

Vintage Softball Club

Board of Directors Meeting

October 29, 2019

Attendees:

Officers

Jeff Greenberg, President
Mark Loveless, Vice President
Larry Murchison, Secretary
Don Shrank, Treasurer



Directors

Chris Milosovich
Brian Adams- Absent
Mike Friedman - Absent
John Cawley
Rob Gelpman

Commissioners

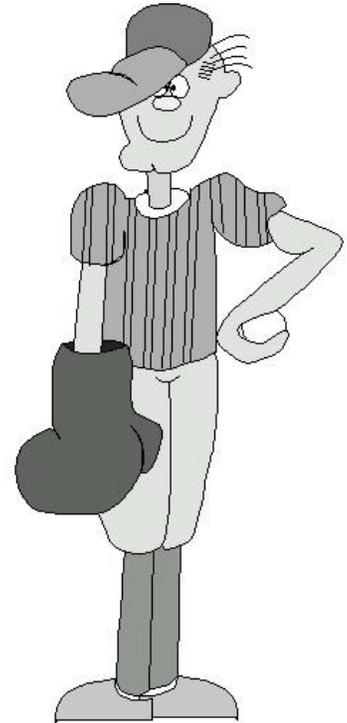
Tom Simpson, Fun league
Lou Silver, Saturday league
Jack Boniface, Tuesday/Thursday leagues

President's Comments

First off, a couple of dates to put on your calendars. The annual Toys for Tots charity event will be held at Moffett on November 16th. And our holiday party will take place on Sunday December 15th at the Poor House Bistro by the SAP Center.

Second, congratulations to our 2019 award winners: Bob LeFevre and Paul Thesing for the Sportsmanship Awards, and Tom Simpson for the Armen Parseghian award.

Finally, we're off to a good start but if you haven't paid yet, don't forget it's time to pay your 2020 dues!



New Members

The club would like to welcome new members **Barbra Drizin, Daniel Castro, John Escoto, Donn Dobkin, Danny Perales, Ben Afraimi and Walter McDonell**. Have fun and play safely.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The Board approved the September Board minutes that are posted on our website.

Treasurer's Report:

One month into the new fiscal year, we have received about 30% of our 2020 dues- thanks to those who have paid thus far. We ended fiscal 2019 (through September) with a net income of about \$2,700. The October Financial statements were approved.

Rules Committee Report

2019-2020 Rules Reminders

Rule 6.11 Quick Pitch: "The pitcher shall not attempt a quick return of the ball before the batter has taken his position or when the batter is off

balance as a result of the pitch. The umpire (**catcher in our case**) shall call time and allow the batter to get set.”

Rule 6.16 Wind or Sun affecting Both Pitchers: “In significantly windy conditions, if, in the judgment of the umpire (**in our case coaches**), the wind is having a discernible adverse effect on the accuracy of both pitchers, the umpire may declare that only strikes count.” In the case of sun interference potentially affecting the pitcher’s safety, the umpire may invoke a short suspension of play. EFFECT: Softball is an outdoor game played in the elements. Sun position affecting the batter is NOT a potential safety issue and shall NOT be the basis for suspension of play.” **Thus, no longer can a batter ask the pitcher to move in order to avoid looking directly into the sun.....a change from previous rules.**

Rule 7.4A Strike Called by Umpire: “Any pitched ball that hits the ground or strike mat cannot be legally swung at by the batter. NOTE: If the batter swings and misses the pitch prior to the ball hitting the plate or mat it is a strike. EFFECT: The ball is dead. **Thus, if a batter intentionally swings at a ball after the ball hits the ground or plate the ball is dead, and is considered a “ball.”**

Pitchers not getting behind the pitching screens remains a major issue, as at least two players have been hit in the last couple weeks. The rules state that if the pitcher is not behind the screen after releasing the pitch, an illegal pitch should be called. The Rules Committee will meet to discuss how to best enforce this rule. If we don’t make sure the pitcher is getting behind the screen, which is for player safety, we may have to consider more radical enforcement rules, including that pitchers cannot field the ball at all.



Old Business:

Recruiting

We ended fiscal 2019 with 216 members, exactly the same as the previous year. However, a shift in players playing in only one league versus 2+, as well as 5 new members who are weeknight league only, resulted in total dues being about \$1,000 less than in 2018. We had 29 new members to the club in 2019. Recruiting will take on a bigger emphasis in 2020- look for more on this in the new year.

New Business:

2020 Elections/Awards

The election results are in. To those who voted, thank you for your participation. The incumbent Board members and Officers running all won re-election, and the Board wishes to welcome new members **Jeff Hacker** and **Jim Palte**. **Mike Friedman** was elected as our Secretary.

