

COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Spring Managers Meeting Minutes- March 2, 2018
Denver Elks Club, 2475 W 26th Ave., Denver, CO

- 1. Meeting Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Commissioner Stan Harbour. Board members present: Stan Harbour, Robin Garneau, Mike Massong, John Miller, Don TeStrake, Rick Reeser, Bob Schwartz, Beau Bressler and Jeff Sweet.
Attendees included those representing 61 teams and 12 Rec Centers.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance:** Harbour recognized Jerry Gamache, retired Air Force, who had obtained and donated an American flag to the Elks Club. Gamache related his story of how his efforts were initiated and carried out, and then lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. Introduction of the CSSA Board of Directors & Others:** Harbour introduced the Board members listed above. Harbour referred to the work that the Standings Secretaries do and asked for anyone who served as a Standings Secretary to raise their hands. He noted that all these people contribute to the operation of CSSA.
- 4. Treasurer's Report and Financials:** Garneau stated that CSSA started 2018 with a balance of \$9,891.92, and has paid for the annual CO Secretary of State fee and for the softballs order, and now has a balance of \$7,940.62. Harbour stated that the organization's finances are sound, that the team fees paid to CSSA are still \$175, the same as it has been for a number of years.
- 5. Commissioner's Update/Status of Organization:** Harbour commented on several items, providing information as follows:

 - 2017 season went well, although there were only 43 of the 49 Wednesday teams that played in the end-of-season tournament.
 - 2018 season will follow the same pattern as in past years. League may be down as far as teams are concerned as the three Colorado Springs 70's teams and one of the Longmont 70's teams will not play in 2018. There will be a couple of new teams, but the final number will not be known until after the March 21st registration deadline.
 - After much discussion, suggestions, etc. over the past few years, the Board has decided to go with a "trial" program/process of using a pitcher's screen in the 70's divisions. This topic will be covered in more detail in the Rules section below.
 - Harbour commented on the CSSA Board, the Board members and how they conduct the business of the league, specifically how decisions are made that affect all the teams. He asked for understanding from all teams, managers and players in accepting the decisions and the impacts that they bring to the teams.
- 6. Spring Packet Information:** Harbour reviewed and commented on all information, forms and deadlines in the handout packages as follows:

 - A. Important Dates for 2018 Season- These dates had were sent to managers in January, and again with the notice for the Spring Managers Meeting. Important dates are the week of April 16th when regular games begin, 70's Tournament on August 13 and 15 and B-E Divisions Tournament the week of August 20th.

Harbour also noted the last two lines in the list, i.e. CSSA Days at Coors Field on Sunday, May 27 (versus Cincinnati Reds) and Thursday, June 21 (versus New York Mets). Harbour will send details at a later date on how teams/managers can obtain tickets, which are \$11 each in 2018.

B. Team Registration Form- **Due March 21, 2018**- Harbour stressed to all that managers should work closely with their respective Rec Center Reps to complete the registration form completely, accurately and legibly, and to submit the form by the deadline of March 21st. Managers should complete the information on their teams, i.e. stronger, weaker or the same as last year, using extra sheets if needed. Harbour asked Rec Center Reps to be sure and provide any information regarding field conflicts, limitations, etc., which is important to developing schedules.

C. Invoice/Payment of Fees- Team fees paid to CSSA- **Due May 9, 2018** This sheet is to be used by Reps who need something to send to their Finance/Accounting Departments to get fees paid.

D. Roster & Waiver and Release of Liability Forms- **Due May 9, 2018**- Harbour noted that these forms should be completed legibly, and the Waiver form signed by all players. Harbour noted that at the October Managers Meeting a motion was made to strengthen the rule and the penalty regarding submission of Rosters/Waivers, and that managers had voted in favor of the motion. Forms should be completed and submitted by the deadline of May 9, 2018. The new penalty WILL BE ENFORCED.

