

**SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**January 10, 2014**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Davidson. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board Members Mike Core, Denny Davidson, Henry Ellis, Ed Sowney, Roger Spark, Jesse Washington and Larry Wolfe were present. Also in attendance were Association members Bill Corso, Sam Giordano, Mike Gloyd, Gary Hillabolt, Steve Hilby, and Dennis LePore.

It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Wolfe that the minutes of the December 6 meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer Mr. Wolfe presented the financials through December 31, 2013. Mr. Wolfe reported that Desert Cove would not be paying their 2013-14 [team](#) sponsor fee and this would cause a drop in revenue. He also reported that banner advertising sales were ahead of budget with overall expenses close to budget. The Association is more than \$500 ahead of budgeted net [income](#). It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Washington that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe also reported that as a result of email voting by the Board the Association's bank account is being moved to Chase Bank. The process is expected to take a few more days to complete and there would be two accounts, one a checking and the other a savings account.

Mr. Giordano, chairman of the Capital Expenditures Committee, reported that the committee was nearly finished with its review of potential capital expenditures. The committee will have a list of these in the next month or two so that if any upcoming capital expenditures will be able to be included in future budgets.

As a method to cut down on Association costs, Mr. Wolfe reported to the board that he is investigating the possibility of hanging outfield fence banners without the 4 foot by 8 foot plywood backing. He stated that the HOA requires a dark green background and the additional costs of putting such a background on the signs is costly. Also, there is a concern about the additional wear and tear on the signs from wind as a result of not having the solid support of the plywood.

As a result of discussion at the December 6, 2013 Board meeting, Mr. Sowney reported back to board on the distance from the pitching rubber to the pitcher's safety net. He reported that the distance from the front of the rubber to the net should be 12 feet 4 inches. Based on his report it was moved by Mr. Sowney and seconded by Mr. Ellis that the board adopt 12 feet 4 inches as the official distance between the rubber and net and that it be put into the Playing Rules. Motion carried.

Mr. Sowney raised the topics of safety and security at the field. He expressed a concern of equipment being left plugged in or on in the scorer's booth and the kitchen. He also pointed out that the field needs to be secured at the end of each day's play and activity. After discussion it was moved by Mr. Sowney and seconded by Mr. Washington that all door locks and parking and field gate pad locks be changed out. Further, each board member, the field maintenance crew, each of the six managers of the teams as well as any other individual deemed by the board necessary to have a set of keys be given keys to the new locks. In addition, managers are responsible for closing the field after the last games and may open the field to initiate play. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe led a discussion on some playing rules regarding bats and fielding gloves/mitts. The discussion involved if these issues require an appeal to the umpire or can the umpire rule on them without an appeal being made by the other team. It was moved by Mr. Washington and seconded by [Dr.](#) Spark that if an umpire sees an illegal or cracked bat, or the improper use of a fielding mitt vs. a fielding glove the umpire can intervene and make a ruling without an appeal being made. Motion carried.

Mr. LePore reported to the board on a survey taken among the members if helmets should be required and should the Association provide them. Mr. LePore said the results were overwhelmingly against mandatory helmets. The members felt it should be the individual player's decision whether to wear one and that the league should not provide them. It was suggested that the Association website should list where members could find the helmets and the approximate prices for those members who might want to buy one.

Mr. Ellis gave a brief report on the SLSSA Ladies Slugger team. The women opened the season with a loss but bounced back to win the second game. He reported that there were 13 women on the roster and he felt it would be a very competitive team.

Dr. Spark reported that the Association banquet would be held on March 29 in the Oakwood Ballroom and that a \$250 deposit had been paid. It was moved by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Sowney that Dr. Spark and Treasurer Mr. Wolfe should meet with Oakwood personnel to finalize the details [and](#) determine the price. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Sowney and seconded by Mr. Washington that the board should meet in executive session at the end of the February Board meeting to discuss one of more candidates to be considered for the Spirit of Sun Lakes Softball award that is presented at the banquet. Motion carried.

Mr. Davidson reported to the Board that he will appoint a nominating committee for the upcoming March election for three Board seats currently held by Mr. Davidson, [Dr.](#) Spark and Mr. Wolfe. All three are eligible for re-election to one more three-year term.

The Board discussed the awarding of T-Shirts to the teams that finish in first place for each of league sessions. It was decided to bring this discussion back at next months Board meeting to be held on February 14, 2014 at 10 am in the Oakwood Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm

Respectively submitted,

Michael Core, Secretary

**SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**February 14, 2014**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President Davidson. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board Members Mike Core, Denny Davidson, Henry Ellis, Ed Sowney, Roger Spark, Jesse Washington and Larry Wolfe were present. Also in attendance were Association members Ken Brenden, Larry Delaney, Larry Domas, Doug Friesen, Sam Giordano, Evan Hansen, Gary Hillabolt, Steve Hilby, Art Isley, Dennis LePore, Rich Nadler, Bill Whiteley and Bob Zawidski.

It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Wolfe that the minutes of the January 10, 2014 meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried. Mr. Wolfe gave the treasurer's report. He stated that the Association was right on budget with expenses and that net income was \$1,600 better than budget which resulted from the sales of outfield fence banners being greater than projected in the current budget. It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Washington that the report be accepted as presented. Motion carried. Mr. Wolfe also told the Board that the changing of the banks from Bank of America to Chase Bank had been completed.

