

COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Fall Managers Meeting - October 27, 2017
Denver Elks Club, 2475 W 26th Avenue, Denver, CO

- 1. Meeting Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by CSSA Commissioner Stan Harbour. Board members present: Robin Garneau, John Miller, Jim Spaulding, Rick Reeser, Jeff Sweet and Don TeStrake.
Board members absent: Jim Edmundson and Mike Massong.
Representatives from 47 teams and 7 Recreation Centers were present

Harbour advised the attendees that Emilio Sanelli had recently had health issues and was unable to attend the meeting. Harbour then led the group with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and recognized members of the military, both past and present, and asked for a moment of silence for them, as well as for Sanelli's recovery.

- 2. Introduction of Board Members and other Contributors:** Harbour introduced members of the CSSA Board in attendance, as listed above, recognized Garneau as the CSSA Treasurer, mentioned those who served as Standings Secretaries in 2017. Harbour noted that it takes a lot of effort for CSSA to function, that all these people make contributions and noted his appreciation for all the efforts mentioned. He also thanked all those managers who had done what they were supposed to do during the year.

- 3. Treasurer's Report:** Garneau reported that CSSA had started 2017 with a balance of \$9,696.82, that most all costs for 2017 have been paid and that the current balance in the account was \$9,402.17, and with a deduction of \$514.75 for the Commissioner expenses that she had just received from Harbour, the balance was now \$8,887.42. Harbour commented that the expenses of \$514.75 included \$205 for Porta-Pots for the B-E tournament, \$285.20 for copies and postage and \$24.55 miscellaneous expenses for the 70's tournament. He stated that the finances for 2017 were in line with previous years, that a donation of \$1,000 from Chevron should still come in this year which would increase the balance by that amount, and that the team fee for the 2018 season would remain at \$175 per team as in the previous few years.

- 4. Review 2017 Season:** Harbour made some comments on the 2017 season as follows:
1) For the 70's divisions, 11 of the 19 teams were either champs or co-champs for the league and tournament final standings; 2) For the B-E divisions, 26 of the 49 teams were champs or co-champs, and that only one team had won their division and their group in the tournament; 3) Overall the season went well with minimal issues or problems..

- 5. Discussion Items:**

- Awards- Harbour advised the meeting of the CSSA Board's discussions over the past few years regarding what to give out as awards to the League and Tournament Champions.. In 2017, T-shirts, hats, shorts and draw-string bags were considered, but it was decided to go with T-shirts again as has been done for years. A brief

discussion was held, with several ideas presented. Harbour requested that if anyone had further suggestions or ideas to please get in touch.

- Pitcher's Protection- Harbour initiated a discussion on the subject by describing incidents in several 70's games where pitchers were hit with batted balls. A long discussion was held with numerous reports of incidents, what teams/pitchers do to protect themselves and issues related to the use of a screen. As there is no simple solution, the Board will continue to address the issue and take any appropriate action.
- 65-69 year olds- Harbour advised the meeting that there had been a motion made by Gary Jones to allow 70's teams to include up to three 65-69 year old players, but that the CSSA Board, after discussion and careful consideration, had made a decision to not bring the motion to a vote. Numerous matters were considered by the Board but the primary reason for the rejection was one of safety (refer to the previous item on pitcher's protection). Jones was present at the meeting, and gave his reasoning for submitting the motion. Some discussion was held on the matter and suggestions were made which the Board will consider in their future meetings.
- 2018 Tentative Dates- Harbour reviewed tentative dates for the 2018 season as follows: 1) Regular scheduled games will start the week of April 16, a week earlier than last year because the July 4th holiday falls on a Wednesday; 2) The off-Wednesday will be June 6th; 3) No 70's games will be scheduled for May 28th, June 25th or July 2nd; 4) No Wednesday games will be scheduled on June 27th or July 4th; 5) The 70's tournament will be held August 13th and 15th; 6) The B-E Divisions tournament will be held August 20th-23rd. A full listing of final dates will be sent to all managers in early 2018.

6. Motions to be voted on: Motions to change the rules were submitted in writing and put together in the handout package given to each manager present at the meeting. Guidelines for the discussion of the motions were as follows: 1) If the person who made the motion is not present at the meeting, the motion will be automatically withdrawn, 2) Those presenting a motion have a reasonable time to do so, 3) If there is a second, there will be discussion, 4) Then, voting will take place. Discussions were held and clarifications were made on each motion, and then a vote was taken to determine if the motion "PASSED" or "FAILED". New or revised language is shown in "**bold**" type. The motions, and results were as follows:

Motion #1: Submitted by Stan Harbour/Board

Motion Title: Eliminate specifying "Defensive Players E Division"

Motion: Eliminate Rule 6.3a,2 Defensive Players E Division-

Seconded by : Terry Goodrich Votes FOR- 4; Votes AGAINST- 1 (E Managers only)

Motion PASSED; Rule 6.3a,2 will be eliminated.

Current rules:

6.3a,1 Defensive Players A, B, C, & D Divisions- Ten (10) defensive players shall constitute a team. By mutual agreement of the two managers this number may be increased to 11. A team must have a minimum of at least eight (8) players during a game. Failure to have at least this minimum number will result in a forfeit. Additional players may be added as they show up for play; however, at this point they must be listed

at the end of the batting order and bat after the other offensive players. All defensive players must appear in the batting order.

~~6.3a,2 Defensive Players E Division For E Division, this number will be increased to 11 if both teams have sufficient players available. The 10th and 11th players are outfielders only, and shall not be used to supplement the standard infield positions (thus five outfielders).~~

Comment on the motion: Rule 6.3a,2 was added at the 2015 Fall Managers Meeting for the 2016 season and has created a lot of confusion, disagreements, etc. Therefore it is recommended that 6.3a,2 be eliminated. Rule 6.3a,1 allows teams to play with 11 on defense IF the managers agree.

