

COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Fall Managers Meeting - October 21, 2022
Denver Elks Club, 2475 W 26th Avenue, Denver, CO

- 1. Meeting Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by CSSA Commissioner Stan Harbour.
Board members present: Bob Schwartz, Dave Adams, Ray Childs and Jim Mieras
Board members absent: Kent Gorham
Attendees representing 30 teams and 1 Recreation Center were present.
Harbour asked all veterans to stand and be recognized, introduced Gene Tomczak, a veteran, who led the group with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Harbour commented on a couple of losses during 2022, Emilio Sanelli in January (mentioned at the Spring Managers Meeting) and Bart Prieve- Bart was a long time player/manager in CSSA, as well as the Scrap Iron organization and a memorial service was scheduled for Sunday, October 23rd. Harbour asked for a moment of silence to remember Emilio and Bart.
- 2. Introduction of Board Members and other Contributors:** Harbour introduced members of the CSSA Board in attendance, as listed above giving their status, and thanked Schwartz for filling the vacant Board position for the past 6 months, and Gorham (not present) for his four years on the Board. Harbour then asked those who had served as Standings Secretaries during the 2022 season- Dave Adams, Chris Elnicki, Rock Sommerrock, Vance Harrington, Bob Schwartz, Frank Yost, Don TeStrake, Stevan Kalmon and Jerry Pearson- to raise their hand if present, and mentioned Mark Gembarowski who handles the CSSA website work, recording scores, updating information, etc. Harbour also mentioned Barry Jark who was instrumental in setting up the new CSSA website several years ago. Harbour noted his appreciation for all the efforts mentioned which helps him operate the CSSA league.
- 3. Treasurer's Report / Financial Status 2022:** Harbour reviewed CSSA's financial status, providing information on a number of issues as follows: a) Team fee was increased for 2022 to \$200 per team, up from \$175; b) Started the year with a balance of ~\$5,000, net for the year is estimated to be appx. \$4,500 which was only achieved due to \$6,000 in donations received; c) At the September Board meeting , it was decided to increase the team fee from \$200 to \$225 per team.
- 4. Review 2022 Season:** Harbour reviewed the 2022 season and commented on a few items as follows: 1) Harbour and the Board spent more time than they should have dealing with several incidents, players being ejected from games, bad behavior causing unnecessary problems. Managers and players need to understand why they play in the league; b) Rules- Managers AND players need to be aware of the rules which would eliminate many issues and problems.
- 5. Discussion Items- 2023 Season** – Harbour referred to comments previously regarding increases in costs and problems areas during the 2022 season, and stated that more discussion would be held on these matters at the 2023 Spring Managers Meeting to be held in early March 2023. Along with the team fee increase mentioned above, other costs are likely to be higher for the 2023 season as well, including costs of softballs, fees to Rec Centers, umpires costs, etc.
- 6. Motions to be voted on:** Motions to change the rules were submitted in writing and put together in the handout package given to each manager/team rep present at the meeting. Guidelines for the discussion of the motions were as follows: 1) If the person who made the motion is not present at the meeting, the motion will be automatically withdrawn, 2) Those presenting a motion have a reasonable time to do so, 3) If there is a second to the motion, there will be discussion, 4) Then, voting will take place. Discussions were held and clarifications were made on each motion, and then a vote was taken to determine if the motion “PASSED” or “FAILED”. New or revised language is shown in “**bold**” type. The motions, and results were as follows:

Motion #1: Submitted by McIlroy, Reeser, McGill & Ouret
Motion Title: Revise 9.1,b- Courtesy Runners from Home Plate (CRFHP)

Motion: Revise language to current needs

Seconded by : Stan Harbour; **See notes below for votes on the issues** Votes FOR __ Votes AGAINST __

CURRENT RULES:

9.1,b Courtesy Runners from Home Plate- A courtesy runner (for a 'disadvantaged player/batter') from home plate to first base, and in an extra inning situation, will be allowed in the **E Division and the 70's Bronze Division only** with the following stipulations:

- Only 2 allowed per team, identified and agreed in the pre-game conference with the umpire.
- Courtesy runner can be any available player.
- Courtesy runner will start 2' behind the third base line, located such that he will not interfere with the umpire or catcher.
- Batter CAN NOT move out of the batter's box after striking the ball; if he does, then a dead-ball out is called.

