

COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
DRAFT -- Board Meeting Minutes- Sept 13, 2024 -- DRAFT
Golden Community Center, Golden, CO

- 1. Meeting Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 10:40 AM by Commissioner Stan Harbour. Board members present: Stan Harbour, Frank Yost, Terry Goodrich, Paul Lewandowski, Joe Zaba and Jim Mieras.
Board members absent: Mary Harteker and Carter Akerfelds
- 2. Introduction of Guests:** There were no guests present.
- 3. Approval of Minutes of August 15, 2024 Board Meeting:** Harbour referred to the DRAFT minutes of meeting e-mailed to Board members earlier. Brief discussion. Yost motioned that the minutes of the meeting be approved, seconded by Goodrich, and approved unanimously.
- 4. Treasurer's Report/Financial status:** Harbour referred to a sheet in the handout which shows the updated 2024 Revenue/Expenses that are available at this time and budget estimates for the year, done on 4-19-24 and 9-3-24. The latest estimate shows a net gain of \$2,141 for the year and should be fairly correct, as most of the numbers in the 9-3-24 column are actual/final . Harbour pointed out that the past few years have resulted in losses, and the current balance is positive primarily due to the increase in team fees in 2024 to \$275 per team, up from \$225 in 2023. Harbour noted that the field rental charge for the tournaments was less than the number used in the April estimate as Foothills Recreation adjusted the charge down for the Tuesday and Thursday days of the B-E tournament as only two fields were used each day. For 2025, Harbour noted that the cost for softballs would be higher because of an increase in the number of balls ordered- 54 dozen for 2025, compared to 36 dozen for 2024. Price for the balls in 2025 will be \$50.50 per dozen, up from \$49.50 in 2024. Harbour will finalize the 2024 numbers once all expenses are paid.
- 5. Review '24 Season:**
 - **2nd Half Standings-** Harbour referred to handouts of the standings for the 2nd Half, which was provided at the August 15 meeting as well
 - **“Equalization” used in B-1/B-2 1st half) and Gold Upper/Lower-** Follow-up to the discussion at the August 15th meeting, Harbour stated that he had not been able to check with managers for their input on this. Some discussion was held. Goodrich advised of a recent experience at the Vanderbilt Fall Fun League where there was a dominant team, and in their second game they used an “equalizer” of allowing the lesser team to have four outs instead of three, and it helped level the two teams.
 - **Tournaments Report/Review '24 Tournaments-** Harbour referred to the sheet in the handout that showed the results for all groups in both tournaments. Brief discussion was held on several items related to the tournaments.
 - **Erie Crushers/Lucketta Legends tournament game, August 28th -** Harbour led a discussion of the “physical altercation incident” during the subject game. Information gathered from various sources had been provided to Board members prior to the meeting. Using the information available from numerous sources, the Board discussed and analyzed the situation, the actions that occurred and the behavior of those involved in relation to the

CSSA Rules, and specifically the CSSA Code of Conduct. Numerous options were considered as far as any appropriate actions to be taken towards the involved players including no action, probation and/or suspension more than the normal suspension for an ejection. The Board agreed and concluded unanimously with the following:

- For the Erie Runner involved- Mike Steiner- No action.
- For the Lucketta Legends catcher involved- Rudy Yslas- Suspended for the first week/double header game day of the 2025 season if he plays in the 2025 season. Also, Yslas will be on probation for the entire 2025 season, which means that any ejection/infraction or behavior issues during the year would be considered by the Board and could result in suspension for the remainder of the 2025 season.

Harbour will advise the managers of the Lucketta Legends and the Erie Crushers of the decisions by the CSSA Board as stated above.

6. Board Vacancies/Nominations: Harbour stated that Yost, Goodrich and Zaba would be completing their first two-year term in October. So, two Player/Manager positions and one Rec Center Rep positions are open and need to be filled in the Board election at the Managers meeting in October. Harbour asked if they wanted to be nominated for their second term. All agreed. Brief discussion was held, and Harbour stated that he would so advise managers of these nominations as well as ask if anyone else wanted to be nominated in his note to managers about the Fall meeting. If no more nominees are received, then the election of these three positions would elect them by acclamation as has been the usual process in previous years.

7. Fall Manager's Meeting: Harbour stated that the Fall Managers Meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 18th at the Denver Elks Club. The main purpose of Fall Managers Meetings is to review the past season, to address any motions for changes to the rules and to elect members of the Board of Directors. Harbour stated that format, forms for submissions and the handout package at the meeting would be the handled as was done last year, similar as in previous years, but a requirement that any rule change motion would be reviewed by the Board before putting it on the agenda for the meeting for discussion and a vote. Also, as was done last year, the motion form will have a line added- "Reason/Justification" for the motion. Some discussion was held and all agreed on this approach. Any motion received that the Board does not agree to be voted on in the meeting can be addressed in the meeting with some discussion. Harbour advised that managers will be advised of the date of the meeting, and that the official notice of the meeting and information will be sent to all 2024 managers and Rec Center Reps.

Motions/Rules Changes; Board Positions on specific rules. Harbour referred to a sheet in the handout for several rules to discuss and decide on Board driven changes as follows:

- Rule 9.1,b- Courtesy Runner from Home Plate (CRFHP)- Discussion was held on the current rule, possible changes and it was agreed on the following: 1) Leave existing listed divisions as is; 2) Limit the CRFHP to only going to first base, no further; 3) Keep the provision that the CRFHP shall be the last out; 4) Leave the provision as is on the batter being called out if he leaves the batter's box.
- Rule 3.6- 175' Line In the Outfield (ALL DIVISIONS)- Discussion was held on the current rule, possible changes and it was agreed on the following: 1) Keep the current provision that this rule is for 'women' batters only; 2) Change the rule such that the 11th defensive player does NOT have to be behind the 175' line, but the other four outfielders do.

- Code of Conduct- Regarding the penalty (suspension) for a player who is ejected from a game. Current rule states that a player ejected from a game will not play any further on the day of ejection, plus a “one game” suspension for the next scheduled games. Discussion was held and it was agreed that the penalty (suspension) would be changed to two games (a double-header) for the next scheduled games.

After the Fall Managers Meeting, where there may be some discussion of these planned changes, Harbour will revise the language in the rules for the 2025 season.

8. 2025 General Plan; Hot Issues: Harbour lead a brief discussion on several issues that will be important for the 2025 season, most of which have been covered above, i.e. equalizations, costs, umpires, rules changes, etc. Details will be developed at the next Board meeting in late January.

9. OTHER:

- Harbour commented that the Board, managers, etc. need to be considering a situation of CSSA without him in the Commissioner position. There was brief light discussion but nothing substantial to report. More to come on this matter.

10. Assign Sept/Oct/Nov/Dec/Jan Timeline Duties: Harbour stated that all action items and duties had been covered or are in progress.

11. Next Board Meetings: Harbour repeated that the Fall Managers Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 18th, 10:00 AM start, at the Denver Elks Club, 2475 W 26th Avenue, Denver. Harbour will advise all when the date/time is confirmed. Harbour stated that the next regular Board meeting after the Managers meeting would be in January 2025, and that he would advise Board members of the exact date, time and location. This meeting will make plans for the 2025 season and prepare for the Spring Managers Meeting, which most likely will be held in early March 2025.

12. Adjournment: Mieras motioned that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Goodrich and approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Minutes recorded by Stan Harbour; 09-13-24

Minutes will be approved by the CSSA Board at the first Board meeting in 2025.