Mr. Sam Giordano gave a report from the Reserves Assessment Committee. The committee has estimated that the yearly cost for capital items is about \$4800. The ten year outlook includes the cost to replace the lawn mower and a golf cart. He said it should be easier now to create a capital budget for each fiscal year and thus know how much money the Association should keep on hand.

The Board then began a discussion on installing a mat of synthetic material for a combination of home plate and batters' boxes at the Field of Dreams. After discussion it was moved by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Mr. Sowney to further research the options and then go forward with the installation of such a mat for homeplate and the batters' boxes with the cost not to exceed \$750. Motion carried.

Mr. Core reminded the Board that the Session 2 ending tournament would be played on Saturday, February 22. The six teams will be seeded with the 8:30 am game having the sixth and third seeded teams playing the first game and the fourth and fifth seeded teams playing the second game. The remaining games will be seeded based on the results of the first two games. The league will also have sub sandwiches, chips, cookies and soft drinks available for those in attendance at the tournament.

It was determined that the draft of the Session 3 teams will be held on Friday, February 21 at 3 p.m. A site for the draft will be determined soon and the managers will be contacted.

Mr. Davidson led a short discussion on the injured runner rule. There was a recent instance at the field where person was hurt and a “substitute injury runner” was used. Then the same injured runner returned to the field to play in the following inning. This is permitted by the SLSSA playing rules. However, the injured runner is not permitted to have another “injury” runner. He can, however, be eligible for the normal pinch runner which is allowed once each inning.

Mr. Art Isley gave the Nominating Committee report. The other two committee members are Mr. Dennis Bernaiche and Mr. Gary Hatch. Three Board seats are up for election. Two incumbent directors, Mr. Davidson and Mr. Spark, are each eligible for a second three year term, but have declined to be candidates for re-election. The third incumbent, Mr. Wolfe, has agreed to be a candidate. Mr. Isley stated that four additional Association members, Mr. Kenny Brenden, Mr. Doug Friesen, Mr. Sam Giordano and Mr. Steve Hilby will be candidates. The Board established March 18 and 20 for the election. The Nominating Committee will serve as the tellers of the election and will count the votes and report the results.

Mr. Sowney gave a report on the installation of new field locks/keys and assignments of keys. Locks have been installed and keys assigned to the six managers, board members, Dennis LePore, Jim Kilmartin, Larry Delaney, Larry Domas, Chuck Swanson and Red Waterfield.

The Board received a request from Mr. Rich Nadler that the Association be mindful of its responsibilities upon the death of any of the current or former Association members. The Board has an established policy for such instances and it is up to the Board Vice President or the Board Secretary to see that the policy is carried out. It was moved by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Sowney that the appropriate amount of money be used as a memorial for the family of the late Mr. Jerry Berg. Motion carried.

Mr. Nadler also requested an appropriate rest between the games of the league doubleheaders. It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Washington that if necessary, a break of up to five minutes be permitted between the doubleheaders. Motion carried.

Mr. Ellis reported that the Ladies team is 12-2 thus far. They are playing with just 11 players as two of the other players have been injured. There are six more games to the season, but no more home games. The Lady Sluggers' season ends at the end of February.

Dr. Spark reported on the plans for the March 29 banquet. Thus far 147 people are signed up. The cost is \$45 per couple and the evening begins with a Happy Hour at 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Dr. Spark also reported that the Sun Lakes Fire Fighters want to play an all-star team on March 22. Further details will be forthcoming on this event.

Mr. Washington reported to the Board that there were only enough "champions" T-Shirts to cover the Session Two champions. He asked the question of should this practice be continued or should some other type of award be given. After discussion it was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Ellis that 8x10 photos of the champion team be presented to each member of the team and the team's sponsor. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the use of the current "Rock" softball and the concerns of safety with the use of the 1.21 bats and the "Rock" softball which is considered a "hot" ball. Board members are concerned about injuries, especially in the infield with the speed of the balls off of the bats. It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Washington to use the 40 C.O.R. balls in the third session. The motion carried.

Mr. Davidson led a discussion regarding pitchers and the speed of the pitches when delivered over the pitcher's safety screen. The USSSA rule permits umpires, on their own judgment, to call a pitch "too" fast. It does not define what is the inappropriate speed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm and the board went into executive session to discuss the "Spirit of Sun Lakes" Award which will be presented at the March 29 banquet.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Core

**SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**March 14, 2014**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Vice President Dr. Roger Spark. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board Members Mike Core, Henry Ellis, Ed Sowney, Roger Spark, and Larry Wolfe were present. Also in attendance was Association member Rick Ebel. It was moved by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Mr. Sowney that the minutes of the February 14, 2014 meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe gave the Treasurer's report. He stated that the Association through the month of February was nearly on budget with expenses and that net income was \$1,600 better than budget. This has resulted from the sales of outfield fence banners being greater than projected in the current budget. It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Ellis that the report be accepted as presented. Motion carried. Mr. Wolfe also told the Board that a donation from SLSSA in memory of the late Association Member Jerry Berg was made to a charity specified by his family.

The Board discussed the purchase and installation of a combination home plate and batters box mat at the Field of Dreams. The Board had approved such a purchase in the February meeting not to exceed \$750. Mr. Sowney will work with Larry Delaney and Larry Domas to proceed on this project.

Board discussion was held concerning the season ending session 3 tournament on April 17. It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Wolfe that lunch for the event be hot dogs and hamburgers with chips, cookies and soft drinks to be provided by the Association. Motion carried.

Mr. Ellis reported on the recently completed Sun Lakes Lady Sluggers successful season. The team finished 14-3. The Board congratulates the Lady Sluggers and their coaches, Mr. Ellis and Mr. Rick Ebel for their outstanding season.

