

COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Spring Managers Meeting Minutes- March 6, 2020
Denver Elks Club, 2475 W 26th Ave., Denver, CO

- 1. Meeting Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by Commissioner Stan Harbour. Board members present: Stan Harbour, Bob Schwartz, Beau Bressler, Kent Gorham, Ernie Brady, Jeff Sweet, Dave Adams and Ray Childs (All elected Board members)
Attendees included those representing 54 teams and 7 Rec Centers.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance:** Harbour recognized Gene Tomczak, retired military, who lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Harbour mentioned how Emilio Sanelli had always recognized active duty military as well as veterans at his meetings, and reported that Emilio was doing well, based on phone conversations during the week. Harbour asked that all veterans present stand to be recognized.
- 3. Introduction of the CSSA Board of Directors & Others:** Harbour introduced the Board members listed above. Harbour referred to the work that the Standings Secretaries do and that those had been recognized at the Fall Mangers Meeting in October, gave special thanks to Barry Jark and Mark Gembarowski for their efforts on the new CSSA website developed last year, and finally another special thanks to Robin Garneau who retired from the CSSA Treasurer position after having served in that position for over 20 years.
- 4. Treasurer's Report and Financials:** Harbour stated that CSSA started 2020 with a balance of \$7,268.47, and briefly discussed the current CSSA finances, noted that the current balance has been bolstered by donations of \$5,000 over the past five years, which is not a firm revenue source. Harbour stated that the team fee of \$175 was set in 2009 and has not been raised since then, that the Board might consider raising the fee for 2021, but that the team fee for 2020 would remain at \$175, and that the current financial situation of the organization was in good condition. Harbour briefly explained how the Treasurer positon was being handling between himself and Brady.
- 5. Commissioner's Update/Status of Organization:** Harbour commented on several items, providing information as follows:
 - 2019 season- Season went well with a few hiccups but no major problems.
 - Pitchers Protection/ Use of screen- Harbour lead a discussion on the use of the screen for pitcher's protection, the experience with the screen for the past two years, etc. Gorham provided the experience his team had with the screen in 2018, how they used the screen, number of times the screen was hit, etc., and strongly recommended that teams use the screen. Harbour stated that the Board has decided to use the screen in the same manner as the past two years, i.e. an option, but strongly recommended that teams use the screen.
Tom Rochester commented that he liked the procedure that the Colorado Springs leagues use by placing the screen 35' from home plate between the plate and the rubber.
Harbour referred to e-mails sent to managers recently regarding the purchase of Pitch Safe screens, and if anyone was interested to contact him.
 - 1-1 starting count- Harbour advised that the Board had discussed using a 1-1 starting count at the January Board meeting and decided to stay with a 0-0 starting count, but might consider using the 1-1 starting count in the end-of-season tournaments.

- Rules 7.2a & 7.2b- Postponements /Make-ups- Harbour referred to the revised rules that were voted on at the Fall managers Meeting in October and asked that managers be familiar with the revised rules.
- Bats- Harbour referred to Rule 5.4- BATS, and noted that managers should take the lead in checking bats that their players are using and have all players follow the rule on approved bats.
- 2020 Teams- Harbour commented that he had heard from various sources that several teams were looking to combine players, and another team was dropping out in 2020. Thus, there will likely be less teams in 2020 than in 2019.

6. Spring Packet Information: Harbour referred to the handout package that all attendees had received, and commented on all information, forms and deadlines in the handout packages as follows:

- A. Important Dates for 2020 Season-
- B. Team Registration Form- **Due April 7, 2020-**
- C. Invoice/Payment of Fees- Team fees paid to CSSA- **Due May 20, 2020**
- D. Roster & Waiver and Release of Liability Forms- **Due May 20, 2020-**
- E. Jacket Order Form- **Due May 20, 2020-**
- F. Roster/Waiver Change Request Form - **Add/Delete Deadline is August 4, 2020 for both the 70's & B-E Divisions-**
- G. *CSSA By-Laws-
- H. *CSSA Code of Conduct-
- I. * Extra Sheet- ADDENDUM TO THE 2020 RULES- FOR TRIAL USE OF PITCHING SCREEN IN ALL DIVISIONS.
- J. *2020 RULES- Updated from October 2019 Managers Meeting-
* The By-Laws, Code, ADDENDUM and RULES were supplied to managers electronically prior to the meeting, with hard copies available to those needing them. This new scheme of distribution does not excuse managers from having and knowing all rules, etc. during games. These are also available on the CSSA website – www.coloradoseniorsoftball.net (CSSA tab).
- L. Softball & Scorebook Distribution Form- Harbour asked that this form be completed and then turned in when managers pick up their balls and/or scorebooks downstairs after the meeting finishes.

7. Announcements of softball activities in 2020 outside CSSA:

- Terry Goodrich stated that the Spring Fun League at Vanderbilt Park is scheduled to start on March 24th, and that schedules were available at the check-in table.
- Goodrich then spoke of the local Scrap Iron (SI) Softball organization in the Denver area that had teams of various age brackets that traveled to tournaments all around the country. Anyone wanting information should see Terry.
- Goodrich mentioned that the SSUSA Rocky Mountain Championships would be held at Aurora Sports Complex, August 21-23. Information at www.seniorsoftball.com.
- Goodrich gave information about the Colorado Senior Softball Travel League (CSSTL) that plays games on Saturdays, April through October, at fields in the Front Range area. He stated that there had been some changes in the CSSTL for 2020, and that they were looking for a few new teams. Information at www.coloradoseniorsoftball.net (CSSTL tab), or by talking to Terry.
- John Parisi advised that the Scrap Iron organization was looking into possibly having a “Wood Bat” tournament. Details to be determined and advised.

- It was noted that Colorado Springs has some senior leagues, a 60+ league on Friday mornings, a 70's league on Monday mornings and some night leagues as well.
 - Alan Wiechman stated that Parker has a 50+ league on Tuesday evenings and a 65+ league on Thursday evenings. Information can be obtained from Alan or through the Parker Recreation Department.
- 8. OTHER:** Harbour opened the floor for any other issues that attendees wanted to bring up, as follows:
- Dick Lechman advised the attendees of his participation in a winter basketball league and suggested it as a good way to stay in shape when not playing softball.
 - Mark Gembarowski advised the attendees that his team from last year (Loveland/MI Sports) and the Northern Colorado Select team were merging, and that he had a new player looking for a team. Anyone interested should contact Mark.

Added Agenda Item, requiring Board action- Harbour referred to an e-mail that he had sent to Board members where he had made a motion to remove Robin Garneau, the previous CSSA Treasurer, from the CSSA account at Vectra Bank, that the motion had been seconded by Ernie Brady and asked for a vote from the attending board members. All Board members present (Brady, Gorham, Schwartz, Adams, Childs, Sweet and Bressler) voted to pass the motion. There were no votes opposed to the motion.

9. Next CSSA Board Meeting: Harbour advised that the next CSSA Board meeting will be scheduled two or three days after the team registration deadline on April 9th at a time and location to be determined. At this meeting, teams will be placed in the divisions for the first half of the 2020 season.

10. Adjournment: Ernie Brady motioned that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mark Gembarowski. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM.
Minutes recorded by Stan Harbour; 03-06-20.

Post Meeting note: Sets of softballs (14 per set) and scorebooks were distributed to team representatives after the meeting. The charge for the balls will be included in payments of team fees.

NOTE: After the March 6th Managers Meeting, and after several months of considering the various complications caused by the COVID-19 virus and after delays in the start of the season, the CSSA Board made a decision to cancel the 2020 season in July 2020.