Motion #1 – Based on the motions/notes received from the four managers mentioned above, the effort here will be to decide:

1. Should we have a "Courtesy Runner from Home Plate" (CRFHP) for any Division/Team/Player? If "YES", then proceed to Item 2. Current rule says for 'E' and 70's Bronze Divisions. **Agreed 'YES'!**
2. Which divisions should the CRFHP rule apply to?
 - Include 70s Silver in rule- Votes FOR 16; Votes Against 5; **So, include 70s Silver Division**
 - Include 70s Gold in rule- Votes FOR 8; Votes Against 10; **So, do NOT include 70s Gold Division**
3. Details of the CRFHP rule, i.e. who can get a courtesy runner from home plate, who is the courtesy runner, where does he start from, how many, etc.
 - Number of CRFHP allowed- Votes for 1 runner- 3; Votes of 2- 15; **So, 2 CRFHP allowed**
 - Who is CRFHP? Votes for "any runner"- 7; Votes for "last out"- 16; **So, "Last out"**

With info gathered from the discussions and votes as appropriate, the Board will revise the rule to cover all aspects of this issue

Motion #2: Submitted by Frank Yost, Boulder Blues 50's

Motion Title: Remove the 175' line in outfield for females

Motion: Eliminate Rule 3.6- the rule that outfielders need to be 175' from home plate when female players are at bat.

Seconded by : Ray Childs Votes FOR- 3; Votes AGAINST - 16 **Motion FAILED**

CURRENT RULES:

~~3.6 — 175' Line In the Outfield (ALL DIVISIONS, **including all 70's Divisions**)— If 10 or 11 players are in the field playing defense both the 10th & 11th players must take positions as outfielders behind the 175' line when women are batting. All outfielders must remain behind the 175' line and the infielders must remain in the infield until the ball is struck. If your field doesn't have a line, the **host** manager, must have some kind of marker (cones, flags, etc.) to show the 175' line.~~

Motion #3: Submitted by Larry Bradsby

Motion Title: Paid umpires are optional

Motion: Revise Rule 7.7 as below

Seconded by : Ray Childs Votes FOR- 9; Votes AGAINST- 16; **Motion FAILED**

CURRENT RULES:

7.7 Umpires- The host team shall be responsible for furnishing a certified umpire. Failure to do so shall result in forfeiture of the game by the host team. In cases where the host team acts in good faith (e.g. umpire fails to show because of an auto accident on the way to the game, umpire becomes ill during the game, or is injured, etc.) a member of the host team will serve as an umpire with responsibilities and powers as outlined in Section 10 of the SSUSA Rule Book. The host team can also furnish a base umpire with responsibilities and powers as outlined in the SSUSA Rule Book, but is not obliged to furnish the base umpire. The host team is the primary source from which to draw the umpire(s), but upon mutual agreement the visiting team may furnish the umpire(s). Substitute umpires are not permitted to play in the game they umpire. The Board of Directors shall rule on any protests concerning the matter of the good faith of the host team.

Motion – Revise language in the rule to say: The use of paid umpires is optional. The host team will decide if they want to have paid umpires or not. The managers of the two teams will agree on the procedure for umpiring games if an umpire is not furnished. Any disputes will be settled by the two managers agreement.

7. **Board of Directors Status/Election:** Harbour referred to a sheet in the handout package with information on the CSSA Board status and election. There are two Rec Center Rep positions vacant and two nominees, Joe Zaba, Adult Sports Coordinator at Golden Recreation, and Jeff Sweet, Athletics Coordinator at Evergreen Recreation. There are two Manager/Player Rep positions vacant and two nominees, Frank Yost (Boulder Blues 50s) and Terry Goodrich (The Boys 50s & 70s). Harbour recommended that the four nominees be elected by acclamation and attendees agreed, so Zaba, Sweet, Yost and Goodrich were elected to the Board for two year terms.
8. **OTHER:** Harbour opened the meeting to any “Other” issues that attendees wanted to raise. There were no issues.
9. **Next CSSA Board Meeting:** Harbour stated that the date (probably in January 2023) and location of the next meeting of the CSSA Board would be determined and that he would advise the members of the Board and would publish the information on the CSSA website. The Spring Managers Meeting will likely be scheduled for early March 2023.
10. **Adjournment:** Rick Reeser motioned that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Ray Childs and the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Minutes recorded by Stan Harbour; 10-21-22

Minutes approved by CSSA Board at Board meeting on January 27, 2023.