

IN ATTENDANCE: S. Baranick (SB); R. Barnhart (RB); D. Bates (DB); J. Hansell (JH); G. Stevenson (GS)

1. Action Items

SB – From prior Board meeting expected actions, SB was to trade 12 doz. NCS Hard Core softballs for 12 doz. ONYX softballs to/from from Chris Yap). Instead, SB purchased 4 doz. ONYX softballs from Elite Sports and sold 6 doz. NCS Hard Core softballs to Chris Yap. Details shown in Item 2. below. SB indicated that we have enough ONYX balls (2 doz.) to finish this season. He also indicated that we have six doz. of the NCS Hard Core softballs to be sold.

Item remains open.

2. 2024 Fall Season

Projected Balance:

- \$450.69 - from 8/5 meeting
- \$237.05 - bought 4 doz ONYX softballs @ \$55/doz + 7.75% tax from Elite Sports
- \$15.25 - add'l cost for 2 new managers' gifts
- +\$100.00 - Ron Barnhart to White On! PAID, Ed Rushing to Rawlings PAID,
Clay Collins to Greyhounds, Miguel "Q" Quinones to Red Zeppelin
League fee \$25 each (pro-rated)
- +\$360.00 - sold 6 doz NCS Hard Core softballs @ \$60/doz to Chris Yap/NCS on 10/16/24
- \$10.00 - add'l cost for SE-tournament awards
- \$50.00 - schedule change (see Item 6. below) requiring use of an additional field
- \$50.00 - J. Smith (Rawlings/Team F) removed from roster

\$548.39

3. New Player Rating

Discussion took place as to how best to rate players Collins and Quinones mentioned in Item 2. above, and new player replacement for TP, Craig Peterson, mentioned in Item 5. below. JH restated league policy on rating new players: First is to have all 5 Board members rate new players. The second way is if 3 Board members know the playing skills of the new player, that will be sufficient to set a rating.

The merits/value of evaluating a new player during a game was discussed. SB believes that this method does have value as it gives the viewers a chance to see the player in real game situations. JH feels that unless one has the chance to observe a player over a course of a number of games, a single game observation is not very helpful. He stated that one might sit and watch an entire game and the player might walk 4 times, or walk 2 times and hit 2 ground ball outs. He might not get one play in the field, not less multiple plays which might show his skill. He might, simply, have a bad game. It's also likely, that an observer might miss a plate appearance or a play in the field because he got distracted, or had to leave his seat for a few minutes. JH feels that trying to evaluate the skills of a player is not an efficient use of an observer's time, nor does it, necessarily, lead to an accurate evaluation.

In the case of Collins, SB/RB/DB/GS all had knowledge of his skills and by unanimous consensus, without vote, set his rating as a 4. On that basis, he was placed on the Greyhounds. (Subsequent to the Board meeting, SB notified Greyhound Manager, John Leavitt, of this fact and that Collins would be at the game on Monday 11/4/24. Unfortunately, through some confusion, Collins did not show for the 11/4 game.)

Regarding Quinones, since he had canceled 2 previous attempts by the Board to get him rated, SB would contact him to be at BLD at 8:30 am. on Monday 11/4, and if he did not show he would be dropped as a candidate for the league. (Subsequent to the Board meeting, Quinones did show for rating session, but the only thing the 3 Board members in attendance (SB/RB/JH) were able to observe was his hitting. He did play for Red Zeppelin in the 10:30 am game.) (Subsequent to the Board meeting, regarding TP, new player Peterson, Board members SB/RB/JH were able to observe some of his play.) The Board needs to set a rating for Quinones.

The Board needs to set a rating for TP's Peterson.

Item remains open.

4. Open items from previous meetings

a. Teams Loading Up With Pickup Players

SB mentioned that in the previous Board meeting where this subject was discussed, it was agreed that DB/RB would collaborate on a proposal to consider changing the league rule for how replacement players are selected but only for the end-of-season single-elimination tournament. The argument in favor of this change is that too many teams, when missing players in the tournament, were “loading up” and became a better team than their regular season team.

JH asked the question as to how widespread or serious of an issue this is, as the manager has no control over who is missing for any period/for any game, and the entire idea of needing replacement players is, basically, random. Without specifics or quantifications, the answer was given as many times over the course of a number of years.

DB offered a proposal for the Board’s consideration (see **ATTACHMENT**). For tournament play only, a player must be replaced with a player with a lower draft “number” than the player being replaced. This applies only to players drafted in one of the first three rating categories (1, 2, 3). DB gave an example that a player drafted 35th, can only be replaced by a player drafted 36th and below.

JH motioned and DB seconded that the Board adopt, effective with the Fall 2024 Tournament, the following changes to the rule for picking up players: Regular league play – no change to current rule; Tournament play – a player being replaced who is rated a 1, 2, or 3 must be replaced by a player with a lower draft “number” than the player being replaced. There will be no change in picking up players who are rated 4, 5, or 6. The motion further states that this will be a provisional rule change that will apply to the tournaments for the Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 seasons at which time the efficacy of the rule change will be evaluated by the Board. **Motion passed 5-0.** (Subsequent to the Board meeting, on 11/6/24, JH changed his vote to No. **Motion passed 4-1.**)

(Subsequent to the Board meeting, on 11/7/24, SB/JH discussed the above revised rule as relates to picking up pool players and the manner in which TP replaces missing players. After discussion, SB/JH concluded that pool players will be picked up, and TP will pick up players, in Tournament play, according to current rules.)

