**Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League**

**Board of Directors meeting minutes**

**November 20, 2022**

The Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League Board of Directors met at noon, on November 20, 2022, at 12326 Ash St, Overland Park, KS 66209. Present at the meeting were Clint Berger, Ann Willkett, Bobby Gregg, Barry Gordon, John Mondi, Susan Scholler, Brad Uecker, John Dehan, Ray Harre, Terry Cloutier, Bob Zimmerman, Gary Pycior, Billy Boos, Jeff Harlan & Dave Hendrikse.

**AGENDA**

1. **Call To Order** - Berger called the meeting to order at 12:00, noon.
2. **Read / approve minutes from October 23rd meeting -** Motion was made by Scholler to approve the minutes. Seconded by Cloutier. Passed 14-0-0.
3. **Treasurer’s Report** - Motion was made by Willkett to approve the October Treasurer’s report. Seconded by Gordon. Passed 14-0-0.
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 U. Tournaments**
16. **Military Service Wall V. Umpires**
17. **Mission Statement / Goals**
18. **Membership –** Gordon – Currently we have now 959 members. Last year at this time we had 981. He presented the new women’s ambassador jackets (first year for the women).

**P. Player/Team Ratings –** Bob Zimmerman – There was an individual that was being re-rated, that received all 10’s and another that was 9’s across the board. This really skews the ratings. Just pointing out how the system can and could be scammed. We do not think this will happen often enough to justify any foundational change to our current process.

Ann Willkett – Scholler and Willkett will be re-rating all the women in the women’s conference in the off season.

1. **OLD BUSINESS:**
	1. **Organizational acknowledgement of Gary Eager (Woolery / Bennett), Tom Moats (Bakian / Hart) and Clyde Jones (??) incidents – currently set to occur at December Membership Meeting (Harre) –** Harre has a hard time trying to go back to old incidents. Award was issued for the Gary Eager situation by the local fire department. There has been nothing done for the Tom Moats at Roe Park and Clyde Jones at Hartman incident. Not going to do anything as far as awards for these. There will be a general acknowledgment and thank you at the members meeting for these incidents. Moving forward, we will either send an email or letter thanking those involved.
	2. **Utilization of Elite Sports shirts offer by Terry (Gordon, Cloutier) –** Cloutier and Gordon are still working on the Elite-sponsored Board of Directors shirts. Elite is still in agreement to sponsor the home run derby and the base-running skills at the 2023 All-star Games/Picnic.
	3. **Conference Championships, Awards, etc., …status / update (Gordon)** – Championship shirts should be in this week. Ready for distribution at the membership meeting.
	4. **Raffle Giveaway items for the December Membership meeting (ALL) –** Sweatshirt with a hat, 7 Dicks Sporting goods and five 2023 season paid memberships are among the items to be raffled off at the membership meeting.
	5. **Any update on Saturday morning Conference Coordinators for 2023?? –** Harre is having a hard time finding someone to be the draft coordinator. Possibility of a couple of people working together. Bob Reynolds not sure if Chris Rodriguez would be up to the task as a coordinator. Harre to have a meeting to go over some things and see where they can go from there.
	6. **Promotional Campaign “Marketing” signs – Hendrikse/Gordon** – Gordon – waiting on feedback on things from the various Parks & Recreations to see if we can even put-up signs or not. Also waiting on all conference coordinators to get back with him. Once he receives this information he will move forward with a design and pricing.
	7. **Scott Flodin’s solution to communicating conference schedules & standings, etc. –** Scott is still working on the information to ease some of the work for Karen Riffle with our website. Do not expect anything until 2023. Going to take a lot of work.
	8. **Dave Hendrikse --** to reach out about the food drive with the KC Monarchs minor league baseball team. The individual whom he was originally speaking with is no longer with the Monarchs. Dave is going to continue to get updated information.
	9. **Homefield -** Gordon – Our KCMSSL groups will not have the same arrangement at the Olathe location as we had the past two winters. Have more options at the Bannister location. Ample facility usage. Still have the 2-hour windows available. Anyone wishing to put together a team or group, let Barry know as soon as possible so he can get the time reserved. Hendrikse commented that Gordon really advocated for our senior softball league. There has been a change in the entire organization. All new individuals in the upper management. No one we used to speak with is there any longer.
2. **NEW BUSINESS:**
3. **Addressing Managers’ / Players’ Survey items** – Berger sent out the responses generated from when the survey committee met to go over the items submitted. He was requesting everyone let him know if any changes need to be made before he sends it out to the managers. The question was asked as to whether, or not, we need to vote on the change on the Saturday morning draft -- going from one 9-inning game to two 7-inning games. Also switching the draft to begin at 8:30 and then the competitive to follow with their one 9-inning game after the draft games. The hope in making this change is to get more of the draft level players for the draft league. It was determined a board vote was not necessary.
4. **Women’s Membership Dues amount (increase from $15 to $20?)** – Berger suggested the change because the women now have multiple venues in which to participate. Willkett made a motion to increase the women’s membership dues from $15.00 - $20.00. It was seconded by Scholler. Passed 15-0-0. We will also change the women’s 35–39-year-old membership to match the men’s membership for this age group from $15.00 to $10.00. This will be announced at the membership meeting.
5. **Do we wish to attempt another “Spring” tournament? If so, dates??** – The question was asked, and Bobby Gregg responded “yes”. Gregg suggested April 15, 2023, Hartman Park.12 teams only. $250.00/team for 3 games.
6. **Wes Weddle tournament dates currently set for May 18-21…Black Bob & Hartman again, at this time** – 65+ and older teams will be at Hartman on Thursday & Friday – May 18-19. 60+ and younger will be at Black Bob Park, with overflow going to Hartman Park again. Hendrikse is going to have the conversation with the developers of the Schlitterbahn redevelopment to discuss the possibility of the Wes Weddle tournament moving there in 2024.
7. **Monthly, winter, charity “Texas Hold ‘em” tournament (suggested to the board to consider) –** Berger was asked by one of our members if the organization would have any interest in being part sponsor of a monthly charity “Texas Hold ‘em” tournament. A percentage of the entry fee amount would be donated to charity. It was determined this was not something we were interested in.
8. **Items needing to be addressed for upcoming Membership Meeting (votes – mail-in & hand-delivered, donuts, coffee machines, etc.)** – Berger sent out his proposed Membership Meeting agenda everyone prior to the board meeting so all could take a look at it and let him know of any additions, changes. Harlan will again do the pre-meeting prayer for those who passed “to-date” for 2022. The prayer will include acknowledgment for all who assisted with all the on-field incidents from this year and in the past. Board members need to arrive at 8:00 am for set up.

**Bob Zimmerman –** addressed the board since this will be his last board meeting (due to his term expiring this year and his decision not to run again). He thanked everyone for all that we do for the league. He stated he was amazed at the knowledge the board members possessed relative to the overall running of this league. He greatly appreciates all we do. Brad Uecker, also not rerunning for his board position in the upcoming election, also wanted to thank everyone for all we have done. This is his last board meeting as well.

**New ball order. –** The cost of a dozen softballs as part of the order we are expected to receive in 2023 is $63.49/dozen. The question asked was what amount should we be charging the teams in 2023…since we had charged $50 a dozen this past season. Scholler made a motion to charge $60.00/dozen next year (2023). It was seconded by Cloutier. Motions passed 13-2-0. The demand for softballs this past season dropped. It was agreeably perceived the reduction was due to us not automatically giving each team a dozen at the start of each session, and the teams now having to pay for them. Dehan asked how many we still had from last year. It’s anticipated we will not have enough of the 2022 order for the 2023 season. It is believed SSUSA has gone to a Baden ball (at least for the next three years). We will discuss making a similar change going into the 2024 season when the time comes to place our order.…if it’s determined the quality, and cost, of the Baden ball is acceptable.

Motion made by Hendrikse to adjourn, seconded by Scholler. Meeting adjourned at 1:58 pm.

**Items desired to be included in November Newsletter email blast (BOARD preferences / suggestions):**

Gordon - Homefield information. Hendrikse -- Online store. Scholler - New women’s membership pricing.

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING** (suggestion….) January meeting. Ray will check with the library on 95th, to reserve for 6:00 pm on 1/16/2023. If not, we can do it at Susan’s work. If the chiefs play, we will default to the 23rd at Susan’s conference room.

**2022**    **2023 2024**

Clint Berger Barry Gordon Dave Hendrikse

Bill Boos Bobby Gregg Jeff Harlan

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Bob Zimmerman Ray Harre Terry Cloutier