

9/5/2018 2nd DRAFT Minutes HUMBOLDT SENIOR CLASSIC SOFTBALL  
ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: 6:05 PM

OFFICERS PRESENT:

President: Dan Duncan

Vice President: Rick Mitchell

Treasurer: Tom Marking

Commissioner: Paul Woodland

Members Present: Buzz Johnson, Brenda Blair, Fred Dellagatta, Larry Pardi, David Schlosser, Mike Pinske, Mike Owen, Bill Hicks, Robert Ruehl, Bob Nickel, Bill Brittain, Dennis Rosser, Steve Stamnes.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

OPENING REMARKS: Dan Duncan

Dan welcomed everyone, especially those who don't usually attend these board meetings. We will first handle board business and then open it up to a general meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Motion to approve: Paul Woodland, 2nd Rick Mitchell; Passed 4-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tom Marking

Beginning Bank Balance \$4,342.29, Deposits none, Deductions \$676.03, Outstanding Checks none, Ending Bank Balance \$3,666.26.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Reports for 8/31/2018 by Paul Woodland, 2nd by Rick Mitchell. Passed 4-0.

REPORT FROM COMMISSIONER: Paul Woodland

Paul has received 4 contacts from players who want to play senior softball next year.

FIELD COMMITTEE REPORT: Dan Duncan

The Field Committee members are Mark Raymond, Dan Duncan, Tom Marking and Bill Hicks.

Dan told everyone that the College of the Redwoods field will not be available next year and that we currently have 2 new field scenarios.

1. Arcata Fields - The city of Arcata gave us a verbal commitment to let us use their fields. The season's cost for 4 games/week at the Arcata fields and 2 games/week at Pacific Union is \$2456. With the additional expense of professional umpires next year (\$1875 umpires) the total cost would be \$4352.

2. Somoa Field - Dan Johnson has a 99 year lease on the field property. He

wants to support us with the following;

- a. A crew to maintain the field.
- b. Dugouts - concrete between dugouts, dugout benches.
- c. Storage
- d. We would have to provide bleachers and the forming for concrete.
- e. We would add a 50+ division (requested by Dan Johnson as he would play in it)

that would play Monday and Wednesday. The 58+ division would play Tuesday and Thursday.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE REPORT: David Schlosser

BY-Laws committee members are David Schlosser, Tom Marking, Larry Pardi and Mark Raymond

The by-laws committee will present a proposal for by-law changes at the October 3rd special meeting. One change is proposing to include managers or their appointed representative in voting on board business along with the board members. It was felt that too few members were making decisions for the whole league. A draft of the proposed changes will be sent out ahead of the meeting.

POST-GAME ALCOHOL ISSUE: Tom Marking

Security had to stop some drinking by Senior ball players at College of the Redwoods. This has happened a couple of times before. This is a liability issue, especially if you have an accident driving away causing property damage or injuring someone. The prohibition of drinking alcohol is in our rules of play. School's are non alcohol sites. The city of Arcata has the same rules. Same at the Samoa field which is school property. We impress upon the managers to govern their team members. Tom will write up recommendations to present at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING: Paul Woodland

Dan Duncan read the definition of a General meeting from the by-laws. It is to cover team composition, playing rules, cost and schedule. The goal is to get input to improve the playing experience.

Bob suggested moving the outfield minimum line back 5' to increase hits and decrease force outs at second thrown from the outfield. He also pointed out the need to make the line/arc more visible.

Bill Hicks pointed out that currently it is an arc of 145' from home plate.

Bob suggested it be 50' from each base.

Someone suggested the use of composite bats should be allowed past a certain age and a discussion ensued.

Aluminum bats for 70 years + (currently allowed for 75 years +)

Composite for 75 plus and ladies.

Steve Stamnes does not support the use of composite bats in this league.

Bill Hicks does not support the use of composite bats in this league.

Tom Marking does not support the use of composite bats in this league but might be in favor of moving the minimum out field line back 10'.

Paul Woodland said that we should consider safety first and that we are advertised as a wood bat league.

Larry Pardi said we need to make the fielders aware when an aluminum bat is being used.

Bill Brittain said he is 81 years old and that there are a lot of 80 year olds and the most important thing is to keep people safe.

Brenda likes the idea of using a livelier tighter ball to help people get hits.

Buzz pointed out that the livelier ball helps everybody but the use of composite bats would help selected people. He likes the idea of moving back the outfield line.

Tom Marking said he bought balls for 2 seasons this year at a great price as we combined with the travel league's ball purchase. We have one more season with the less lively 44-375 balls. In 2017 we used the livelier 52/275 balls. Tom said he didn't really notice a difference this year.

Dennis Rosser thought a more lively ball could cause safety problems.

Mike Pinsky had several points to make.

1. Next year have players sign a code of conduct which addresses many factors. It is on the website but not part of our signed releases.

2. Thanks to the board for professionally handling the base running incident which resulted in a disciplinary hearing.

3. The new players are not aware of the specific rules. Make following the code of conduct and knowledge of the rules be the responsibility of each manager. It should be up to the managers to calm things down. At times this year the language was not appropriate for the ladies in the stands.

4. Managers should get together before the game with the empire and agree that there will not be players arguing.

Mike Owen, as the Relics personnel manager and as past President of the league, read a prepared statement .

Dan Duncan said he agreed with the spirit of Mike's statement. Dan thinks the professional umpires to be used next year will be able to take control of the game situations.

Bill Hicks supports having umpires.

Tom Marking said we have never had umpires before but players in the league today are younger and the level of competition has increased this year.

Steve Stamnes said the profanity level kept fans from coming to games.

The question was posed, how could we raise more money for umpires? It was suggested we ask sponsors and players to pay a little bit more money and to hold fundraising events.

Rick Mitchell said they had already contacted Applebees regarding their coupons for friends and family program where on a certain day, say 3x/year, the league would get 15% of the proceeds from the patrons with the coupons. He also suggested that an

introduction letter for soliciting sponsorships or donations for the league be drawn up and distributed. His other suggestion was a grant for physical fitness for seniors.

Dennis Rosser said the Moments year was a steady improvement and that they enjoyed the friendly and competitive atmosphere. He had a lot of fun this year.

Brenda Blair suggested there be more open practices throughout the year.

Paul concluded the General Membership part of the meeting by thanking everyone for their input and thinks we can get satisfactory results.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Rick Mitchell, 2nd by Robert Ruehl.  
Passed Unanimous.