Mr. Core reported to the Board that ballots and a voting list have been prepared for the March 18 and March 20 election of three board members, each to a 3 year term. The Nominating Committee will serve as the tellers of the election and report the ballot results. The new board members would be seated at the April meeting.

Dr. Spark updated the Board on the March 29 banquet. There are approximately 160 people who have responded to the invitation to the banquet. It will begin with a happy hour from 5:30 to 6:30 pm to be followed by dinner and a short program.

Dr. Spark also reported on a game to be played on March 22 between the Sun Lakes Fire Department and an All-Star team from SLSSA.

The Board discussed changing the start time of softball activities going forward. The Board consensus was to move the start time for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday activities from 9 am to 8:30 am beginning on March 24. Managers will be informed and the new start time will be posted on the SLSSA website.

The Board established Friday, April 11, as the next meeting date.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Core, Secretary

**SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 11, 2014**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10 am by Interim Chairman Mike Core, Secretary of the Board. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board members Mike Core, Henry Ellis, Sam Giordano, Steve Hilby, Ed Sowney, Jesse Washington and Larry Wolfe were present. Also in attendance were Association members Ken Brenden, Gary Hillabolt and Dennis LePore.

The first order of business was to elect a new Board President. Two board members, Sam Giordano and Ed Sowney, were nominated and the board elected Mr. Sowney as President. Mr. Sowney then called for nominations for Vice President. Mr. Giordano was nominated and it was moved by Mike Core and seconded by Jesse Washington to close the nominations and that Mr. Giordano be elected by acclamation. Motion carried.

Mr. Sowney then called for the election of the Secretary. Mr. Core was nominated and it was moved by Jesse Washington and seconded by Mr. Ellis to close the nominations and that Mr. Core be elected by acclamation. Motion carried.

Mr. Sowney then called for the election of the Treasurer. Mr. Wolfe was nominated and it was moved by Mr. Hilby and seconded by Mr. Giordano to close the nominations and that Mr. Wolfe be elected by acclamation. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Giordano and seconded by Mr. Wolfe that the minutes of the Board of Directors' of March 14, 2014 meeting be approved as submitted by Mr. Core. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe then presented the Treasurers monthly report. He stated that revenues are higher as the sales of outfield advertising signs were doing better than expected. The first six months of the fiscal year shows a positive margin of approximately \$5,500. This compares favorably to the last fiscal year at the six month point. Mr. Wolfe reminded the Board that revenues for the last six months of the fiscal year are normally low and the positive margin will drop as a result. It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Washington that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Motion carried. Mr. Wolfe also gave a report on the recent banquet and reported that the banquet was about \$200 over budget.

Mr. Core presented an update for the upcoming Session 3 and season ending tournament scheduled for April 17. Food and soft drinks will be available at the tournament. The six teams will be seeded and the five game schedule will begin at 8:30 am. After the third game the annual batting awards along with the awards for Rookie of the Year, Most Improved Player of the Year and the Sportsmanship Award will be presented.

It was moved by Mike Core and seconded by Larry Wolfe that an upgraded public address system not to exceed \$400 in cost be installed at the field prior to the tournament. Motion carried.

Mr. Sowney then conducted a board discussion regarding the various areas of responsibilities that will be delegated to board members. Among the items and duties discussed were a Board Member liaison to the team managers, roster maintenance, field use and scheduling coordinator, equipment and purchasing, and social events coordinator. Mr. Sowney said he will have the delegated responsibilities available as the next Board meeting.

Mr. Sowney also gave the Board an update on the purchase and installation of a new batting boxes/home plate mat at the field. The mat has been obtained and the installation will occur sometime after the April 17 tournament.

Mr. Ellis reported on the need to recruit more women for the ladies team. Several players will be needed to fill out the roster next year. Discussion will be held with the softball organization at Robson Ranch near Casa Grande to see if women at this Robson development would have an interest in playing for the Lady Sluggers. Discussion was also held on the recruitment of new players, both men and women, for the SLSSA as well.

Mr. Giordano brought up the idea of a season ending survey for the Association members to get input on three of four items relating to the Association's softball program. After discussion it was decided that Mr. Giordano, Mr. Hilby and Mr. Core would develop the survey to be used at the April 17 tournament.

The Board established April 30 at 1 pm for the next Board meeting. The site will be announced later. The Board went into executive session to discuss the three individual award winners to be honored at the April 18 tournament. After Board discussion the following three individuals will be honored with the following awards: Most Improved Player of the Year - Steve Schaidler; Rookie of the Year – TJ Tjernlund; and Sportsmanship Award – Ken Brenden.

It was moved by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Hilby that a Board Resolution of Appreciation be adopted to recognize the extraordinary efforts of Association member Dennis LePore for his work in scheduling umpires, scorers, score board operators and other efforts for the past several years. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Core, Secretary



**SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 30, 2014**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 1:02 pm by President Ed Sowney. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board Members Mike Core, Sam Giordano, Steve Hilby, Ed Sowney, Jesse Washington and Larry Wolfe were present with Board Member Henry Ellis being absent. Association Members present were Dr. Roger Spark, T.J. Tjernlund, Duane Kramer, Ken Brenden, Mike Gloyd, Bill Maxwell, Dennis LePore, Larry Domas, Larry Kaufmann and Tom Vitolo.

