**Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League**

**Board of Directors meeting minutes**

**February 13, 2022**

The Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League Board of Directors met at 12:00, noon, Sunday February 13, 2022, at Homefield, 2115 E Kansas City Rd, Olathe, KS 66061. Present at the meeting were Clint Berger, Bobby Gregg, Ann Willkett, Barry Gordon, John Mondi, Susan Scholler, Chuck Tipton, Bob Zimmerman, Ray Harre, Gary Pycior & Terry Cloutier. Absent was Dave Hendrikse, Billy Boos, John Dehan & Brad Uecker.

1. **Call To Order –** Berger called the meeting to order at 12:05.
2. **Read / approve minutes from January 9th meeting.** Motion to approve the minutes was made by Scholler, seconded by Tipton. Passed 10-0-0.
3. **Treasurer’s Report.** Per Tipton, savings $28,006.26, checking $9,100.67. Looks like we are in fairly good shape. Gordon asked about a $31.00 Wednesday Draft amount. One member did not want their money back. Discussion about totals including balls and insurance, especially for the Draft leagues. Motion to approve the Treasurer’s report made by Cloutier, seconded by Scholler. Passed 8-1-1.
4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS [**Default is “No Report” -- unless indicated with an “**R**,” for Report**]:**
5. **All Star Games / Picnic N. New Members / Welcoming**
6. **Awards O. Operations Notebook**
7. **Board Nominations P. Player / Team Ratings**
8. **By Laws Q. Rules & Protests**
9. **Equipment / Safety / Health + Draft**
10. **Finance + Men’s Competitive**
11. **Legal / Risk Management + Women’s & Co-Ed**
12. **Long Range Planning R. Social media**
13. **Manager’s / Player’s Survey S. Special Projects**
14. **Marketing T. Sportsmanship**
15. **Membership Database / Dues R U. Tournaments**
16. **Military Service Wall V. Umpires R**
17. **Mission Statement / Goals**

**K. Membership Database/Dues –** Gordon – we currently have 334 that have paid their dues.

**V. Umpires** – Berger for John Dehan – we have 6 new umpires this year.

1. **OLD BUSINESS:**
   1. **2022 Budget (Harre, Tipton) –** Per Harre’s Performa, it appears we would lose at $4,800.00 in 2022. Discussion ensued on income and expenses. Motion made by Zimmerman that we charge total team insurance amount to each team, not a percentage, seconded by Gordon. Passed 10-0-0.
   2. **Extra Innings publication update (Mondi) -** Sent out an email asking for a conference summary from each coordinator. Health and safety committee to add something. Mondi handed out a listing of the items he would like to add to the extra innings. Get done by end of February.
   3. **Managers’ Meeting date is set for March 5th – 9:00 @ Homefield** any preliminary discussions?? Do we want to move it to another day? We will keep on the date set but move it to 10:00 am.
   4. **Flip-flop rule to, again, be printed on backside of scorecards (this was skipped in Jan. meeting).** Yes, put it on the score cards. Berger will get with Uecker.
2. **NEW BUSINESS**
3. **Rules changes for the 2022 season (Willkett, Zimmerman, Harre) –** See end of spreadsheet.
4. **Status for each conference – relative to # of teams anticipated for each, etc. (Coordinators) –**

Sunday – Blackbob – Berger for Dehan – 8 teams

Monday – Hartman – Womens – Scholler 13 teams (7 Gold & 6 Silver)

Monday Draft – Berger for Hendrikse – 4 teams

Monday – Independence – Berger for Pumphrey – 4 teams

Monday – Roe Park – Harre – 6 teams

Tuesday – Independence – Mondi - 4 teams

Tuesday- Black Bob – George Callas – 16 teams

Wednesday – Hartman – Jeff Harlan – 5 teams

Thursday – Heritage – Uecker -?

Thursday – Roe Park – 60 Draft – Harre – 6 teams

Friday – Coed – Scholler – 2 teams

Saturday – Roe Park – Competitive – Gregg for Reynolds – 5-6 teams

Saturday- Roe Park – Draft – Harre 4 teams

1. **Incident relative to “non-sanctioned” gathering at Roe Park (Harre) –** Major incident. Individual was dragging the field (park property). Overland Park management person called Harre to go check on. Harre could not get down there right away. Overland Park went down, player got into a very heated verbal shouting match. Harre promised them he would take it to the board. Mondi is going to move the “unsanctioned” games to Hartman or Black Bob.
2. **Latest progress on All Star Games / Picnic events, sponsors, etc. (Gregg, Cloutier)**  Cloutier, working on sponsorships. Trying to get more items for the raffle.
3. **Dick’s Sporting Goods – will have four 20% off weekends again -- 4/22-25; 5/20-23; 7/22-25; need a fourth weekend; and thirty $50 coupons (Berger) –** Berger to have them change the 7/22-25 to 7/15-18. Looking for another date. 9/9-9/12 will be the fourth date.
4. **Updated Business Cards?? (Mondi, Berger) –** Update cards with the new logo in 2023..
5. **Items desired to be included in February Newsletter email blast (BOARD preferences/ suggestions)** Berger to add the swap meet to this.

