committee. After discussion, the proposed changes were approved with certain modifications. It was agreed that grievances to the Grievance Committee must be in writing (Article XIV.C.) It was also agreed that ejection from a game does not automatically result in a four-game suspension. The Board may suspend a player for gross misconduct; however, the player does have the right to appeal the suspension. (Article XIV.E) Messrs. Sowney and Wolfe will revise the Playing Rules to reflect the changes.

Mr. Wolfe presented a draft policy regarding the composition of team rosters. At the December Board Meeting the Board established a limit of 13 players per team for a six-team league. The draft policy set forth procedures to use when there are more than 78 players available for the six teams. The policy states that resident members shall receive priority when there are excess players available. After discussion, the policy was approved with the following additions: (1) Seniority of non-resident players will be used to determine which non-residents would be available for team rosters and

which would be put on the Substitutes and Waiting List. (2) Rosters will be set prior to the first game of the Fall Season at the player draft. Only players who are physically available to play by the third Tuesday of November will be eligible for the draft. The preceding points were put in the form of a motion by Mr. Core, seconded by Mr. Washington and unanimously approved.

Mr. Davidson stated that Messrs. Giordano, Hillabolt and Kramer will comprise the Elections Committee for the upcoming March elections. The one-year terms of Board Members Core and Sowney will expire on March 31. Both are eligible for reelection if they desire to run again. The terms for the two positions to be elected in March are for a period of three years.

Under new business Mr. Sowney noted that a replacement for his position on the Grievance Committee needs to be selected. He and Mr. Davidson will seek and name the replacement.

Mr. Core noted that there will be a tournament hosted by the 75+ Travel Team on January 28 and 29. In the absence of Dr. Spark, Mr. Core will be in charge of the food service.

Mr. Washington moved that former member Gene “Doc” Metcalf be recognized for his election to the SS-USA Hall of Fame at the March banquet. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wolfe and unanimously approved. Mr. Wolfe will also purchase a plaque recognizing Dr. Metcalf’s HOF election and his long service to the Association. The plaque will be presented to Dr. Metcalf at the upcoming 75+ tournament or at a future game at the Field of Dreams.

The Board members discussed the upcoming banquet. It was agreed that the program portion of the event would be reduced and that there would be no entertainment per se. Mr. Washington will lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and will sing “God Bless America.” Mr. Core will offer a short non-denominational prayer prior to the meal. After the meal Mr. Davidson will address the group and the Spirit of Sun Lakes Softball Award will be presented.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned a 12:00 p.m.

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
February 10, 2012

The regularly-scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by President Davidson. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board Members Denny Davidson, Henry Ellis, Ed Sowney, Jesse Washington and Larry Wolfe were present. Board Members Mike Core and Roger Spark were absent. Mr. Bob Deken attended as Treasurer. Association members attending all or portions of the meeting were Ken Brenden, Mike Gloyd, Evan Hansen, Gary Hillbolt and Dennis LePore,

Mr. Washington moved that the minutes of the January 13, 2012 meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sowney and unanimously approved.

Mr. Deken reviewed the balance sheet, income statement and check reconciliation reports for January 2012. Mr. Washington noted that reimbursement for game balls used in recent tournaments were either not yet collected or recorded. Mr. Wolfe moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellis and unanimously approved.

Mr. Ellis reported on the activities of the Ladies' Team. He noted that they were having a great season with a 14-2 record to date. Their regular season continues through February with a tournament scheduled for March. He also noted that only two non-resident players were on this year's team.

The Board then discussed the Spring Schedule and potential tournament conflicts. After discussion it was agreed to make March 6 an informal recreational play date due to the number of players who would miss those games due to a tournament scheduling conflict. Based upon a motion by Mr. Wolfe and a second by Mr. Washington, the draft schedule with the March 6 date eliminated was unanimously approved.

Mr. Davidson discussed the upcoming March elections for the two open Board seats. Mr. Hillbolt noted that to date only incumbents Messrs. Core

and Sowney had indicated an interest in running for election to the three-year terms. It was reconfirmed that only resident members of the SLSSA are eligible to run for election to the Board. The deadline for entries is March 10. March 27 and 29 were set as election dates.

Mr. Davidson recommended reinstating the 1 and 1 count due to the length of games. After discussion, Mr. Washington moved that the 1 and 1 count be reinstated. The motion died due to the lack of a second. Based upon a recommendation by Mr. Sowney, it was agreed that the scorers would begin to record the start and end times of games in order that the Board might make an informed decision regarding this issue in the future.

