



November 18, 2003

Here are your newly elected directors for Jan. 1

Congratulations to all of you for volunteering.

In SC: National League, Ken Dorian and Bill Nyblade; American League, Mike Graham. They will be joining Tait Douglas, Carl Johnson, Ray Keller and Doug Wright, your SC board for 2004.

In SCW: American League: Jim Pavolko. National League: Bill Allen, Glen Carroll, Fred Suess. Directors staying for another year are Dutch Walton, Lyle Bakken and Mel Schiebel.

Committee on possible split of the leagues. There will be a league general member meeting on Monday 12-08 at 10:00AM at Sundial Auditorium in SC to discuss proposals. Mike Graham provided this:

The objective of this committee is to identify possible alternatives for realignment of the existing leagues. The committee will present these alternatives with pros and cons. Then there will be discussion by the general membership, with each person limited to 2 minutes. An anonymous vote will later be taken to select the most popular alternative. Team managers will distribute ballots within a few days after the meeting. Constraints: The major factor driving this project is an increased concern for safety. All alternatives must provide for increased safety over the current alignment without detracting from the enjoyment of the game. Here are the alternatives:

- 1) Splitting American League into 2 leagues with no change to National league based on player skill level
- 2) Splitting American League into 2 leagues with no change to National based on each players preference
- 3) Making 3 leagues by realigning from the National and American based on skill level
- 4) Making 3 leagues by realigning from National and American based on player preference
- 5) An 8-team American League and 2 National League divisions with 11 teams in each
- 6) Leaving things as they are and using local rules to promote safety

To read or download four pages of pros, cons, details, etc, go to <http://www.azssoftball.com/reorganizingreport>. PDF

“Liberty Buick Clubhouse” is underway in SCW.

During the groundbreaking ceremony on 10-25, there was a very special announcement. The clubhouse would be named “Liberty Buick,” as this fine dealer made a major donation toward the facility. And soon the field will be renamed “Liberty Field.” The players and the people of SCW appreciate the contributions of all our sponsors toward the reality of this project. The building will become an asset to SCW residents with no cost to them...compliments of our players, Liberty Buick and our wonderful fence bill-board sponsors, the Rec Centers, and our player project manager Dick LeMoine in particular. The facility should be complete sometime in late February or earlier. Go to our web site to see progressive construction pictures, compliments of Ken Skinner.

******COMPLAINT AT SUNBOWL FIELD IN SC******

SC Softball Club President Doug Wright received a call from the Rec Center General Manager. One problem is that teams are using the jogging track near the first base dugout to warm up their throws. This means that players not only get in the way of walkers/joggers, but the spikes dig up the track and make it uneven. Stay off, even if you see no joggers on the track. The second problem is that players step on the track with their spikes to enter or exit the field. Use the sidewalks. Read the signs. *Spike marks must be eliminated. Your cooperation is absolutely essential to stop complaints.* Thank you.

Duties and responsibilities of team managers.

Here is a list of items submitted by Mel Schiebel, Rules Committee Chairman.

- American league managers: draft players.
- National league managers: attend player selection meeting.
- Recommend ratings of players.
- Develop player lineups.
- Develop umpire and scorekeeper lists and give them to players before the first game.
- Get substitute players.
- Appoint an assistant manager in your absence.
- Develop a phone calling tree (optional)
- Notify players of rainouts and schedule changes.
- Prepare the field for the first game of the day.
- Secure the field and equipment after last game.
- Ensure players are in full uniform.
- Ensure players are aware of League Rules.
- Do not allow dues-delinquent members to play.
- Suspend players for one game if they do not show up at their assigned time to ump or score.

How did Friday, Saturday, and Monday play begin? By Ernie Mueller. “Some ladies wanted to

play softball with the men. They were called the Gals and Guys. In the beginning there were around 7-8 gals and a few guys. Kenny Stewart, Wally Mound and I got up a group of guys that would play the girls. Only B and C type players would play. It was like the keystone cops playing, maybe funnier. I then asked Lund Cadillac if they would care to sponsor this classy team that we called the Rinkydinks and also the Saturday SC and SCW 70's. They said yes.

