

## **Sun and Fun Softball League Meeting Minutes April 12, 2013**

Called to order by acting president Greg Alms at 9:57 am.

Moved Schaffer; support MacFarlane to approve minutes. Carried.

Moved Spaulding; support Merlano to pay Paul \$500 for maintaining website this past year. Carried.

Division Rep reports:

1. Nothing
2. Ten teams and odd number of home vs. away games. Some roster issues. Water Oak questioned use of Recreation Plantation players. Recreation Plantation announced interested in switching from Lakes to Sun and Fun preferable as a Division 4 team.
3. One issue which was dealt with. Question re during tournament play the rigidity of the hour and half time limit in a particularly tight game and 15 run mercy rule.
4. Nothing
5. No report. New rep needed for Div. 5 for next season.
6. Not present.

Old Business – None.

New Business

1. Pitcher safety. Joe Burgess from Hot Zone shared a report (eight years old) correlating BBV (batted ball velocity) and pitcher reactions using both composite bats and wooden bats.  
    >85.2 mph + 0.42 seconds to react = UNSAFE  
    Composite bats (8 years ago): 89.2 mph +0.4 - 0.35 seconds reaction time. Obviously very unsafe! And this is not the 2013 bats nor is it the Ultra IIs.  
    Wooden bats: 78.3 – 85 mph + ? reaction time. But no one uses wooden bats!

Injuries were discussed. Those in favor of personal protective equipment cite minimal costs and the fact that other sports are demanding PPE (e.g., hockey, baseball batters/runners). Those opposed say it doesn't look good, sweat gets in one's eyes, uncomfortable, and it's an unnecessary expense.

Also discussed were the emotional cost of hitting an unprotected pitcher; the liability of the team, community, league, and hitter; and the meaninglessness of waivers. He passed around some PPE for the group to see. Joe will forward Greg a copy of the info for dissemination. He further volunteered to host a training session at his training facility for pitchers, providing lunch at no cost to participants.

The Good Samaritan concept (unpaid volunteers serving on a non-profit board) being protected under Florida law was brought up.

Joe Safreed pointed out his experience showed that mandating safety equipment may put players in a position of being deemed "employees" which may be detrimental to communities and the league. Having the equipment available with recommendations to use may be the better tack.

Mike Dineen will ask his attorney daughter to do some basic research on this issue.

Del Webb will have an extra mask available at all games, making it available should a pitcher forget his/hers.

Is it advisable for all communities to maintain two sets of full equipment: one for each team?

The issue will be revisited at the next meeting. Thanks to Joe for the extremely valuable information and the gracious invitation to host the pitcher training session.

2. Rule Concerns

The 5 run/inning rule was brought up with the question whether it may be better with 5 runs and one out. This was tabled to the fall meeting. Also brought up was beginning each batter with a 1-1 count. In that there have not been any problems with time, not much interest was expressed.

3. Divisional realignment - Greg reviewed preliminary scenarios for divisional alignment for the 2013-14 season. These were distributed and a copy is attached to the minutes.

Division 1 is in serious jeopardy. The hot bat is one of the causes. Of the 5 teams in Div. 1 this year, two of the teams want out. The Miken Ultra bats were cited as a reason.

Moved MacFarlane; support VanMol to continue to permit the divisions to adopt their own playing rules per the current (implementation) year. 4 yea; 12 nay. Motion failed.

Moved Merlano; support Francesconi that standard ASA bats be used by all divisions. 13 yeas; 2 nays. Motion carries.

The division alignment will be finalized in the fall.

Moved MacFarlane; support Spaulding that Ocala Baptist be invited back into league as an exception per last year. Passed.

Moved Farfing; support Maddox that Hot Zone be allowed into league as exception. Passed.

Moved Merlano; support DCocco that Recreation Plantation be admitted to the league. Passed.

Hawthorne voiced concern regarding remaining in Division 5 due to their record.

4. Summer ball. Teams expressing interest: Summer Glen; Del Webb (perhaps 2 teams), Spruce Creek (possibly), Stone Crest (2 teams), Plantation (possibly). Teams were reminded that only five Division 1 players could be on the field at any one time. The Vice President traditionally runs the summer league, including season scheduling, etc.

5. Election of officers. Jim Maguire agreed to run for President and Don Sprout, while Mark Talbott agreed to run for Vice President.

Maguire and Sprout were elected. Thanks to all three for coming forward to help.

6. All members present stood unified in thanking Greg Alms for taking charge in very rough time and guiding the league back to where all wanted it to be. Greg's accomplishments in such short a time are noteworthy.

Moved Spaulding; support MacFarlane to adjourn at 12:50.

	Division 1	
DL	Lake Advisory Group	1
OB	Ocala Baptist	2
DG	Good Time Lounge	3
ST	Talon Wealth Mgmt	4
HZ	Hot Zone	5 New
SC	Lake Advisory Group	6 Up
LG	Dr Joseph Carrasco	7 Up
PL	Beef o'Bradys ???	8 New
	Division 2	
SG	OneSource Landscape	1 Down
DW	DeLuca Toyota	2
SG	Cody's Roadhouse	3
PL	PAL Realty	4
CC	Continental Softball	5
WO	Thermo-Cool	6
RH	South Lake Moose ??? (out)	7
CB	Hot Zone Play Ball	8
HT	Lake County Eagles	9 Up
ST	Talon Wealth Mgmt	1 Down
DW	Two Dogs	2
SL	Sunlake Scrubjays	3
PE	Oakwood Grill	4
WO	Water Oak Sales	5
RB	Oakwood Smokehouse	6
SG	Licciardello Sanitation	7 Up
RP	Harveys RV Sales ???	8 New
ST	Talon Wealth Mgmt from 3	1 Down
HW	Hawthorne from 3	2 Down
SC	Royal Fund Mgmt	3
DW	Pearson Nissan	4
PL	Humana Corp	5
LL	Break Point Alley	6
LG	Beacon Eye Care	7
PL	Sideline Sports Eatery	8 Up
HT	Thermo Cool	1 Down
ST	Talon Wealth Mgmt	2 Down
DW	Proscape Landscaping	3
WO	Race Trac	4
SG	Cody's Road House	5
HW	Hawthorne	6
SC	Heritage Mgmt Corp	7 Up
CB	Alliance Coach	8 Up
SL	Sunlake Scrubjays	1 Down
ST	Talon Wealth Mgmt	2
SG	Wise Way	3
CC	Continental CC	4
PE	Cebert Wealth Mgmt	5
PL	Greene Financial	6
DW	Del Webb 6 ?	7 New