Mr. Davidson discussed the inequities of two teams having a 12-man roster while others had 13-member rosters. After discussion it was agreed that in player borrowing situations, the two 12-member teams would only borrow players rated 3 or below.

Mr. Davidson then recommended that the Board and managers consider a team redraft for the Spring Session due to the consistent losing records of the A-1 team. After discussion Mr. Washington moved that a redraft take place. The motion died for lack of a second. The Board did agree to add Steve Hilby to the A-1 roster and move Jim Dunn to the State Farm team pending Larry Wolfe's disabled list status. If Mr. Wolfe would be on the DL for only a couple weeks, Mr. Hilby would fill in for that period of time and Mr. Dunn would be reassigned after Mr. Wolfe returns to play. If it is determined that Mr. Wolfe will be on the DL for an extensive period, Mr. Hilby would become a full-time member of A-1 and Mr. Dunn would continue to be a member of the A-1 team. To clarify, Mr. Dunn would be reassigned only if Mr. Wolfe returns for the Spring Session.

Mr. Washington reminded managers to track uniform shirts when there are player trades or transfers.

Mr. Sowney noted that Mr. Hillbolt had replaced him as a member of the Grievance Committee. Mr. Davidson will ask Mr. Duane Kraemer to be Chairman of that Committee. Mr. Isley is the third member.

Mr. Davidson asked Mr. Wolfe to put a note on the website requesting volunteers to help spread new soil on the infield on Wednesday, February 15. Work will commence at 9 a.m.

Mr. Washington discussed the March 5 banquet and social event. It was confirmed that there would be no entertainment, but that Mr. Washington would lead the group in singing the national anthem at the beginning of the event. Mr. Core will be presenting a slideshow of players and action photos during dinner. It was noted that to date there had been no arrangements made to have any music played during dinner. Mr. Barry Ediss, who had provided a sound system previously, will be unable to do so this year. Dr. Spark or Mr. Core will need to make other arrangements if music is desired. It was further agreed that Mr. Davidson's speech and the presentation of the Spirit of Sun Lakes Softball Award by Mr. Rich Nadler would be after dinner is completed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

March 9, 2012

The regularly-scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by President Davidson. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board Members Mike Core, Denny Davidson, Henry Ellis, Ed Sowney, Roger Spark and Larry Wolfe were present. Board Member Jesse Washington and Treasurer Bob Deken were absent.

Mr. Core moved that the minutes of the February 10, 2012 meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sowney and unanimously approved.

Mr. Ellis reported on the activities of the Ladies' Team. He noted that they were having a great season with a 24-7 record to date. They have one remaining tournament next week. Alyson Stephens leads the hitters with a .705 average, followed closely by Charlene Ellis at .696. Mr. Ellis thanked the volunteer umpires and the Association members for their support of the team.

Dr. Spark gave an overview of the March 5 Social Event & Banquet. There were 115 attendees this year, down from approximately 160 last year. The major issue was the conflicting Bullhead City tournament. To avoid a repeat of this issue next year, the Board will schedule the event for Monday, March 18 or 25, 2013.

Mr. Davidson confirmed that elections will be held on March 27 and 29. Three members will be running for the two open Board seats: Mike Core, Bill Serdar and Ed Sowney.

Mr. Wolfe discussed seeding for the season-ending tournament. It was agreed that seeding will be based upon the total won-lost record of the teams for the three sessions (Fall, Winter & Spring) combined. Teams seeded first and second will have a first round bye with seed 3 playing seed 6 and seed 4 playing seed 5 in the opening round. In the second round, the first seed will play the lower-seeded winner of the first round.

Mr. Wolfe presented the 2011 Website Usage Report. He noted that the site had over 15,000 “hits” or visits last year. The most popular page, other than the Home Page, was the Stats Page.

Mr. Davidson discussed the need to clarify the rules pertaining to the replacement of injured players during a game. It was agreed that if a player is injured prior to his team completing its batting order, a substitute player may be inserted in the line-up. Mr. Wolfe will revise the rules to reflect this clarification.

Mr. Sowney will present a report regarding the length of games using the full count at the next meeting. The Board will address the use of the full count versus the 1 and 1 count prior to the next season.

Mr. Davidson requested that Mr. Wolfe provide an overview and clarification of the Batter’s Box rules to the Board and umpires.