JH to provide SB with language reflecting the approved change to be incorporated in the Tournament rules. (Subsequent to the Board meeting, JH provided SB a revised version (Attachment – Revision 1) of the proposal, reflecting language which can be incorporated into Tournament play rules.)

A meeting with league managers is to be arranged to explain changes. **Item remains open.**

b. Revisit SSUSA Rule Changes 1.5 Batters Box and 7.3 Batting Position

This rule change was **not** adopted by MVUDSS at the 12/27/23 board meeting. See MVUDSS Rule 30. It will be revisited after the SSUSA Rules Committee Meeting in December, 2024.

(Item not discussed at this Board meeting.) **Item remains open.**

5. Taylor Made Pools, Inc.

Fred Gershkoff would like to replace Leonard Sanchez (3) with Craig Peterson (3). See Item 3. above.

6. Schedule Change

Rev. 2 moved the 9/9 rainout games to 12/16. It is not a satisfactory alternative to move the season ending tournament, which had been scheduled on 12/16/24, to some date after the first of the year. Discussion took place to consider moving the tournament to **WEDNESDAY** 12/18 pending Board and BLD approval. That option was not deemed satisfactory to the Board. RB proposed that the games schedule for 12/16 (3 time slots) be moved to 12/9, also 3 time slots. SB pointed out that any player picked up on that date would be playing 3 games, since all teams would be playing a doubleheader. SB told the Board that there were three dates (11/25, 12/2, and 12/9) in which it might be possible to move the 3 games from 12/16. The Board gave SB the OK to make the changes if it would work.

(Subsequent to the Board meeting, SB made the changes and posted changes on league website. SB needs to notify managers regarding the changes). **Item remains open.**

7. Bob Kapeller Memorial Tournament 2025 (BKMT8)

SB received approval from BLD/Tom Lowry for Wednesday, 2/26/25 as the tournament date and Wednesday, 3/5/25 as backup date. On 10/5/25, SB emailed: announcement to SSUSA to be posted under Recreational Tournaments; and to 30 managers (which included all the BKMT7 managers). SB also posted announcement on Facebook.

RB asked if age 55 players would be allowed to play in the tournament. The Board agreed that 55-rated teams would be permitted giving runs per SSUSA rules.

The Board also agreed that an only one age 55 player will be permitted on a 60-rated team, but that team would be reclassified as a 55-rated team and would give runs per SSUSA rules.

Item remains open.

8. Board Director Positions

SB and JH indicated that they would both be resigning their official position as Board Directors. In order to provide the Board with as orderly a transition as possible, their resignations will be officially submitted, in writing, some time after the completion of the Spring 2025 season.

9. Roster Changes - REDACT this agenda item only IF NO CHANGES from last board meeting. (Changes, if any, identified in red below.)

a. Roster Openings (in roster opening order):

~~8/6/24: Dave Flournoy (6) quit Rawlings/Team F~~

~~8/7/24: Jim Ziemer (5) quit Greyhounds/Team E~~

~~8/15/24: Brian Crozier (3) quit White On!/Team D~~

~~10/22/24: Frank Camou (2) quit Red Zeppelin/Team C~~

11/4/24: Jerry Smith (6) removed from Rawlings/Team F roster

b. Pool/Waiting List Players (in eligibility order):

10/31/24: Glenn Stevenson (2) --- ready December 9

c. Injured List (IL):

7/23/24: Bill Newman (2) --- PT on knee, possible return 2025 Spring Season

7/11/24: Don Finn (1) --- possible return in November

d. Miscellaneous Changes:

9/30/24: Ron Barnhart (2) replaced Brian Crozier on White On!/Team D

10/1/24: Ed Rushing (5) replaced Dave Flournoy (6) on Rawlings/Team F

10/28/24: Clay Collins (4) replaced Jim Ziemer (5) on Greyhounds/Team E

11/4/24: Miguel "Q" Quinones (1) replaced Frank Camou (2) on Red Zeppelin/Team C

10/28/24: Steve Baranick (6) moved to player pool

ATTACHMENT

11/4/24

REVISION 1

To the Board of MVUDSS,

We propose the following changes to the rules for “picking up” players for Tournament play. Regular season rules for picking up players will remain as current. We by all means do not want to make the job of our volunteer managers any harder than it already is, but we do want to eliminate the perception of teams "loading up" for Tournament play.

For regular league play: No change.

For Tournament play: A player who is missing, who is rated a 1, 2, or 3 must be replaced by a player with a lower draft “number” than the player being replaced. Example: A player taken 35th in the draft may only be replaced by a pickup player taken lower in the draft. (36th and below). Players drafted as a 4, 5, or 6 will be replaced according to existing replacement player rules.

Pool players will be picked up, and Taylor Made Pools will pick up players, in Tournament play, according to current rules.