

**Board Meeting Date: Monday – January – 15th – 1:00 pm**

The Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League Board of Directors met at 1:00 pm, on January 15, 2024, via a Zoom meeting Present at the meeting were Clint Berger, Ann Willkett, John Mondi, Susan Scholler, John Dehan, Paul Heacock, Terry Jackson, Barry Gordon, Dave Hendriske, Billy Boos, Jeff Harlan, Monte Johnson & Mark Kenney. Missing were Bobby Gregg & Gary Pycior

1. **Call To Order –** called the meeting to order at 1:13 pm.
2. **Nominate / Vote For 2024 Executive Committee Members – President – Clint Berger** (only nominee), **Vice President - Barry Gordon**,(Jeff Harlan, Barry Gordon & Terry Jackson nominees) **Secretary – Ann Willkett** (only nominee) **Treasurer - Paul Heacock (**only nominee), **Membership Secretary – Susan Scholler (**Susan Scholler & Gary Pycior were nominated)
3. **Read / approve minutes from November 12th - 2023 meeting –** Scholler made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by John Dehan. Passed 13-0-0.
4. **Treasurer’s Report –** Paul emailed out all the written reports. Scholler made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Jeff Harlan. Passed 13-0-0.
   * + Moved the amount in the old savings account that was at .41% interest rate to a money market account with just under 5% interest rate.
     + Set up a new liability account for early payments for membership.
     + Paul will take care of filing the Kansas and Missouri annual reports that are due every 5 years.
     + Thursday night Heritage had an over payment of around $4,000.00. We refunded the conference around $250.00 -- to each team.
     + W4 forms are needed from SSUSA, Big Daddys Donuts and Call the game.
5. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** [Default is “No Report” -- unless indicated with an “**R**,” for Report]:
6. **All Star Games / Picnic N. New Members / Welcoming R**
7. **Awards O. Operations Notebook**
8. **Board Nominations P. Player / Team Ratings**
9. **By Laws Q. Rules & Protests**
10. **Equipment / Safety / Health + Draft**
11. **Finance + Men’s Competitive**
12. **Legal / Risk Management + Women’s & Co-Ed**
13. **Long Range Planning R. Social Media**
14. **Manager’s / Player’s Survey S. Special Projects**
15. **Marketing T. Sportsmanship**
16. **Membership Database / Dues U. Tournaments**
17. **Military Service Wall V. Umpires**
18. **Mission Statement / Goals**
19. **New Members/Welcoming –** Gordon – this time last year we had 111, currently we have 151, which includes eleven new members. Scholler asked for Gordon’s assistance in the transition into the membership secretary position.
20. **OLD BUSINESS:**
21. **NEW BUSINESS:**
22. **Update on records retention policy (Heacock) -** How long should we retain specific forms. Shared the retention files with the finance committee. Heacock will put all the documents he has on a flash drive annually and give them to Berger.
23. **Thursday night Heritage conference team refunds (Heacock)** This item was addressed under Treasurer’s report above.
24. **Extra Innings--end of February publication, Board Election--end of Nov. ballot mailing (Mondi, Berger) –** John Mondi will be stepping away from the Tuesday Coordinator position and the Extra Innings Publication. Terry Jackson will tackle the process along with assistance from Hendrikse and Pycior. Additional discussion ensued regarding the program to use.
25. **Rules Committee – proposed changes for 2024, if committees have already met (Willkett, Gregg, Boos) –** have not met yet to discuss. Clayton Lamberd printed the Rule Books for us last year.
26. **Saturday morning – Roe Park, 65+ Silver conference (Gordon, Berger)** – Trying to get this off the ground. Due to the loss of a couple of teams due to not being able to keep up with the competition. Per Gordon – possibly putting together a 65 + division. He has three teams, trying to put together a fourth team, but not looking too promising at this time. They are also running into some push back as the older guys wanted to play early and now the other teams also want to play early as well. John Mondi will try to put something out on facebook.
    * **Use of Roe Park (safety) with increased gold level team ratings going forward (Gregg, Berger)** There is a concern about the gold teams possibly hitting the local citizens utilizing the path around the fields. They are going to move them to Field “B” and see how it goes. If it becomes an issue, we may have to move the gold division to another park, possibly Hartman or Coleman, if available.
27. **Wes Weddle Tournament RFP – Hendrikse** is converting the PDF over to Word and then getting help with it all. Berger will be the contact person for all the teams coming in to participate in the Wes Weddle tournament, and Heacock will be the contact for collecting the money for it, with assistance from Gregg on the scheduling.
28. **Discuss “new” date for our All-Star Games/Picnic event – due to Will Rogers’ tournament overlapping our current July 20th date (All) –** With the domino effect of all the tournaments being moved, what should we do with the date of the All-Star Games/Picnic. Suggested dates were 7/13 or 6/15. Nine votes for 7/13.
29. **All-Star Games’ “Free Membership” award for Skills Contests winners?? Had 9 winners in 2023 = $240 (7 men, 2 women). Suggestion to only award framed picture plaques going forward??** Berger suggested we do the plaques only, instead of the free memberships AND plaques. Everyone agreed with giving out plaques only.
