



February 17, 2004

Should any league reorganization be done now? The resounding answer from 85.2% of the voting members was NO. So that ends discussion of split leagues for now. The vast majority apparently likes the way things are.

Now is your chance to vote for your Hall-of-Fame nominees. All members have been given ballots. The deadline is 2-19 for you to return the ballot to your manager or put it in the "Hall of Fame nomination box" at each field. Members of the selection committee are: Bill Bromley, Chairman; Don Goble, Matt Szydowski, Loran Swanson, Mike Graham. Winners will be announced at the Softball Banquet on April 15.

American and National League Banned Bats. Mike Graham reports the league governing board has taken a step to promote safety by banning all bats that are considered dangerous. This was effective 2-10-04. The league will use the ASA banned bat list to document banned bats. In addition, all bats used must be on the ASA certified bats list. Both lists will be posted at both fields. The penalty for hitting a ball with a banned bat is an automatic out, ejection of the player and possible disciplinary action by the league board. The banned bat list can be downloaded from our website, azsrssoftball.com.

The league board voted to go with the ASA banned bat and certified bat list. You can link to the banned bat list because it is a simple PDF.

http://www.softball.org/about/pdf/04_Non_ASA_Approved_Bats.pdf or check our softball web site.

However, part of the policy is to buy from the approved list (many pages if you print it), which is an active server page. The process for getting to it is:

Go to the certified page -

http://www.softball.org/about/certified_equipment.asp

?? Select "Bats" then click on GO

?? Go to the section 2004 And Beyond Approved Bats, select "Bats" and click on the GO beside the "Display All"

Piper Jaffray signs up as our 15th SCW bill-board sponsor. This fine company offers a wide array of securities, investments, etc. Welcome to the club!

Attention all national league players. The Sun City West Softball Club is hosting their 4th Annual Invitational Spring Fling Tournament on March 5, 6, and 7 at Liberty field in Sun City West. If you wish to participate in this tournament you need to contact Fred Suess 546-9262 and/or Bill Allen 546-6931. Our hope is that there will be 8 teams competing.

Get your pictures Feb 17 or 19. Are you ready for team pictures, baseball cards and other pictorial options? You can get *pictures with your wife*, friend, cat, dog, bird, or even pose as you like for the softball picture. All pictures will be taken at SunBowl field in SC, the American league on 2/17 and National 2/19. Be there 30 minutes early. A price list with options is posted on the bulletin boards. Sun Photography will take your check at picture time. Contact Bobby Stouthamer at 214-1515.

New SCW Clubhouse to be dedicated 3-21 at Liberty Field. While construction should be complete early in March, the real fun begins on Sunday, March 21. You don't want to miss it—party time. We'll celebrate with a fun dedication ceremony, food, drink and lots of ball games involving National and American leagues featuring one or two firemen games. The dedication committee: Ed Eckardt, chairman, Jim Pavolko, Bob Stouthamer, Matt Szydowski, Dick LeMoine. They will meet with Rec Board members to discuss event details. More next month.

Annual Softball Banquet is set for April 15. It will be at the RH Johnson Rec Center Social Hall from 11:00-2:00PM. Mark your calendar. The league subsidizes this happy event chaired by Jim McGuire. New Hall of Fame members will be named.

Dick LeMoine resigns from SCW Bill-Board Marketing Committee. He is moving on to other things after bringing in a significant number of our 15 billboard sponsors. Even now, as he winds down his efforts, he continues to work with several prospective sponsors and to monitor construction of the new clubhouse. Greg Johnston continues to chair sponsor development through presentations, contacts, booklets, etc. What a team!

Mike Graham...new league rules committee chair. Mel Schiebel has stepped down. Other members are Paul Nagelson, Ron Blackwell, Tom Aloï and Bob Stouthamer.

Jerry Bianchi will be in charge of field maintenance in SCW. Thanks for volunteering.

The league will switch to 375 compression balls. As of 2/11, about 3-4 weeks of 525 balls remained. The new balls will be the same except compression. The practice of using a new ball every other game will continue.

An Angel Steps Up. Gail Stouthamer reports Linda Graham has been working in the background making calls and helping with the Angels in the Outfield in every way asked. She has now stepped forward to put her very adept computer skills to work in preparing and posting all

the announcements you read on the bulletin boards. Angels is blessed with wonderful people who care about each and every one of you. They are always looking for help with making follow up phone calls to players and their families when a need arises. Would you like to help? Call Gail Stouthamer 214-1515, Joyce Fano 214-2287, or Linda Graham 974-3793. <http://www.angelsintheoutfield.com/>

Whom to contact if you want to change leagues. Let's say you are in the National league and you want to consider switching to the American league. How do you go about it? It's easy. Make contact with the following in your city: SC, Mike Graham; SCW, Loran Swanson. If you are in the American league and want to consider the National: SC, Carl Johnson; SCW, Fred Suess.

