

COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Spring Managers Meeting Minutes- March 7, 2022
Denver Elks Club, 2475 W 26th Ave., Denver, CO

- 1. Meeting Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Commissioner Stan Harbour. Board members present: Stan Harbour, Kent Gorham, Dave Adams, Ray Childs, Jim Mieras, Jenna Biedenfeld and Daniel Garcia. All elected Board members were in attendance. Harbour noted that there was a vacancy on the Board due to the recent resignation of Ernie Brady. Attendees included those representing 56 teams and 9 Rec Centers.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance:** Harbour recognized Gene Tomczak, retired military, who lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. In lieu of a moment of silence, Harbour advised attendees for the passing of two people who had been a big part of CSSA over the years. Robin Garneau had served CSSA as a Board member and as the Treasurer over many years. Robin retired from Broomfield Recreation in early 2020, and passed away on November 23, 2021 at the age of 68. Emilio Sanelli had served as a player, manager, Board member and Commissioner for many years. Emilio gave up his position of Commissioner in late 2010, but continued to provide guidance and advice to the new Commissioner for years after that. He passed away on January 20, 2022 at the age of 92.
- 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 and gave special thanks to Mark Gembarowski for his efforts and work handling all aspects of the CSSA website. Harbour commented that he would be looking for people to volunteer to be Standings Secretaries for the 2022 season and asked anyone interested in serving to get in touch.
- 4. Treasurer's Report and Financials:** Harbour stated that CSSA finished 2021 with a balance of \$5,011, which was down from past years- ~\$8,000 at the end of 2018, ~\$10,000 at the end of 2016- and briefly discussed the current CSSA finances. Harbour stated that the team fee for 2022 had been raised to \$200 per team, and noted that the previous fee of \$175 had been in place since 2009. Harbour stated that the Board was considering ways of improving the financial situation via fund raising, donations, etc. and mentioned that he had received a note from a player saying that he would be making a donation to CSSA. Harbour indicated that any donations that anyone wanted to make would be welcomed.
- 5. Commissioner's Update/Status of Organization:** Harbour commented on several items, providing information as follows:

 - For the 2022 season, the Board has developed a new Code of Conduct that all managers AND players should be aware of, AND read. Details of the new Code will be discussed below.
 - Harbour quickly reviewed what he has heard at this point regarding teams for the 2022 season. It appears that eight of the 2021 teams would not be playing in 2022, but that there could be as many as six new teams, so it looks like the 2022 season will be down by about two teams.
 - Pitchers Protection/ Use of screen- Harbour mentioned that the use of the screen was discussed at the Fall meeting on October, and that the ongoing strong recommendation by the Board that teams/pitchers should use the screen for pitcher's protection.

- 6. 2022 Season- 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 2022 Season- The Important Dates listing had been provided previously to all managers and Rec center Reps, which should be used by all to plan your schedules, etc.
 - B. Team Registration Form- **Due April 5, 2022-** Stressed that this form is the most important one, that should be completed by managers and Rec Center Reps working together to provide complete, accurate and legible information AND submitted no later than the deadline of April 5th, and hopefully before that date.
 - C. Roster Form- **Due May 20, 2022-** Stressed the need for Roster and Waiver forms to be submitted by the deadline and in a complete and legible manner.
 - D. Waiver Form- **Due May 20, 2022-** Stressed the need for Roster and Waiver forms to be submitted by the deadline and in a complete and legible manner.
 - E. Roster/Waiver Change Request Form - **Add/Delete Deadline is August 4, 2022 for both the 70's & B-E Divisions-** Use the form to add new players; should be submitted before a new player plays in a game.
 - F. Invoice/Payment of Fees- Team fees paid to CSSA- **Due May 19, 2022-** Included in case teams or Rec Center Reps need something to send to their accounting/finance departments to get the team fee payments made.
 - G. Jacket Order Form- **Due May 20, 2020-** Form to be used by anyone who wants to order a CSSA light-weight windbreaker jacket.
 - H. *CSSA By-Laws- Stated that the Bylaws are included for anyone interested in how the CSSA organization operates, specifically how the Board functions.
 - I. *CSSA Code of Conduct- Stated that a new Code was developed driven by several incidents in the 2021 season, where players were ejected from games and some difficulties were experienced in the implementation of the Code and Rules. Kent Gorham did an analysis of the existing Code and Rules and developed the new Code. Harbour called on Gorham who explained what he had done, the reasons for the revisions and explained the new Code.
 - J. *2022 RULES- Updated from October 2021 Managers Meeting (175' Line and home run rules) and several changes made by the CSSA Board for administrative reasons- Roster rule (Rule 2.2a), Bat rule (5.4), postponements/cancellations (7.2) and Length of Game (7.6). For the Length of Game rule, the big change is that all batters will start their at bat with a 1-1 count and that any extra inning game would be limited to one extra inning.
* The By-Laws, Code of Conduct 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.com (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 2022 outside CSSA:**
- Terry Goodrich stated that the Spring Fun League at Vanderbilt Park will NOT be scheduled this year as the field is not available until late March, which limits the time for games before the CSSA 70's scheduled games begin.

- 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 18-21. 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. Anyone interested should get in touch with Terry.
 - John Parisi advised that the Scrap Iron organization was looking into possibly having a “Wood Bat” tournament, probably June 18th or 19th. Details to be determined and advised.
- 8. OTHER:** Harbour opened the floor for any other issues that attendees wanted to bring up, as follows:
- Larry Voorhees raised a question regarding a situation in one of his home games in 2021 where the opposing manager insisted that the balls that Larry had (which he had received from CSSA) were not acceptable to play with. After a brief discussion, Harbour stated that the CSSA Rules call for balls with the .44 cor and 375# compression, and that balls meeting that specification should be acceptable for CSSA games.
 - Terry Liverant asked if the B-1 & B-2 equalization issue that was discussed at the Fall Managers Meeting had been decided. Harbour stated the Board has the information that Mark Gembarowski had developed and that the Board will decide on a final plan at the next Board meeting in early April when teams are placed in the divisions.
- 9. Next CSSA Board Meeting:** Harbour advised that the next CSSA Board meeting will be scheduled one or two days after the team registration deadline on April 5th at a time and location to be determined. At this meeting, teams will be placed in the divisions for the first half of the 2022 season.
- 10. Adjournment:** DuWayne Pillard motioned that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Jim Edmundson. Meeting adjourned at 11:01 AM.
Minutes recorded by Stan Harbour; 03-07-22.

After the Meeting, 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.