

# NSS Board Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2014

## Board Members in attendance:

Ron Kunert	x	Dennis Steinhauser	x
Ron Hager	x	Duke Burgess (via remote connection)	x
Mert Opfer	x	Ron Franck	x
Chuck Grubb	x	Greg West	x
Roberta Steinhauser	x		

**Approval of January 14, 2014 Minutes:** Correction needed in the Minutes title line to “NSS Board Meeting Minutes”. Unanimous approval.

## Old Business:

1. Status report of Nightly Draft Committee –Duke briefed the alternative solutions considered by the committee to existing nightly substitute player rules. The option favored by the Board: “Team records an out for missing 10<sup>th</sup> batter. Short team records an out at the end of each bating line-up.” Board recommends the committee not pursue in-depth changes until we have an opportunity to see what smaller, less restrictive changes have on the outcome of the nightly draft. Duke will take board recommendations back to the Committee and brief the board on results at the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
2. Status of Shed Construction – Ron F. Ron had pictures of the new shed. Shed will be ready to move at the end of March or early April. Costs are expected to be with projected budget.
3. Status of Uniforms – Ron F. Ron is reviewing hat and uniform options/costs. \$30 cost per uniform with \$5 cost for lettering is projected. Ron will solicit input from Dave Janda and Dick Smith to evaluate colors and team names and provide a top 20 team/jersey color recommendation at the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Board requested Ron to bring uniform samples to the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.  
- Wear of uniform – do we want/need to enforce the ‘wear rule’ (IX, 4)? – Duke. Chuck will provide a recommendation on the NSS Rules and Guidelines revision at the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
4. Status of League Survey – Chuck will create a Survey to email to the League members to get league input on items which will include: the number of years preferred for the draft, flip flop rule and fall umpires being provided by league members.

5. Status of Registration Process – Mert reported that 50 registrations have been received to date; 1 new player and 49 returning players.
6. Spring Season Umpires – Greg will contact all 2013 NSS league umpires to identify those who are interested in returning and if they would be interested in being the Umpire In Chief. Greg received one response who did express interest in being the Umpire in Chief. Greg to provide the umpire responses at the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
7. Fall Season Umpires – Dennis This will be added to the player survey to solicit feedback on the league players being fall season umpires.
8. Testing of Bats – Ron K. The Board will retain the current practice regarding the review of bats used for NSS league games.
9. Status of Separate Rainout Phone Line for NSS – Chuck is pursuing options which include getting a NSS phone line. He is getting a price quote from Cox and AT&T for a line with incoming calls to receive the rain out message. Options will be presented at the March 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting.
10. Status of advertising proposal and equipment repair – Ron F is currently cleaning NSS equipment and evaluating needs for repair. Duke suggested buying 2 more mats this year and budget for 2 more next year. Ron will evaluate the condition of the mats. Issue of providing sponsors options for advertising at the fields was put on hold until after Chuck has a better change to review.
11. Potential changes to address – Ron K. reviewed the list submitted at the January Board meeting from Ed Tworek. Ron will follow-up with Ed.

#### **New Business:**

1. Use of Corrective Action Panel – still in Rules and Guidelines (IX, 3) – Duke. Board intention was to have a Corrective Action Panel made up of league players that would provide suggested actions to the Board. This panel has never been used and the need is questioned. Chuck will take this as an action item to make revisions and provide this at the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
2. Rules regarding use of bat warming devices, - Duke noted ASA does not approve of bat warming devices. US Senior Softball does approve and states the bat warmer restores the bat to its original specifications. Duke made a motion to only allow use of a bat warming device if the temperature is approximately less than 60 degrees. Greg provided a second to the motion. Unanimous vote. Duke will bring the update to the Rules and Guidelines at the March 11th meeting.
3. Purchasing new softballs – Ron F. Mert made the motion to buy 30 dozen new softballs. Dennis provided the second for the motion. Unanimous vote.
4. Website correction- League Information page under Senior Softball Rules: “A current copy of the major rules of senior softball is available by going to our website and clicking **Policies and Rules**. All players/participants are responsible for being familiar with the rules.” (Link title

is "[League Rules and Guidelines](#)". Recommendation to make this a hyperlink to the Rules document) Ron Kunert will request Paul to make this change.