Then came the Mavericks, Retreads, another SC 70's team plus a Saturday SC Grand team and the Green Team. Lund Cadillac furnished shirts, caps, balls and some shorts for the entire group. Jackets also were provided for the original Rinkydinks. Lund Cadillac has been doing this since 1996. I would appreciate that when you drop in at Lund Cadillac for a continental breakfast and a new car that you look for Bobby Monahan. Let him know that you are from the Sun Cities Senior Softball League and thank him for all he and Lund have done for us."

Briarwood CC golf tournament party time! Mark your calendars for Monday, April 26, 2004 when Briarwood in SCW will host the first annual Sun Cities Senior Softball League party for sponsors, spouses, and us SC/SCW players. Our billboard sponsors have committed to 40 people who will attend and provide some nifty prizes. How about a new car for a hole in one! There will be lots of prizes, awards.

Don't forget the chipping and putting contests for big cash prizes (start practicing now).

Golf at a beautiful country club, go home to freshen up, return for dinner, collect your prizes and end the day dancing like there's no tomorrow. You get the whole package, tax and tips included, for only \$55 (\$20 for dinner and dance only). Ideally there will be 128 golfers, up to 300 for dinner. All this happens through the wonders of THE MAN, Scott McLearnie. By 12-15, Call him at 214-6238 as he is polling to estimate attendance, or email mclearies@aol.com.

You're outta here! How to treat your umpires.

They are us...players, not professionals, who have a tough job pleasing everyone. So treat them with dignity and respect, no belittling. Remember that their eyes age just like yours. If there is a problem with **rule interpretation**, don't argue on the field. Call time out for your manager to deal with it. You cannot stop the game to argue judgment calls such as balls, strikes, safe, out, fair or foul. Umpires, it is your duty to accept the assignment and to show up. We thank all you umps and scorekeepers for your diligence and staying power. Hang in there.

Trapped-ball rule definition. Umpire Ken Skinner provides this. A trapped ball is: A) A batted ball or line drive which hits the ground or a fence prior to being caught. B) A thrown ball to any base for a force out which is caught with the glove over the ball on the ground rather than under the ball.

Umpire school planned for January 10. There will be both classroom discussion and field exercises with umpire Ken Skinner. More details to come.

Dates...Dates...Mark Your Calendars

11-20, 11-22, 11-25-03 ... Arizona School Tax Credit forms. See details inside this newsletter

12-1-03...SCW Board Meeting, 1st Monday of the month, 8:00AM, Men's Club, RHJ Rec Center

12-3-03...SC Board Meeting, 1st Wed of the month at 8:00AM at Fairway Rec Center

12-8-03...Joint League Board meeting, 8:00AM, SC at the Bell Rec Center Lanes

12-8-03...League General Membership Meeting, 10:00 AM at Sundial Auditorium in Sun City, discuss proposals to realign the league. From SCW, take Bell to Boswell, then right to Greenway.

12-19-03 through 1-5-04...Holiday break.

1-10-04...Umpire School, details to come

Members may attend any board meetings. Pick a date to attend a board meeting and see what's going on behind the scenes. This will give you a greater appreciation for the outstanding work being done by our dedicated directors....smooth operators.

Patronize our bill-board and team sponsors. When you buy or browse, let them know you are from the Sun Cities Senior Softball League.

Our league now has 403 happy members.

Get your Arizona School Tax Credit forms. Bring your checkbook. State law allows taxpayers to contribute money to schools by 12-31-03. The amount given can be deducted from your taxes. First grade school teacher Sharon LeMoine once again will be at the SCW ball field passing out forms all day: Nov. 20 for the American league; Nov 25 for the National; at her home (21046 N. 135th, SCW) on Nov. 22 from 93:00...stop by for a hot dog. See Sharon at the field or call her at 975-9291.

Comments? Inputs? Contact Editor John Doherty at 623-544-8469 or johndoherty@juno.com
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