

Sun & Fun September 14,2015 Meeting Minutes
at The Plantation at leesburg

Attendance:

President—Jim Maguire

Secretary—Greg Alms

Treasurer—Not present

Park Representatives:

Clerbrook RV—Stephen Ford

Continental—Mike Dineen

Dell Webb—Jim DeLucia

Hawthorne—Bill Bibler

Holiday Travel—John Parkhurst

Lakes at Leesburg—Not present

Legacy—Not present

Pennbrooke—Pat Stock

Plantation—Greg Alms

Recreation Plantation—Pete Butala

Spruce Creek—Ron Hoppe

Stonecrest—Rick Smith

Summer Glen—Mark Pillar

Sun Lake—Russ Crouch

Water Oak—Mitch Siler

Division Representatives:

Division 1 Rep—Bob Falzone

Division 2 Rep—Jim Milligan

Division 3 Rep—Not present

Division 4 Rep—Not present

Division 5 Rep—Not present

Webmaster:

Maryann Bubelnik

Also attending – Bob Andrews, Danny Smith and Tom Myers from the Plantation. Carlos Santiago from Summer Glen.

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jim Maguire.
2. The minutes of the 3-30-2015 meeting were approved.
3. Stephen Ford reported for Treasurer Bryan Carmack that we have \$835.02 in the checking account.

Old Business: Division alignment for the 2015-2016 season was discussed.

1. A rules committed meeting was held with Alms and Maguire in attendance. They reviewed the 2015-2016 rule book for rules that S&F does not currently comply. The list is below.

Rules 1.5 to 8.6 are rules that we currently use in Sun & Fun and were approved by the board.

Rule 1.3 clarifies the standard for protective head wear. Masks are still required for pitchers unless the pitching waver is signed by the player.

Rule 2.2 on the batter's box and home plate layout was passed and communities have one year to get their fields into compliance. See WWW.sfsoftball.net for field diagram.

Rules 2.4 for base distance, 2.5 for outfield fence distance, and 6.3 for the pitching arc. S&F is not in compliance with the current ASA rulebook and will remain so. There will be no changes to the current S&F rules on base distance (65 ft), outfield distance, or pitching height (6-12 ft).

Rule 6.17 requiring pitchers to wear a mask was defeated 8-5.

Rule 8.5.1 S&F will not change the current courtesy runner rules from the batter's box. All courtesy runners must be in the batting order or playing defensively.

Umpires need to be aware of above rules and that S&F Playing Rules supersede ASA rules where they differ.

Proposed Rule on "3.0 Additional teams and rules" was on voted on but instead new teams will be considered on a case by case basis.

S&F Recommendation from the rules review committee.

S&F Note – It's a Senior ASA (2015-16) rule that has in consistently been followed by S&F during playing of softball games:

- 1.5 • BATTER'S BOX** - The batter's box is the 3-foot by 7-foot area to which the batter is restricted. The lines are considered as being within the batter's box. At least some portion of both feet of the batter must be on the line or within the batter's box. (See §7.3)
- 1.10 • CATCH** - A catch is a legally caught ball that occurs when the fielder catches a batted or thrown ball with his hand(s) or glove and the resulting release of the ball must be voluntary. NOTE: It is not a catch if a fielder, after he contacts the ball, collides with another player, umpire or a fence, or falls to the ground and loses possession of the ball as a result of the collision or falling to the ground. A ball that strikes anything other than a defensive player while it is in flight, is ruled the same as if it struck the ground. An illegally caught ball occurs when a fielder catches a batted or thrown ball with anything other than his hand(s) or glove in its proper place.
- 1.24 • FAKE TAG** - A fake tag is a form of obstruction by a fielder who neither has the ball nor is about to receive the ball. This obstruction impedes the progress of a runner either advancing or returning to a base. The runner does not have to stop or slide. Merely slowing down when a fake tag is attempted would constitute obstruction. (For penalty, see §8.4(10) A.)
- 1.41 • INFIELD FLY** - A fair fly ball (not including a line drive) that can be caught by any fielder with ordinary effort when first and second bases or first, second and third bases are occupied with less than two outs. Any fielder can catch an infield fly. NOTE: When it becomes apparent that a batted ball will be an infield fly, the umpire shall immediately declare, "infield fly - batter is out", to aid the runners. If the ball is near the foul lines, the umpire shall declare, "infield fly - if fair". The ball is live and runners may advance at the risk of the ball being caught, or re-touch and advance after a fielder touches the ball. If the hit ball becomes a foul ball, it is treated the same as any other foul ball. Failure of the umpire to call "infield fly," does not negate the infield fly. If the error is discovered prior to the next pitch, the infield fly rule may still be called.
- 1.45 • INTERFERENCE** - Interference is the act of an offensive player or team member that impedes or confuses a defensive player attempting to execute a play. A base runner must avoid a fielder making a play.
- 3.4(1) • WARM-UP BATS** - No more than two official softball bats, including SSUSA/SSWC approved warm-up bats, may be used by the on-deck batter in the on-deck circle. The warm-up bat should meet the following requirements to be approved:
 - A. Stamped with one-quarter inch letters WB on either end of the bat or marked in one-inch letters the words WARM-UP BAT only on the barrel end of the bat.
 - B. A minimum weight of 48 oz. (1,360.78 g).
 - C. A minimum barrel diameter of 2½" (6.35 cm).
 - D. Shall have a safety grip of at least 8" (20.32 cm) and no more than 15"(38.1 cm) extended from the knob.
 - E. Be of one-piece construction or a one-piece permanently assembled bat approved by SSUSA/SSWC.
 - F. No attachments (i.e., donuts, fans, etc.) are allowed on an official bat except the Pow'R Wrap warm-up attachment. (See

