

# SCF SOFTBALL CLUB

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 4, 2024

### I. CALL TO ORDER

President Mike Braman called meeting to order at 2:06pm in Saguaro Ballroom, Wed. Nov. 4, 2024, 66 of 154 members (as of 11/3/24) present. Mike mentioned current volunteer signups: Umpires-47, Score keepers-53, Field Prep-43, Exempt-8, Non volunteer-4 = 155, potential exemptions-32, Field prep will be cut down and those members will be reassigned. Training will be provided for umps and scorekeepers and everybody will be needed.

### II. NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION

Nancy B., Jeff Crist, Skeeter, Mark and Jess Goodhue, welcome all

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes were asked for January 17, 2024 and March 6, 2024 as a quorum was not present at previous meetings. Motion to approve both sets of minutes was brought by Dane Jacobsen and seconded by Guy Homoly all members present approved.

### IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

Current balance \$21,057.59.. Debbie presented current budget with projected spending needs. She and Mike B to address as we go through agenda points, possible budget amendments and budget amendment voting. See below.

### V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Capital Acquisition Committee (CAC) - Vacant

No report

b) Field Prep - Joe Cabanaw

1. New Red Flags installed on the outfield flag posts (old ones torn, HOA expense)
2. Scoreboard 1st Inning window replaced (done by HOA facilities)
3. Scoreboard Painting, date to be determined (to be done by HOA facilities or sub contractor)
4. 12.5 tons of Infield Mix added to Infield and Laser leveled
5. 25 tons of Warning Track Mix for Warning Track and 1st and 3rd Base foul territories  
Follow up by Contractor to address a concern by Second Base
6. Irrigation work done on Sprinkler Heads (Pitcher's Mound and Infield Arc) Ongoing process with CareScape Irrigation personnel to get better coverage for the Infield without puddle at Pitcher's Mound, Shortstop and Second Base area
7. Proposal to be submitted to HOA to move Sprinklers from Outside the Foul Lines to within the Outfield Grass (If approved by HOA, time frame to be determined)
8. Foul Lines Replaced (HOA paid for materials, approx \$2,000, Labor by Members)
9. Quote received for Electrical Service to Tractor Shed (\$3,200)
10. Locking Cabinet and Battery Operated Tools for Tractor Shed purchased  
(1/2 Drive Impact Wrench and Sockets)
11. Field Prep Teams determined and organized for season

c) Safety/Equipment Committee - Tom Shahan

No report

d) Player Evaluation/Ratings Committee - Joe Shappert

No report

e) Membership Committee - Rick Klein

No report

f) Marketing Committee - David Markowitz

We currently have 11 sponsors active. 3 are paid up for a three year period. David is in process of contacting those accounts that are due for renewal. We are also in process with a couple of potential new accounts, but waiting back to see if they are interested.

Your help is needed! Most of our banners have come from referrals from each of you; many times from businesses that are out here on a regular basis. If you know of someone who may be interested, please touch base with David as he has flyers you can hand out.

g) Practice - Vacant

h) Scorekeeping - Sandy Brewer

No report

i) Umpiring - Chris Smith

No report

j) Webmaster - John Hoyer

1. Website is updated with current membership information as of 11/3/24

2. Board and I were very active over the summer evaluating various replacement software for the GroupWorks platform that discontinued their platform in June 2024.

All the packages we reviewed fell into 2 categories:

o Too complicated to administer and had many functions that the Softball club would not use.

o Not sports club oriented, not enough of the basic functionality we need to manage our club.

Ultimately, the majority of clubs, with support of the HOA, decided to go with a package called Club Express. Although this package is extensive, we felt it fell into the the first category for SB, overly complicated to administer for the functions we would use.

A final package we reviewed called Membership Works seemed to fit our needs best. The Board decided to go ahead and start the conversion process to Membership Works. We will continue through the fall to get the software up and running for the club. This software will allow us to communicate better/easier with the membership and manage our club. The website software will continue to be used as a separate platform and will be integrated with Membership Works. Over the next 9 months, we will evaluate other website development software as a potential replacement to the current Weebly software we use.

k) Summer Commissioner- Tim Kiste

This summer we had 3 Leagues: Monday Festival vs Trilogy, Tues and Thurs All Tier community leagues. It was a very hot summer and we had to adjust game times earlier to avoid finishing games before temperatures reached 100 degrees.