Motion #2: Submitted by Jim Mieras

Motion Title: Change wording about reporting scores

Motion: Replace wording in current rule with new wording.

Seconded by : Stan Harbour Votes FOR- 38; Votes AGAINST- 0

Motion PASSED; Revised wording will be included in the 2018 Rules.

Current rule: 7.9 Reporting of Results- The Host Team is responsible for notifying their Division Standing Secretary of the results of league games as soon as possible after the completion of the games, and no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the START of the games. This shall be accomplished by a method agreed with the Standings Secretary, i.e. telephone call, e-mail message or other. Failure to do so shall result in forfeiture of the games by the Host Team. Postponements and make-up games schedules shall also be reported to the Standing Secretary by the Host Team.

Motion: Replace current rule with:

Rule 7.9 Reporting of Results – The Host Team is responsible for notifying their Division Standings Secretary of the results of league games as soon as possible after the completion of the games. This shall be accomplished by a telephone call, text message or email as determined by the Division Standings Secretary.

Postponements shall be reported by the Host Team as soon as they occur. The date for make-up games shall be reported by the Host Team to the Division Standings Secretary as soon as both managers agree on a date.

Comment on motion: here as general agreement among those present that scores should be reported by managers as soon as possible after games are completed.

Motion #3: Submitted by Bob Schwartz

Motion Title: Allow players on teams not playing in the end-of-season tournament to participate in the end-of-season tournament.

Motion: This motion would allow registered CSSA players on teams not participating in the end-of-season tournament to be added to tournament rosters. Teams would have one week after the end of the regular season to add one player to their tournament roster. Players must be active and on a regular season roster. They can only play on a team in their division or on a team above their division.

Seconded by : Stan Harbour Votes FOR- 7; Votes AGAINST- 37

Motion FAILED

Comment on motion: If approved, language would be added into Rule 2.2 Rosters.

Motion #4: Submitted by Stan Harbour/CSSA Board

Motion Title: Roster & Waiver of Liability submissions

Motion: Add language to rules regarding the submission of the Roster and Waiver of Liability information/forms.

Seconded by : Dick Randall Votes FOR- 42; Votes AGAINST- 0

Motion PASSED

Comment on motion: Stronger language is needed so as to “force” managers to do what they are supposed to do.

Current Rule, with revisions, and additions in **bold type:**

2.2,a Rosters- Rosters, including names, **addresses, phone numbers** and dates of birth will be submitted to the ~~League Secretary~~ **Commissioner** on or before ten (10) business days after the first League game. Any team may add or remove players to this roster during the year by notifying the ~~League Secretary in charge of rosters~~ **Commissioner** in writing. If the player comes from another team, the manager of the former team must also be notified. A player transferring from another team and any player new to CSSA will be eligible to play on the date of the written notification. The ~~League Secretary in charge of rosters~~ **Commissioner** should receive written notification by mail or fax no later than the date that the player first participates in a CSSA league game.

In the ~~post league play~~ **end-of-season** tournament, teams shall be restricted to their roster in effect and on file with the ~~League Secretary~~ **Commissioner** ten (10) business days before the last scheduled date. Use of an unauthorized player shall result in a forfeit.

2.2,b Waiver of Liability- A Waiver of Liability form, signed by each player listed on a team’s Roster, shall be submitted along with the Roster form. For changes or additions through the season, a Roster Change form and Waiver form, or a Roster Addition/Waiver form, shall be submitted.

2.3,c Forms- Forms for the Roster, Waiver of Liability, Roster Change and Roster Addition/Waiver will be provided to teams/managers to be used for submission of the required information.

2.2,d Deadlines and Penalties- Specific deadlines dates for the required submissions mentioned above will be provided to the teams/managers by the Commissioner each year. **FALIURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED INFORMATION/FORMS BY THE DEADLINE DATES WILL RESULT IN A TEAM’S GAMES (even if the games are played) BEING RECORDED AS FORFEIT LOSSES.**

7. Board Status/Election: Harbour referred to a sheet in the handout package with information on the CSSA Board status and election. There is one Center Rep position vacant and one nominee, Beau Bressler, Athletics Coordinator, City of Golden. There are three player rep positions vacant and three nominees, John Miller, Don TeStrake and Bob Schwartz. Harbour recommended that the four nominees be elected by acclamation, and there was no opposition to the recommendation, so Bressler, Miller, TeStrake and Schwartz were elected to the Board for two year terms.

8. OTHER: Several items were brought up by attendees and discussion on each item was held as follows:

- Dave Adams (Longmont Bombers) raised an issue, and problem, that his team had during the year of teams canceling out on games at the last minute and taking forfeit losses, thus depriving his team and players the opportunity to play their games. Some discussion was held but no clear solution to the problem was determined.
- Don McGill spoke of his efforts to work with the City of Boulder to have a team there for the 2018 season. He has negotiated a reasonable cost and is now looking for players.
- Al Hilliard (Wit & Grit) raised a question regarding the height of pitches. Harbour stated that the current CSSA rule (Rule 8.1) calls for pitches to be “between six (6’) and twelve (12’) feet.

9. Next CSSA Board Meeting: Harbour stated that the date (probably in January 2018) and location of the next meeting of the CSSA Board would be determined and that he would advise the members of the Board and would publish the information on the CSSA website.

10. Adjournment: Rick Reeser motioned that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Tom Rochester and the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Minutes recorded by Stan Harbour; 10-27-17