



NSS Board Meeting

October 15, 2024

Attendance:

Board Members			
X	Rick DuVall	Tom Holder	X
X	Marty Boozikee	Bob Garcia	X
X	Roger Clapper	Mike Marlow	X
X	Bob Dalziel	Dave Sanderson	X
Others in Attendance			
X	Kathleen DuVall	Augie Roper	X
X	Gary Kruse	Ed Tworek	X
X	Doyle Ollis	Bo Boozikee	X
X	Jim Price	Roger Hein	X
X	Mike Gaughan		

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Approval of the Minutes

Roger made the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Tom, all were in favor and the motion passed.

New Business

Pitching Helmets - Rick DuVall

This was a topic that was discussed via email concerning a player who is using only a pitching mask and not a full helmet, though the Board decided at the February meeting that more than a mask is needed. The Rule Book was never changed to reflect that decision, and currently indicates that a mask or helmet must be worn or that the pitching screen must be used. Rick made a motion to allow the Fall Tournament to use the rules based on the current Rule Book, regardless of the previous Board decision. Bob D. seconded the motion. Bob D., Dave, Mike, Tom, Rick were in favor. Roger and Marty and Bob G. were opposed. The motion passed but the change of the Rule Book will need to be updated during the off-season.

Umpires for Fall Tournament - Rick DuVall

The current plan is that there are UBA umpires scheduled for the fall tournament games. Tom made a motion that we pay the scheduled UBA umpires but utilize Augie Roper and Mike Gaughan to umpire

the games instead. Marty seconded. Bob D., Roger, Mike, Tom, Dave, Marty and Rick were in favor. Bob G. abstained. The motion passed.

Playing Rule Changes -Gary Kruse

Gary presented a petition that he circulated considering the institution of any new playing rules. The content of what Gary stated during the meeting is attached as Addendum A.

Dave made a motion to move this to the November meeting to allow the new Board to address the petition results. The motion was seconded by Bob G. All were in favor.

During the discussion, it was reiterated that the survey is not a vote. It is something that is taken into consideration by the Board as they determine what is best for the league and the players.

Bob D. recommended that the proposed rule change be sent to the players after the Board meeting and then a second "read" of the rule change happens at the next Board meeting, taking the player input into account. This will be taken into consideration by the 2025 Board.

Board Assignments - Mike Marlow

The Board welcomed the newest members and those existing members that are changing roles. The addition/changes to the Board are as follows:

Finance - Doyle Ollis

Rules/Umpires - Augie Roper

Player/Personnel - Jim Price

Commissioner - Mike Marlow

Old Business

Board Updates

Player Personnel - Mike Marlow

No further updates. There are some players that should have been reevaluated but it was too late in the season to change. This will be rectified with the next draft.

Field Operations - Roger Clapper

The Board was notified on October 3rd that the city of LaVista will be updating the lighting at the fields. Work will not start until after the fall season is complete and the upgrade comes with 60' light poles. We will have new, better, LED lights on the fields starting with our 2025 spring/summer season.

Rules & Umpires - Bob Garcia

No further updates. He has some contacts if the league would like to do self-umpiring that he will pass on before he leaves the league.

Purchasing & Inventory - Marty Boozikee

Everything is ready for the banquet and they just need a final count on 11/3.

Lifetime achievement award - Marty proposed a player and Tom seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Marty will get the awards ordered.

Ed made a motion for a player to receive the Andy Johnson Courage Award. The question is what criteria is there for the recipient and it was decided that this is something that the 2025 Board tackle.

Shirts are ordered and on the way. Once the Fall Tournament is complete, she will order the jackets .

Commissioner – Rick DuVall

Banquet Update:

Invocation - Rick has been unable to find an attendee to do the invocation. It was suggested that Bill Bowes might be an option so Rick will reach out to him.

