

# Sun and Fun Senior Softball League Meeting Minutes

Water Oak 1:00pm

April 5, 2007

The Meeting was Called to Order at 1:03pm

## Roll Call

All officers were present, and all communities were represented. Don Torok substituted for Mike Gallus (Continental). Tom Berwanger substituted for Tom McFall (Legacy). Dave Patterson (Stonecrest), Dave Harrod (Holiday Travel) and Joe Wilson (Sunlake) were introduced as the new Park Reps from their communities.

The Minutes from March 8, 2007 Meeting were approved as published.

The Secretary/Treasurer reported that the League had spent \$450 on awards to Division winners and gifts for the Division Reps, League Rep, and the Website Coordinator. The new balance is \$486.21

## Old Business

### Recognition of Divisional Champions

Dave presented cash trophy awards to the communities that won each division: Bob Falzone (Del Webb, D1); Curt Shaffer (Clerbrook, D2); Don Torok (Continental, D3); Don Bruss (Hawthorne, D4) and Dan Bilka (Royal Highlands, D5).

Dave also presented gifts of appreciation to Division Chairman: John Martucci (D1); Bob McShinsky (D2); Don Torok (for Charlie Johnson - D3); Ron Tucker (D4); Dennis Debouche (D5); League Chairman Bob Falzone and to Pam and Paul Malashevitz for their work on the website.

Summer Play VP Arnie Lumbers reported that there was only a modest amount of interest in the formation of a league for the summer. Interested communities met with Arnie after the league meeting.

Paper Trail The Vice President shall be the keeper of all Liability waivers for the league. Only new players or those whose waivers are not legible will be required to complete the form for the fall season. Contracts are to be returned to the Park Reps by the Divisional Chairmen.

Umpiring Don Torok presented a handout (Appendix A) for Charlie Johnson which reported on Charlie's initial plans for improving umpiring around the league. It was reported that Charlie is putting together a small committee to help him with the work which will be meeting in the near future.

Integrity of Game Reports Dave reminded the Park Reps that game reports are often published without editing on the website. He urged everyone to be prudent in their use of language.

Residency Rule - Dave reminded the Executive Board that exclusive of Sister Parks, players can only play for the community in which they live. The Park Reps are responsible for seeing that this league rule is enforced.

## New Business

### Game Times Addition to League Rule 1.1

The OC Committee Unanimously Recommended the following: "During the months of January and February single games will be scheduled at 10:30am. When there is more than one game scheduled on a field the starting times will be 10:00am, 11:30am, and 1:00pm."

Following discussion, an amended version was voted on: "During the months of January and February single games will be scheduled at 11:00am. When there is more than one game scheduled on a field the starting times will be 10:00am, 11:30am, and 1:00pm."

The Motion passed by a roll call vote of 13 - 2. Voting against:: Clerbrook and Del Webb.

### Divisional Game Times

The OC Committee Unanimously Recommended the following:

“The rotation of starting times for the Season beginning in November 2007 shall be sequentially: Division 4, Division 1, Division 2, Division 3, Division 5.”

Following discussion, the proposal was defeated by a roll call vote of 14-1. Voting in favor: Holiday Travel.

Plantation made the following motion: The League Rule 1.1 be modified by striking the following sentence:

“This procedure will be reversed each succeeding year, starting with with the 2005-2006 season.” The motion was seconded by Royal Highlands. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 10-4. Voting against: Holiday Travel, Spruce Creek, Stonecrest, and Water Oak. Abstaining: Lakes at Leesburg.

### Courtesy Runners from Home Plate

The OC Recommended a change in the rule allowing courtesy runners from home plate in order to control the abuse of courtesy runners from home plate for batters who need assistance.

“The number of courtesy runners from home plate in each division as follows shall be limited as follows: Divisions 1 and 2 limited shall be limited to 1 pre-designated batter permitted to have a runner from the plate. Divisions 3 and 4 limited to 2 such runners. Division 5 remains unlimited.”

Following discussion, the motion was defeated by a vote of 12-2. Voting in favor: Holiday Travel and Del Webb. Abstaining: Plantation

### Length of Games

The OC did not recommend but reported the following issue to the Executive board for consideration.

“Reduction in the length of games from 8 innings to 7 innings.”

Following discussion, no motion was offered and no change shall be made in the length of games.

