

Sun and Fun Senior Softball League Meeting Minutes

Pennbrooke 9:00am

April 1, 2008

The Meeting was called to Order at 9:00am

Roll Call: All Members of the Operating Committee were present (Dave Patterson substituted for Rick Smith Division 1 Rep.) All communities were represented by their Park Reps with the following exception: Continental Country Club did not attend the meeting.

The Minutes from the Meeting held on March 7, 2008 were approved as published without correction.

The Treasurer's report was approved as published with a current balance of \$982.96. The league has had no expenditures since our last meeting. The league has no outstanding debts. The league will disburse \$350.00 today to Division Champions and Meeting Hosts. The new balance will be \$632.96.

Old Business

President's Comments Dave opened the meeting by expressing the league's gratitude to the Division Reps (Rick Smith, John Martucci, Charlie Sovern, Ron Tucker and Bill Gardiner) and League Chair Bob Falzone for their service this year.

Del Webb Tournament Review

Bob Falzone (Del Webb) thanked the teams that participated, and recognized with appreciation the efforts of Spruce Creek, Royal Highlands and Pennbrooke for hosting the preliminary rounds. Bob apologized to Royal Highlands for the omission of one of their team rosters. The following suggestions were made by member communities:

1. The implementation of the mercy rule should not be up to the trailing team's manager.

Bob explained that having the manager decide allows the men to play, which is why they come.

2. Consideration of adding a time limit.

3. Efforts should be made to use umpires from neutral communities when the home team is playing on its home field. Discussion centered around the obvious difficulty of getting umpires to travel to a neutral site.

Division Champions Recognized

The Park Reps from the following Division Champions were each presented with fifty dollars trophy money: Division 1 Stonecrest; Division 2 Pennbrooke; Division 3 Royal Highlands and Plantation (co-champs); Division 4 Del Webb and Division 5 Lakes at Leesburg.

SSUSA Home Plate Rule Change

Dave reminded the Park Reps about the impending change. The unchallenged consensus was that the league will accept the change without modification. All communities should be in compliance by the fall season starts.

Size - The strike mat will be enlarged 1" on all sides. The practical effect is that the mat will be 1" wider on each side and 2" deeper at the back. The dimensions for the rectangular mat will now be 19" wide and 34½" deep and the mat will be placed over the home plate aligned at the front end.

Defense - A defensive player making a play at Home Plate will be allowed to complete the force-out play by touching any portion of the strike mat, not just Home Plate.

It was noted that communities may use either their current home plate configuration or adjusted configuration during the Summer League. The new Defense portion of the rule will be used during the summer season.

New Business

Summer League (Arnie Lumbers, VP)

The following communities indicated that they would participate: Pennbrooke (with Continental), Plantation, Royal Highlands, Spruce Creek, Summer Glen, Water Oak, Stonecrest (2 teams) and Del Webb (2 teams). Hawthorne was uncertain. Arnie Lumbers will contact Fred Parks to see if he will have a team again this summer.

No Rosters are Required (Teams are urged not to load up with Division 1 and Division 2 players.)
Ball will be the Diamond Flyer. Bats are the currently legal bats*.

(*The issue of ASA testing of bats was described by Dave Sparrow. ASA is attempting to limit the speed off the bat to 98mph after break-in. Therefore the ASA is lowering bat speed limit before break-in or rolling to approximately 92-94mph).

Season will run May through August.

Game time is 9am.

Games are 8 innings.

Stonecrest requested doubleheaders at home if possible.

Entry fee will be \$10.00 per team.

* * * See the SSUSA Home Plate Rule Change above for summer play applicability. * * *

From the Floor

Carmen DiCocco (Spruce Creek) offered the following motion from the floor: That the League present Pam and Paul Malashevitz with a gift in the amount of \$100 in recognition of their work on the Sun & Fun website and to help them defray the costs incurred. The Motion was seconded by Hal Dod (Summer Glen) and passed unanimously.

Acceptance of Summer Glen

Noting that Summer Glen had completed its first year as a probationary member, Jim Milligan (Sunlake) moved that they be granted permanent membership in the league. The motion was seconded by Stonecrest, and unanimously passed by roll call vote of 14-0. (Absentee Continental did not vote).

League Rule 1.1 (Game Times)

- 1.1. Regular scheduled games shall be played on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:00 AM. When two games by different teams are scheduled on the same field, the times shall be 9:30 and 11:00 AM, with the highest division playing first (Division 1 before 2, 3 or 4, Division 2 before 3 or 4 and Division 3 before 4).

During the months of January and February single games will start at 11:00am. When more than one game is scheduled on a field, games will begin at 10:00am, 11:30am, and 1:00pm.

