

COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting Minutes - March 13, 2009
Highland Recreation Center

1. **Meeting Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by Emilio Sanelli. Board members present: Emilio Sanelli, Stan Harbour, Mike Massong, Bob Lowrey, Gene Anderson.
Board members absent: Tom Fernandez, Robin Garneau, Jerry Lautiger, Jerry Nethercot, David Spoerke
2. **Guests:** Sanelli introduced Al Williams (Aurora 70's) and Doug Kinney (Scrap Iron Diamonds).
Sanelli allowed Williams to raise an issue of "BATS". Williams is concerned with the new bat rules, i.e. the new bat rule (Rule #5.4) which follows the USSSA bat rules. Williams states that the USSSA website shows some 38 pages of approved bats, and the difficulties that might arise in having an umpire enforce these rules. Discussion on this issue ensued. Conclusions→ Massong will put together some info on the bat issue and provide to Lowrey for posting on the CSSA web-site. Also, the same information will be included in the packages that are sent to the managers with the 2009 first half schedules.
3. **Approval of Minutes, January and Spring Managers Meetings:** Lowrey passed out copies of the February 20, 2009 meeting (Managers Meeting). Massong motioned that the minutes of the both meetings (Jan. 16 and Feb. 20) be approved; Second by Lowrey and the minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** There was no written treasurer's report available, but the numbers should be the same as at the Feb. 20th meeting, i.e. a balance of \$77. Anderson stated that at the Feb. 20th meeting, the ASA rep (Lorie Swoop) had stated that she would be making a contribution to CSSA, so that would be added to the balance. Sanelli also stated that he had received 14 checks with team registration forms.
5. **Board Vacancies Update:** Sanelli stated that the Board had no vacancies at this time. Gene Anderson has taken the Board position created with the recent resignation of John Clinard. The term of this Board position, the second year of Bill Breithaupt's second term, expires in the fall of 2009.
6. **Tournament Venue and Suggestions:** Sanelli stated that the 2009 tournament would be at Shaeffer Complex (Kipling and Hampden), Aug. 17-20, with Aug. 21st as a rain-out day. Massong stated that the concessions would be open for the tournament except maybe late on the last day to allow for cleanup. Sanelli asked for any suggestions. Massong suggested that a "condensed" rule sheet, similar to the pre-game sheet in the Rules package, should be developed and used with any new umpires, or umpires not accustomed to senior rules. The tournament committee will address prior to the tournament.

- 7. Sort Registrations:** Sanelli and Harbour had sorted the team registration forms prior to the start of the meeting, putting teams in groups or Divisions from the 2008 second half.
- 8. Build Divisions:** It was agreed that this exercise would be done at the end of the meeting- see Item 8. (cont'd) further down.
- 9. Assign Standings Secretaries:** Standings Secretaries were assigned at the Board meeting on January 16, 2009 (refer to those minutes). Only change that needs to be done is for C-2 Division; Bill Breithaupt will replace John Clinard as Standing Secretary for C-2.
After meeting note: After the Board meeting, and based on phone conversations between Sanelli, Harbour, Don Carpenter and Robin Garneau, it was agreed that Don Carpenter would be the Standings Secretary for the B-1 Division and Stan Harbour would be the Standings Secretary for the B-2 Division.
- 10. Assign March/April Timeline Duties:** Reviewed the master timeline as follows: (Only reporting on items where actions are required, not things already done)
 - Review Spring Mangers meeting- nothing major to report; considerable discussion was held regarding the increase in team fees and softball costs.
 - Scheduling Committee meets after March Board meeting to schedule 70's Division 14 week season, Wednesday Divisions 1st 7 weeks and mail out schedules with other pertinent information. It was agreed that Anderson would develop the 70's schedule and Harbour would develop the Wednesdays schedule; both would then provide to Lowrey and Sanelli for posting on the web-site and for printing/packaging/mailing. Timing was not firmed up, but this will be done as soon as possible. Sanelli will request help from Board members for stuffing envelopes when required.
- 11. Other:**
 - Sanelli noted that there would be a need to obtain scorebooks during 2009 as all previously in stock were handed out at the Feb. Managers meeting. Sanelli and Massong will work on this issue.
 - Brush, CO team- Sanelli advised that a team from Brush had submitted a registration form for 2009. Sanelli has been in discussion with their reps, and the issue is whether this team should be included in 2009 and where they would play their "home" games. Discussion was held on all the issues. The general feeling was that it would not be advisable to require the other teams in whatever division the Brush team was in to travel to Brush for games. Anderson motioned that CSSA place a distance limitation of a 65 mile radius of Denver; Massong seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Sanelli agreed to contact the Brush reps, and advise them that they would be required to make arrangements to play their home games closer to Denver, possibly Greeley, an option that has been discussed briefly between Sanelli and Carrie Fehringer in Greeley, or

Broomfield based on discussions between Sanelli and Robin Garneau. A deadline of Wednesday, March 18th, was set for this matter to be resolved.