It was moved by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Mr. Giordano that the minutes of the April 11, 2014 Board of Directors Meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe was not able to present the monthly financial statements as the month of April had not yet been closed. However, Mr. Wolfe reported on two items that the Board had inquired about during the April 11 meeting. The first item was the liability insurance carried by the Association. He reviewed the policy that is renewed annually through the Senior Softball USA. The second item was a breakdown of the annual cost per each player. According to Mr. Wolfe the average full member cost is \$162.63 per year while recreational only members are \$142.80 each. It was moved by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Hilby to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Core led a short discussion on recapping the season ending tournament on April 17. He credited the volunteer help from members and spouses for making the tournament and the food served a success.

Mr. Sowney announced that he had prepared a schedule for board members who would open the field on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays for batting practice and pick-up games throughout the summer. It was the consensus of the board that the suggested length of summer pick-up games be at least 8 innings and that the suggested amount of pitches for each player taking batting practice be not more than 10. Mr. Sowney also handed assignments to individual board members for duties necessary to operate the league throughout the year. Those assignments are incorporated as an attachment (Exhibit A) to the minutes.

As part of the summer play discussion it was moved by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Giordano that up to five non-resident players on the waiting list be allowed to play in the summer on only Tuesday and Thursdays to evaluate their softball skills for potential play later in the league season. Those players would be required to pay \$55 each to qualify to play. Motion carried.

Mr. Giordano led a discussion on the end-of-the-year survey results. The survey results are incorporated as an attachment (Exhibit B) to the minutes. The survey confirmed the success of the 3 sessions. Also, as a result of the survey it was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Giordano that the 44 COR/ 375 compression ball would replace the use of 40 COR/375 compression ball. The remaining 40 COR balls will be used for batting practice. Motion carried.

Mr. Sowney led a Board discussion concerning whether to expand the policy on recognizing the top 10 hitters in league play. The discussion considered expanding recognition to all hitters over .700 OBP that qualify with a minimum of 150 at bats. It was moved by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Wolfe that the policy of recognizing outstanding hitting be just the top ten. Motion carried.

Mr. Sowney presented his ideas for a “Play Ball” Banner at the Field of Dreams to help promote SLSSA to gain new members. He also said he would like to have business cards printed with contact information for SLSSA. It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Hilby that the Association go forward with developing the banner and printing of SLSSA business cards. Motion carried.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Sept. 12, 2014.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Core  
Secretary

**Exhibit A**

**Board Assignments and Duties 2014-15**

Name	Assignment
Ed Sowney	President Chairman, Roster Selection Advisory Committee and Summer Play Coordinator
Sam Giordano	Vice President Tournament Coordinator, Chairman Ratings Committee and Director, Recruiting
Mike Core	Secretary Co-Webmaster, Co-Director Social Affairs and Photographer
Larry Wolfe	Treasurer Co-Webmaster, Co-Director Social Affairs, Banner Advertising and Billing, and Media Director

Henry Ellis	Ladies Team Field Manager and Representative Umpire/Scorers Coordinator
Steve Hilby	Roster Maintenance, Game Scheduler and Field Use Coordinator
Jesse Washington	Equipment and Purchasing Director and Team Sponsors Coordinator
*Roger Spark	Honorary Social Director Emeritus
*Jim Kilmartin	Honorary Director of Veteran Softball Player Affairs

\*Non-voting members

Scroll to next page for Exhibit B (April 17, 2014 Survey)

Exhibit B

# SLSSA Annual Survey

April 17, 2014

1. What age group do you belong?
  - a. 55 to 60. (six responses)
2. The Board would like to know which of the following balls you prefer:
  - a. The 40 core ball used in the current session. 0
  - b. Go back to the 44 core ball (more velocity) used for the last several years. 5
3. If we could expand our league to, at least eight teams, which of the following would you prefer?
  - a. Divide league into two divisions, one with rated players 1 & 2 and one with rated players 3 & 4. 3
  - b. Leave league as currently configured with six or more teams with rated players 1 thru 4. 2
4. This year we divided our league into three sessions, which would your prefer?
  - a. Continue with three sessions. 4
  - b. Go back to two sessions. 1
5. We currently play two innings in the field and two innings at bat. It saves time and energy but gives the home team three at bats versus one for the visitors following the top of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> innings.
  - a. Change and alternate every inning. 1
  - b. Continue with current practice of two innings in the field and at bat. 5

Additional Comments:

1. For Age 75+ a pinch runner if necessary and no penalty  
Anything works as long as it doesn't to ASA bats and super limited balls
2. We need to split the league, the skill level between the top players and the bottom players is just too great.

# SLSSA Annual Survey

April 17, 2014

1. What age group do you belong?
  - a. 60 to 65. (14 responses)
2. The Board would like to know which of the following balls you prefer:
  - a. The 40 core ball used in the current session. 5
  - b. Go back to the 44 core ball (more velocity) used for the last several years. 9
3. If we could expand our league to, at least eight teams, which of the following would you prefer?
  - a. Divide league into two divisions, one with rated players 1 & 2 and one with rated players 3 & 4. 11
  - b. Leave league as currently configured with six or more teams with rated players 1 thru 4. 3
4. This year we divided our league into three sessions, which would you prefer?
  - a. Continue with three sessions. 10
  - b. Go back to two sessions. 4
5. We currently play two innings in the field and two innings at bat. It saves time and energy but gives the home team three at bats versus one for the visitors following the top of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> innings.
  - a. Change and alternate every inning. 3
  - b. Continue with current practice of two innings in the field and at bat. 11

Additional Comments:

1. Perhaps an all-star game
2. Use 40 COR for Sessions 1 & 2, use 44 COR for 3<sup>rd</sup> session, and move pitcher screen back one more foot toward the runner.
3. Revise runner rules as explained to Steve Hilby and one-half run to visiting team for tie breaker.