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING** Board meeting March 5 at 9:00 am. Manager’s meeting will be at 10:00 am at Homefield.

1. **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion to adjourn meeting made by Gregg, seconded by Harre. Passed 10-0-0.

**Board members and years terms expire:**

**2022**    **2023 2024**

Clint Berger Barry Gordon Dave Hendrikse

Bill Boos Bobby Gregg Chuck Tipton

Brad Uecker John Dehan John Mondi

Ann Willkett Susan Scholler Gary Pycior

Bob Zimmerman Ray Harre Terry Cloutier

**Passed Rule Changes - 2022**

1. Would it be possible to add the pitch arc to our rule book? Rules Committee recommendation - Yes, we will add the following under Article I. Definitions – Pitching: The arc of the legal pitch must be from 6 to 12 feet above the playing surface.
2. End the maniacal uniform strictness. We will implement the Dress Code

**ARTICLE IV. DRESS CODE**

A. Each team will provide team jerseys bearing numbers at least six inches tall on the back with no identical numbers. Should two players have the same number, their manager must notify the opposing manager**. Loaned / Borrowed players must wear their own team jersey. PENALTY: Teams must give one run per out-of-uniform player to the opponent per game.**

1. Recruiting players: Solicitation of players, from the start of the first session to the end of the second session, from another conference team, will not be tolerated. Any reported incident will be investigated and addressed by the Sportsmanship Committee.
2. Loaned/Borrowed Players: – **Borrowed player** – A player (current paid member) from another KCMSSL team, who will be filling in on your team. Borrowed players must meet the age, and age adjusted rating is equal to or lower than the team’s rating. Borrowed players must play Catcher, Right Field, or Right Center Field (for teams with 11 defensive players) and bat last in the lineup. If a borrowed player does not play one of the above-mentioned positions, 2 runs will be awarded to the opposing team at the beginning of the game. **Loaned player** is a player from the opposing team to be used for defensive purposes only.
3. Base Running – Courtesy Runners. Rules Committee recommendation – Article VI. R. 1. C. Keep the current rule of two runners (at the beginning of each game)

**R. BASE RUNNING.**

**1. Courtesy runners.**

c. Before the game, teams may designate two players who may have a courtesy runner from home and announce this player to the umpire and opposing manager. If another player gets injured during the game, he may have a runner from home with the opposing manager’s approval. The courtesy runner may be different for each at bat. All other courtesy runner rules apply.

1. Number of defensive players. Teams that are made up of all 65+ year old players, will be able to play with 11 defensive players. These teams may have up to three loaned/borrowed players to complete their team.
2. Ball Rule. Article VI. L. Equipment 3. – Only league approved balls with the league logo may be used. It is preferred that umpires manage the balls and that all balls enter the game through the umpire.
3. Bat Rule. Article VI. L. Equipment 2. We will follow SSUSA approved bat rules. A bat’s manufacturer must be on the SSUSA approve bat list, and the bat must have a 1.20 bpf or 1.21 bpf marking on it or be stamped “NTS certified” and does not have to have the SSUSA logo.
4. Game length. Article VI. F. 1. Conference games will be scheduled for seven innings and 60 minutes maximum (except the Sunday Conference. They will have the 5 runs per inning and shall not have a “Mercy Rule”.)
5. Roster quantity. Leave the number at 20. Do not change.
6. Definition - Conference – A group of teams playing at a specific facility on the same day of the week under the sponsorship of the KCMSSL. Not to be confused with the League (Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League)
7. Definition – League (Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League) – the term we use to define the combination of our total members. Not to be confused with a conference.
8. Divisions & Player Ratings –

Article VI.

A. 3. A team’s classification is based on the average skill rating of the 10 highest rated players on the roster.

a. A team shall remain at the highest level they have attained during the session they are currently playing in. IE: A teams rating cannot go lower by adding lower rated players during the session they are currently playing in. Also, once a player is dropped from a team’s roster, that team shall be prevented from adding the same player back to its roster during the same session.

B. BORROWING PLAYERS.

1. Short-handed teams may borrow league members to fill in as long as the player’s age-adjusted rating is equal to or lower than the team’s rating. Example: A High Silver team (with a maximum team rating of 6) can borrow #6, or lower number-rated players but no #7 or higher rated players. (For other rules involving “borrowed” players, see N.1.a. and specific rules for Women’s, Co-ed and Draft teams.)

**WOMEN’S CONFERENCE**

1. Both the women’s silver and gold division will follow the league’s loaned/borrowed player rules.
2. The women’s silver division conference will play 11 on defense.

**DRAFT**

Rules are the same as those for the league with the following additions:

1. All players must be in the batting order. In double-header leagues, the batting order will run consecutive.

2. Every player must play at least three defensive innings unless he elects not to play defense. If so, he must notify the other manager before the fourth inning.

3. Teams cannot pick up players who have not paid to play in that Draft league.

4. Maximum number of fielders is 11. Managers may borrow Silver- or Bronze - rated players from a team on a bye week but cannot borrow Gold-rated players from a bye team. The coordinator may choose to assign these borrowed players. If there are no bye teams, managers may loan players from their opponent.

a. If borrowed players come from a bye team, the first borrowed player will catch, the second borrowed player will play right field, and a third borrowed player will play right-center field. If this sequence is not followed, the borrowing team must give two runs per player to the opponent for out-of-position players.

These runs cannot be waived.

b. If loaned players come from an opponent, the first loaned player will catch. If the short-handed team’s catcher cannot play elsewhere, the short-handed manager will choose where in the infield the loaned player is used defensively.

If additional loaned players are needed, the short-handed manager will choose where in the infield they will play defensively. No runs will be given an opponent for these players. Note: An injured player unable to bat may catch.

5. When both teams are short, the team at bat will furnish a catcher. If one team has one player more than its opponent, it will furnish its own catcher. Teams can play with 10 defenders.

6. If a team has eight players, the short-handed team will play 10 on defense (using two loaned players) unless the full team’s manager agrees to loan three players each inning. If the loaning team provides only two players, the short team will play 10 on defense and the loaning team will play 11.

7. If fewer than 14 players (both teams) show, the following applies: If one team has eight rostered players of the 14 players, they win by forfeit. If both teams have fewer than eight rostered players, the game will be considered a tie. The teams may play a scrimmage without an umpire.

8. Courtesy runners from home: For players unable to run, a designated runner may be used from home. A team may have unlimited designated runners from home. Managers must notify the other manager before the

game of these batters. ALSO: Courtesy runners may be used on base only if the original runner requests one.

9. Flip flop rules: The league’s seven-run flip-flop rule applies. In addition, if the visiting team’s lead reaches 10 runs in the unlimited inning, the teams will flip flop at that point. Managers and the umpire shall note any runners left on base, and the current batter in case the home team takes the lead. If this happens, the visiting team will finish its at bat after the home team’s final out.

10. Outfield playing depth rule: The outfield grass at Roe Park starts about 120 feet from home plate. None of the four outfielders may cross this line until the ball is hit. The 120-feet rule also will be used at all other draft conference ball parks.

11. New players can register with KCMSSL and join any draft league at any time. Members playing elsewhere in the KCMSSL have 10 weeks after the season starts to join the Saturday conference. The Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday conferences are open to all players who join that conference, unless all teams already have the maximum number of players. The conference coordinator will determine the maximum.

12. After the draft, the conference coordinator will assign any new players. If the coordinator wants to evaluate a new player first, he can have the player play on the team with the fewest players that first night/day. In addition, if a player wants to join and all teams are at the maximum the coordinator may create a “pool.” The coordinator will, at his discretion, place that pool player on the temporary roster of any team not having all their rostered players at the game.

13. Championship shirts will be given at the end of each session.

14. Home run rules: At Independence, we use the one-up rule on home runs hit over the fence. Excess home runs are a single, with all base runners advancing one base. At Roe, any fly ball that clears the sidewalk is a home run. Note: a fielder cannot stand on the sidewalk or outside the sidewalk to catch a hit ball. He would be considered out of bounds, and it would be a home run. Any batted ball landing on the sidewalk or rolling onto the sidewalk is a ground rule double. A batted ball that is touched by a fielder and then hits or rolls onto or over the sidewalk is a ground rule double. A batted ball that hits one of the trees outside the sidewalk in the air is a home run even should the ball, after hitting the tree, lands inside or onto the sidewalk. If a batted ball hits the tree that is on the field side of the sidewalk on field A it is a live ball. Should the ball land on or over the sidewalk after hitting the tree in the air it becomes a ground rule double. If the ball lands over the sidewalk before hitting the ground it would be a home run. If a player catches the ball after it hits the tree but before it hits the ground it is still considered a live ball and should be played as such, it would not be a fly out.

Outfielders will retrieve the balls. No limit on home runs hit over the sidewalk.

15. All other league rules apply, including time limits, unlimited-run innings, extra innings and pitching screen rules.