

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Oakwood Clubhouse Library

Wednesday, January 14, 2026, 3:30 p.m.

Directors participating were Messrs. Kratz, Molter, Neumann, Rodgers, Santucci and Mrs. Hilby

Not in attendance was Mr. Wolfe

Guests attending were Gary Hillabolt, Dennis Kennedy, Dennis LePore, Dan Malachuk

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Rodgers at 3:31 p.m.

The minutes of the December Board meeting were previously sent out to all Directors. Mr. Santucci motioned to approve the December minutes. Mr. Kratz seconded. Motion carried.

Unable to attend the meeting, Mr. Wolfe provided the financials which were read into the minutes. December was the third month of our 2025-2026 Fiscal Year. On a year-to-date basis, revenues are \$1,362 more than the budget. We had two unbudgeted revenue items in December. We received \$400 from Serene Solutions for sponsorship of the Lady Sluggers and a \$400 donation from a player who wishes to remain anonymous. Banner advertising revenues were \$245 to the good while men's dues were also \$245 to the good. Those four items account for more of the surplus. Direct Costs of Sales were \$994 below budget, but some of that is a timing issue. Total operating expenses were \$166 below budget with the largest variances being field supplies (\$600 below budget) and the unbudgeted cost of the Lady Slugger uniforms (\$400). All other expense categories were close to budget. The result of these variances resulted in our bottom line being \$2,521 to the good for the first three months. Mrs. Hilby motioned to accept the financial report. Mr. Santucci seconded. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hilby reported that membership is up to 103 full and 8 recreational memberships for a total of 111 members. That is counting one player who just returned and hasn't yet paid. We have 18 paid members for the women (Mrs. Hilby is a regular member of the association). In the men's league, 15% are IronOaks, 31% are Sun Lakes, and 54% are nonresidents. In the women's league, 42% are IronOaks, 36% are Sun Lakes, and 21% are nonresidents.

We continue to monitor the HOA fees. As of last Friday, there are 9 players who are currently playing who have not paid. There are 13 people who have joined our association but not currently playing mostly for health reasons. If they begin playing again, we will get information to them about paying their HOA fees. Mrs. Hilby will follow up with managers and players.

The men's cookout is scheduled for February 26. The ladies' cookout will be the day before on the 25th. Mr. Neumann asked Mrs. Hilby to send an email soliciting help with the grilling.

Mr. Wolfe was contacted by the Dirt Dogs letting us know they will no longer be renting the field. The boys have moved on to the next level. They wanted to thank us for what we've done over the years. This will negatively impact our budgeted revenue. Variances will show up.

Mr. Santucci shared that everything is going well right now in league play. He noted that yesterday there were two game balls left in the rocks. The tee was left out and is broken, and balls were left out next to the tee. We would like umpires to make sure game balls are accounted for at the end of the game. Mr. Santucci will email managers to ask them to have someone retrieve home run balls and to remind players to put away the tee and practice balls.

Mr. Molter gave an update on purchasing. The 11-inch balls for the ladies' games disappeared from the kitchen. He ordered replacements, and they have arrived. The new Sluggers jerseys had an incorrect email address for the sponsor, so those uniforms are being reprinted. We have one hat left. He's not sure if we can order more because they normally require ordering in groups of 24. He will wait to determine the need.

There is a new landscaping company for the HOA. Mr. Kratz met with our contact, giving him a tour of the field and explaining our needs while focusing on the grass. They will explore changing the grass cutting from Wednesday to Monday as there will be fewer playing days between mowings. Gary Hillabolt has made some improvements to the backstop fencing to prevent glare off cars. The electrician has been working on the problem with electricity to the scorer's booth. After the last adjustments, she turned everything on, waited an hour and did not encounter any problems. Hopefully the problem has been resolved.

Mr. Neumann had no new rules to discuss. There have been no issues with pitchers staying behind the screen. He is tweaking the way some of the rules are written to further clarify, but there are no changes in the rules. The updated rules will be posted on our website.

Mr. Rodgers pointed out that the wording of the annual awards hasn't been updated since 2011. He will prepare an update for discussion at the next meeting.

The 2026-27 Board election is approaching. Mr. Rodgers has formed a nominating committee including Marty Hobby, Dan Melosi and David Swann. Dan Melosi will be asked to serve as chairman. The election will be held the first week of March.

Mr. Neumann brought up the rating of players. There were players drafted lower than their ability. Mr. Neumann questioned if we should have a rule requiring players to be drafted by a specific level. No changes were recommended.

Dennis LePore shared a safety concern regarding batting practice. The basket that holds the softballs should be behind the pitcher during batting practice to avoid a repeat of a ball ricocheting off the basket and injuring a player.

Mr. Rodgers set the next meeting for February 11, 2026. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26.

Respectfully submitted

Cyndy Hilby
SLSSA Board Secretary