



# Nebraska Senior Softball

## NSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, May 14, 2019; 6:30 PM

Board Members in attendance: Mark Opfer, Dave Dye, Gary Kruse, Steve Bessey, Tom Holder, Bill Weller and Ron Franck

Absent: Steve Quinn

Guests in attendance: Chuck Trofholz, Chuck Grubb, B.J. Danze, Dave Janda, Ed Tworek and Kay Dye.

Director Dave Dye brought the meeting to order.

### **Old Business:**

None

### **New Business:**

#### Bill Weller (Treasurer and Budget)

The insurance company audit provided information that there will be no rebate for games not played. This is due to the increase in the number of games and game times.

Choice Hotels continues to send rebate money to wrong address; Bill thinks he finally has this corrected.

Miscellaneous spending will take us beyond what was budgeted. We need to be careful about unauthorized expenditures. These need to be budgeted appropriately.

During registration there were players that were late with their payment. There should be no reason to have to chase people down to get them to pay their registration fee or wait for checks to clear. A player's registration should not be valid until payment is received. This is an issue for registration as well as the year end banquet. Additionally, PayPal has increased their rates the league incurs for transactions. This needs to be addressed as we look for better solutions for payments received for registrations and the year end banquet. Dave Dye made a motion to table this for a future meeting, so there could be additional discussion prior to fall registration and the year end banquet. Gary Kruse seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Mark Opfer (Scheduling)

There was a request to have the league schedule posted on the bulletin board at the field. Mark stated he will get this done as soon as possible.

#### Gary Kruse (Communications)

A laminated copy of the draft was distributed to each Board Member and will be given to each team manager to be used for player replacement.

The shed and wagon have been fixed.

The pavillion at Elmwood Park has been reserved for the summer BBQ on July 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6-10 PM. This is the league's summer get-together for Board Member elections. There is no cost to the players.

Gary commended Dewey Wyatt on the website article regarding new players. Gary will send a league-wide email to let all players know about the articles.

#### Steve Bessey (Equipment and Purchasing)

Steve stated that Play-It-Again Sports was not a viable resource for re-selling the used softballs and we will pursue other avenues for their re-sale.

The umpires have requested that NSS purchase their jerseys. The Board discussed. It is unusual for umpires to have shirts purchased for them but the Board agreed that the umpires are doing a good job and it would be a good gesture. Tom Holder made a motion to cover \$25 of the first three regular umpires' shirts. Seconded by Steve Bessey. Motion passed unanimously.

Additional softballs need to be purchased due to the increase in games, lost balls, etc. There was some discussion about the durability and quality of the new balls. Everyone agreed that they were better than what we had used in previous years. Steve to get the additional balls ordered.

There has been some discussion/questions about purchasing another cart. At this time there is no room in the shed for a third cart and all the extra equipment that is stored in the shed. The third cart would allow for all of the equipment for each field to be stored in it's own cart. The Board and attendees thought this would be a good idea. It was suggested that the unclaimed equipment be sold at Play-It-Again Sports and the reorganization of the equipment in the shed may allow for the additional space needed for the third cart. Steve to look at these options.

Additionally, the Board discussed putting the equipment away and locking the shed at the end of the night. Gary Kruse will send an email reminding the managers about putting equipment into the shed at the end of the night.

New lines will be put on the mats. Steve Bessey will handle adding the lines.

Tom Holder asked that another scoreboard be made like the ones on Field #3 and #4. Dave Dye will handle this and find out what the costs are to make a third board.

The batteries in the shed lights have been replaced as the lighting was very dim.

#### Tom Holder (Rules)

The Rule Book is currently 17+ pages long and in need of an over-haul. The Board discussed whether this is something that could best be accomplished by committee. Not to change the rules, but to clean the rules document up. It was also suggested that examples might be listed for better clarification. Tom was not a Board member when some of the rules were amended and Tom is requesting a review so that all the rules are consistent and concise throughout the document. The rules that were changed as a "trial run" for the fall league might not be complete on the web-site. This is confusing to the managers and players, but the document needs to be simplified. Tom will contact some of the managers (past and present) to see if they would be willing to serve on this committee.

After this clarified document is voted on by the Board, Gary Kruse will send the information out to the managers and assistants to finalize the process.

Rules issues that need to be addressed now:

- Can you get a replacement player for a player injured or that is forced to leave for whatever reason during the game currently being played?
- Can you have a like-for-like substitute for a replacement of a roster player at any time during the game?

Gary Kruse made a motion that a like-for-like substitution can be made at any time during a game, so long as it is reported to the opposing manager at the time of the occurrence. The replacement player will assume the same position in the batting order and may play any position defensively. Motion seconded by Ron Franck. In favor: Mark, Steve, Dave, Tom. Opposed: None. Motion carried unanimously.

- In the event that there are no legal replacements available, a team will be allowed to play with 9 players.

Gary Kruse made the motion to enact the above, Tom seconded. In favor: Steve, Tom, Bill, Ron. Opposed: None. Abstain: Dave.

Commissioner Steve Quinn in-absentia sent an email to the Board regarding:  
Can the pitcher's mound rubber be removed and possibly be replaced by a chalked line -- This is a permanent part of the field and cannot be removed.

The wear of League issued shirts / jersey has been addressed with the player.

Dave Dye will send out an email to all the managers and seconds regarding the current rule usage and the above rules updates.

Dave Dye (Player/Personnel)

Some players have tried to register late, but registration is closed and the teams have been set. Additional players would be limited to being a pool player only. Registration has been closed and will remain closed until the fall season.

Two teams currently have player shortages due to injuries and will continue to address these shortages via the current replacement player rules.

Ron Franck (Fields)

Often the run scoring line gets ruined after the first game is played. Can this be re-chalked in-between games? Tassels are currently used to help the grounds crew chalk the fields. Tom suggested using additional tassels to insure umpires and runners know if the scoring line has been crossed. Different alternatives were discussed.

Ron will talk to the grounds keepers to see if additional tassels can be added.

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Open Discussion:

An email should be sent as soon as possible/practical for rain delays, weather related changes, etc. That way the managers can notify their players quickly and efficiently. Gary Kruse will be responsible for the website notification, if unavailable, Tom Holder will be responsible. Additionally, Dave Dye will send a text to all managers for emergency notifications such as rainouts as soon as he receives the notification or upon calling the website rainout number.

All players should know the rainout number and take responsibility for themselves to call the number if they have questions concerning the possibility of play. The rainout number is 402-697-7756. The final update is made daily at 3:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Dave Dye.

Seconded by everyone.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM