

# **SCF Softball Club Meeting Minutes**

October 14, 2022

## **I. Call to order**

President David Markowitz called to order the regular meeting of the SCF Softball Club at 11:12 am on October 14, 2022 at the SCF Softball Complex. Lunch was served. 72 of the 187 members were in attendance.

## **II. New Member introduction**

Nine new members were in attendance and introduced themselves. Frank Adams, Charles Kapner, Jim Needham, Jeff Lane, Gerri Grimes, Fred Warbington, Bobbie Warbington, Tony Bertram, and Dean Strasner were welcomed to the club.

## **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Minutes were posted to the website following the April 5th meeting. Motion to accept the minutes as posted – Joe Schappert; Second – Guy Homoly. Motion passed.

## **IV. Treasurer's report**

Laurie Halfpenny reported that as of 10/14 the operating fund balance is \$2,939. After this meeting she will have another large deposit for dues. Several sponsors have not paid their fees at this time. The Capital Improvement account has a current balance of \$9,450.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report – Joe Schappert; Second – Guy Homoly. Motion passed.

## **V. Committee Reports**

Capital Acquisitions - Tom Boudreau will be stepping down from the chairman position. Neil Cornell has volunteered to join the committee. Tom plans to oversee another meeting and discuss the chairmanship of the committee. President Markowitz recapped the activity surrounding the proposed picnic area. Following the devastating storms this summer (over 800 trees lost), the committee and the board agreed to withdraw our request for matching funds from the SCF Care Fund. But HOA President Bruce has encouraged us to leave the request active. The Care Fund account is separate from other HOA accounts, and Bruce feels the picnic area would be a nice addition to the complex. The HOA Finance Committee will ultimately decide on the request.

Membership – Rick Klein recapped the club membership numbers. We continue to grow and Rick anticipates us topping 200 members in the near future. He stressed the importance of new members being evaluated. This allows new members to make informed decisions as to the level

of competition they chose to join. Rick reminded the membership that the SCF Club Expo is this Saturday. Due to inclement weather, the location has been moved to the Senita Center.

Field Prep – Joe Cabanaw and Neil Cornell reported on many of the field activities. This summer the HOA had the infield leveled and conditioned; the outfield was conditioned, aerated and top dressed. The Rye grass is coming in good. Neil stated that Careescape plans to fertilize and complete the desired two mowing's before the end of the month. The target date to open the field is October 29<sup>th</sup>. The new batters' box/home plate work is in progress. Joe thanked Jim Schultz and Guy Homoly for assisting with the measuring (home plate-pitchers-first & third base relationships) for the new plate and support. He went on to thank Joe Schappert and Jim Varley who assisted in digging out the home plate/batter box area. The scoreboard lights have been replaced with new windows. The scoreboard was lit up for the membership to observe the drastic improvement.

Umpire – currently we have no Umpire Commissioner. The community league commissioners will work with the managers to develop a plan for providing the umpires for their leagues. Pete Sluys asked for a list of the experienced umpires that could umpire the tier 1, Wednesday games. President Markowitz mentioned that umpire clinics have been conducted in the past for members interested in becoming umpires.

Scorekeeper – Lorraine Scott has once again agreed to oversee the scorekeeping schedule. She will create the initial schedule once the teams have been drafted.

Safety – Gary Stonewall was not present. David commented that Gary did a great job of keeping the first aid supplies replenished, and that the AED instruction he provided was invaluable. Gary has indicated that he will continue to handle this responsibility going forward.

Evaluation Committee – Vice-President Rick Kaylor oversees the Evaluation Committee. Rick stated that although we have 20+ new members, only 6 were in attendance at the last evaluation session. Since that time six new members have joined so we still have ~20 members that need to be evaluated. The next evaluation session will be held on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the field. New members who fail to be evaluated will not be put into the league drafts. Of the evaluated membership, Rick stated that 14 members are Tier 1, 51 are Tier 2, and 103 are Tier 3. That breaks down to 8%, 30%, and 61% respectively. Rick stated that as the club grows, we may want to reevaluate the 3 tier systems. Many of the larger clubs in the west valley have further divided their membership to increase individual league parity.

Webmaster – John Hoyer, our Webmaster, talked about our website. It has been optimized to improve the mobile device platform. John plans to meet with the league commissioners to discuss how the results of each week will be gathered to update the league standings on the webpage. Last year John spent far too much time tracking down the information. John encouraged the membership to spend time familiarizing themselves with the website. As we move forward, more and more of the information, correspondence and communication will be in electronic format.

## **VI. Old business**

- a) The picnic area update was addressed during the Capital Acquisitions committee report.