§3.4)

☐ **3.4(5) • BAT INSPECTION**

C. Umpires and SSUSA/SSWC Staff shall remove from competition for the entire tournament any bat that exhibits significant cracking or other deformity, whether or not arising solely from normal wear and tear.

☐ **3.8 • UNIFORM**

F. Disheveled appearance – If, in the umpire's judgment, a player is making a mockery of the game by a deliberate disheveled appearance (such as wearing a cap backwards), the player may be removed from the game.

☐ **4.4 • SHORT-HANDED RULE**

C. When the player who has left the game because of an ejection is scheduled to bat, and no eligible substitute is available, an out shall be declared for each turn at bat. **If the player leaves for any reason other than ejection, an out shall be recorded only on the player's first subsequent at bat.**

☐ **6.6 • LEGAL DELIVERY**

A. The pitcher must not make any motion to pitch without immediately delivering the ball to the batter.

B. The delivery is a continuous motion.

C. The pitcher must not use a delivery in which there is a stop or reversal of the pitching motion.

D. The pitcher must deliver the ball toward home plate on the first forward pass of the pitching arm past the hip with an underhanded motion.

E. The pivot foot must remain in contact with the pitcher's box until the pitched ball leaves the hand. If a step is taken, it can be forward, backward, or to the side, provided the pivot foot is in contact with the pitcher's box and the step is simultaneous with the release of the ball.

F. The pitcher may not pitch the ball behind his back or through his legs.

G. The pitch shall be released at a moderate speed. The speed is left entirely up to the umpire's judgment. The umpire shall warn the pitcher who delivers a pitch with excessive speed. If the pitcher repeats such an act after being warned, he shall be removed from the pitcher's position for the remainder of the game.

H. The pitching motion does not continue after release of the ball.

I. The pitcher has ten seconds to release the next pitch after receiving the ball, or after the umpire indicates "play ball."

J. The pitcher shall not deliver a pitch from the glove.

☐ **6.11 • QUICK PITCH** - The pitcher shall not attempt a quick return of the ball before the batter has taken his position or when the batter is off balance as a result of a pitch. EFFECT: The umpire will call time and allow the batter to get set.

☐ **7.1 • BATTING ORDER**

1. If the error is discovered while the incorrect batter is at bat, the correct batter may take his place and legally assume any balls and strikes. NOTE: The offensive team may correct a wrong batter at the plate with no penalty.

☐ **7.1(1) • BATTER ELIGIBILITY** - A team may bat every player in the dugout and on the team roster. All batters must be listed on the lineup listed on the game card provided to the umpire prior to the start of the game. The number of batters listed cannot be reduced without recording an out when the vacant position comes to bat. In the case of an injury, an out will be recorded only the first time the vacant position comes to bat. (EXCEPTION: if a player is ejected and a substitute is not available an out will be recorded every time that position comes to bat).

☐ **7.3 • BATTING POSITION**

1. The batter must have at least some portion of both feet on or inside the lines of the batter's box at the start of the pitch. **A batter who steps out of the batter's box at any time during the pitch and then hits the ball, fair or foul, shall be called out. Steps out means touching the ground completely outside of the lines of the batter's box. (See §1.5)**

☐ **8.4(1) • BATTER-RUNNER REACHING FIRST BASE** - A double bag shall be used at first base, the double portion of the bag being in foul territory abutting first base. If there is a play on a batter-runner going to first base, the batter-runner must touch the portion of the double bag extending into foul territory. He will be called out if he fails to do so, except, in the umpire's judgment, the batter-runner is avoiding a collision. This is NOT an appeal play. Important: The defending player has only the white base, in fair territory, to make the putout; his touch of only the bag in foul territory will not result in an out. **Once the batter-runner reaches first base, the double base shall be treated as one base and the fielder or runner may use either portion.**

NOTE: With the double base at first, the following rules **shall** be enforced:

1. A batted ball hitting or bounding over the white portion is declared fair and a batted ball hitting or bounding over the colored portion is declared foul.