### Baden Lexum Ball

The OC recommended the following:

“For a one year experiment in Divisions 1 and 2, the use of the Baden Lexum 44 .375 ball.

Divisions 3, 4, and 5 will continue to use the Diamond 44-375.”

A motion was offered by Plantation and seconded by Royal Highlands. Following discussion, the motion was passed by a roll call vote of 13-2. Voting against: Spruce Creek and Water Oak.

### 2007-2008 Divisional Alignment

The Operating Committee recommended a new divisional alignment for the coming fall season. (See Appendix B). Input from the entire Executive Board was actively sought by Dave. Following lengthy discussion a motion to accept the proposal was made by Lakes at Leesburg and seconded by Sunlake. The motion passed by a roll call vote of 11-4. Voting against: Legacy, Plantation, Recreation Plantation and Royal Highlands.

### Structure of League (Article I Section 7)

The OC unanimously recommended the deletion of Article 7 Part C of the Constitution.

Following discussion, the motion was passed by a roll call vote of 12-3. Voting against: Legacy, Plantation and Royal Highlands.

### Application for Entry into the League

A motion to accept a new team from league member Stonecrest in Division 5 was unanimously passed (bringing the league to the constitutional limit of 40 teams)

Application for membership in the league has been made by Harbor Hills and Summer Glen.

A motion to admit Harbor Hills and Summer Glen as new league members in Division 1 was made by Plantation and seconded by Sunlake. Following discussion, the motion was defeated by a roll call vote of 13-2. Voting in favor: Plantation and Sunlake.

No other motions were tendered. Dave will advise the communities that no action will be taken before the next Executive Board meeting.

## **Other New Business**

### Support of Tournament Host Communities

Rick Fetty (Pennbrooke Park Rep) initiated a discussion of the support of the host communities by visiting teams at the year end tournament.

Much work is required to successfully host tournament games. Host communities have a right to expect that the visiting teams and their fans patronize their concession stand, bake sale, 50-50s, etc. in order to raise money for their softball program.

Some of the teams do not seem to recognize their responsibility. They come, they play and they leave OR they show up with their own food and beverages and leave the host community holding the bag. Such behavior is not appropriate and Park Reps should strongly encourage all of their teams and fans to recognize the work that is being done for their benefit and enjoyment. Patronize the host communities.

### Limitation of Rosters

Carmen DiCocco (Spruce Creek Park Rep) discussed several matters concerning dissatisfaction with the manner in which rosters were handled during the tournament. Dave Sparrow pointed out that the league did not run the tournament, and could not govern its rules.

With that understanding, Carmen then offered the following motion as a new league rule. "All rosters are final as of March 1<sup>st</sup>. No additions can be made after that date." The motion was seconded by Del Webb. The motion was passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: October 5, 2007 9:00am at Plantation

October 26, 2007 9:00am at Water Oak

Season Begins: November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:52pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

pm  
Secretary/Treasurer

## Appendix A

### UMPIRING

Since you asked me to look in to the possibility of setting up some umpiring clinics, I've come up with some ideas that we might want to consider for the improvement of umpires in our league. Some of them are the following:

1. Obtain rule books. The most recent SR. SOFTBALL-USA book is 2006. This is our operating manual until the 2007 rule book is available.
2. Contact some of our current umpires for their input and help them run clinics, especially mechanics. I have obtained a disc on ASA mechanics and positioning. These should be reviewed by a core of current umpires for their input and let them do that portion of the clinic. I assume we can burn discs for each park.
3. Assign portions of the rule book to our current umpires and have an expert on each section for clinic purposes. Situation discs are available.
4. Try to obtain some uniformity of attire. (Some of the better umpires currently wear very outlandish outfits in the southern sections of the league.) It may require some parks to spring for hats and shirts or the league assesses those parks enough to cover the costs of the apparel and the league does the purchasing and distribution.
5. Encourage all of our umpires to attend JB's clinics for further instruction.

There may be more ideas from our operating committee that can and should be added to these. Additional Ideas from operating committee:

6. Encourage managers of Sun and Fun teams to attend clinics to better understand rules and get to know umpires from other communities.
7. League playing rules should be part of the clinic.
8. ASA rules must be part of the clinic because when a rule is not covered by Sr. Softball Rules ASA rules will be applied.

Charlie Johnson

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## Appendix B