Following a discussion of the completion time of games during the last season, a motion was made by Spruce Creek, seconded by Water Oak to strike all words of LR 1.1 including and following the phrase: "*During the months*" of January and February. . . " The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 13-1. (Lakes at Leesburg voted No. Absentee Continental did not vote.)

Proper Placement of Players (Dave Sparrow)

Dave discussed the importance of the proper placement of players in the appropriate skill level divisions. The integrity and success of the league is at stake. Again this year, there were communities that clearly violated the spirit of our league. Each Park Rep is responsible to see that proper placement is done. Dave promised that he will be more involved this fall and that he expects full compliance by all communities.

Improving Competition (Dave Sparrow)

Dave addressed the following issues with particular reference to the disparity of competition in Division 1.

1. He acknowledged that his failure to break the 7-7 tie vote last April which affirmed the use of the Trump Stote was a mistake which increased the disparity between stronger and weaker teams. The Stote de-emphasized defense, emphasized the Home Run and widened the gap in the final score of games.

2. He noted that while it could not be shown that there were more injuries as a result of the use of the Stote, it is clear that infielders clearly have less time to respond to the ball off the bat. Additionally, he noted safety issues at Royal Highlands (Rte 27) and Plantation (golfers).

Responses:

Jim Milligan cited statistics from games played at Sunlake noting an average of 32 runs per game and an excessive number of home runs.

The Secretary Reported that runs scored in Divisions 1 and 2 were up by 50%, and that the average margin in games had increased by almost 2 runs per game.

Bob Falzone (DW) and Dave Patterson (Div 1 Rep Substitute) indicated that they would lose players from their Division 1 teams if the Stote is not used.

Phil Massie (RH) indicated that Highway 27 is a continuing problem, and that the land behind the left field fence will be commercially developed with potential safety issues.

Carmen DiCocco (SC) asserted that games were taking longer to play which adversely affected the teams involved with double and triple headers played on the same field as Division 1 and 2.

Dave Harrod (HT) cited his community's belief that the Stote was not suited to the majority of fields in our league where the distance to the fence is less than 250 feet.

Jim Milligan noted that Sunlake had explored the possibility of moving their fence, but that it was economically impossible.

Dave Sparrow closed the discussion with the assertion that we are not a league of premier players, and that the Diamond Flyer is safe and helps to promote competitive games. While not actually required since PR 5.3.1 would die on its own without renewal, Dave asked for a clarifying motion on the league ball.

Playing Rule 5.1

5.3 The official ball used in this League will be the 12-Inch, 44 Core, 375 Compression, Optic Yellow, Diamond softball.

5.3.1 For the year 2007-2008, on a one year trial basis: Divisions 1 and 2 shall use the 12 inch, Senior Softball, Slow Pitch, Optic Yellow, Trump Stote ball: "Designed for Senior Softball .44 COR 375psi AK-SS-375".

The following motion was made by Sunlake and seconded by Holiday Travel: that Rule 5.3.1 be deleted. The motion to delete Rule 5.3.1 was passed by a roll call vote of 11-3. Voting against the motion were Stonecrest, Del Webb and Plantation. (Absentee Continental did not vote).

The Executive Board adjourned at 10:14 for a brief break and was called to order again at 10:24am.

Divisional Alignment for 2008-2009

Three options (appended below) were presented and discussed by the Park Reps. These options were essentially those given to the Park Reps at the March meeting. At that time, the Park Reps were instructed to hold discussions with the managers and players in their communities in order to prepare for the April meeting.

Option 1

Division 1 issues:

Clerbrook stated that they were not competitive with Division 1 teams. Stonecrest and Spruce Creek agreed and suggested that Summer Glen should be moved to D1 instead of Clerbrook. Summer Glen replied that they currently had 600 homes built (out of 1000 max) and that while they hoped to add enough quality players to make them a D1 team, sales are slow and SG is still a D2 team.

Dave Sparrow asked Spruce Creek and Summer Glen if either of them would volunteer to step up into Division 1. There were no takers.

Division 3 issues:

Charlie Sovern (Division 3 Rep) stated that he thought that the league was returning to top down alignment, and that it was a mistake to have only seven teams in Division 3.

Spruce Creek suggested that the proposed new team from Summer Glen be placed in Division 3 rather than Division 5.

Hal Dod (SG) affirmed strongly that the proposed 5 team was a Division 5 team and would be grossly out of place in Division 3.

Holiday Travel suggested that placement might be easier by having a split season with adjustments being made at the halfway point. The consensus seemed to be that mid-season adjustments should only be made in extreme circumstances such as occurred during the 2006-2007 season involving Divisions 4 and 5.

Options 2 and 3

While the majority of the discussions regarding realignment did, in fact, center on Option 1, there was some discussion of the other choices.

Dave Patterson (Div 1 Rep - Substitute) suggested that neither of these options was final, and that although each of them currently split communities with multiple teams into separate conferences, they could be easily be modified into North and South Divisions.

