

Minutes - Sun and Fun League - Executive Board - March 8, 2013

Acting President Greg Alms called the meeting to order and called role.

The following communities and representatives were present.

Ocala Baptist: Not present
Clerbrook Curt Schaffer
Continental CC Mike Dineen
Del Webb Jim MacFarlane
Hawthorne Bill Bibler
Holiday Travel Dave Harrod, Don Strout
Lakes @ Leesburg Jim Spauding
Legacy Paul Maddox
Pennbrooke Don Dorske
Plantation Rick Farfsing
Royal Harbor Not present
Royal Highlands Not present
Spruce Creek Carmen DiCocco
Stonecrest Rich Gyger, Joe Safreed (Gyger replacement)
Summer Glen Bob Merlano
Sun Lake Russ Crouch
Water Oak Frank Van Mol

The following Board members were present:

Acting President and Secretary: Greg Alms
Treasurer: Bryan Carmack

Greg Alms announced the resignation of President Mike Van Nostrand. Greg Alms asked for approval to be Acting President until a new President is elected to fill the remainder of Van Nostrand's term.

Merlano so moved, MacFarlane seconded the motion, the motions passed and Greg Alms was elected Acting President.

Greg Alms asked to approve the minutes of the last meeting on Jan 18, 2013 as posted on the website. It was noted that no one from Lakes at Leesburg had been in attendance. Merlano moved, Dineen seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as amended unanimously.

Bryan Carmack reported that we had \$1448.23 in the treasury. Discussion regarding Paul Malashevitz retirement ensued. Jim MacFarlane has a replacement lined up, but the feeling was that Greg Alms should contact Paul to confirm he actually is "retiring". If so, Alms will check to see if they own the website; if so, will they keep it or pass it on to Sun and Fun. Are there recurring charges for the website?

All Star Game: Greg Alms commended Pennebrooke for a successful All Star game. Comments from Pennebrooke were that they were pleased overall. Participation was good, their concessions did well, and the support from Hot Zone was outstanding. Thanks to Hot Zone for the team pictures.

Comments from other communities: Nicely done. Sun in later games was brutal. It was suggested that a thank you note be sent to Hot Zone.

Information on Del Webb tournaments – Jim MacFarlane – Starts March 18. Balls, programs, schedules were distributed to hosting sites. Two teams are unable to participate. Brackets will be posted on website.

Reports from Division Reps

Division 1 Kevin Cheeks – Five teams in Division 1. No problems. When waivers and contracts are received by Kevin, new players are deemed eligible.

Division 2 Mike Dineen – Ten teams in Division 2. There have been problems with teams bringing in players without the paperwork. Royal Highlands had submitted paperwork for Bob Sny on March 2. Deadline for playing the season was March 1 and for tournament was February 22. Approval had been denied by Acting President Alms due to the league rules. After discussion, Safreed moved and MacFarlane supported permitting Sny to play the balance of the season but not the tournament. Motion passed.

A player had moved into Continental and had tried to get his paperwork in in a timely manner, but internet problems resulted in the paperwork getting lost. It was finally submitted prior to the March 1 deadline but after February 22. Overall consensus was that the player be deemed eligible for the tournament.

There were concerns voiced that ten teams in this division are too many and that the divisions be better balanced next year.

Water Oak has been using players from Recreation Plantation as though it were a sister community. The group felt both communities were too big to be sister communities. More concern was expressed regarding Royal Harbor picking up players from all over.

Division 3 Jim Bragdon – Additional concerns regarding Water Oak were brought up, involving a player who dropped down from Division 2 to Division 3 based on a ruling by the former president. The matter had never been brought to the group for discussion. Moved by Van Mol that the player (Webber) be permitted to continue playing on the Division 3 team. After much discussion the motion died for lack of a second. It was then moved by Merlano and supported by Spaulding that Webber not be permitted to continue to play with Division 3 and that he move back to the Division 2 team with which he is currently rostered. Motion passed.

Division 4 Jim Spaulding – A question was raised regarding the interpretation of a foul fly ball being an out. It was confirmed that the foul fly ball had to go over the batter's head before it could be called an out.

Division 5 Ken Freese was not present.

Division 6 Bryan Carmack – Everything is running smoothly.

