

# COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

## Board Meeting Minutes- April 4, 2024

### Golden Community Center, Golden, CO

- 1. Meeting Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 10:00 PM by Commissioner Stan Harbour. Board members present: Stan Harbour, Jim Mieras, Frank Yost, Paul Lewandowski, Carter Akerfelds and Joe Zaba, Board Members Absent: Terry Goodrich and Mary Harteker.
- 2. Introduction of Guests:** There were no guests present.
- 3. Approval of Minutes, February 2, 2024 Board Meeting & March 1, 2024 Spring Managers Meeting:** Harbour noted that the DRAFT minutes of these two meetings had been sent out to Board members previously. Yost made a motion that the minutes of the meetings be approved, seconded by Mieras, and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- 4. Finances / 2024 Budget Estimate/Update:** Harbour advised that the Budget estimate done in January is the most recent estimate available. That estimate used 50 teams for 2024, and the actual number will be 52. Harbour will update the estimate and provide to Board members as time goes on and further meaningful information is available.
- 5. Review Registrations/Determine Divisions/Assign Teams to Divisions:**

Harbour advised that for 2024 there are 20 70's Division teams (two more than in 2023), and 32 B-E Division teams (same as in 2022).

Harbour referred to the 70's realignment worksheet in the handout to be used to set the 70's divisions. Discussion was held on how to align the 20 70's teams so as to create as competitive groups as possible due the wide variation in the abilities of the 70's teams. After much discussion on various options, alignments, etc., it was agreed to organize the 70's teams as below:

**70's Gold Division**, 6 teams split into Upper and Lower groups- Upper Group would be Longmont 70s (new team), The Boys 70s and the Red River Bandits (was Aurora Scrap Iron in 2023). Lower Group would be IDM, Golden Geezers (new team) and RockStars (new team). It was agreed that a "run equalization" process would be used in the Gold Division, where the Upper teams would give 1 run per inning played to the Lower Group teams and that the Home team would be determined per Rule 7.4, i.e. the host team is the Home team in the 1<sup>st</sup> game and the Visitor team in the second game.

**70's Silver Division** (8 teams)- Erie Outlaws, Dog Soldiers (was Huberd Shoe Grease in 2023), UG Development Group (was Hector's in 2023), Varsity Inn Dirty Dogs, Greeley Dinosaurs, Colorado Cougars, Them Brooms and Louisville Eagles.

**70's Bronze Division** (6 teams)- Castle ROCKS, Agents, Boulder Blues 70s, Aurora Grillers, Golden Oldies and Renegades 70s.

Harbour referred to the B-E Divisions worksheet in the handout to be used to set the B-E divisions, stated that the 32 B-E teams should be divided into four 6-team divisions and one 8-team division. Harbour then led a discussion for the B-E teams using the 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> half records, the 2023 tournament results, information from the Team Registration forms, and information from all attendees at the meeting. The results of the exercise as follows:

**B-1 Division** (3 teams)- Wendy's Bombers, TNT (was Colorado Home Fitness in 2023) and MI Sports.

**B-2 Division** (3 teams)- Renegades 50s, Denver Eagles and Dog Soldiers 50s.

Note: With the make-up of the B-1 and B-2 Divisions providing six teams, the teams will be scheduled versus each other with the B-1 teams giving 1 run per inning to the B-2 teams and the B-2 teams will also be allowed to use an eleventh defensive player (if available) as an equalizer when they play. The home team will be determined by CSSA Rule 7.4, i.e. the host team is the Home team in the 1<sup>st</sup> game and the Visitor team in the second game.

**C-1 Division** (6 teams)- Evergreen Mountain Men, The Boys 50s, Ace-Hi, Gladiators, Castle Rockers and Shades of Gray.

**C-2 Division** (8 teams)- Louisville Coyotes, Lakewood Bears, Mavericks, Castle Rockies, Erie Crushers, Lucketta Legends, 2<sup>nd</sup> Time Sports and \*All Season Security (new team).

