

NSS Board Meeting Minutes

March 11, 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		Greg West	x
Roberta Steinhauser	x		

Approval of February 18, 2014 Minutes: Old business- Paragraph 10 – the word “change” needs to be replaced with the word “chance”. “Issue of providing sponsors options for advertising at the fields was put on hold until after Chuck has a better chance to review.” With this correction, Duke made the motion to approve the Feb minutes, Ron Hager provided a second to the motion. Unanimous vote.

Old Business:

1. Status report of Nightly Draft Committee –Duke reviewed the summary and proposed recommendations of the Nightly Draft Committee Meeting held on 2-25-14. (Committee Members: Greg West (Chairperson), Roger Hein, George Scott, Ed Tworek, Paul Kwaak, Ron Franck and Duke Burgess) The Board held 1 hour of discussion on the recommendations and additional options. Dennis made a motion to amend the Committee’s proposal #2:

Proposal #2: “Teams starting the game with 8 or fewer players will be charged an out the first time only the team completes their entire batting lineup. This assumes the team picked up one or more replacement players and a non-batting defensive only catcher through the normal nightly draft process.”

Dennis’s motion: For each replacement player picked up in the draft (excluding the non-batting defensive only catcher), that 1 out per game per pickup player would be assessed. The first out (from first replacement player) will be assessed at the end of the first time through the lineup. The second out (from second replacement player) will be assessed at the end of the second time through the lineup. The third out (from third replacement player) will be assessed at the end of the third time through the lineup. The number of outs per game is dependant upon the number of pickup players. Example: If 2 offensive players are drafted, one out would be assessed at the completion of the first time through the batting order. The second out would be assessed at the completion of the second time through the batting order regardless of

what inning the end of the batting order occurs in. Opposing Manager would be responsible to let the umpire know when the out needs to be taken. Mert provided a second to the motion. Dennis, Greg, Ron Hager, Mert and Ron Franck voted in favor. Duke abstained. Motion passed. Dennis will write the proposed rule change for this and email it to the Board.

Mert made a motion that the Board accept the first proposal recommendation of the Night Draft Committee as is. Greg made a second to this motion. Greg, Dennis, Mert, Duke and Ron Franck voted in favor. Ron Hager opposed. Duke will write the NSS proposed rule change for this proposal.

Proposal #1: "Players who have experienced long-term injuries or illness (will miss 4 or more consecutive games) and have been declared ineligible by the manager may be replaced temporally with a player(s) of similar ability from among other league players. This proposal requires the manager to notify the Director, Player Personal, of the injury, find players of similar ability that will fill-in for the injured player, and coordinate any substitutions with the Director, Player Personnel, in advance of the game. Substitute players must be chosen from among league players who were rated in the original Spring draft not more than one draft round above the round the injured player was drafted. The idea is to have like-for-like abilities. The substitute player may play any position on the field and bat anywhere in the lineup. A different substitute could be used for each scheduled game until the injured player returns to the lineup. This proposal precludes the use of the 11-man roster waiver for picking up additional replacements.

2. Proposed Changes to Rules and Guidelines – Duke reviewed the proposed changes to NSS Rules and Guidelines.

IV. PLAYING FIELD

8. "Pitching Protection. The pitcher is required to use either a face mask or pitching screen at all times. Pitcher's masks will be provided to both the Visitor and Home teams. Pitchers are encouraged to provide their own mask. " Ron Hager made a motion to approve the wording of this rule. Greg provided second to the motion. Unanimous vote.

V. PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

2. Bat Warmers. Warmers are authorized only if they do not alter the design, construction, or specifications of the bat. Warmers may be used when the ambient temperature is approximately 60 degrees Fahrenheit or less. Mert made a motion to approve the wording of this rule. Dennis provided a second to the motion. Unanimous vote.

IX. MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES

3. Managers have both the responsibility and authority to remove players from the field of play for conduct that is detrimental to the basic foundation of sportsmanship and Nebraska Senior Softball or may result in injury to others or themselves. In the event of severe circumstances of player misconduct, the NSS Board of Directors will convene to assess the situation and recommend a course of action to the Commissioner which may include suspension or expulsion. The Commissioner is the final approval authority for any sanctions imposed upon a player. The

manager is responsible for reporting all instances of player misconduct or ejection from the game to the Board of Directors.