Award presentors:

Team Mate of the Year - Bob Garcia

Coach of the Year - Dave

Denny Z Award - Tom

Lifetime - Marty

Commissioner - Rick

Marketing, Publicity, & Communications - Tom Holder

Tom mentioned the NPR interview that was done. It was posted to the NSS site, the web, Facebook etc. He believes that it was a great advertisement for the league.

He will send emails about banquet and the Fall Tournament.

Tom thanked the outgoing Board members and the league secretary that are all leaving after this meeting and the banquet.

Tom and Mike are still working with Mackovicka and MDOne as possible sponsors. They have a Zoom later this week to discuss with them again. They would like their logo on all communications and web site going out to which Mike/Tom agreed. They are also talking about providing some free services. Since this is still in the works, the 2025 Board will continue to monitor the progress.

Finance & Registration - Bob Dalziel

Money is starting to come in for the banquet.

Bob is still working on the 501(c)(3) and agreed to stay working on it even after he leaves the Board. Once it is complete, he recommends a new bank account, a new Pay Pal account and a PO Box. He will work on a clean transfer of the accounts to Doyle.

The bank account is healthy but there are still bills to be paid.

Manager of Web Services - Dave Sanderson

He will be changing the director email addresses so they point to the new Board members in addition to the existing Board member until November.

Scheduling - Dave Sanderson

Dave reported that the tournament is going well. Managers need to post scores so he knows who to put in the brackets.

Parking Lot Items

2025S/F schedule discussion - Information from Dave Sanderson's 5/21/24 email:

- Change the 2025S season to extend into Aug (longer summer), thus making 2025F shorter
- Change 2025S to play MWTh
- Add one or more divisions
- Have only one division

Player Ejection - from the September Board Meeting

Requiring the wearing of league jerseys - from the October meeting

Adjournment

Dave made a motion to adjourn. Tom seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Next meetings:

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Tuesday, January 14, 2024

All meetings are held at 6:00 PM at Sean O'Casey's - 2523 S 140th Ave, Omaha, NE unless otherwise noted.

Addendum A

The Nebraska Senior Softball League has been in existence for over 25 years. We have enjoyed success during this period because of the dedication and perseverance of its board of directors and all the players that comprise the league. During this time we have had to make changes that befitted all players so that we could enjoy the game we love. Change is inevitable and sometimes necessary to improve the game for everyone. Our motto has always been Fun, Fellowship, and fitness. As a senior league, our players' age and younger players enter the picture. We have made adjustments in the past to accommodate our most senior players so that they can continue to feel important to their teams. We have also tried to keep parity among all the teams. That has been our goal and we would hope to continue that. Whenever change was needed we had our ways of getting the necessary feedback from our players before instituting any changes to our league. Our board has always been very transparent in keeping players advised of any changes being contemplated. The board is in existence to govern our league and carry out the necessary responsibilities associated with running a league. Our league, is its players that comprise it. When a playing rule change was proposed, the players were always involved in the discussion. In the beginning this was done at an end of year league meeting and now with surveys and of course board discussions.

Enter the new Guard in 2024. With the election of new members it has come to my attention that rule changes are under discussion to be put in place without input from the league (our players). That is my reason for standing before you today. I have taken it upon myself to create this petition on how playing rule changes should be implemented in our league. What is a playing rule? A playing rule is one that directly affects how the game is played. One such example is no limit on how many times a person can be a base runner in a game. You have in your hands the results of my petition. As you can see the players want, no they demand our league to continue as it has been by a 93.6% vote. Let me repeat that, 93.6 %. We have flourished as an organization for many years and everyone who said yes on this petition, made their voice be heard that they want it to continue so. I request that our board consider this petition and vote tonight to incorporate this petition or a procedure like this one into our by-laws for players to have input concerning any new playing rule for Nebraska Senior Softball. I have been in this league for 20 years, and this league has always made me feel like I was a part of something. I leave everyone with this question to ask themselves, "Who is Nebraska Senior Softball"? I know my answer, it is the players, and Nebraska Senior Softball is asking you to make this petition a by-law tonight.