The Board briefly discussed concerns for the safety of pitchers, especially given that many of our pitchers are older players and there is a wide range of age levels playing in our league. Prior to the next season the Board will consider actions that might provide increased levels of safety. These could include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following: regulating bats

to ASA standards, providing team bats for all players to use, using softballs with a lower Coefficient of Restitution (COR), requiring the use of a safety screen, or requiring that all pitchers wear protective face masks and/or other safety equipment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

April 13, 2012

The regularly-scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Vice President Spark. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board Members Mike Core, Henry Ellis, Ed Sowney, Roger Spark, Jesse Washington and Larry Wolfe were present. Board member Denny Davidson was absent. Also in attendance were Treasurer Bob Deken and Association members Brenden, Delaney, Gloyd, Giordano, Hansen, Hillabolt, Kay, Kilmartin, Kramer, Nadler, Serdar and Zawidski.

Mr. Core moved that the minutes of the March 9, 2012 meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellis and unanimously approved.

Officers for the 2012-2013 year were elected unanimously as follows:

President: Denny Davidson

Vice President: Roger Spark

Treasurer: Bob Deken

Secretary: Larry Wolfe

After discussion, it was agreed that all Board members would maintain their current areas of responsibility. See Attachment 1 for the list of duties and responsibilities by Board member.

Board member terms were briefly discussed. See Attachment 2 for the current Board Member Terms.

Association members Delaney and Kilmartin presented a proposal to replace the folding tables used for cook-outs and tournaments. Mr. Delaney proposed that the Association purchase ten 2 ft. by 4 ft. tables at a cost of approximately \$34 each. After discussion, Mr. Wolfe moved that the tables be purchased. The motion was seconded by Mr. Core and unanimously approved.

Treasurer Deken then reviewed the February and March financial statements as well as the Fiscal Year 2012 results to date. He noted that most categories were near budgeted levels. Major variances are listed below:

Player fees are \$865 below budget.

Income from the sale of advertising banners exceeds the budget by \$965.

The cost of replacement banners are \$1269 less than budgeted.

The cost of the replacement tractor (\$2588) was not budgeted resulting in a major cost overrun.

The annual banquet was budgeted at breakeven but the actual costs exceeded the amounts charged by \$424. This was due to the taxes and gratuities not being considered in setting the ticket prices. Next year's per ticket price will need to be increased to cover taxes and gratuities.

As an item of new business, Mr. Deken advised the Board of the HOA's consideration of putting pickle ball courts near the Field of Dreams. He will keep the Board and membership advised of this situation.

Mr. Deken and the Board members discussed the possibility of installing an additional sidewalk from the building steps toward the first base area. The item was tabled for future consideration.

Dr. Spark discussed plans for the April 17 tournament. Mr. Sowney volunteered to act as emcee for the awards presentations. Messrs. Core and Wolfe will prepare the various award certificates while Association member Tim Stock will take photographs at the event. Mr. Ellis recommended that we plan to improve the tournament next year by adding "fun contests" such as races, homerun derby, throwing accuracy, etc. He also recommended that we budget for team championship t-shirts. The Board members agreed to consider those and other additions to increase the overall enjoyment of the event.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Friday, May 11. The meeting schedule for the summer will be set at the next meeting.

Summer play will commence on Thursday, April 19. The field will be open for play on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Initially, the start time will be 8 a.m. and will likely move to 7:30 a.m. as the temperatures increase. The last Monday program play date for the season will be April 16.

The Board next discussed substitution rules for the April 17 tournament. It was noted that no manager had advised the Board that they would be short of a full contingent; however, the Board agreed that a contingency plan should be put in place. Based upon a motion by Mr. Sowney and a second by Mr. Washington, the Board unanimously approved the following:

If a team will have only ten of its own players, that team must play with ten players. No substitutes will be allowed.

If a team will have only nine of its own players, one substitute may be added. That substitute must be approved by his manager; he must play the position of catcher and he must bat last.

Dr. Spark discussed recent use of abusive language against umpires. He noted that umpires are volunteers, that they do their best and should be treated with respect. He recommended that managers discuss this with their players.

The “stepping out of the batter’s box” rule was discussed. There have been some complaints regarding inconsistent enforcement of the rules. It was noted that the rule is not new, but it is now easier for umpires to enforce with the batter’s box mats in place. Umpires will be advised to consistently enforce the rules.

Mr. Washington advised the board that his inventory includes fifteen remaining caps and 84 new balls; therefore, no new purchases will be required at this time. It was noted that for enhanced safety purposes we may wish to experiment with using a higher COR or lower compression ball this summer. The Board will discuss this further at the next meeting.

The general meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

The Board then adjourned to a private Executive Session to discuss the selection of award winners and a recent incident at the field that might require disciplinary action.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.