30. **Do we need to purchase another AED and / or additional lightning detectors??** Heacock suggested we need to error on the side of caution and not make it a financial decision. Berger will check and see if we have enough for Roe Park and look at ordering another one if need be. John Mondi is going to check on a back up battery for the one he has and let Berger know if he needs a new one or not. Mike Curley spoke with Ray Harre and there are two AED’s for use (between the three conferences at Roe Park), so there’s no need to purchase another one for them.
31. **Umpire status going forward (Dehan…and all) –** Always looking for umpires. Would like to have something put in the newsletter that goes out each month.
    * **Option for our Tue. Night – Independence draft conference to trial test “self-umpiring” their games have been suggested** - Gordon said someone suggested them doing self–umpiring. What are the pros and cons? Tuesday nights are the hardest to get umpires for. Scholler, who is a member of the Tuesday night Draft, felt there could be a problem with them trying to do it themselves. John Dehan thinks it will be a complete disaster. Per Berger, we’re going to scrap the idea.
32. **Manager’s Meeting date? 150-person room at Central Resource Library -** 9875 W 87th St – Berger suggested March 9, 2024, at the Central Resource Library that will not cost us anything.  
    Overland Park, KS 66212? **Or Tomahawk Ridge Community Center again, if a single room is available?** It was agreed we’d go with the Central Resource Library location.
33. **Monday night Independence, 60+, or transform to 65+ (Clint, Pumphrey) –** Berger and Gary Pumphrey discussed this, and they think they are going to leave it as a 60+ conference. Changing it to 65+ would displace a large number of players. May lose a team or two if it stays at the 60+, but it was felt to be the best decision.
34. **2023 inventory of softballs for 2024 season cost $63.50, charge teams $65 for 2024 season? (All) –** We will be using the balls we ordered in 2023. Berger suggested we up the cost from $60.00/dozen up to $65.00/dozen, so that we do not lose money on them. We have enough to get us through the 2024 season and part of the next season. Our order for 2024 balls came in much earlier than usual -- the middle of December, and they are at the higher cost of $75 / dozen, but we shouldn’t need to address that price until next season (2025).
    * **Use of Onyx softballs when current inventory expires? (Berger) -** After the December membership meeting, Mike Peel asked Berger if we would be willing to use the Onyx ball. Peel checked and got us a dozen with our logo on them. We will test them to see how they compare with our current Trump Stote micro-cell balls. Based on preliminary tests against our Trump and several other brands, they seem to be very comparable. They have not evaluated them yet by actually utilizing them in batting practices. If we were to change to Onyx, we would be able to get them quicker, and they would only be about $55.00/dozen (about $60/dozen if stamped with our logo and individually rewrapped).
35. **Draft Conferences –** Gordon will be the 2024 Director for the Draft conferences with Ray Harre stepping down. We will now have co-coordinators for each of the draft conferences. They have just completed the budgets and scheduling for them. Monday is a 70+ conference, two session, 10 weeks. Mike Curley and Tony Lenci will be running that. Tuesday night at Independence will a two-session, 10-week, 20 games, two seven inning game conference coordinated by Ron Phillips and James Freund…$75.00 per session. Wednesday night at Black Bob Park will be a 50+ conference – 2 sessions, 10 weeks…$67.00 per session. That one will be coordinated by Dave Hendrikse and Mike Emerson. The Thursday draft at Roe Park will be a 60+ one. It will be a $54, single 14-week session coordinated by Paul Heacock and John Hendle. Saturday at Roe Park will be a 60+ conference; one 15-week session at $60.00. This one will be coordinated by Gary Pycior and John Lofflin.
36. **Discuss DW (Designated Walker – draft conference with women on team) suggestion from Ron Phillips –** Only for Tuesday night draft. If you walk the guy, the women have an option to walk. On a side note, Gordon has been requesting ALL the draft shirts to be turned in. He is working on sponsors covering the cost of some of our conference’s shirts.
    * **Discuss setting a “player adjusted-skill-rating limit” for anyone wishing to play in one of our draft conferences –** Individuals think we need to put a ceiling on the skill rating of the players that can play in a draft league. We do not need to implement anything on this at this time.

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

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING** (suggestion….) Wednesday 2/21/2024 at 6:00 pm. Location: John Dehan’s house – 14003 W. 141st Place, Olathe, KS 66062 -- <https://goo.gl/maps/ZpqczYFpGPoHe2426>

John Dehan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jeff Harlan. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

**Board members and year term expires:**

**2024 2025 2026**

Dave Hendrikse Clint Berger Barry Gordon

Jeff Harlan Bill Boos Bobby Gregg

John Mondi Ann Willkett John Dehan

Gary Pycior Paul Heacock Susan Scholler

Terry Jackson Mark Kenney Monte Johnson