

NSS Board Meeting Minutes

May 17th, 2016

Board Members in attendance:

Board Members			
X	Ron Kunert	Duane Carolus	X
X	Ed Tworek	Ron Franck	X
X	Chuck Grubb	Jim Price	X
X	George Scott	Paul Hamel	X
Others in Attendance			
A	Kathleen DuVall		

Approval of April 21st, 2016 Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes made by Jim Price, seconded by George Scott and unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Rainouts – Duane Carolus

Conversation centered on what to do regarding the four (4) lost play dates so far this year. Several options were discussed: 1) Do not reschedule any rainouts; 2) Extend the Spring/Summer season by several play dates; 3) Eliminate the mid-season tournament and use the 5 play dates for rescheduling the missed games; 4) Change the tournament to single elimination and get back 2 play dates; or 5) Make up one game per evening at the open 9:30 p.m. slot.

Pros and Cons of each were shared by all board members. Each supporting their choice. In 2015, NSS lost 4 play dates due to the weather but these were spread out over the middle part of the season. This is the first time the league has lost 4 at the very beginning and with 15+ dates left, the chance for further lost playing time is higher than usual.

After discussion, Duane motioned to cancel the end of season, double elimination tournament and move the 5 play dates ahead of the Spring/Summer championship game and move the canceled games into the tournament dates that were vacated in the order that they were rained out. Any rainouts beyond 5 scheduled play dates will NOT be made up. Jim Price seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Reasoning for the board's decision was to ensure that everyone get as much 'playing time' for their registration money as possible. The tournament, while popular, doesn't guarantee anything beyond a two-game minimum. This decision will allow us, weather permitting, to get back 4 scheduled play dates.

In addition, this will be a good test to determine the value of the end-of-year tournament by polling our membership later in 2016 or early 2017 to ask if we should keep the tournament or scrap it completely.

Fall Season – George Scott

Registration to run from July 15th through August 15th. Season to begin on Wednesday, August 24th with 15 regular season play dates. No games on Monday, September 5th. Fall season ends October 17th with the championship game on October 19th and a backup championship game date of October 24th.

Motion made to accept the schedule by George Scott and seconded by Ron Franck. Schedule approved unanimously.

League Meeting – George Scott and Chuck Grubb

We will be using one of our non-play dates, Monday, June 20th, to hold our annual league meeting. Three board positions will become open for 2017. The Commissioner and two Directors. Absentee balloting will be available again this year. Chuck will ensure the Papillion American Legion is reserved or find alternate location. In addition, Chuck will get a communication out to the league regarding the elections.

The Director positions (Purchasing and Inventory; Marketing, Publicity, and Communications) will be open and duty assignments will be determined by the Commissioner with the approval of existing board members.

Purchasing, Inventory, and Equipment – Ron Franck

Used game softballs are available for purchase by anyone in the league for \$1.50 per ball. Contact Ron Franck and buy as many as you wish. Uniforms and hat distribution will occur on Wednesday, May 18th. One of the league masks is missing, the red Rip It face mask needs to be returned.

All other equipment is accounted for and screens are in good condition.

Ron F would like us to consider amending the liability statement at the bottom of all registration forms in order to ensure the league, players, and/or family members are not held liable for any injury or death. Ron F briefed on various costs associated with insurance for Nebraska Senior Softball.

Ron F will take the existing Liability Release Statement and modify it for board consideration and upon approval, the 2016 Fall Registration will be modified.

Board Rotation – Chuck Grubb

Conversation regarding whether to give a one-year extension option to board members who wish to extend their service beyond the three (3) year election obligation. Duane had a concern that this could open us up to an imbalance or shortfall if many board members left at the same time. Short discussion held but decision made to table this topic and address it no later than the end of Q3 2016.

League, Team and Player Photos – Chuck Grubb

Individual player photos will not be taken in 2016. We will use the opportunity a new draft and new teams will present to the league in 2017. George will contact managers and tell them it is their responsibility to schedule team pictures with Chuck for this year.

New Business:

Game at TD Ameritrade Park on July 2nd – Chuck Grubb

The College World Series has offered Nebraska Senior Softball the opportunity to play an All-Star game at TD Ameritrade Park on Saturday, July 2nd. The league would be obligate to assume the cost of 400 tickets at \$6.00 each to reserve the field prior to the home run derby for a period of two hours.

The game would be 9 innings. Chuck will recap the offer to the board for consideration and will contact the College World Series representative in Chicago. Decisions would have to be made on how to select players for the All-Star game.

Board members will respond to Chuck with their thoughts. One option is to beef up both teams to 15-20 players and allow them to 'buy' the number of tickets they need to obligate themselves to the team.

Championship Game Format – Ed Tworek

Is it more important to have one team from each division play for the title or to have the two best teams in the league make up the competition? This was the topic at hand. Two options were discussed: 1) Take top 2 teams in each division and play criss-cross (1 vs 2) or 2) Take the top 2 teams in each division and then seed the four teams whereby Seed 1 plays Seed 4 and Seed 2 plays Seed 3.

Decision will be made by the NSS Board at the June meeting.

The motion to adjourn made by Duane and seconded by Paul. Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Next meeting: June 14th, 2016 @ 6:30 PM

Location: Pizza West