E. Roster/Waiver Change Request Form - **Add/Delete Deadline is July 26, 2018 for both the 70's & B-E Divisions**- This new form combines the Roster Change and Waiver forms of past years so that a manager can add up to five players on one sheet of paper, by providing the player's info, and having them sign the Waiver on the same sheet.

F. Jacket Order Form- **Due May 9, 2018**- Harbour commented that CSSA subsidizes the cost of jackets to make them more affordable to players.

G. Pre-game Conference with Managers & Umpires- Harbour stated that he had eliminated this sheet in the handout as it did not appear that anyone was using it, and recommended that managers prepare their own list to discuss with umpires and the other manager in the pre-game conference.

H. CSSA By-Laws- Harbour mentioned that there would be openings on the CSSA Board in October and suggested that anyone interested in serving on the Board of Directors might want to read these By-Laws, as the duties of the Board are outlined in this document.

I. CSSA Code of Conduct- Harbour commented that the Code is an important document, and suggested that any players who get a little too serious or worked up over happenings in their games should read the Code of Conduct. Managers should definitely read the Code, understand it and convey the message to their players.

Extra Sheet in handout- ADDITION TO RULES, for trial use of pitching screen- This sheet gives the rules and procedures for the use of a screen for pitcher's protection in the 70's games as mentioned above. Mike Massong spoke briefly on this matter, his research work on the subject, explained the various aspects of these rules and procedures and provided information on screens available on the market. A few questions were answered.

J. 2018 Rules- Updated from October 2017 Managers Meeting- Harbour referred to the motions made and voted for during the October 2016 Managers Meeting that were incorporated into the 2018 RULES, where changes are in **bold type**. Harbour again referred to the revised/new Rule 2.2 a, b, c & d regarding the submission of Roster and Waiver of Liability forms, the stronger penalty provision and the fact that the penalty will be enforced.

L. Softball & Scorebook Distribution Form- Harbour asked that this form be completed and then turned in when managers pick up their balls and/or scorebooks downstairs after the meeting finishes. Harbour noted a special "Thank-you" to Butch Reich of Foothills Recreation who has allowed CSSA to piggyback on his softball order for the past three years which gets CSSA a very good price for the softballs.

7. Announcements of softball activities in 2018 outside CSSA:

- Terry Goodrich spoke of the Spring Fun League that will be playing games in March and April at Vanderbilt Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Goodrich commented that teams usually have space for walk-on players and encouraged players to show up and get ready for the CSSA season.
- Goodrich then spoke of the local Scrap Iron (SI) Softball organization in the Denver area, that they had 16 teams of various age brackets that traveled to tournaments all around the country. He specifically mentioned that the SI 85's team was looking for a few players and that anyone interested should contact Bob Rosi.
- Goodrich mentioned that the SSUSA Rocky Mountain Championships would be held at Aurora Sports Complex, August 24-26. Information at www.seniorsoftball.com.
- Goodrich gave information about the Colorado Senior Softball Travel League that plays games on Saturdays, April through October, at fields in the Front Range area. Information at www.coloradoseniorsoftball.com

8. OTHER: Harbour opened the floor for any other issues that attendees wanted to bring up, as follows:

- An open floor discussion was held where teams advised of their need for players. Those needing players included 70's teams Golden Oldies; also the Aurora High Flyers (Legends II) on Wednesdays.
- Butch Reich of Foothills Recreation stated that he was receptive to having new teams play on their fields (Clement Park and Schaffer Complex), and referred to a handout sheet on the check-in table with information for anyone interested.

9. Next CSSA Board Meeting: Harbour advised that the next CSSA Board meeting was scheduled at 10:00 AM on Friday, March 23rd, at a location to be determined. At this meeting, teams will be placed in the divisions for the first half of the 2018 season.

10. Adjournment: Don TeStrake motioned that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mike Massong. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Minutes recorded by Stan Harbour; 03-02-18

Post Meeting note: Sets of softballs (14 per set) and scorebooks were distributed to team representatives after the meeting. The charge for the balls will be included in payments of team fees; one scorebook is provided for each team at no charge.