2. Whenever a play is being made on the batter-runner, the defense must use the white portion and the batter-runner the colored portion. If the ball is overthrown, the Batter/runner may use the white portion of the bag to avoid contact or collision. On extra base hits or balls hit to the outfield when there is no play being made at the double base, the runner may touch the white or colored portion.

3. Should the batter-runner round the base on a hit to the infield or the outfield, he may return to either portion.
4. Once the batter-runner reaches first base, the double base shall be treated as one base and the fielder or runner may use either portion.

8.6 • WHEN SLIDING IS OPTIONAL - AVOIDING COLLISIONS - Sliding or diving into first base or the scoring line or scoring plate is permitted **ONLY** to avoid a collision with a defensive player. This is an umpire's judgment call and is not subject to protest or appeal. A player may slide or dive into second or third bases, or when returning to any base. A runner must make every effort to avoid colliding with opposing players while running the bases or sliding or diving. If in the umpire's judgment a runner misses a base to avoid a collision, the runner will not be called out. If in the umpire's judgment the runner fails to avoid a collision with a defensive player involved in the play, the ball will be declared dead and that runner called out. All base runners except the batter will be returned to their previous base unless forced to advance. If in the umpire's judgment the runner's collision with the defensive player involved in the play negates a double play, the umpire may award a second out.

Recommendation - It's an S&F rule that differ from Senior ASA (2015-16) rules and S&F needs to start following ASA rules. Will require the board approval to change S&F rules:

1.30 • HEADWEAR

o Offensive – All helmets are recommended to be approved by the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) and game officials. Any player may wear a NOCSAE-approved helmet, with or without ear flaps. It must have a bill.

o B. Defensive – Any player may wear a NOCSAE-approved helmet with or without earflaps. It must have a bill. **A face mask must be worn by all pitchers (See §6.17), and other defensive players may elect to do so.**

2.2 • DIAMOND LAYOUT – The batter box and Home plate should be layout per “Senior Softball Diamond – Batter’s Boxes, Catchers Box Scoring Line/Plate drawings

2.4 • BASE DISTANCE – There will be no changes to base distance.

2.5 • OUTFIELD FENCE DISTANCE – There will be no changes to outfield fence distance.

6.3 • THE ARC – There will be no change to the height of a legal pitch.

6.17 • PITCHER'S MANDATED MINIMUM SAFETY EQUIPMENT - Pitchers shall wear a protective face mask while pitching **and must wear the mask consistent with the manufacturer's intended usage of their product.** Pitchers are recommended to wear additional protective safety equipment, comprised of head gear (NOCSAE-approved), heart/chest protection and shin guards. Pitchers are not required to wear the recommended safety equipment. SSUSA makes NO warranty as to the protective qualities of any mandated or recommended safety equipment when used in softball, which may have inherent risks as an impact sport. SSUSA does not make any specific claims as to any safety equipment's performance and will not accept any liability for personal injury. The mandated face mask is designed to prevent injuries to the player's face, but not all injuries can be prevented. Players can still suffer serious injury while wearing any type of face protection.

By electing not to wear the recommended safety equipment, the pitcher waives any and all claims, individually, and by his or her heirs, and holds harmless Senior Softball World Championships, Inc., its Board of Directors, Senior Softball-USA, LLC, any municipal or park facility employees, their agents or employees and tournament directors and sponsors from and against any and all loss liability, charges and expenses (including attorney's fees) and causes of action of whatever character that may arise for injury that may have been reasonably prevented by the recommended safety equipment during participation in SSWC events.

2. Jim Maguire presented a proposal for the division alignment below for the 2015-2016 season.

Here is the SF team ranking from 1 to 40, last season's division is shown in parenthesis. Also see the PDF chart attached at the end of the minutes.

