

# SCF SOFTBALL CLUB

## Meeting Minutes

JANUARY 17, 2024

### I. CALL TO ORDER

President Mike Braman called meeting to order at 3:43 pm in Saguaro Ballroom, Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 35 of 175 members present. Important bullet points were mentioned. Joe Cabanaw is retired so please refrain from bugging him about field prep business. Joe Schappert has agreed to chair the ratings/evaluation committee. Gary Lowy Umpire chair has retired as of the end of our season in March. The Agenda for following meetings will be shortened with succinct reports by Committee chairs and Commissioners submitted to the secretary to be included, this is to better fall in line with how the HOA meetings are conducted. Vice president Dave Quesenberry reviewed the overall process for ratings/evaluations and will coordinate with Joe Schappert to develop a comprehensive, transparent policy and procedure process. Need to decide if and how to participate in the Club Expo 2/24/24 from 9:00am-1:00pm. David Markowitz recommended having a booth at the field and made a request to the HOA (subsequently approved by the HOA).

### II. NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION

None

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of November 7, 2023 meeting were emailed to all members and posted on the softball club website. Motion to approve minutes was called by Camille Holland, secretary, motion was made by Dick Mickelson and seconded by Guy Homoly, unanimously approved.

### IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank balance as of 12/31/2023 \$10,800.49, projected year end balance \$10,492.64. 2024 budget to be present and voted on later in meeting. January 1st to December 31st is our fiscal year, but our operational budget follows October thru November of following year. At general meetings the Treasurer gives a detailed accounting from meeting to meeting and according to HOA procedures this reporting does not require a voting as there is detail in the presented minutes. The yearly budget is presented at the beginning of the year, in detail and requires a vote of the general membership. The Audit is upcoming and will be available when completed.

### V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Capital Acquisition Committee (CAC) - Jim Varley  
Committee is temporarily suspended until funds accumulate in the account. An open discussion came up about sprinklers and the Board will take a look at previous estimate. Previous requests to the HOA were disapproved.
- b) Field Prep - Vacant  
Joe Cabanaw retired as of 12/31/23. Transition to morning field prep is working well. We are still coordinating with CareScapes to get the watering schedule where we want it. Awaiting HOA decision on grass strip along foul lines. (Subsequent to the meeting the HOA approved removal of the grass strips along the foul lines.)
- c) Safety/Equipment Committee - Tom Shahan  
Now responsible for all playing equipment (softballs, bats, safety gear, etc).  
Incidents - Total of 3 reported, 2 early on in season, 1 in mid December (torn bicep)  
Purchased 2 new batting tee tops, purchased 24 dozen 12" softballs, looking into new bat racks for inside equipment room. Any members interested in having the old aluminum bats are welcome to them. They are marked.
- d) Player Evaluation/Rating Committee - Vacant  
See above mention of VP review of process and acceptance of chair position by

Joe Schappert.

- e) Membership Committee - Rick Klein  
No significant report as it is slow time of year and just a few new members to be rated.
- f) Marketing Committee - Dave Markowitz  
17 Banners currently up, 14 paid for, 1 free to HOA, 1 in resale, 1 unpaid to be taken down at end of month and 1 new to be hung within a few weeks. New sponsor Liberty Buick. New brochures for handing out and require volunteer assistance for securing new sponsors. Would like to discuss new marketing business and options for spending funds. Asked if weekly vendor booths by sponsors to be at field during play is possible, much like States Tournament. Need volunteers to take over States Tournament so sponsors of banners can come to represent themselves. Soon time for sponsors to re up for following year and suspect 1-3 could be lost.
- g) Practice - Bill Wacker  
New (refurbished) pitching machine was purchased to help with Saturday practice.
- h) Scorekeeping - Lorraine Scott  
No report
- i) Umpiring - Gary Lowy  
Submitted resignation as of end of season in March. Working to coordinate and schedule multiple League make up changes, finish of first half of season and reschedule volunteer umpires for second half of season after drafts and new teams are formed. Thank you for continued understanding and patience as this process is completed and the schedules can be posted on the website and reminders and schedules are sent to scheduled volunteer umps. Full report submitted to Board with resignation.
- j) Webmaster - John Hoyer  
No report
- k) Summer Commissioner - Vacant  
Volunteer needed to be commissioner for Summer session. May-Sept 2024. May require a draft to equalize teams. (Subsequent to the meeting Tim Kiste volunteered to be Summer Commissioner)
- l) Audit Committee
- m) Rules Committee
- n) Temp Uniform Committee  
Mike Braman recommended creating a temporary committee to develop recommendations for the next uniform purchase. Previous suggestion of Home/Away jerseys will be considered.