Any other old business: None

New Business:

Decision making authority:

The ultimate decision making authority for the league resides in the Executive Board. Temporary decision making authority lies with the League president. Temporary decisions made by the President can be reviewed and if necessary may be overturned by the Executive Board at the next meeting.

Greg Alms announced that he would like to strengthen the positions of Division Representatives by giving them the authority to make temporary roster and other decisions without involving the League President regarding their respective divisions. Contracts and Waiver still need to be submitted on time and their decisions must be in accord with the League rules, playing rules, and By-laws. If the decisions get into gray areas of the League rules, playing rules, and By-laws, then the League President should make the temporary decision. The executive board always has the right to review any temporary decision and act on it accordingly at the next scheduled meeting.

Discussion led to MacFarlane's motion and Merlano's second that the Division Reps handle the problems that arise, reporting them at the next meeting for review with the understanding that the executive committee could overrule their decision. The motion passed.

It was suggested that the agenda be sent out early enough to allow the Park Reps to discuss issues with their managers. Reps would like to be able to add items to the agenda. A deadline for agenda dissemination was set for one week prior to the actual meeting.

Vacant Positions:

We have two vacant positions

President and Vice-President

At the informal meeting at Continental CC, the parks representatives were asked to look for candidates from their communities.

If there are candidates, Alms plans to have an election for the vacant positions at our next meeting, April 12. If not he will appoint a VP at the next meeting and hold elections at the November meeting when we normally elect new officers.

Jim McGuire (Summer Glen) and Don Sprout (Continental) expressed a willingness to serve as needed.

Summer Ball

Communities that are interesting in summer ball included Summer Glen, Stonecrest, Spruce Creek, Water Oak, and Del Webb (1 or 2 teams). This will be discussed at the April meeting.

Next Season teams:

Greg Alms talked to Dick Willette, Manager of the Lakes team from Recreation Plantation. Dick expressed interest in moving his team to Sun and Fun. Greg Alms answered his questions and he is considering his next move. Alms will invite him to our April 12 meeting.

Alms has also heard discussions of team possibly leaving Sun and Fun. He asked each park representative to review his community plans on returning or leaving teams, and any issues they would like to discuss.

Belleview Baptist – Div 1

Clerbrook – Div 2, 6

Continental CC – Div 2, 6

Del Webb – Div 1, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and an new 6 team possible.

Hawthorne – Div 4, 6. This is a move down from 3 and 5.

Holiday Travel – Div 3, 4

Lakes at Leesburg – Div 4

Legacy – Div 2, 5

Pennbrooke – Div 3, 6

Plantation – Div 2, 4, 5, 6

Royal Harbor – Not here, currently 1 team in Div 3.

Royal Highlands – Div 2

Spruce Creek – Div 2, 4, 6

Stonecrest – Div 2, 3, 5, 6

Summer Glen – Div 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Sun Lake – Div 3, 5

Water Oak – Div 2, 3, 5?

Alms said he would like to hear divisional alignment proposals for next year.

League and Division Proposals

Last year the operating committee proposed that all proposals shall be identified as either a league proposal or a Divisional proposal and that the different division could have different playing rules. This was done in an effort to strengthen the Sun and Fun League. After a lengthy discussion, the proposal passed unanimously allowing divisional proposals.

The operating committee proposed that if a proposal is identified as a Divisional proposal, and the operating committee approves the proposal with constitutional and by-law considerations, only the Community representatives representing teams in that division are allowed to vote on the proposal. Using a divisional proposal, Division 1 allowed the use of unrestricted bats.

Both of these proposals are in effect for one year only, in an effort to add additional teams to the Sun and Fun league, but could be extended by an Executive Board vote in the following year.

Do we need to continue these divisional proposals?

Greg Alms plans to ask for a vote on whether to extend these proposals or not at the next meeting.

The following items were introduced for future consideration at the next meeting.

1. Pitcher Safety rules: Require personal protection equipment be used by the pitcher to improve pitcher safety.
2. Start each at bat with a one and one count.
3. Does Sun and Fun want to start a 70's division.
4. Renewal of non-community teams including Ocala Baptist in Division 1.

Motion to adjourn made by MacFarlane, seconded by Merlano. Motion passed.

NEXT MEETING: April 12, Continental CC, 10:00