- b) Banners – David reported that two new banners have been purchased and hung. They are All American Blinds and Alba Construction & Flooring. Seven locations still remain and are available for purchase. Three sponsors have already paid for 2023, with three more committed. With the scoreboard newly repaired, the banner locations under the scoreboard will be increased to match the central locations on the field. The sponsors that purchased multiple years will not be affected by the price increase. David also mentioned that the banners have resulted in \$5,000 income for the HOA and over \$9,000 to the Club. The HOA is responsible for paying any taxes on the income and the club is not limited on the balance of the CA fund, nor required to spend it annually.
- c) Fall Leagues – David recapped the upcoming fall leagues.
  - i) Monday - Tier 2 West Valley league, 6 teams expected, playing double headers each week.
  - ii) Tuesday – Community League – Tiers 1, 2, and 3 playing together.
  - iii) Wednesday – Tier 1 West Valley league with teams from SC West and SC Grand, playing double headers.
  - iv) Thursday – Tier 3 Community League – currently 65 members signed up. Should have 5 teams; depending on the next evaluation, could have 6 teams.
  - v) Friday – a sign-up for a Big 12 league has not yielded enough interest at this time to go forward.
  - vi) Saturday – interest was expressed in having Saturday games, especially for the members that still work traditional hours. Bill Wacker organized practices last year. With just a small increase in interest, scrimmage games could be played.
- d) Jerseys and Hats – new jerseys and hats have been ordered. The jerseys, ordered through Graham Sports, are a higher quality than the previous community league jerseys; more similar to the States Tournament jerseys. The jerseys will be collected at the end of the season. The target is to use the jerseys for 3-5 years. New hats will be handed out to the league commissioners when they arrive. The plan is to obtain new hats every 2 to 3 years. If you have contact with our sponsors remember to thank them. Audre Skakoon of Home Smart Realty is sponsoring 6 teams for the Tuesday Community league; Desert Rose and Jason Fine Insurance have both sponsored a team for West Valley play; and Ron LaCombe of Festival’s Best Homes Realty has sponsored the Thursday Community league teams.

- e) Club Logo – During last season the question was raised as to who owns our current logo. Rick Kaylor worked with Ron Graham to develop the logo, but the club paid for the art work. Mike Braman volunteered, and has designed some alternate logos that the club is welcome to use. General discussion was to have the club vote between the logos at a later time.
- f) 2022 HOA commitment – David took a minute to remind the members of all that the HOA has done for us this year. The improvements to the field, both infield and outfield, the scoreboard lights, the new fence, the water-bottle filler, and a new electrical line up the third base side of the field, have all been paid for by the HOA.

## **VII. New business**

- a) Board Openings – At the November 8<sup>th</sup> general meeting, per our bylaws, the membership will elect our officers for 2023. David reminded the membership present that at least 3, if not all 4 current members do not plan to run again. Nominations can be accepted up until the vote. Jim Schultz and Pete Sluys nominated Mike Braman for President. Mike could not attend today’s meeting due to a medical conflict, but indicated he will accept the nomination. Brian Ogston nominated Dave Quesenberry for Vice-President. Dave indicated his willingness to serve. No nominations were received for Secretary or Treasurer. Laurie reminded those present that the current board will be available to assist with the transfer and any needed training.
- b) Holiday Party – December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Saguaro Center - Discussion was held about a possible party for members and guests. Prior to covid-19, the club had held several such events. Following discussions about cost, catering, music, and location Tom Shahan motioned to authorize the board to spend up to \$5,000 to secure catering and a band for this purpose. Motion seconded by Guy Homoly. Motion passed. David mentioned that the hours would likely be 4:00 to 8:30 pm. The building closes at 9:00 pm so we have to be out ahead of that time.
- c) Addition of Webmaster and Field Prep Chairman to the board – Prior to today’s meeting the membership was provided some proposed language to amend the bylaws to expand the current board with these two referenced positions. After lengthy discussion, including the thoughts of several past club presidents and the possibility of adding a member-at-large (maybe the outgoing president for continuity), the proposal was dropped due to a lack of motion.
- d) Non-board position – The Marketing Manager will be in charge of the banner program and also working with sponsors for uniforms and prizes for tournaments,

etc. Thus far this work was primarily done by Jim Varley and David Markowitz. David asked if anyone present had background in this area, or knew of someone that did have this experience. All members are encouraged to provide contact info for vendors that you utilize so they can be contacted for possible banner purchase or team sponsorship. David thanked Jim for his work in this position in 2022.

As previously mentioned, the Capital Acquisition Committee will also require a new chairman this year. (See above)

- e) David asked for any open discussion. There was none.

### **VIII. Adjournment**

Debbie Ogston motioned to adjourn the meeting; Rick Klein seconded; motion passed. President David Markowitz adjourned the meeting at 12:50. The next meeting is scheduled for 1:00 pm on November 8, 2022. Location will be communicated to the membership by email and will be posted on the website.

Minutes submitted by: Robin Shahan