## **VI. LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS**

- a) Tuesday, White Tank (All Tier) - Steve Kreitzman - No report
- b) Thursday, Tumbleweed (Tier II & Tier 3A) - Dick Mickelson  
Season 2 will begin Thursday, January 18th and continue through March 14th. There will be 4 teams that will play doubleheaders. League has total of 68 full time and sub Tier 2 and 3A players with anticipation of competitive game play.
- c) Friday, Cactus (Tier 3 A,B,C) - Chuck Christensen  
League moving forward as single season. Due to attrition, teams, with the exception of the Fireballs, will have just 10 players. Each team will provide a catcher to the other team during game play. One team is short a pitcher and is making due with subs. Contact commissioner if you would like to pitch.
- d) Wednesday, Tier I, (WVSSL) - Chris Smith  
Team Bell West withdrew from League play over a dispute associated with ineligible players. Given that, we are moving forward with a three team format, which requires each team to sit the middle game every third week. Due to the elimination of one game per week, the Game 1 start time was pushed back to 11:00am, which reduces any delays associated with winter temps and frost/wet field conditions.
- e) Monday, Tier II (WVSSL) - Mark Fillipitch

League reduced to 4 teams after team with ineligible players was removed. Remaining teams appear balanced in skill level, competition and parity.

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

- a) Uniforms/Jerseys/Hats - Sales on GroupWorks. Form committee to get recommendations for jersey replacement in the future. Hats sold on GroupWorks. Continued discussion on club needs/cost/funding/dues increase, left for committee.
- b) Season 2 signups - Closed January 3, with Cactus league extended to Jan 5th. League drafts now complete. Analysis of signups presented, only 7 teams on Tuesday, membership numbers wise may not be enough to sustain some leagues.
- c) Field prep changes working well. Switched to morning prep to accommodate afternoon open play. Be aware of pace of play to accommodate open play. Still looking for volunteer chair.

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

- a) 2024 Budget - Presented by Treasurer Debbie Ogston, projected on big screen Starting Balance \$10,800.49, estimated income \$15,650, estimated expenses \$15,400, projected year end balance \$11,050.49. Break out of expenditures given in detail. Dane Jacobsen asked a question regarding States Tournament if it didn't happen. It would zero out. Based on clarification from the HOA, once voted on the budget can be executed up to 120% of approved budget. If changes require a new vote it will be done via GroupWorks.  
A vote was called for by Debbie, it was approved by Dane Jacobsen and seconded by Guy Homoly, all were in favor except one opposition by Joe Schappert. **2024 Budget approved by member vote.**
- b) Ratings/Evaluations - Committee policy and procedures in development for transparent, consistent and predictable outcomes. Joe Schappert new chair volunteer. Need to have set evaluation days with enough lead time for committee members to plan and assemble for ratings and for new members to also know of offered dates.
- c) Palm Desert - Volunteers needed. Asked to send a team in February as they came here recently. No volunteers available even at the behest of Jim Schultz and Guy Homoly. Could not find enough players for a team, perhaps next year.
- d) Home/Away Jerseys concept brought forward and committee to be temporarily formed to get ideas/costs /proposals. Possible volunteers in mind.
- e) States Tournament - Coordinators and volunteers needed to step up to make the tournament happen in the absence of previous, long time volunteers. Joe Cabanaw and Dave Quesenberry volunteered to coordinate the needed volunteers and make the 2024 tournament a go. Further information to follow.
- f) Summer League commissioner volunteer needed. A more structured summer season may be required with summer specific rules and a formal draft. (Tim Kiste volunteered)
- g) Nominations for new board members needed as current board will not continue as a whole for next year.

#### **IX. OTHER**

Aluminum bats: are available to members, if not "re-homed" they will be disposed of. Lost and Found items continue accumulating and have been posted on Groupworks numerous times. They will eventually go to donation to clear out.

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Kim Mattle, seconded by Guy Homoly. Unanimously approved. Meeting ended 4:56pm.

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024 SAGUARO CENTER BALLROOM**

Respectfully submitted, Camille Holland, softball club secretary