# SLSSA Annual Survey

April 17, 2014

1. What age group do you belong?
  - c. 65-70. (24 responses)
  
2. The Board would like to know which of the following balls you prefer:
  - a. The 40 core ball used in the current session. 9
  - b. Go back to the 44 core ball (more velocity) used for the last several years. 15
  
3. If we could expand our league to, at least eight teams, which of the following would you refer?
  - a. Divide league into two divisions, one with rated players 1 & 2 and one with rated players 3 & 4. 12
  - b. Leave league as currently configured with six or more teams with rated players 1 thru 4. 12
  
4. This year we divided our league into three sessions, which would your prefer?
  - a. Continue with three sessions. 17
  - b. Go back to two sessions. 7
  
5. We currently play two innings in the field and two innings at bat. It saves time and energy but gives the home team three at bats versus one for the visitors following the top of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> innings.
  - a. Change and alternate every inning. 4
  - b. Continue with current practice of two innings in the field and at bat. 19

Additional Comments:

1. With the shortage of players sometimes we should allow players one slot to sub, i.e. a 3 could sub for a 4
2. Thanks for your concern about SLSSA
3. Keep up the great camaraderie!
4. Play two innings at a time until the 5<sup>th</sup>, then alternate
5. Should consider integrity calls, e.g. tag play at second so players can correct a difficult (missed) play.
6. Get rid of 1 and 1 count
7. Good job staff
8. Great league- thanks for everything

# SLSSA Annual Survey

April 17, 2014

1. What age group do you belong?
  - d. 70-75. (21 responses)
  
2. The Board would like to know which of the following balls you prefer:
  - a. The 40 core ball used in the current session. 9
  - b. Go back to the 44 core ball (more velocity) used for the last several years. 10
  
3. If we could expand our league to, at least eight teams, which of the following would you refer?
  - a. Divide league into two divisions, one with rated players 1 & 2 and one with rated players 3 & 4. 8
  - b. Leave league as currently configured with six or more teams with rated players 1 thru 4. 12
  
4. This year we divided our league into three sessions, which would your prefer?
  - a. Continue with three sessions. 15
  - b. Go back to two sessions. 6
  
5. We currently play two innings in the field and two innings at bat. It saves time and energy but gives the home team three at bats versus one for the visitors following the top of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> innings.
  - a. Change and alternate every inning. 5
  - c. Continue with current practice of two innings in the field and at bat. 16

Additional Comments:

1. League has become too competitive and lacks recreational as in the past
2. Keep it fun like now
3. Don not move to ASA only bats, continue 1 and 1 count, re-evaluate ratings as there are only 12 (1's) and 18 (2's), good job
4. Don't care what ball is used
5. Don't care what ball is used
6. Questions 3, 4 and 5 really no definite opinion
7. Do 1 and 1 count for 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>
8. Use ½ run rule for visitors

# SLSSA Annual Survey

April 17, 2014

1. What age group do you belong?
  - e. Above 75 (12 responses)
  
2. The Board would like to know which of the following balls you prefer:
  - a. The 40 core ball used in the current session. 2
  - b. Go back to the 44 core ball (more velocity) used for the last several years. 10
  
3. If we could expand our league to, at least eight teams, which of the following would you refer?
  - d. Divide league into two divisions, one with rated players 1 & 2 and one with rated players 3 & 4. 1
  - e. Leave league as currently configured with six or more teams with rated players 1 thru 4. 11
  
4. This year we divided our league into three sessions, which would your prefer?
  - a. Continue with three sessions. 9
  - b. Go back to two sessions. 3
  
5. We currently play two innings in the field and two innings at bat. It saves time and energy but gives the home team three at bats versus one for the visitors following the top of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> innings.
  - a. Change and alternate every inning. 2
  - f. Continue with current practice of two innings in the field and at bat. 10

Additional Comments:

1. Ultra II not an ASA bat, Sun Lake Rules ASA don't understand and no screen
2. Would support allowing Miken bats to go only to 70+ this would restore status abandoned some years ago
3. Hate the screen, understand we must live with it.
4. Need better support of Monday Program
5. Go to full count



# SLSSA Annual Survey

April 17, 2014

## TOTAL SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESPONSES

1. What age group do you belong?
  - a. 55 to 60. (6 responses)
  - b. 60 to 65. (14 responses)
  - c. 65 to 70 (24 responses) (TOTAL RESPONSES 78)
  - d. 70 to 75.(21 responses) ( TOTAL POSSIBLE RESPONSES 100)
  - e. Above 75.(12 responses)  
One with no age group specified
  
2. The Board would like to know which of the following balls you prefer:
  - a. The 40 core ball used in the current session. (25)
  - b. Go back to the 44 core ball (more velocity) used for the last several years. (51)
  
3. If we could expand our league to, at least eight teams, which of the following would you refer?
  - g. Divide league into two divisions, one with rated players 1 & 2 and one with rated players 3 & 4. (35)
  - h. Leave league as currently configured with six or more teams with rated players 1 thru 4. (41)
  
4. This year we divided our league into three sessions, which would your prefer?
  - a. Continue with three sessions. (55)
  - b. Go back to two sessions. (22)
  
5. We currently play two innings in the field and two innings at bat. It saves time and energy but gives the home team three at bats versus one for the visitors following the top of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> innings.
  - a. Change and alternate every inning. (16)
  - i. Continue with current practice of two innings in the field and at bat. (56)

### SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

September 5, 2014

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10 am by President Ed Sowney.

