

Nebraska Senior Softball Board Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2012

Present: Board Members: Dave Janda, Dave Dye, Dick Smith, Steve Quinn, Ron Kunert, Chuck Grubb, Dennis Steinhauser and Roberta Steinhauser. Absent: Mert Opfer Guest attendee: Kevin Vann

Registration Update – Report provided by Steve

111 registrations received to date. 14 new registrations which will move the league from 13 teams to 14 teams. Express Registrations show up immediately on the website. (“PP”) indicates PayPal payment used. Paper registrations require manual updates to the website.

LaVista Field- Contract Update/Term/3rd Field/Pitcher Screen Donation Update- Steve

Steve is waiting to be placed on the LaVista City Council agenda to discuss a contract with NSS. NSS is locked in for the LaVista fields for this year. Steve is requesting a 3 year contract with the City Council. There will be no change in the fee this year for use of the LaVista fields. At this time, the NSS league only has 2 fields. A third field at this time is only open on Wednesdays. We will likely have 1 hour games this year with the first game starting at 6:00 p.m. The flip-flop rule in the last inning is potential for discussion at a future meeting. The third pitching screen was donated and will stay on the fields for NSS or LaVista to use.

Board Calendar- Dick

April 4th, April 9th and April 11th - new player/draft player practices . April 16th - Draft. April 18th - league scrimmage games April 23rd is the first night of league games.

Balls and Caps order being researched. NE Sales tax will be paid as the league does not have non-profit status. \$32.91 a dozen is the price for softballs. Cap price is over \$6.00 per cap. Dick will check on options for jerseys for local business opportunities. Dick is researching options on jerseys for the 2 potential additional teams.

Umpire Update- Kevin Vann

Kevin accepted the head umpire position. Kevin will work with Dave Janda for organizational efforts for the umpires. Kevin needs any rule changes/information to provide the umpires. Kevin will need a league schedule to get a roster/schedule created for the umpires. Kevin got a couple of names for new umpires that have expressed interest. 4 games per night is favorably regarded by the umpires. Warm-ups will need to be off the fields if the game time is shortened. Field time needs to be focused for game time. April 18th would be a great opportunity for the umpires to participate through attendance at the scrimmage games. Kevin noted professional judgments are made for plays and requested player/manager support of umpire calls.

Steve will review NSS Board Game Rules to ensure they are complete. Kevin requested clarity in the unique rules that NSS has from regular softball rules, (i.e. runner restriction rule, extra innings when time has expired, no contact at second base rule, innings required to be completed to constitute a game) Board needs to make the decision for new rules (i.e. flip/flop in last inning)

NSS Player Survey- Dave Dye

Dave will send the NSS Player Survey out to the Board for review by Wednesday. Distribution to NSS league players will be made following the review from the Board.

Auxiliary Update – Chuck

Chuck noted 1 project in process is working with Bill Bowes, Fire Chief for Papillion, to set up a day with 2 hour classes on CPR. Registration forms will be sent out to the league. Red Cross coordination is being reviewed to potentially combine giving blood with this opportunity. Creation of a NSS web page link is in process for posting Auxiliary information.

Steve reported that LaVista fields has a contract that restricts concession sales. Donations can be made however for bake sales. Grilling options still need further research.

Scheduling update – Ron/Dennis

Need to know the number of teams to create a schedule. Schedule requested to be made for 14 teams for 2 divisions.

Marketing Report – Chuck

Westroads Summer Rec Fair: NSS had the prime real estate spot at Westroads Mall on Feb 25th for the Westroads Summer Rec Fair to promote the NSS league with potential players and families. The opportunity provided 3 solid leads and 15-20 interested conversations. Special thanks to Dave Dye, Dick Smith, Gary and Teri Dukat, Ed and Jeanne Tworek, Gerry and Diana Storovich and Chuck and Catherine Grubb for staffing the NSS table and promoting the league.

NSS Day at Sports Authority: March 10th and 11th, will be the designated Nebraska Senior Softball days at Sports Authority. NSS players and families will be provided a 15% discount code for purchases made on March 10th-11th.

Public Television Announcements: Chuck provided an add to Bellevue Public TV (Cox Cable Channel 17) and Papio Vision (Cox Cable Channel 18) to promote registration for the league.

Summer Parades: Chuck sent registration forms for parade entries to the City of LaVista and the City of Papillion for NSS league participation. A committee will be formed to organize the NSS participation at the LaVista parade which is only a couple of months away.

Magazine Appearance: NSS will be featured in the April 2012 edition of “The Independent”, a magazine for ages 50+ that is distributed in Western Iowa and Eastern Nebraska. NSS is slated to be the COVER STORY with an extended article inside. Editor and writer Michelle Lingle will be visiting with players Larry Peterson, Bob Kubat and Bob Williams on March 5th.

Corporate Partnership: As of 3/5 there are 10 corporate partners. Six additional prospective businesses have expressed strong interest in becoming corporate partners.

Golf Tournament: Rick Prusha will chair a committee and handle logistics for a NSS Golf Tournament in 2012.

Upcoming Marketing Events/Calendar:

3/9- Release of Volume 2, Issue 1 of **Diamond Bits**
3/13-NSS Monthly Social at LaVista Keno 6:30 p.m.
4/1- NSS appearance in **The Independent**
4/10- NSS Monthly Social at LaVista Keno 6:30 p.m.
4/23 – Opening Day
5/26 – LaVista Daze Parade
6/16- Papillion Days Parade
July 2012 – Ralston Days Parade
8/21 – Night Out with the Stormchasers

Night Out with the Stormchasers: Scheduled for Tues, August 21st. NSS has reserved a section of the left field picnic area. Price is to be determined but will include food and a reserved box seat. A \$500.00 deposit has been made to the Stormchasers. A link is on the NSS website for this event.

eMail NSS Information: The email address nssinformation@yahoo.com is set up to receive inquiries from interested individuals and has an automated response built in that directs senders to the NSS website and notes a response will be made from one of the NSS board members.

Facebook: increased to 88 likes (up 66% since June 2011 and 9% over the past month)
Encourage your friends and family to “friend/like the site”.

March NSS Social: This month’s event will be on March 13th at LaVista Keno beginning at 6:30 p.m. Notifications were posed on the NSS website and Facebook. A league wide email will be sent this week. Please notify Jeanne (etworek@cox.net) if you will be attending.

Pending Board Decisions:

Divisions vs. No Divisions – Hold until we know the number of teams based on final registrations.

League Champion vs. Tournament Champion – Tournament Committee will be providing recommendations to the Board for division or tournament play once we know how many teams we will have. Ron and Dennis will schedule a meeting with the Tournament Committee and bring recommendations to the April meeting.

New Business:

Steve – We need 2 new Managers for this year’s new teams. Board requested to pursue discussion with any league members. There will be 3 new Board positions opened – need to keep in mind for recommendations.

Website updates - Paul can place entries on the website calendar for any social events. Chuck is providing Paul with marketing calendar updates.

Date for the next meeting is Monday, April 2nd at Landsky’s.

Roberta Steinhauser
Secretary