

Nebraska Senior Softball Board Meeting Minutes  
December 6, 2011

Present: Board Members: Dave Janda, Mert Opfer, Dave Dye, Dick Smith, Steve Quinn, Ron Kunert, Chuck Grubb, Dennis Steinhauser.

Manager Survey. Dave Dye distributed the 2011 Manager Survey. 1 (very poor) through 5 (very good) rating scale with "NR" for indication of "no rating" will be used for the survey responses. Board requested having a small comment box at the end of the survey. Recommendation made to add a "purpose" statement to define the goal of the Manager Survey at the beginning of the Survey. Goal is to provide the managers feedback. The Manager Survey is a tool to provide the managers input on communication or lack thereof. These ratings will also provide the Board a tool to be proactive. Ratings will only be provided to each manager from their team players, ratings will not be shared with other managers. A comparison to the average rating will be provided to the managers. Recommendation to add "If anyone has interest in becoming a coach or co-coach, please contact Dave Dye" to this Survey. Goal is to get this survey out during the week of Dec 12<sup>th</sup>.

Outlined tasks for the Manager Survey:

- Board members need to provide any recommendations for changes to the Managers Survey to Dave by Friday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Chuck will get the Manager Survey entered into Survey Monkey and send a link to the Board to review Wednesday, Dec 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Board will be requested to test the Manager Survey Dec 14<sup>th</sup> through Friday 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Launch of the 2011 Manager Survey to the league members is targeted for Monday, Dec 19<sup>th</sup>. Survey will be open through Friday, Dec 23 for league member responses.

Dave will have another Coaches meeting at the end of Jan or early Feb 2012.

Coaches Responsibility Document. Dave Dye reported this document was reviewed at the Coaches meeting and was well received. Endorsement was also received for at the Coaches meeting for sending out the Manager Survey. Dave will post the Coaches Responsibility document on the website. This document illustrates the leadership of the league.

League Equipment Inventory List. Dick provided an Inventory List of the league equipment he has. Dave Dye has a few league items to provide Dick. Decision made to post extra jerseys and hats on the website for sale. Dick will provide the extra items list to Steve for posting to the website. Steve noted the NE Senior Softball league has a relationship with Sports Authority for a discount as a preferred buyer to receive 20% discount. Dick will check prices on future purchases with this merchant. Recommendation that the 3<sup>rd</sup> pitcher screen be donated since it will not be used due to the time it requires for set up. Steve will check with LaVista fields to see if they are interested in having this. Dick mentioned mesh ball caps should be considered for the 2012 ball caps ordered.

Scheduling Software. Ron received the "League Scheduler" software CD from Dave Banghart. Dennis and Ron will work with the software to learn the features of the software for building schedules. Ideas discussed for the 2012 league season: have a National and American league playoff at the end of the year, play your division teams twice and outside division teams once.

Goal is to keep everyone interested and involved for playoff spots. Championship game ideas expressed: have the championship night game by itself, (don't have another game playing at the same time as the championship game), have a barbeque for attendees at the Championship game, have an Allstar game with 12 players per team, have the Allstar game followed by the Championship game.

Umpire Follow-up. Dave Janda. Ultimate Baseball Academy, (UBA), is set up for NE Senior Softball members at 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 on Tues and Fridays. The UBA opportunity started Dec 6<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$7 per person. Dave talked to Kevin regarding being umpire and chief who expressed his interest in doing this for the 2012 season. Steve will call Tom to see who is interested in coming back for the 2012 season to umpire.

Confirmation of LaVista Fields for 2012. Scott has been on vacation. Steve will work to get a longer contract for the NE Senior Softball league. 16 teams had been the commitment last year to allow room for growth of new teams. Steve talked with Dutch, grounds crew staff member, who expressed they liked the league.

#### New Business

Auxiliary. Chuck reported the next Auxiliary meeting is Dec 7 at La Vista Keno. Interest was sent to Chuck from 1 person to express involvement with a Board position from the Nov meeting. The November Auxiliary meeting included discussion of ideas the Auxiliary could be involved with. Bringing family members out for a spring welcoming opportunity was discussed for the Auxiliary to organize.

PayPal. Chuck reported the revenue to the League through PayPal payments this year was \$13,646. 87 players (54%) paid through PayPal for spring/summer registrations. 77 players (61%) paid through PayPal for fall registrations. This was a convenience for the league members. Fees for the registration payments totaled \$448.83. Cost of doing business with PayPal was 3.3%. PayPal fees were factored into the 2011 budget.

Marketing leads. Chuck reported that additional merchants have expressed an intent in Corporate Partnerships which includes The Liquor Cabinet, Makovicka Physical Therapy and Ultimate Baseball Academy.

Ron noted [www.seniorsoftball.com](http://www.seniorsoftball.com) has several links to the NE Senior Softball website.

Mert got a new PO Box for league mailings: "PO Box 82 Kennard, NE 68034". Mert also got the bank account information changed. Mert is working on a budget for 2012 that he will present at the January meeting.

League Survey questions discussed:

- Get players input on the utilization of PayPal
- Have 5 runs per inning per team

- Clarify courtesy runner rules so there is no confusion and change the name to “pinch runner” (i.e. 2 pinch runners per inning)
- Scorekeepers – great feedback on the scorekeeping for the Championship game. Cost to do this per game would be an issue to have for all league games. Stats would be nice to have for the players but would be difficult to accommodate for all teams.
- Consider having 3 innings required for all players (Difficulty and pressure on coaches to manage and ensure that everyone gets to play 4 innings)
- Input on the number of home runs

#### League Survey Timeline

- Board to email ideas to Dave Dye for items on the League Survey by Dec 12<sup>th</sup>
- Dave will email a consolidated list of League Survey questions back to the Board prior to the Jan meeting for review.
- League Survey ready for final approval at the January Board meeting

Board Calendar. Steve will email base calendar to the Board for Board meeting dates. Board members are requested to provide Steve with other dates that should be factored with the Board meeting dates.

Meeting closed at 8:15 p.m.

Roberta Steinhauser  
Secretary