5. 2014 NSS Rule Book updates on website – Duke provided a summary of the NSS Rules and Guideline revisions that were approved at the January Board Meeting. Ron Hager presented 2 amendments from the SSUSA website for Board discussion: 1) Facemask to be used by the pitcher and 2) sliding is allowed to get away from being hit. Discussion on mask followed to include mandatory wear, purchase options, and league responsibility to provide. It is estimated each mask will cost about \$40. Dennis made the motion to purchase 4 masks (1 for home and visitor team per field), and to require pitchers to use a mask or use the pitching screen. Mert provided a second for the motion. Greg West was opposed to this motion. Ron Franck, Mert, Dennis, Chuck and Ron Hager voted in favor of the motion. Duke abstained. Additional research requested on the SSUSA amendment recommendation to allow sliding to avoid a collision. This is to be discussed at the March 11th meeting.
6. Team Manager Responses- Duke is working with Chuck to create another email to NSS League Members to solicit interest in becoming a Team Manager. Goal is to receive 20 responses with interest. 11 people have volunteered to be a Team Manager to date, including 7 new possible managers The board will select managers prior to the start of the pre-season practices.
7. Other. Duke indicated that 3 managers failed to complete the Player Evaluation Survey provided to the managers in November. However, there were board members assigned to those teams and completed the survey for them. Discussion followed concerning next steps. It was decided that Duke would select a small group to review these evaluations and reach a consensus on each player for use by future managers. Chuck is going to look into creating a handout that could be provided to Team Managers with a picture of each player.

#### **Board Reports:**

- Commissioner – Ron Kunert Ron indicated Hillcrest Physical Therapy expressed interest in coming to a scheduled NSS league game(s) to collaborate with league members regarding injuries/prevention.
- Associate Commissioner – Ron Hager No additional update.
- Field Scheduling – Dennis approached Lincoln Parks & Rec with the idea for a Senior Softball League. There are no available fields for the summer 2014 league but they will keep this in mind for future consideration.
- Finance & Registration – Mert Opfer. Insurance for the shed will be covered under the Miscellaneous section of the NSS Insurance Policy. The NSS League PO will be used to change the Insurance policy address.
- Marketing, Publicity & Communications – Chuck sent a communication update to the NSS League to provide health updates on several NSS League members. Best wishes are extended for their health recoveries.
- Player Personnel – Duke Burgess No additional update.

- Purchasing & Inventory – Ron Franck Ron has a new cart that he is donating -to the NSS League.
- Rules & Umpires – Greg West No additional update.

Other: Gary Kruse noted that he expects complaints with the 5 run rule that has been approved for the 2014 Rules and Guidelines. Dave Janda indicated concerns and asked the board consider moving the commitment line closer to 3<sup>rd</sup> base. Board will take this under advisement.

**Next meeting:**

March 11, 2014. Location: Pizza West Meeting Time: 6:30 p.m.

Motion made by Mert to adjourn the meeting. Second provided by Ron Hager. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

2014 Calendar

Activity	2014	Board Member Follow-up
League Survey	TBD	Chuck
Registration-Summer League	2/1/14 – 4/10/14 (returning players) 2/1/14 – 4/15/14 (new players)	
New Player/Draft League Practices	4/9, 4/14, 4/16, 4/21	
Draft Night	4/22	
League Scrimmage Games	4/23	
Heart Defibrillator Training	TBD	Ron Kunert working with Bill Bowes on date
Summer League Play Dates	4/28 – 7/16 (23 play dates)	(5/26 is a holiday)
Summer League Playoff	7/21	
Tournament Games	7/23 – 8/11	
Registration-Fall League	7/1 – 8/10	
Pre-season Practice	8/13, 8/18	
Draft	8/19	
Fall League Play Dates	8/20	