A big thank you to **Larry Murchison and John Cawley** for their service to the Vintage Board and Officer ranks.

We are excited to announce the winner of our annual awards:

The Sportsmanship Award went to **Bob LeFevre**.

The Fun League Sportsmanship Award went to **Paul Thesing**.

The Armen Parseghian Award went to **Tom Simpson**.

Congratulations to all the award and election winners!

Arcadia Fields/Options

The new Arcadia softball fields by Eastridge mall look great. There are 4 softball fields, with an all dirt infield and a grass outfield, with fences between 280 and 310 feet. We are negotiating with the city to secure favorable rates for during the week, as we currently receive at DeAnza and Mise. Assuming we get those favorable rates for Tuesdays and Thursdays, the Board approved moving to Arcadia for one of the fields, while also keeping Mise as the other field. This would probably begin on March 1, which is the next season for field contracts, although we will look into possibly starting earlier at Arcadia. The fun league would continue with its current play at DeAnza until Hamann is ready again.

For Saturday, Arcadia is an option as well, although the costs will be much higher. We are working with the city to work out our Saturday options. Assuming we do have Moffett through August, this would go into effect in the subsequent field contract season, starting in September.

We have considered working with the city to help manage the fields at Columbus; however, it looks like the city might be tearing down and rebuilding Columbus, starting in 2021. We will see if there are other fields that qualify for us to help with maintenance in order to secure preferential playing time.

Toys For Tots

We will be holding our annual charity fundraiser, hosted by Ray Miranda, on Saturday November 16 at Moffett. As usual, there will be a raffle and food sales, plus we welcome any unwrapped toys (around \$10). All club members are invited, so come out and bucket if you are not on a Saturday roster.

Holiday Party

This year's Holiday party will be held on **Sunday December 15th from 4-8pm, at the Poor House Bistro in San Jose.** We have a brand new, private party space right next door to the main restaurant reserved just for us.

The food will be Louisiana flavored, highlighted by items such as blackened chicken wings, sausage bread, red beans and rice, slow roasted meats, and vegetarian items like muffuletta pasta salad, green salad and jambalaya. All accompanied by corn muffins and bread pudding.

We will also be presenting the Vintage annual awards and have a great set of items to be raffled off (the club welcomes donations from our members)!

The costs for the food and venue will be \$30 per person. A cash bar will be available. You can sign up via PayPal on our website, or by giving cash/check to any manager or Board member.

The Poor House Bistro is located right by the SAP Center (there are no events at SAP that night). There is limited lot parking at the restaurant but plenty of street parking.

Mike Duggan Fund Raiser

Much thanks to the Club for their generosity in helping one of our members in need- Michael Duggan. Through a raffle organized by Jim Gurley, we raised significant funds to help tide Michael and his family over. Michael was very emotional after receiving the donation, and wanted to thank all of Vintage for its generosity and support. He said it's one of the things he likes most about the club, the feeling of a family, and that the Vintage family definitely came through for him.

Saturday Roster Analysis

An initial analysis of the Saturday roster turnover revealed that we have 30 fewer players on Saturday than 3 years ago. Of the roughly 85 currently on the roster, 25 are new, so we have been getting a fair amount of new additions. 17 members moved away, obviously contributing to the shortfall. But over 20 players just aren't playing on Saturdays anymore, most of them either switching to or only playing during the week.

While we look to further understand our Saturday status, we clearly need to do more recruiting. We have had local fire and police groups send out Vintage information to their members or post in their stations/firehouses, but more is needed. So, invite your friends to join up, especially on Saturdays!

Shirts/Caps/Balls

We have enough shirts in inventory for now- Jack will provide Lou with shirts to cover the Saturday needs. The most recent hats we purchased have not been of good quality. We will look to replace them with a new vendor.

Mark Loveless distributed the final batch of the 40 dozen balls from our last order, which should last us until March/April.



League Commissioner's Reports:

Fun League

Attendance remains strong, typically in the mid-twenties. The league is now playing at De Anza Park and attendance has seemed to increase a bit.

Tuesday/Thursday Leagues

On Tuesday's we will have 3 WINTER teams of 16 or 17 players each. On Thursday's we will have 4 team of 15-16 players each. We will play all Tuesday games at Mise Park, and Thursday games at Mise and DeAnza Parks.

Saturday League

We have 6 teams again, with 14-15 players per team.

The Board voted to adjourn at 8:50PM, PST. The next meeting will be held January 7th 2020.



Please visit our web site at: <http://www.vintagesoftball.org/>

The Goal of Vintage is to have **FUN**, be **FAIR** and play **SAFE**