There were no significant issues raised with these options.

A motion was made and seconded to accept option 1. The motion was withdrawn when several speakers convinced the Executive Board that each Park Rep should be allowed to vote for the option of their choice as a way to accurately reflect the feelings of the members.

A roll call vote of the members took place.

11 Members Voted for Option 1: Hawthorne, Holiday Travel, Lakes at Leesburg, Legacy, Pennbrooke, Royal Highlands, Spruce Creek, Stonecrest, Summer Glen, Sunlake and Water Oak.

3 Members Voted for Option 2: Clerbrook, Del Webb and Stonecrest

0 Members Voted for Option 3

1 Member did not Vote: Continental (Absent).

Option 1 was adopted.

Early October Meeting

Clerbrook volunteered to host the early October Meeting on either the 3rd or the 7th. Time to be determined

Late October Meeting

Legacy volunteered to host the late October (manager's) Meeting on either the 28th or 31st.

Plantation volunteered to host if Legacy was unable to secure a room.

Dave Sparrow announced that Continental would be fined \$25 for failure to attend 2 of the last 3 meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07am.

Respectfully submitted,

pm

04-02-08

Alignment Proposal

April 2, 2008 1:03 PM

Option 1

						Score		Allow	
Division 1		Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Avg	Avg	
ST	Armstrong Homes	25	5	.833	---	W5	17.3	11.5	1
DP	ProScape Landcape Service	23	7	.767	2	W8	17.6	11.2	1
DD	DeLuca Toyota	18	12	.600	7	W1	13.4	12.9	1
RH	David Knowles Agency	9	21	.300	16	L1	13.4	16.6	1
PL	Small World Tours	8	22	.267	17	L6	12.8	17.1	1
WO	Water Oak Snack Shack	7	23	.233	18	L4	12.3	17.3	1
PE	David Knowles Agency	22	6	.786	---	W1	16.7	11.0	2
CB	Clerbrook RV	15	13	.536	7	W3	14.5	14.3	2

						Score		Allow	
Division 2		Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Score	Allow	
SG	Summer Glen Sales Staff	14	14	.500	8	W8	13.4	13.4	2
CC	Continental CC	14	14	.500	8	W1	10.0	9.9	2
SC	Urology Center of Florida	14	14	.500	8	W2	12.5	13.1	2
SL	Sunlake Scrubjays	13	15	.464	9	L5	14.1	15.6	2
DW	All Safe Pest Control	10	18	.357	12	L5	11.0	12.5	2
HT	Lake County Eagles 4273	10	18	.357	12	L3	11.0	13.2	2
PL	United Southern Bank PL	22	6	.786	---	W1	9.2	5.1	3
RH	United Southern Bank RH	22	6	.786	---	W4	8.9	5.2	3

						Score		Allow	
Division 3		Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Score	Allow	
ST	Armstrong Homes	20	8	.714	2	W7	9.4	6.2	3
LG	Don's Golf Carts	20	8	.714	2	L1	11.1	6.5	3
WO	American Legion Post 219	13	15	.464	9	L3	7.8	8.4	3
DW	EZGO Factory Showroom	10	18	.357	12	L1	7.3	6.4	3
DW	Lake Tax Advisory Group	24	4	.857	---	W6	10.5	5.6	4
PE	Oakwood Grill	23	5	.821	1	W1	10.7	5.8	4
HT	Discount Carpet	19	9	.679	5	W4	7.6	6.0	4

						Score		Allow	
Division 4		Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Score	Allow	
PE	Pennbrooke	3	25	.107	19	L5	5.2	13.2	3
SC	Bright Smile Dentistry	2	26	.071	20	L19	4.6	12.7	3
HW	Highland Lakes Dental	13	15	.464	11	L2	7.5	7.7	4
ST	Armstrong Homes	12	16	.429	12	L1	7.1	8.5	4
RHK	Kinetico Water	10	18	.357	14	L4	5.9	8.5	4
PL	W.D. Aluminum	5	23	.179	19	L1	7.2	10.5	4
LL	Lakes at Leesburg	25	3	.893	---	L1	14.6	6.8	5
SL	Sunlake Scrubjays	20	8	.714	5	W3	12.4	7.7	5

						Score		Allow	
Division 5		Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Score	Allow	
WO	Thermo Cool	16	12	.571	9	L3	9.7	8.6	5
DW	McCutcheon AC & Heating	15	12	.556	9 ½	W3	11.3	10.6	5
PE	Cebert Wealth Management	14	14	.500	11	L1	10.1	10.0	5
PL	Nobles Golf Carts	7	20	.259	17 ½	W3	8.4	12.2	5
HT	Discount Carpet	7	21	.250	18	L7	7.0	13.5	5
ST	Armstrong Homes	7	21	.250	18	L1	8.4	13.3	5
SG	Summer Glen	Proposed New Team							
SC	Spruce Creek	Proposed New Team							

