**Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League**

**Board of Directors meeting minutes**

**January 16, 2021**

The Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League Board of Directors met at 9:00 am, Saturday December 16, 2021 virtually via a zoom meeting. Present at the meeting were Bobby Gregg, Barry Gordon, Susan Scholler, Dave Hendrikse, Jeff Harlan, John Mondi, Brad Uecker, Ray Harre, Clint Berger, Tim Burkindine, Ann Willkett, Chuck Tipton & John Dehan. Absent was Steve Krull and Bob Zimmerman (Susan has Bob’s proxy).

1. Burkindine called the meeting to order at 9:12 am.

Burkindine made a motion to suspend reports and move to elections of the new board members. Seconded by Hendrikse.

President – Nominees were Berger & Harlan, as Gregg & Burkindine respectfully declined their nominations. Berger was elected as president.

Vice President – Nominees were Gregg & Harlan as Scholler and Gordon respectfully declined their nominations. Bobby Gregg was elected Vice President.

Treasurer – Only nominee was Tipton. Chuck Tipton was elected Treasurer.

Membership secretary. Only Nominee was Gordon. Barry Gordon was elected Membership Secretary.

Secretary – Nominees were Willkett & Harlan. Ann Willkett was elected Secretary.

1. Approval of previous December 5, 2020 minutes, and annual membership meeting. Motion was made by Dehan, seconded by Gregg.
2. **Treasurer report**: Tipton presented the balance of over $28,000.00 in our accounts. Tax returns are in process. Motion by Burkindine to approve the Treasurer’s report, seconded by Dehan. Motion passed.
3. Committee Reports – No Reports currently.
4. Select Committee(s)
5. Old Business
6. Directors & Officer’s liability Policy – Harre stated that our insurance policy is in effect. We will stay with the SSUSA for the liability & supplemental insurance. Umpires will be covered under the SSUSA policy.
7. Operations Notebook update – Gordon presented the update and said it would cost $60.00 to make up 15 new binders, with all the tabs and copies. This way all board members would have a copy. Burkindine made a motion to go with the production of 15 new binders. Harlan seconded. Motion passed 14-0.
8. Future location for board meetings – Should we not be able to meet in person, we will do virtual meetings via zoom. If in person is possible, we will meet at Coaches, 6700 College Blvd, Overland Park, KS 66211.
9. 2021 Tournament plans – April 17-18, 2021, preseason Spring Tournament. May 20-23, 2021 (Black bob) – possible wood bat tournament. Waiting on confirmation from SSUSA for the Wes Weddle to be held June 24-27, 2021.
10. Update on expanded age groups for various conferences – The ages are expanding at Heritage, Black Bob & Hartman.
11. Replacement of new board members due to resignation/dismissal/death – We will look at the 5 unelected individuals who ran and any new nominations. We will vote as a board on the individual to replace the outgoing member. Berger made a motion to replace Steve Krull as Krull sent his resignation to Berger as his work schedule, etc. does not allow him to make our meetings. An offer was extended to Krull to be an adhoc on special committees – to be our eyes, ears and pulse for the league. He gladly accepted. Bill Boos was elected to replace Steve, 14-0.
12. New Business –
13. New Committees - Hendrikse will send out a listing of the 21 committees we have. Each member will need to let Berger know which two or more committees they would like to be on by the end of the next week.
14. Managers meeting – March 13, 2021. Should we be able to meet in person, we will meet at Tomahawk Ridge Community Center. If not in person, we will hold a virtual meeting via zoom. Should be @ 80 attendees.
15. Covid-19 video information – Dehan made a motion to share an information video on Covid-19, with our members. Uecker seconded. Motion passed 11-0-3. Should anyone else have any videos they would like to share, they can bring them to the board, and we will vote on them.
16. Men’s teams playing in the women’s league – the Antiques would like to drop the age limit from 75+ down to 72+. Motion was made by Willkett to leave the age at 75+, seconded by Tim. Motion passed.
17. SSUSA rule changes –
    1. Bat policy – all bats must have a 1.20 or 1.21 bpf (bat performance factor) and /or be NTS (National technical systems) certified, have the SSUSA approved marking or appear on the SSUSA’s list of approved bat manufacturers.
    2. The Mercy Rule – All divisions will be 20 runs after 4 innings or 15 runs after 5 innings.
18. Proposed league rule recommendations –
    1. ***Home run rule*** – Rules Committee agreed that the number of home runs allowed should be the same as the current rule in the 2020 rule book. This will be 6 for Platinum & Gold, 3 for Silver & Bronze, regardless of the field they are playing on. Any home run hit above the limit will be an out. Also add: In play across different skill levels, the lower team’s home run limit shall apply to both teams. Scholler made the motion to adopt the committee’s recommendation, Harlan seconded. Passed 8-3-2.
    2. ***Draft – borrowed players*** – Rules Committee recommends leaving the rule as is stated currently. Willkett made the motion, and it was seconded by Bobby. 12-1-1
    3. ***Equalizers*** – Two run equalizer be eliminated. Equalizers will be 3 and five, with the equalizer runs being awarded, beginning in the first inning and carried on until the 5th inning. The maximum number of runs awarded shall not be more the one per inning including the open inning. The committee voted to remove the phrase “implemented on a trial basis”, but keep the rest of the sentence, which reads “Managers cannot waive the equalizer”. Burkindine made a motion to go with the committee’s decision. Seconded by Willkett. Passed 13-0. We will identify each equalizer specifically and add to the rule book under article 6 –The game.