**D Division** (6 teams)- \*Boulder Blues 50s, Diamonds, Westminster Warriors, Lakewood Golden Eagles, The Internationals and Titanium Wolves.

**\*Post Meeting Note: At the meeting, it was decided that Boulder Blues 50s would be in C-2, and All Season Security would be in D Division. After Harbour sent out the 'Teams In Divisions' listing to managers on 4-5-**

**24, he received significant information from Andy Gonzales, manager of the All Seasons Security team that he had new/additional skilled players for his team and should be moved to a higher placement from the proposed D Division. With that information, Harbour recommended to the Board members that All Season Security should be put on C-2 and Boulder Blues 50s moved back to the D Division, an option that had been discussed in some detail during the meeting. Board members agreed on the moves as shown above in the C-2 and D Divisions listings.**

**E Division** (6 teams)- Bobcats, Malley Cats, Juggernauts, Westminster Silver Foxes, Lakewood Cougars and Greeley Shockers (was Sluggers in 2023).

**6. 2024 Regular Season Matters:**

- Schedules and Standings Secretaries- Harbour stated that he would solicit Standings Secretaries for each division, produce the schedules and distribute to all as soon as possible.
- League and Tournament Awards- A brief discussion was held.
- Insurance- Harbour advised that he had paid the Directors and Officers Liability Insurance (\$664) in late March, and that he would arrange for the General Liability Insurance through SSUSA with the teams now set. Not sure on the charge would, same as the \$40 per team in 2023, or an increase.

**Post meeting note: Harbour was advised by SSUSA on 4-15-24 that the cost of insurance has increased to \$45 per team for 2024.**

- IRS tax return- Harbour advised that he had filed the 990N (tax return for non-profit organizations with revenue less than \$50,000.)
- Rockies games- Harbour stated that he had mentioned the CSSA days at Coors Field at the Board meeting on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, and that there was not much interest, and that he would survey teams/managers for interest, and then decide on any required action.

**7. Tournament Plan/Discussion:** Harbour stated that there was nothing new regarding the tournaments at this time. Based on previous decisions, the plan is to have the 70s teams Tournament on Monday, August 19 and Wednesday, August 21, and the B-E Tournament on Monday-Thursday, August 26-29. Both tournaments will be held at the Schaefer Complex. Harbour stated that the plan, schedules and format would follow the same as in 2023. Harbour will coordinate efforts in developing plans for both tournaments.

**8. Assign March/April timeline duties (any not covered above)**

Harbour stated that all April/May items have been covered, i.e. either already taken care of, or are in progress.

**9. OTHER:** There were no “Other” items raised by attendees.

- Mieras commented on issues and problems with rainouts of games in the first half of the season, and the usual pattern that teams seem to follow by scheduling makeups for the ‘off-week’ between the first and second halves of the season. Once these dates are reserved, it causes problems with any other needed makeups. He suggested that teams should be required to schedule makeups within 3 weeks of any rainout, i.e. to eliminate the crush at the end of the first half of the season. Some discussion ensued. Harbour will advise teams of this thought and encourage teams to follow this plan.
- Harbour commented on actions that the SSUSA organization is doing in regard to having top level teams in some groups that are so much more competitive than any of the other teams in their group. They have special rules for certain teams, in what they must do to win their group at a tournament, and then have options of the other teams to give them a chance of winning the group. Harbour will gather more info on this situation to see if there could be something like this used with the top level teams in the Gold Upper and B-1 Divisions.

**10. Next Meeting:** There will be no Board meeting in April (later) or May, unless a major/specific issue develops. It was agreed that the June Board meeting will be held June 13<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM start, the day after the completion of the regular scheduled games of the first half on the 12<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting, adjustments will be made to the make-up of the divisions for the second half of the season based on the results of the first half.

**11. Adjournment:** Mieras motioned that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Yost. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM.

Minutes recorded by Stan Harbour; 4-4-24

Minutes were approved at the Board meeting on June 13, 2024.