Monday League - Overall, it was a very successful league, giving multiple players an opportunity to play competitive softball against Trilogy. We had 22 players sign up to play and the team was managed by Mark Vosta. We had no significant injuries during the summer and everyone got a lot of playing time.

Tuesday/Thursday League - Both leagues were successful and gave players a lot of opportunities to play and improve their game. The Tuesday league consisted of 3 teams with a total of 37 full time players signing up to play. Thursday also consisted of 3 teams with a total of 45 full time players that signed up. Dane Jacobsen, Keith Whalen, Brian Prehoda, Jim Monachino, Joe Martello and Doug Birkenholz managed the teams. We had no significant injuries during the summer and everyone had a great time.

General Notes:

\* Overall, the summer season was very successful. The players had fun, they had an opportunity to play a lot of games and were able to meet and play with new players. The league was very organized, ran well and only had minor bumps along the way. We did not have any major injuries to report. We do have opportunities to improve on some of the issues for next year and make it an even better league next summer.

\* With the summer travel, managers were challenged to find enough subs each week to play. They did a great job, but they had to put a lot of time and effort into making sure they could field teams. We need to improve this for next summer to lessen the

time commitment of the managers.

- \* With 3 teams, 1 team played a DH which in the heat became difficult. We shortened the games to 6 innings to help the situation, but it was still challenging
- \* Finding people willing to volunteer to umpire and scorekeeper was also a challenge, but we had many players step up and we were able to avoid cancelling games.
- \* Field prep was a challenge especially with the Monday/Saturday leagues. For community we had a crew for Thursday and Brian and Joe did a lot of work for the other leagues.

l) Audit Committee and Rules Committee - Not active

#### **VI. LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS**

- a) Monday, Tier II - Mark Phillipitch
- b) Tuesday, White Tank, All Tiers - Steve Kreitzman
- c) Wednesday, Tier I - Chris Smith
- d) Thursday, Cactus, Tier 3 and 2C - Jim Monachino

The current status of membership distribution in the Tiers: T1-13, T2-55, T3-85, NR-1  
Total of 154 as of 11/1/24

#### **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Home/Away Jerseys - Membership voted in favor of Home/Away jerseys, 3/10/24 (78%,22%), vote stipulated a future vote on type and cost. Next Step: Determine which type members want- Imprint vs Sublimation, Uniform Committee recommended Imprint. Determine funding. Must determine future replacement policy. Presentation of Sublimation and Imprint was provided along with physical examples Board will determine COLORS
2. States Tournament results - Fundraising now
3. Vacant Positions - Joe Cabanaw volunteered for Field Prep chair, see report.
4. Audit Report - Available on website
5. Fall League discussion - Board reviewed per person/how much play during week to determine structure of Fall League to maximize play for all tiers/members. Softballs cannot be stored in shed in summer due to heat compromising integrity of balls and this will determine how many /when balls are purchased. Gate proposal to shed was made as a CARE request to HOA and it was disapproved.

#### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Saturday Practice - No Chair, to be self run, starts at 9:00am. If using Rookie pitching machine MUST use balls purchased specifically for the machine. Pads have already been damaged and replacement cost is \$100/per pad!
2. Palm Desert Invitation, Saturday 1 Feb-Sunday 2 Feb, no members traveling. Dec.8th they will be at our field and an age 60's and up team was formed
3. GroupWorks replacement - Will be Membership Works. See John Hoyer's report for detailed explanation. Computer savvy, with website expertise, softball member Danelle Quesenberry helped John Hoyer and Board make this choice, set up zoom meetings and will continue to assist John with website business and calendar.
4. Home/Away jersey style and funding votes - First vote for Sublimation or Imprint, done by paper/pen ballot, vote count verified by Sec and Treas, Sublimation-14 votes and Imprint-46 votes. Next vote was for replacement jerseys to be purchased by members a motion was made by Larry Curry and seconded by Guy Homoly that members would purchase their own replacements. All members present signified verbal AYE, no NAYs Next vote was for club to purchase a set of jerseys and a hat for NEW members and a motion was made by John Hoyer and seconded by Guy Homoly that club would purchase new jerseys and hat. All members present signified verbal AYE, no NAYs. A question was brought by member Leanne Crist about a different style of hat, flex fit or perhaps a visor, many factors go into hat choice, but this will be taken into consideration and looked into.
5. League play discussion - A presentation was made and following points were brought o Club size stagnant for several years with recent trend shows aging out, stats