The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board members Mike Core, Larry Wolfe, Sam Giordano, Ed Sowney and Steve Hilby were present with Board members Jesse Washington and Henry Ellis absent. Association members present were Doug Friesen, Rich Nadler, Denny Davidson, Steve Kay, Mike Gloyd, Bruce McClain, Harry Roehl, Reggie Reese, Gary Hatch, Lou Ricci, Bob Reeves, Ron Brown, Ken Brenden, Dennis LePore, Bill Maxwell, Bill Corso and Chuck Schaan.

It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Hilby that the minutes of the April 30, 2014 Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe presented the Treasurer's Report. He reported that revenue for the 11 months of the current fiscal year was up over budget due in large part to additional revenue from the sales of outfield fence banners. Expenses were higher as a result of the purchase of several tons of fill dirt for the field. This expense remains unpaid, awaiting an adjustment due to the poor quality of the dirt. The financials for the current fiscal year are within \$100 of the budget for the year-to-date. It was moved by Mr. Giordano and seconded by Mr. Hilby that the financial report be accepted. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe then presented the Preliminary Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget. He reported that outfield fence banner revenue was budgeted to be lower due to prepayments of the banners in prior years. Mr. Wolfe said four banner spots are still open and if sold would improve revenue projections. Mr. Wolfe urged SLSSA members to make use of the products offered by the sponsors to show the positive impact to the sponsors of their support. Because of no increase in the annual fees to the members and the purchase of both team shirts and hats for league play, the budget predicts a loss of about \$3,500. Mr. Wolfe said that the financial standing of SLSSA will be able to absorb the loss with no major impact to the SLSSA operation. It was moved by Mr. Hilby and seconded by Mr. Core that the budget be accepted. Motion carried.

Mr. Hilby reported that the over seeding of the Field of Dreams will begin on September 16 and as a result batting practice and pick-up games will be played at Snedigar Park fields five and six beginning on September 16 and continuing for 3 weeks. The play would only be on Tuesday and Thursday. Mr. Hilby also reported that the field will have bases marked for both 65 feet and 70 feet. New pegs for first, second and third bases will be installed.

Mr. Hilby then began a discussion of the possibility of two divisions for 2014-15 league play. Both leagues would play the same number of games and have the same awards, etc. There could be slightly different rules based on issues of safety and softball skills. Mr. Hilby said he had received good, thoughtful responses from the board. He said he understood that SLSSA operates a recreational league. He also said he understood both sides of the discussion. Mr. Wolfe said he is opposed to this as it is a recreational league. He stated that there are safety rules that have reduced possible injuries and felt not much more could be done in that respect. Mr. Wolfe said there are differences in skill levels, some based on age and some on basic talent. He said SLSSA doesn't have enough players for two leagues. He offered the solution that the higher skilled division could use

one of the other days to play a league or pickup games but keep the regular league in place. Mr. Giordano made the point that the league needs to grow and there is a need to recruit. He said perhaps the Board should table the matter until later and continue to try to resolve it. After much discussion by the Board and the Members in attendance, Mr. Core moved that the Board discuss development of a plan to offer more competitive play for higher skilled players but retain the current Tuesday-Thursday League. The Board would bring the plan to the October 10 Board meeting. Mr. Hilby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Giordano reported that a committee will review the SLSSA playing rules to see if any changes needed to be made for the upcoming League play. He will report at the October Board meeting the results of the committee's review.

Mr. Core, on behalf of Mr. Washington, presented information regarding the purchase of new team shirts and caps. Based on Mr. Washington's recommendations it was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Giordano that new shirts and caps be purchased. Motion carried.

Mr. Hilby presented a proposed 2014-15 session one League schedule. In order for each team to have a schedule of 10 double headers (20 games) it would require two teams to play one Saturday doubleheader. Session one would end on Thursday, December 18. There would be no tournament at the end of session one due to the holidays. Mr. Wolfe moved and Mr. Giordano seconded that the schedule be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Giordano reported that a player rating committee is developing a rating system based on several factors. He also said ratings would be adjusted before each of the three sessions to keep current with changes such as injuries which could impact the ratings. He asked that players make a commitment by October 15 if they are intending to play in the League. He wants to get the ratings to the managers in plenty of time before the session one team drafts. He reported that the rules for the draft will be reviewed and adjusted if the rules need changed.

Mr. Core reported that 3 activities open houses in Sun Lakes would be held in October. He asked for at least 3 volunteers to staff the SLSSA booth that would be set up at each of the three locations: Phase I on October 4 from 8:30 to 11:30 am; Cottonwood on October 11 from 9 am to 11 am and Oakwood Clubhouse on October 25 from 9 am to 11 am.

Mr. Sowney presented two mock ups of a banner to be hung at the Field of Dreams when softball games are played. The Board selected the banner that had the field in the background. Mr. Sowney also reported on the condition of the defibrillator at the field. The device is in need of maintenance. Mr. Sowney said he would check with the HOA which placed several defibrillators throughout the community to see about getting it into operating condition. He will report back to the Board in October.