12. Next Meeting: There is no meeting scheduled in April. The May meeting is set for Friday, May 1st, 9:30 AM, at the Highlands Recreation Center. Sanelli will advise if there are any problems with meeting at HRC.

8. Build Divisions (cont'd):

- **70's Division-** There are 12 teams registered for the Monday 70's Division. Discussion was held on how to divide the 12 teams, i.e. 2- 6 team groups/tiers, 3- 4 team groups, etc. Massong motioned that 3- 4 team groups be developed, with teams placed in the groups based on competitive level; Harbour seconded and it was approved unanimously. Anderson, Sanelli and Williams worked out the three groups as follows:

Gold Group (Top)- Colorado Cougars; Denver USA 70's; Scrap Iron 70's Green; Scrap Iron 70's Red

Silver Group (Middle)- Johnson Blue Jays; Longmont 70's; Silverstreaks; Wheeler Management Group

Bronze Group (Lower)- Aurora 70's; Covenant Village; Golden Oldies; Lakewood Lyons

- **Wednesdays Divisions- B-1 to E-** There are 52 teams registered for the Wednesday Divisions; 48 teams returning from 2008 (there were 50 in the second half of 2008), plus 4 new teams. Harbour provided a sheet listing the teams in their 2008 Divisions, ranked from top (best record in B-1) to Bottom (worst record in E). The 4 new teams were inserted into the listing based on best available information regarding their competitive level. Based on the prepared ranking/listing, Harbour proposed that divisions should contain 8 teams if at all possible, so for 52 teams, there would be 5 eight team divisions and 2 six team divisions. Harbour proposed and broke the teams into divisions as follows:

B-1 Division: Kennel Kough (played as Lakewood Oldies in 2008); Evergreen #1; Ace-Hi; Loveland; Longmont Scrappers; Golden Silvers; Wheat Ridge Express; Scrap Iron Diamonds.

B-2 Division: JC & the Sunset Boys; Broomfield; Edward Jones; Denver Eagles; Frontier Club (played as Cherry Creek Travel in 2008); Greeley; Evergreen #2; APEX Blue (played as North Jeffco Blue in 2008)

C-1 Division: Prime Time; Castle Rockies; Johnson Blue Jays; Louisville Bulls (played as Boulder Bulls in 2008); Evergreen #3; APEX Red (played as North Jeffco Red in 2008); Bears (played as Lakewood Bears in 2008); Scrap Iron 65's Red (new in 2009)

C-2 Division: JR Engineering; Lakewood Cougars; Colorado Cougars; Perkins-Westminster; Greeley Odds & Ends; Triple D Ranch; Evergreen #4 (new in 2009); Louisville Miners

D-1 Division: Longmont; Lakewood Hawks; APEX White (played as North Jeffco White in 2008); Berkley Braves; Broomfield Eagles; Nestle Butterfingers; Scrap Iron 80's (played as Scrap Iron 75's in 2008); Erie Tigers (new in 2009)

D-2 Division: Copy Cats; Edward Jones; Westminster; Golden Eagles; Wheat Ridge Silver Foxes; Evergreen #5

E Division: Castle Rockers; Coldwell Bankers; Malley Cats; Louisville Sluggers (played as Boulder Olders in 2008); Gamblers; Greeley Gray Gophers; Brown Insurance Agency (new in 2009)

Note: If the Brush team is accepted for play on Wednesdays, they would be placed in either the D-2 or E Division as a seventh team, which would mean that in that division, there would be one team each week that would have a "bye", and that each team in that division would play six games in the first half season.

All agreed with the proposed division alignments and that Harbour would develop schedules for the Wednesday Divisions as soon as possible and provide to Lowrey and Sanelli for posting on the web-site and mailing out to managers..

13. Adjournment: Massong motioned that the meeting be adjourned; second by Harbour and approved unanimously.

Minutes recorded by Stan Harbour; 3-14-09