- provided. Members had points to make, Rick Kaylor mentioned that 29 players from our club currently play during the week at AZ Traditions and Surprise Leagues and retention and not alienation of these members was crucial. Discussion ensued.
- o West Valley has pros and cons, currently this league generates approx \$2600 in revenue for club, however it is INVITATIONAL and not DRAFTED. John Hoyer raised a question about members making a choice to go elsewhere because they knew months before our club's Fall Season sign ups what was available in terms of play opportunities and made choices earlier rather than wait. Gave well reasoned ideas for different days, league structures and Fall league prep. John was also addressing Rick Kaylor's previous question.
  - o Cactus League needs skilled players in critical positions (pitcher, left side of infield and middle outfield) Possible new members could evaluate and rate to help fill these positions. There was animosity and complaints brought to President about 2023-2024 Cactus league due to Fireball's team (all women, not drafted, concessions)
  - o Current club size doesn't support additional leagues: Replace current leagues with new leagues, keep existing league structure Leanne Crist, Gail Jasmer-Wilson and David Markowitz brought up women's play and how that could look within our current structure. Women can't form a chartered club according to HOA, can they form TEAMS as more women have joined the club. Need to see what rules, bylaws for club and HOA say, how to draft?, when to play, etc
6. 2024 BUDGET potential amendments/vote - Presentation was made by Debbie and Mike B and the following points were made
- o Increase Field Prep/Maint from \$3000 to \$4000, would buy new drag brooms, infield rakes, ladder
  - o Increase Uniforms/Hats from \$3500 to \$7500, Buys Home/Away jerseys, any excess for hats for new members
  - o Taxes are assessed on balance larger than \$499 above previous end of year balance @ 25% For this year any amount above \$11,299 would be taxed Discussion ensued with mostly questions about how/what money could be spent on-Bill Wacker asked if \$ from Entertainment could be spent on an end of year party that will have to be addressed by new board, Davis Markowitz hosted a welcome back/play ball get together at field 11/2/24 with 125 attendees which he funded and members contributed to, Mark Phillipitch asked if new gear could be purchased, some has been but masks, protection, etc could be, Jim Monachino and John Hoyer asked if Gift Cards (especially from Dick's Sporting Goods and other sports related retailers) could be considered
- A motion was made to approve the amendments as presented to avoid taxes was brought by Sandy Brewer and seconded by Guy Homoly, all members present signified verbally AYE, no NAYs, a new motion was made by Dane Jacobsen and seconded by Guy Homoly to maximize spend to 12/31/24 to minimize tax burden All members present signified verbally AYE, no NAYs
7. New Board VOTE
- Nominees - President - Dave Quesenberry, Darrell Walters Each candidate spoke paper/pen ballot was taken, Sec and Treas verified vote count Dave Q - 39 votes, Darrell Walters - 23 votes, Dave Q announced as incoming President
- Vice President - Tim Kiste, All members present signified by hands/verbal AYE, Tim signified NAY, Tim Kiste announced as incoming Vice President
- Treasurer and Secretary - No nominees Ken Markwell did offer himself for Treasurer All members present signified by hands/verbal AYE, Ken signified NAY Ken Markwell announced as incoming Treasurer, no Secretary nominees

**OTHER**

**ADJOURN MEETING CALLED TO END 3:54PM BY MIKE BRAMAN**

Next meeting 11/19/2024 at Softball Field after White Tank League play ends