The Board also agreed to experiment with the pitching screen at the field by allowing the pitcher to deliver a pitch from behind the pitching rubber with the screen just to the side of the pitcher. The pitcher could move behind the screen once he has released the ball. If this proves successful it could be adopted in the playing rules next month.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be October 10, 2014.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Core  
Secretary

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION  
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, October 3, 2014

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) was called to order at 10 am by President Ed Sowney. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board members Mike Core, Larry Wolfe, Sam Giordano, Ed Sowney, Jesse Washington and Steve Hilby were present with Board member Henry Ellis absent. Association members present were Denny Davidson, Mike Gloyd, Lou Ricci, Bob Reeves, Ron Brown, Ken Brenden, Dennis LePore, Bill Maxwell, Bill Corso, Duane Kramer, Gary Alexander, Larry Kaufmann and Evan Hansen.

It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Washington that the minutes of the September 5, 2014 Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe presented the Treasurer's update. Due to the early date of the Board meeting, Mr. Wolfe did not have September financials prepared. He reported that he should have them to the Board within a few days. He did report that he expected the fiscal year to finish within budget and that the Association received a \$1,000 credit from the company that delivered a very poor grade of dirt for the infield. Mr. Wolfe also said that a new sponsor for an outfield fence banner, Spooner Physical Therapy, has offered to put on a clinic for stretching and exercising. The consensus of the Board was to schedule this for a date after the return to the Field of Dreams following the over seeding.

Mr. Hilby reported that despite heavy September rains that caused the entire field to be covered with 6-8 inches of water, the over seeding proceeded as scheduled and players will be returning to the field on October 14. Mr. Washington suggested that a work group be formed following the return to the field to trim up the warning track.

Mr. Core and Mr. Giordano made brief reports regarding the deadline (October 15) for submission of applications and the need to recruit a few more players for Session 1 which

will begin October 28. Mr. Giordano said he expected enough players would enroll to have 11 on each team. The possibility exists that two or three non-residents could be used and still be within the 25% limit of non-resident players.

Mr. Giordano said that the date for the Session 1 draft has been set for October 20 at 9 am. He presented the rules for the draft as follows:

1. Player sign-up by October 15
2. Draft will be Monday, October 20
3. Each manager will receive a ranking order of the players before the draft.
4. Managers will draw for the draft order.
5. Player selections will be in a serpentine order.
6. Managers will draft themselves in a corresponding round based on their individual ratings and committee ranking.
7. The draft will continue through the appropriate number of rounds to fill the required number of teams with players for that session.
8. The trade deadline will be November 9 as this will allow time for the managers to assess their team and implement trades. All trades will need the approval of the Draft Rules Board member.

It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Wolfe to approve the rules as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Hilby presented a proposed weekly calendar for field use during league play. After much discussion Mr. Hilby moved that the proposal be adopted as presented with the assurance that the womens' team will be accommodated for its schedule, and, that the 3 and 4 rated players and any other unrated players will have their own separate program to be scheduled on the open field on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. It was seconded by Mr. Wolfe. Motion carried. (See the attached Field Utilization Schedule)

Mr. Washington presented an update for the new shirts and hats to be used in the 2014-15 league season. He reported he is still waiting for one of the sponsors to send their funds.

Mr. Core reminded the Board of the upcoming Activities Open Houses at Phase 1, Cottonwood and Oakwood during the month of October. He asked for some volunteers to help staff the booths at each event.

Mr. Sowney presented to the Board a banner that will be displayed at the Field of Dreams on days when softball is being played. He also announced that the HOA will be repairing the defibrillator for the field. He also told the Board that training classes will be set up for use of the defibrillator.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board will be November 14.

With no other business, Mr. Sowney adjourned the meeting.

Respectively submitted,

Michael Core  
Secretary

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION  
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting, November 14, 2014

President Ed Sowney called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) to order at 10 am. The meeting was held in the Library Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board members Ken Brenden, Larry Wolfe, Sam Giordano, Ed Sowney, and Jesse Washington were present with Board members Mike Core and Steve Hilby absent. Association members present were Dennis LePore, TJ Tjernlund, Art Isley and Dennis Davidson.

It was moved by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Mr. Giordano that the minutes of the October 3, 2014 Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe presented the Treasurer's update. It was moved by Mr. Brenden and second by Mr. Washington that the treasure report be approved. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe recommended moving the time for second games up by 15 minutes to 10:45 am. After discussion, no motion was made on this recommendation at this time as we may have Spooner Therapy come down between games to teach members proper pre-game stretching exercises. Mr. Wolfe has had discussions with Spooner Therapy about using them to demonstrate how to do proper stretching before games. They are available on Tuesday and Saturday. Mr. Larry Wolfe will talk to them about coming between double headers on different Tuesdays at 10:30 am.

Mr. Wolfe spoke about setting up a memoriam on the website to honor deceased players. Mr. Washington will put some details together on how we should go forward on the memoriam. He will report back to the board at the December meeting.

Discussion was led by Sam Giordano on the rules now temporarily in effect for play in the first session.

1. 70 feet bases: There was discussion on whether we should continue to use this length in the second session. It was decided that a poll should be taken by all managers with their players on keeping them at 70 feet or moving them back to 65 feet. Mr. Giordano is going to put together the reasons the board decided to try 70 feet bases as a trial. Before the managers take the poll, this explanation will be read to the players. The board will evaluate the poll results, and make the final decision.
2. Substitute players: Managers needing substitute players should make every effort to use players from the sub list or from teams with a scheduled bye before

- selecting players that are already playing that day. It is recognized that there will be unique situations when a player will be needed and selected from a team that is playing that same day.
3. Unlimited home run rule: This rule has not been a factor in the games so far this season. It may be a bigger factor as we get cooler temperature. Therefore no action was taken at this time.
  4. Two rules that will take effect immediately:
    1. Substitute runners: If the game enters into extra innings, then the current rule for substitute runners will re-set. That is, the teams will have one substitute runner per extra inning and all runners will be eligible to substitute run one time during the extra innings.
    2. If a player is hurt at any time during the game, the player may be replaced by a substitute of the same rating or lower and will bat in the injured players batting order.