1. Del Webb (1)
2. Del Webb (1)
3. Del Webb (1)
4. Legacy/Royal Highlands (New – Increase team rank base on Knowledge of team)
5. Stonecrest (1)
6. Summer Glen (1)
7. Plantation (1)
8. Continental (2)

9. Water Oak (1)
10. Plantation (2)
11. Spruce Creek (2)
12. Penbrooke (New – Increase team rank base on Knowledge of team)
13. Summer Glen (2)
14. Stone Crest (2)
15. Holiday Travel (2)
16. Spruce Creek (2)
17. Sun Lake (2)
18. Del Webb (3)
19. Rec Plantation (2).
20. Water Oak (3), Plantation,
21. Lake at Leesburg (3)
22. Plantation (3)
23. Hawthorne (3)
24. Del Webb (4)
25. Stone Creek (New)
26. Summer Glen (3)
27. Summer Glen (4)
28. Stonecrest (4)
29. Clearbrook (4)
30. Plantation (4)
31. Holiday Travel (4)
32. Legacy (4)
33. Penbrooke (5)
34. Water Oak (4)
35. Hawthorne (5)
36. Continental (5)
37. Del Webb (5)
38. Summer Glen (5)
39. Sun Lake (5)
40. Plantation (5)
- 41.
- 42.

2.1 Last years rule that:

- the top team in each division will be move up a division and
- the bottom team moved down a division and
- if the top team in division 1 (the top division) wins the division two years in a row then that team splits into two teams.

was overturned by an 8-5 vote. Hence Continental will remain in division 2, Pennbrooke will enter the league in division 3, Del Webb will have two teams in division 1, one team in divisions 2, 3, and 5.

2.2 A representative from the new Legacy/Royal Highlands team was not present. Several people present reported that the proposed team was not formed and was dropping their request to enter the league.

2.3 Stone Creek asked to enter the S&F league, but the drive was considered to long by many of the existing communities and Stone Creeks request was defeated by vote of the board.

2.4 Spruce Creek will have one division 2 team, one division 3 team, and may have a division 5 team.

2.5 Continental may also have a division 5 team.

2.6 The question of having five divisions or 6 divisions was put to straw vote. The straw vote in favor of five divisions was 9 in favor and 3 against. The straw vote on six division was 6-6. The decision will be made new meeting.

New Business

3. Don Sprout was elected Vice President of the League and is now living in Hawthorne.
Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.

Next Mtg. Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at 2-4pm at the Plantation Manor. All managers and Division reps should attend this meeting to hand out rosters, contracts, and waivers for pitchers and new players.

Respectfully submitted by,

Greg Alms, Secretary

S&F Team Review for Fall of 2015

Team Ranking from 2014/2015 Season	Recommended Fall Divisions per September Mtg	# Teams in Division	Comments	Recommended Fall Divisions base on 8 team Division	# Teams in Division
1 Del Webb (1)	1			1	
2 Del Webb (1)	1	5 Teams (1)	DW reduce from 3 team to 2 teams in division 1 due to player no longer playing in division 1	1	5 Teams (1)
3 Stonewall (1)	1			1	
4 Summer Glen (1)	1			1	
5 Penabon (1)	1			1	
6 BYE	1			1	
7 Conbarbal (2)	2		Board approved moving CC back to division 2	2	
8 Water Oak (1)	2			2	
9 Penabon (2)	2			2	
10 Spruce Creek (2)	2	8 teams (2)		2	6 Teams (2)
11 Summer Glen (2)	2			2	
12 Stone Creek (2)	2			2	
13 Holiday Travel (2)	2			2	
14 Del Webb (2)	2			2	
15 Spruce Creek (2)	3		Board agree to move team from division 2 to division 3.	3	6 Teams (3)
16 Sun Lake (2)	3		Board agree to move team from division 2 to division 3.	3	
17 Perbrooke (New)	3		Board agree to PB new team starting in division 3	3	
18 Rec Penabon (2)	3	10 teams (3)		3	
19 Water Oak (2)	3			3	
20 Lake at Leesburg (2)	3			3	
21 Penabon (2)	3			3	
22 Hawthorne (2)	3			3	
23 Del Webb (4)	3			3	
24 Summer Glen (2)	3		Board agree to move team from division 4 to division 3.	3	6 Teams (4)
25 Summer Glen (4)	4			4	
26 Stonewall (4)	4			4	
27 Clearbrook (4)	4			4	
28 Hawthorne (New)	4	8 Teams (4)		4	8 Teams (5)
29 Penabon (4)	4			4	
30 Holiday Travel (4)	4			4	
31 Legacy (4)	4			4	
32 Perbrooke (2)	4			4	
33 Water Oak (4)	5			5	
34 Hawthorne (2)	5			5	
35 Conbarbal (2)	5			5	
36 Del Webb (2)	5	7 Teams (5)		5	7 Teams (6)
37 Summer Glen (2)	5			5	
38 Sun Lake (2)	5			5	
39 Penabon (2)	5			5	

