

## **SaddleBrooke Senior Softball Board of Directors Meeting November 13, 2023 Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM. Present were Peter Romeo, Len Gann, Paul Auster, George Corrick, Barry Emmons, and Chuck Kill. Rick Ervin was absent. Also present were Nick Longo, Phil Cavicchia, and Ron Quarantino.

**-Review October '23 Treasurer's Report** – accepted after some questions and comments on specific line items. We are running \$1264 ahead of budget for the month and \$615 behind for the year but we're still expecting some sponsor payments. The October Dog Park water payment was not received but has been received in November. We also had a \$12 return check charge due to a sponsor payment error. Paul will request it back. One large expense last month was \$880 for dirt. We did receive \$3900 in annual Sponsorship renewals.

Barry asked about the chalk and gypsum lines since we have \$400 budgeted for chalk and no expense but \$456 in gypsum expense but no budget. It's the same thing, just in different bucket. Barry also asked if Chuck has clarified if the Board Insurance and General Liability insurance are duplicating what the HOA provides. Chuck says it is not the same.

**-October Meeting Minutes** – Peter reviewed some completed items noted in the October minutes:

- \*SB Softball has now been registered with the HOA thru 2024.
- \*By-Law changes were sent to the Board members and responses received. The changes have now been sent to the members to be voted on.
- \*The new Music rule and updated Uniform rule have been sent to the members via email. The website will be updated after the bylaw changes are approved by the members.
- \*Neck Drape example pictures have also been posted on the Uniform page for reference.
- \*Peter noted one update in the minutes: Len Gann's item about courtesy catchers was updated to reflect that a courtesy catcher can be recruited from the stands at any time during the game.

**-Sponsorship Program** – Paul Auster reviewed the status of the sponsors & banners. 54 positions with 8 not paid for 2024. New sponsors have replaced those who have formally declined to renew. Two of the new sponsors also sponsored the Veterans Day Tournament. The website has been updated with all new sponsor names and website links.

Paul also discussed the half-page "Thank-You" ad placed in the SB Newspapers by the SB Golf Association in which listed their sponsors. The cost was about \$350 per ad. Paul's opinion was it was probably not worth the cost since we already have the banners and list many sponsor names in the paper each month.

**-HOA Activity Fair** - Chuck to register and coordinate the SSSA's participation.

**-Non-SSSA Games** - The SB Dance Club VS the HOA Game – The dance club has requested a game against the HOA's for April 6, 2024 from 3-6PM. Since the Dance Club members are all SB residents, the board agreed and will suggest a donation. Further details will follow on SSSA involvement (umpires, scorekeepers, etc.)

SaddleBrooke Ranch vs. HOA 1&2 - A suggestion was made about a game between SSSA members who reside in the SB Ranch have a game against SSSA members from HOA 1&2. The board agreed to further discussions but many details need to be ironed out. i.e. what level of play (Rec, Sidewinder, Community), dates, etc.

**-Uniform Policy** – This was distributed to the members in October. Some members have claimed a medical exception. Peter has countered that floppy hats do not provide the same coverage as the neck-drapes and has questioned why they do not cover their arms or legs. Peter suggested a possible change to the rule's wording to either replace the Medical Exceptions sentence with "Exceptions require board approval" or just

add Board Approval is required after med exception. No move was made and no vote was taken. It will be brought up again in December. There was much discussion on the use of exceptions vs. upholding the rules as approved in the last BOD meeting. i.e. drapes vs. wide-brimmed hats. The umpire uniform was discussed. Specifically wide-brimmed hats and black shorts. No change was requested or voted on.

**CTS Rule Change** – Nick presented two rule changes.

#1 4.3 – Courtesy Catcher. It allows a courtesy catcher to be recruited from the stands at any time during the game with both managers' approval. After discussion, it was agreed to add the phrase "and will not bat". The Board unanimously approved with the added phrase.

#2 4.2 – Substitutes. The change removes the reference to "11 in Rover Games". It was unanimously approved as written.

**2024 Budget** – Peter requested budget changes/additions to be sent to George soon. Barry gave George a document with 3 banner board replacement options based on number of boards changed.

Peter opened up the floor to additional comments.

Nick described an Opening Day Ceremony that another association does at the beginning of the season. They announce games, have potluck lunches, introduce players/managers, etc. This could be done on a Saturday before our winter season in January.

Ron Q. commented on his dislike of the rule allowing the managers to choose to play with a rover or not with 11 players. Peter responded that there is no choice with 12 or 13 players but with 11 it allows the managers some autonomy to run their team. Also Ron's request must go through the Rules Committee.

Barry asked:

- If there has been any planning for the Winter League championship. Yes, same as last two years. We just need to determine what award to use. Hats or t-shirts again, or something new.
- He also suggested the use of street corner signage for the tournaments to promote attendance. Estate Sales, Sunday church, Pet Rescue, etc. use them weekly. We need to contact each HOA to see if there are any special rules or prohibitions.
- He also advised an order for umpire shirts was needed soon but suggested going out to former umpires who got the free shirt but only umpired for a short time to try to obtain the shirts if only gently used. He has a list of 6-7 from Debbie Seguin. No one had a concern with Barry contacting them.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:40

Submitted by Barry Emmons