Alignment Proposal

April 2, 2008 1:17 PM

Option 2

		Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Score Avg	Allow Avg	Current
Division 1									
Sun Conference									
s	CC	14	14	.500	8	W1	10.0	9.9	2
n	DP	18	12	.600	7	W1	13.4	12.9	1
n	DW	10	18	.357	12	L5	11.0	12.5	2
s	PE	22	6	.786	---	W1	16.7	11.0	2
s	PL	22	6	.786	---	W1	9.2	5.1	3
s	RH	9	21	.300	16	L1	13.4	16.6	1
n	SG	14	14	.500	8	W8	13.4	13.4	2
n	ST	20	8	.714	2	W7	9.4	6.2	3

Fun Conference									
s	CB	15	13	.536	7	W3	14.5	14.3	2
n	DD	23	7	.767	2	W8	17.6	11.2	1
s	HT	10	18	.357	12	L3	11.0	13.2	2
s	PL	8	22	.267	17	L6	12.8	17.1	1
s	RH	22	6	.786	---	W4	8.9	5.2	3
n	SC	14	14	.500	8	W2	12.5	13.1	2
n	ST	25	5	.833	---	W5	17.3	11.5	1
n	WO	7	23	.233	18	L4	12.3	17.3	1

		Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Score	Allow	
Division 2									
Sun Conference									
n	DW	10	18	.357	12	L1	7.3	6.4	3
s	HT	19	9	.679	5	W4	7.6	6.0	4
n	LL	25	3	.893	---	L1	14.6	6.8	5
s	PE	3	25	.107	19	L5	5.2	13.2	3
s	PL	5	23	.179	19	L1	7.2	10.5	4
n	SL	20	8	.714	5	W3	12.4	7.7	5
n	ST	12	16	.429	12	L1	7.1	8.5	4
s	WO	13	15	.464	9	L3	7.8	8.4	3

Fun Conference

Alignment Proposal

April 2, 2008 1:20 PM

Option 3

Division 1

							Score	Allow	
	Sun Conference	Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Avg	Avg	
DW	All Safe Pest Control	10	18	.357	12	L5	11.0	12.5	2
DP	ProScape Landscape Service	23	7	.767	2	W8	17.6	11.2	1
HT	Lake County Eagles 4273	10	18	.357	12	L3	11.0	13.2	2
LG	Don's Golf Carts	20	8	.714	2	L1	11.1	6.5	3
PE	Pennbrooke	3	25	.107	19	L5	5.2	13.2	3
PL	Small World Tours	8	22	.267	17	L6	12.8	17.1	1
RH	David Knowles Agency	9	21	.300	16	L1	13.4	16.6	1
SL	Sunlake Scrubjays	13	15	.464	9	L5	14.1	15.6	2
ST	Armstrong Homes	25	5	.833	---	W5	17.3	11.5	1
WO	Water Oak Snack Shack	7	23	.233	18	L4	12.3	17.3	1

Fun Conference

		Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Avg	Avg	
CB	Clerbrook RV	15	13	.536	7	W3	14.5	14.3	2
CC	Continental CC	14	14	.500	8	W1	10.0	9.9	2
DD	DeLuca Toyota	18	12	.600	7	W1	13.4	12.9	1
DE	EZGO Factory Showroom	10	18	.357	12	L1	7.3	6.4	3
PE	David Knowles Agency	22	6	.786	---	W1	16.7	11.0	2
PL	United Southern Bank PL	22	6	.786	---	W1	9.2	5.1	3
RH	United Southern Bank RH	22	6	.786	---	W4	8.9	5.2	3
SC	Urology Center of Florida	14	14	.500	8	W2	12.5	13.1	2
SG	Summer Glen Sales Staff	14	14	.500	8	W8	13.4	13.4	2
ST	Armstrong Homes	20	8	.714	2	W7	9.4	6.2	3

Division 2

		Won	Lost	Pct	GB	Streak	Score	Allow	
DW	Lake Tax Advisory Group	24	4	.857	---	W6	10.5	5.6	4
HT	Discount Carpet	19	9	.679	5	W4	7.6	6.0	4
HW	Highland Lakes Dental	13	15	.464	11	L2	7.5	7.7	4
PE	Oakwood Grill	23	5	.821	1	W1	10.7	5.8	4
RHK	Kinetico Water	10	18	.357	14	L4	5.9	8.5	4
SC	Bright Smile Dentistry	2	26	.071	20	L19	4.6	12.7	3
SL	Sunlake Scrubjays	20	8	.714	5	W3	12.4	7.7	5
ST	Armstrong Homes	12	16	.429	12	L1	7.1	8.5	4
WO	American Legion Post 219	13	15	.464	9	L3	7.8	8.4	3