4. Wear of the uniform. Players are highly encouraged to wear the issued jersey and cap as intended by the manufacturer and avoid altering the jersey by tearing, ripping, or removing sleeves, logos, or other league identifying symbols. Caps should be worn, bill forward, unless a protective mask necessitates either removal or reversal. Proper shoes, baseball/softball pants, shorts, cups, shin guards, and other protective devices are recommended. Players should never remove or cover the logo of any corporate partner of Nebraska Senior Softball when displayed on an issued jersey or cap. The goal of uniform wear is a professional look that represents Nebraska Senior Softball in the most positive light.

Greg made a motion to accept IX 3. rule as written. Ron Franck made the second to the motion. Unanimous vote. Dennis made a motion to accept IX 4. rule as written. Duke and Dennis voted in favor. Greg and Ron Franck abstained. Ron Hager and Mert opposed the motion. Ron Kunert voted for the tie breaker in favor of IX 4. rule as proposed. The Commissioner broke the tie and rule IX4. is approved as written.

3. Team Manager Responses- Duke. 13 people have now volunteered to be a League Manager. Duke will be sending a list of all individuals who volunteer to be a League Manager to the Board for review in preparation to discuss approval when we get closer to the draft date. Duke will also provide a draft placement for these volunteering for the Manager positions. Duke requested the Board to help promote the need for Managers to the NSS League.
4. Status update – Player Evaluation Survey – Duke. Paul Quake, Roger Hein, Vince Bruce, Doug Finley and Emery Horton are meeting to collaborate on player evaluation ratings for the NSS League.
5. Status of Shed Construction – Ron Franck. March 22nd is the target date to move the NSS shed. Jim Price will assist by using his trailer for the move of the shed. Gil Stephens will provide the paint for the shed. Colin Anderson or Gil will be providing the shingles.
6. Status of Uniforms – Ron Franck. Ron has the 30 dozen softballs in hand for the NSS League. Ron is continuing negotiations for the NSS uniforms and hats. Ron is trying to get a sample shirt from each vendor to review each for quality. Goal is to bring shirt samples to the April Board meeting. Lettering and shipping prices are also being factored for consideration in the overall vendor pricing.
7. Status of League Survey – Chuck. (Not present) Ron Kunert will check in with Chuck for a status on the League Survey.
8. Status of Registration Process – Mert. 85 are registered for the NSS Spring/Summer League to date. 2 are new registrations.
9. Spring Season Umpires – Greg. Greg is working with Kevin to get a complete list of all NSS umpires. Greg also checked the NSS website for umpires in past NSS seasons. Greg did get a confirmation from 4 past NSS league umpires that are interested in being an umpire for the 2015 NSS league. 2 of the 4 were interested in being the Umpire in

Chief. Ron Kunert requested that we get all information on the umpires at the April meeting for the Board to make a decision on the Umpire in Chief.

10. Status of Separate Rainout Phone Line for NSS – Chuck (not present)
11. Status of equipment repair – Ron F. Ron will have the NSS equipment ready for April 1st. Recommendation made for NSS Board members at the KC tournament in April to see the masks being used and talk about mask preferences with the pitchers of teams at this tournament. Some problems have been reported with plastic masks.
12. Corrective Action Panel –Chuck Duke reported this is a completed item – addressed with IX Manager Responsibilities #3 rule which was accepted by the Board.
13. Research on SSUSA amendment recommendation to allow sliding to avoid a collision- Ron Hager. Greg recommended to add “allow to slide to avoid a collision” to the rule discussing sliding at home plate. Ron Hager provided a second to the motion. Greg, Ron Hager, Mert, Ron Franck and Dennis approved the motion. Duke opposed. Greg will write this proposed rule and email this to the Board for review.

New Business:

1. Other (None)

Board Reports:

- Commissioner – Ron Kunert No additional update.
- Associate Commissioner – Ron Hager No additional update.
- Field Scheduling – Dennis Steinhauser No additional update.
- Finance & Registration – Mert Opfer No additional update.
- Marketing, Publicity & Communications – Chuck Grubb Not present.
- Player Personnel – Duke Burgess No additional update
- Purchasing & Inventory – Ron Franck Ron will look into the cost for having a print shop create scorebooks. Opportunity to promote sponsors.
- Rules & Umpires – Greg West No additional update

Ron Hager made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dennis made a second to the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting:

April 8, 2014. Location: Pizza West Meeting Time: 6:30 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	
	TBD	
Heart Defibrillator Training		Ron Kunert working with Bill Bowes on date
Summer League Play Dates	4/28 – 7/16 (23 play dates)	(5/26 is a holiday)
	7/21	
Summer League Playoff		
	7/23 – 8/11	
Tournament Games		
Registration-Fall League	7/1 – 8/10	
Pre-season Practice	8/13, 8/18	
Draft	8/19	
Fall League Play Dates	8/20	