Don't miss this! See the attached for an update on the Briarwood Country Club golf tournament and dinner-dance April 26. Golf, dinner or both. Prizes galore!

Players are still asking questions about dues. Unpaid dues are in arrears. Players who have not paid are not playing and cannot play until paid. For 2005, dues are payable January 1, 2005 in both SC and SCW. The SC Softball Club treasurer is Tait Douglas, 13649 N. 103rd Avenue, Sun City, AZ 85351, and 977-0637. The Sun City West Softball Club treasurer is Lyle Bakken, 14817 W. Domingo Lane, SCW, AZ 85375, and 214-8735. You may want to save this information to mail dues next fall if you will be out of town until January.

Some score keepers need to do a better job on the score sheets. For the sake of our intrepid news reporters, fill in the sheets *completely* as shown on the sample, laminated sheets at the fields. And please use our standardized scoring system, not your own. Make sure the sheet total matches the score on the board at the game end. Managers, if you are interested in accurate reporting, take a moment to look over the final sheets, or errors end up being reported.

National league rules are now on the web site.

Wester newspaper is reporting softball results. Check it out. 623 584-2992 and 623 584-0950 Fax to contact or subscribe.

John Doherty will retire as newsletter publisher. SO, WE NEED A REPLACEMENT. HOW ABOUT YOU? John is fresh out of ideas since he has put this letter to bed from 1997 to 2004...can't press his luck further. His last letter will be next month, around mid March, as official ball play season ends early, 48. The next letter will be October--plenty of time to get acquainted. Everything is on computer. You can easily pick up the procedures. It's lots of fun to interact with players in developing everything that's fit to print. You don't have to do the letter as long as he. A year will do nicely. Pay is great. Call, 544-8469.

Jan Stroock has turned over his newspaper reporting to Tony DiBiasio. Jan did a superior job in reporting

softball chatter. But he will be remembered most for developing creative nick names for the players. We couldn't wait to read the reports just to see what new names he would generate. He always met tough paper deadlines. Well done! Tony, he's a tough act to follow.

Some members are still not aware of our web site. It is shown at the bottom of the artwork in this paper's masthead, www.azssoftball.com. There you will find the latest info, archives on our league plus interesting links.

Play softball in Logan, Utah this summer. Escape the summer heat at Utah State University. Three months at D's Bridgeland Apartments costs only \$1100. For details, call Bob Damato 623-584-5640.

Lost and Found. There are quite a few jackets, sunglasses, etc. in the lost and found at the Sun City West field. Please check as the items will be donated.

The Big Little Boy in my Life. By Linda Graham.

He wakes at dawn, Can't wait to play
Soaks in the hot tub. Today's a game day
Got to get goin', There's work to be done.
Fields to be lined, Clocks to be run,
Games to be umpped and scores to keep.
"Pigpen" lovingly says, "It's no time to sleep!"
Have to check on some guys, They may need support.
Any questions on rules? Yes, he's got the report.
I can say it's a joy, to be the proud wife
Of this wonderful Big Little Boy in my Life.

Dates...Dates...Mark Your Calendars

2-17 and 2-19-04...Baseball Card Pictures. See details in article

3-1-04...SCW Board Meeting, 1st Monday of month, 8:00AM, Lecture Hall, RHJ Rec Center

3-3-04...SC Board Meeting, 1st Wed of month at 8:00AM, Lakeview Rec Center bowling lanes meeting room.

3-8-04...Joint League Board meeting, 9:00AM, SCW. Pebblebrook golf course, Par 4 room. 2nd Monday of mo.

3-21-04...SCW Clubhouse Dedication, Liberty Field, near Kuentz Rec Center. See article inside.

4-15-04...Annual Softball Banquet in SCW. 11:00 to 2:00 at RH Johnson Rec Center, Social Hall

4-26-04...Briarwood Golf Tournament/Dinner Dance

Members may attend any board meetings. Pick a date to see what's going on behind the scenes.

Our League has 400 happy members.

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

Comments? Inputs? Contact John Doherty at 544-8469 with ideas to improve this letter. A new editor is needed as John tosses in the towel. [johndoherty@juno.com](mailto: johndoherty@juno.com)