Mr. Giordano offered the idea of creating an annual SLSSA calendar. By using such a calendar it would keep players informed and players aware of deadlines for sign ups. He also suggested that a master e-mail list should be used to inform members. The e-mail list should be updated regularly to make sure we have the proper addresses. Mr. Washington moved and Mr. Wolfe seconded that the roster cutoff for second session be December 11, and the draft for second session be held on December 15. Motion carried.

The Board was informed that there would be tournament play at the field. Member Bill Corso has scheduled a tournament December 13 and 14 with 3 teams from Sun Lakes and additional fourth team.

Mr. Brenden has tentatively scheduled a tournament for January 9-11 with invitations going out to the three Sun Lakes teams. Mr. Brenden volunteered to get the food for the tournament and get volunteers to help serve.

Mr. Sowney told the Board he would check with Charlene Ellis to see the status of ladies league.

With no other business, Mr. Sowney adjourned the meeting.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Core, Secretary with the assistance of Ken Brenden

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION  
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, December 12, 2014

President Ed Sowney called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA) to order at 10:06 am. The meeting

was held in the Bradford Room in the Oakwood Clubhouse Building. Board members Ken Brenden, Ed Sowney, Mike Core, Jesse Washington, Larry Wolfe, Sam Giordano and Steve Hilby were present. Association members present were Bill Corso, Dennis Davidson, TJ Tjernlund, Gary Alexander, Dennis LePore, Frank Tanner, Gary Hillabolt, Bill Maxwell, John Seigla, Gary Hatch and Doug Friesen.

It was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Steve Hilby that the minutes of the November 14, 2014 Board meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe, Treasurer, presented a brief report noting that year-to-date dues are down approximately \$900 from budget. However, the sales of additional advertising banners have made up for the shortfall. Association expenses are also approximately \$1,000 under budget leaving the Association's bottom line \$1,000 to the good.

Mr. Giordano presented a review on the temporary rules that were used during Session 1 league play. Mr. Giordano stated that a poll of the teams was conducted on the question of whether SLSSA should return to the use of 65 foot bases or stay with the Session 1 implemented 70 foot bases. He said that the poll was 48 in favor of keeping the 70 foot bases while only 14 wanted to return to the 65 foot bases. He also noted that the home plate for scoring runners was viewed as positive. Based on the poll and further discussion it was moved by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Brenden that SLSSA keep the 70 foot bases with the 30 foot commitment line. Motion carried.

Mr. Giordano said that the rules changes made to pitching from the front rubber, and the use of a narrower pitcher protection screen being 11 feet 3 inches from the rubber should be retained. It was the consensus of the Board to stay with this rule. Association Member Gary Hillabolt volunteered to develop an improved screen to provide less impact damage to a ball hitting the frame of the screen. Mr. Giordano asked the Board to discuss the question about the differences that exist in the rating of number one players and the impact on substitutions. After discussion, Mr. Wolfe moved and Mr. Hilby seconded that the rating committee should rate them as best it could and work out any issues that might arise. Motion carried.

Mr. Giordano asked the Board to discuss the temporary rule of allowing unlimited home runs by a player. After discussion it was moved by Mr. Core and seconded by Mr. Giordano that league play return to the previous one-up home run rule with the affected home run being scored as a single and all runners moving up one base. Motion carried.

Mr. Brenden raised the issue of courtesy runners. Mr. Brenden asked if the Board would consider allowing multiple runners in a single inning, but each only being allowed to be a courtesy runner once during the game. After discussion Mr. Brenden moved and Mr. Core seconded that only once per game could a manager use unlimited runners in any inning subject to the courtesy runner not having run before in the same game. Motion failed by a 4-3 vote.



The Board discussed the use of substitute players. It was moved by Mr. Brenden and seconded by Mr. Washington that if an injury occurs at any time during the game, the manager may, for the balance of the game, use a substitute that has the appropriate rating to take the place of the injured player. Motion carried.

Mr. Brenden moved and it was seconded by Mr. Washington that if team is short of players at the beginning of the game they can be substituted for with a same rated player at any time during the game and such subs shall go to the bottom of the batting order. Motion carried.

Mr. Giordano reported to the Board that the second session teams are anticipated to have 11 players on each team. Mr. Hilby presented the schedule for the second session. It includes one Saturday date in order to have each team play the same number of games in Session 2.

Mr. Wolfe reported on the banquet. He informed the Board that the date is set for Monday, March 30. More details will be forthcoming.

Mr. Sowney thanked Mr. Hilby for stepping into managing a team during Session 1. Mr. Sowney also reported that Mr. Brenden has been assigned to work with Dennis LePore on scorekeepers and umpires and also will be in charge of field security. Mr. Sowney thanked Gary Alexander for being in charge of obtaining special SLSSA golf shirts for members who desired to order them.

Mr. Washington gave a brief report on the development of an in memoriam page on the website.

Finally, the Board restored Monday play as it has been in the past. Beginning on the first Monday in January, and continuing each Monday through the end of league play, any Association member is welcomed for 9am batting practice and a follow-up pick-up game which will conclude no later than 11 am.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board will be January 9, 2015. Mr. Sowney adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Core, Secretary