

Sun and Fun Senior Softball League Meeting Minutes

Water Oak 3:00pm

January 8, 2007

The Meeting was called to Order at 3:04pm

Roll Call: All officers were present. All Division Reps were present. The following communities were not represented: Continental, Hawthorne, Lakes at Leesburg and Legacy. Alan Cramer represented Clerbrook (substituting for Curt Shaffer). Frank Van Mol represented Water Oak (substituting for Don Schroeder). John Martucci represented Pennbrooke until Rick Fetty arrived (3:57pm).

The Minutes from the Meeting held on October 26, 2007 were approved as published.

The Treasurer's report was approved as published. The report shows a balance of \$997.22, which does not include \$35.00 owed by Water Oak for 1 dozen Trump Stotes.

Old Business

Clerbrook's Request for the Use of Will Egner for the Remainder of 2007-2008 Season.

In December, President Sparrow (in accordance with League Rules) granted temporary use of Mr. Egner by Clerbrook. Alan Cramer stated Clerbrook's case. He cited the complication caused by the later starting time of games in January and February, and the team's small roster (12). The request was approved by a roll call vote: 9 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention. Voting in favor: Clerbrook, Del Webb, Pennbrooke (Martucci), Royal Highlands, Spruce Creek, Stonecrest, Summer Glen, Sunlake and Water Oak. Opposed: Holiday Travel. Abstention: Plantation.

All Star Games

The following items pertaining to the All Star Games were included in a motion and approved by a unanimous roll call vote (11-0).

1. Game times will be as follows: D5-8:30; D4-10:00, D3-11:30, D2-1:00, D1-2:30.
2. Games will be 7 innings.
3. Divisions 1 & 2 will use the Trump Stote. Divisions 3, 4 & 5 will use the Diamond Flyer.
4. Managers and Team Composition

a. The Managers of the two teams will be the managers of the teams in first and second place in each division as of January 16th. If two teams are tied, placement tiebreakers shall be: head to head record of the teams; fewest average runs allowed in all league games; coin toss.

b. In Divisions 2-5, the teams in 1st, 4th, 5th, and 8th place as of January 16th will comprise one team . . . teams in 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th place will comprise the other. In Division 1, the teams in 1st, 4th and 5th place will comprise one team . . . the teams in 2nd, 3rd and 6th will comprise the other. If two teams are tied, placement tiebreakers shall be as described above.

5. Size of Rosters

a. In Division 1, rosters shall be 15 players (five from each team in the Division). In Divisions 2-5, rosters shall be limited to 16 players (4 players from each team in the Division).

b. Managers should play only if they are selected by their community as an All-Star player.

6. Rain Date will be February 24th.

New Business

Rescheduling of Games

The EB considered changing of the language of LR 1.3 from "games should not be postponed because of a lack of players" to "games should not be rescheduled for a lack of players". The issue arose as a result of President Sparrow's decision to allow teams to pre-play games that were originally scheduled on December 18 on December 4, 2007.

After lengthy discussion that included suggestions for future schedules, and support for the propriety and appropriateness of the President's action, no motion was made.

The clear consensus of the Park Reps was that the lack of players should never be the reason for postponing a game.

Primary Purpose

President Sparrow clarified the primary purpose of the meeting as an opportunity to begin to address some of the important issues that face the league. The discussions that followed were not intended to resolve

questions, but rather to raise issues and potential answers. All were encouraged to share their thinking. The subjects covered below were discussed. Upon completion of the exchanges of ideas, President Sparrow encouraged the Park Reps to continue their thinking.

Trump Stote

Scoring. The President reported on the increase in scoring in Divisions 1 & 2 as a consequence of the experimental use of the Trump Stote. (Scoring is up 10 runs per game in D1 and 7 RPG in D2). The reaction to the new ball was unequivocally positive. Jim Milligan (SL) who had previously expressed significant concerns about the use of the Stote reported that Sunlake has adjusted and is in favor of continuing its use.

Safety. The only report of a significant injury that might be attributed to the use of the Stote was from SC (broken finger to a third baseman.) President Sparrow again reminded the Park Reps of the availability of protective gear.

Safety of Others Mike VanNostrand (PL) noted a concern for the safety of golfers at their field.

Bats

There was much discussion about the cost and use of bats in the league. Much frustration was expressed at the constantly changing ASA list. Ideas exchanged included: bats are more directly responsible for the safety of defenders than balls; once the ASA says a bat is legal it should always be legal; the use of composite bats are the problem; limiting bats to a fixed set of league defined aluminum double wall bats and returning to a .525 compression ball.

League Rules

President Sparrow raised the issue of the number of decisions that were granted at recent league meetings that raise questions about S&F principles: the use of outside players, League Rule 2.6, and LR 2.7. Concern was expressed for players (residents of a community) who are precluded from playing as a direct consequence of the league granting the use of outside players by that community. Issues raised during the discussion: some communities are prohibited from using outside players; outside players should not be used to strengthen teams but rather to help teams participate; the league is dependent upon the integrity of the communities and their Park Reps; the EB must be diligent in examining requests when they are made.

Divisional Alignment

President Sparrow began the discussion expressing the opinion that as a minimum, the League should return to an 8 team Division 1 (if any Division is to have less than 8 teams, it should be Division 5). Suggestions that were made included: reducing the number of divisions, protecting the existence of Division 5, and creating northern and southern divisions to reduce travel. This was the most lively of the issues discussed, and Dave encouraged all of the Park Reps to continue their thinking. He closed the conversation by saying said that he would prepare ideas/proposals for them to consider when the conversation resumes at the next meeting in March.

Other New Business

Tournament

Bob Falzone (Del Webb) announced that the planning for the season ending tournament is underway, and that the tournament will begin on the Tuesday, March 25th which is the Tuesday following Easter. Plantation Division 1 indicated that it would probably not participate.

Future Meetings

March 4th 2008 at 3:00pm. (Jim Milligan will attempt to arrange for the meeting to be held at Sunlake.)
On 01-11-08 the March Meeting was RESCHEDULED to Friday the 7th at 3:00pm at Sunlake.

April 1st 2008 at 9:00am. (Rick Fetty will attempt to arrange for the meeting to be held at Pennbrooke.)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,
pm
01-09-08