    4. ***Draft conference 120’ outfielders’ rule*** – Rules Committee recommended leaving as is at 120’ and not change to the 150’ as it would be extremely hard to enforce. Motion was made by Hendrikse to go with the committee recommendation of 120’, seconded by Harlan. Passed 11-1-1.
    5. ***Courtesy runners*** – Rules Committee unanimously agreed to keep the rule as currently written in the 2020 rule book. The board agreed with this decision. Gordon made the motion to leave as is, seconded by Harlan. Passed 13-0-0.
    6. ***Game Time*** – Rules Committee on a split vote agreed that the game time shall begin at the scheduled time with a 5-minute grace period for either team to acquire the minimum number of 8 players. Every minute of time used in the grace period shall cut into the actual playing time of the game, i.e.: if 5 minutes are taken up in the grace time, the open inning will still begin at the 50-minute mark from the start of the game, with the effect being only 45 minutes of playing time before the open inning. The second game of a double header shall begin immediately after completion of the first game. The committee voted to not adopt the recommended wording on having the game clock start when the umpire is ready and both teams have at least 8 players present, as there was concern the umpires would start the clock early. Board agreed with the committee. Willkett made the motion to accept the committee’s recommendation, seconded by Hendrikse. Passed 13-0-0.
    7. ***Clock*** – Recommended to have a time clock on the back-stop fence at all conferences. Willkett made a motion to have time clocks at all conferences, seconded by Gregg. Passed 12-1-0. Berger will purchase the timer and get them distributed.
    8. ***Roe Park Home run and ground rule double*** – Rules Committee agreed that the rule should stay as is written in the 2020 rule book, with a clarification – in the air and touched would be a 4-base error, on the ground and touched is a ground rule double. Gordon made the motion to agree with the Rules Committee, Burkindine seconded. Passed 13-0-0.
    9. ***Home run rule.***  Need to add to the rule book, Co-ed conference will be 3 home runs. Scholler made the motion and Uecker seconded it. 13-0-0.
    10. ***Separate Rules committee for the draft league*** – Rules Committee agreed that here is no need for a separate rules committee for the draft league. Tipton made a motion to agree with the committee, seconded by Hendrikse. Passed 13-0-0.
    11. ***Adding players*** (during last two weeks of either session) – Rules Committee recommended keeping the rule as written in the 2020 rule book. Willkett made a motion for it to be ok to add “**new**” member to the league at any time during the season, even in the last two weeks. Seconded by Harlan. Passed 12-0-1.
    12. ***Location of the pitching screen*** – Rules Committee agreed on leaving as it is stated in the 2020 rule book. Berger made a motion to leave as is in the 2020 rule book, seconded by Scholler. Passed 13-0-0.
    13. ***Flip flop rule*** – Berger made a motion to put the flip flop rule on the back of the score cards, Gordon seconded. 13-0-0.
    14. ***Mercy Rule*** – all divisions. Rules Committee recommends the same as SSUSA. Motion was made by Burkindine, for a seven-inning game, 20 runs after 4, 15 runs after 5. Nine inning game will be 20 runs after 6 innings, 15 runs after 7 innings. Seconded by Harlan. Passed 13-0-0.
    15. ***Illegal Balls*** – we agreed to suspend the discussion as the committee did not address this. No change currently. Need to talk to the rules committee.
19. Participation in the **Good Living Convention** - $275.00 to have a booth. Hendrikse made a motion that we attend and have a booth, Willkett seconded. Passed 10-1-2.
20. **Zero based budget** review – Look at revenues vs expenditures. Tipton will put together some numbers on the last 3 years and get a proposal together and presented as soon as he can.
21. **Extra Innings** – Mondi will need information by the end of the 1st week of February. Mondi will communicate with the conference coordinators for feedback. Dave White will do the extra innings.
22. Fundraiser for the league proposed by Bobby Riggs – Web based out of California – Zimco – **TeamRunner**. Traveling teams can request a bid on hotels and they will send back a quote / link to hold rooms. Every room night used; the league would get $3.00 / room. If we were to host (become a host) we could get up to $5.00 / room. Berger asked Riggs to send us some additional information and we will look it over and present it at the February meeting. Riggs will send the information to Berger.
23. **Ronald McDonald House** – Debbie Brown – For every can tab we collect; we will send them to the Ronald McDonald House to help with the funding for families that stay there. We would like to help the community as much as possible, and she thinks this could be a great way to do so. Brown will head it up and send additional information to Mondi.
24. Burkindine made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Harlan. Meeting adjourned at 12:28.

February board meeting will be February 13, 2021, 11:00 am at Coaches Bar & Grill at College Blvd and

Metcalf, if we able to meet in person. Otherwise, if virtual, it will be same date at 9:00 am.

**Board members and years terms expire:**

**2021                            2022**    **2023**

Tim Burkindine            Clint Berger Barry Gordon

Dave Hendrikse          Bill Boos Bobby Gregg

Chuck Tipton               Brad Uecker John Dehan

John Mondi                  Ann Willkett Susan Scholler

Jeff Harlan                   Bob Zimmerman Ray Harre