



Manager Meeting #1 - Minutes
Sunday, February 2nd, 2020
Seminole County Softball Complex

CFSL Board

Commissioner	Kendrik Neely
Assistant Commissioner	Bonnie Marsh
Secretary	Colt Tucker
Treasurer	Angela Barbery
Sergeant-At-Arms	Keith Conrad
Tournament Director	Kyle Gaither

Roll Call

Parliamentarian took attendance at 9:00 AM. During roll call, Secretary distributed Team Rosters to the corresponding Team Manager. Meeting Agendas were placed in each manager's seat upon arrival which included the Agenda, Manager Acknowledgement Form, and Manager Contact Information Form.

All Board Members in Attendance.

Team Managers In Attendance:

Base Grinders (Bonnie Marsh)	Onslaught (Javier Lopez)
Basic Pitches (Daniel Owens)	Circus (Dan Ziegler)
Bombers (Ronnie Rupert)	Fury C, D, E (Timothy Bennett)
Scrub Jays (John Rose)	Liberty (Kyle Lathem)
Cool Runnings (Chris Ishman Hackett)	Storm (Kyle Gaither)
Crush (Victoria Snyder)	Outlaws (Mitchell Ayers)
Geckos (Gail Michaud Johnson)	Unicorns B (Juan Miller)
Home Wreckers (William Hawn)	Unicorns D (Alex Reaves)
I'd Hit That (Victoria Delarosa)	Voltage (Stephen Toolsie)
Just Practicing (Dustin Lassuy)	Infamous (Christian Panos)

Pink Ladies (Nikki O'Donnell)
Regulators (David Quinones)
Rockstars (Nichol Stratman)
Sewer Rats (Stephen Pyles)

Swag (Barney Winborne)
Swing Left (Bobby Agagnina)
Tailgaytors (Greg Landy)

Absent: Day Drinkers (Courtney Quinn)

Commissioner's Greeting

Commissioner welcomed everyone to the first managers meeting of the Spring 2020 Season and shared his excitement to be kicking off the season in a new direction. Commissioner briefly outlined the agenda topics and made announcement about Fun Day that takes place after this meeting.

Appointment of Parliamentarian

Commissioner – Appointed Sergeant-At-Arms (Keith Conrad) as Parliamentarian for the entirety of this meeting.

Adopt Agenda

Agenda was adopted unanimously.

Executive Reports

League Operations: Commissioner

Overview of Spring Season Dates

Commissioner introduces the opening and closing dates of the season. Opening Day will be February 23, 2020 and Closing Day will be May 3, 2020. He mentioned that CFSL has reserved fields for May 17 in case of a rainout during the season for make-up games.

Line Up Card Verification

Commissioner mentioned the process for line-up card verification during opening day and for the first three weeks of the season. Managers will bring their team line up cards up to the Tower to be signed off by the Board Members running the registration table. All players on the line-up card must be verified as completely registered and paid for before they take the field. If a player is not completely registered or paid they are not legally supposed to be on the field. Commissioner noted this would be same process as last season.

Point of Order from Ratings Chair: Line up cards must have a full first and last name as well as jersey number. Jersey numbers cannot be duplicated. Line up cards without first and last name will not be verified.

Brief Player Registration Deadline/Team Rosters

Commissioner reminded managers that there are (2) Player Registration Closing Dates. The Initial Player Registration Deadline is Wednesday, February 19 at 5 PM. He made a point that Incomplete Registrations (defined as one who is in the process of completing their registration and has not submitted that registration by 5 PM on Feb 19) will not be accepted. Player Registration will reopen after Opening Day, Sunday, February 23 at 4PM. The Final Player Registration Deadline is on Wednesday, February 26 at 5 PM. Subsequently, he made a point to remind managers that Team Rosters are also due on Wednesday, February 19 at 5 PM for Week 1 and then Final Team Rosters are due Wednesday, February 26 at 5 PM.

An important note to the managers that all Team Rosters are to be sent to a new email address: Ratings.cfsl@gmail.com

Question from the floor regarding registration details and rosters arose. Secretary advised that managers hold all registration and roster questions to later in the session when that part of the agenda was mentioned in order to save time.

Opening Day Registration

Commissioner makes a final point that Registration begins promptly at 8:00 AM in the Tower and payments will be accepted there as well. He advised the managers to notify their players to arrive early if they still need to pay and that incomplete registrations would not be accepted.

League Ethics – Commissioner/Asst. Commissioner/Sergeant-At-Arms

Zero Tolerance Policy

Commissioner discussed the CFSL Zero Tolerance Policy effective immediately. He elaborated that safety is the number one concern in this league before anything else. He noted that himself and the Board will be holding this policy to the point of law. He added that judgement and discrimination should never come from within because we all face that outside in the real world. This needs to be a safe league for all and that this league will not be a place for violence. The entire zero tolerance policy is now in the revised league guidelines.

Social Media Policy

Commissioner took a moment to say that the Social Media Policy, effective immediately, was not a witch hunt and not directed to anyone in particular. He mentioned that the Executive Board is finding out about things and situations mentioned on social media before they are being addressed with the board. He touched on last season's issues with bullying and name calling. Stressed that CFSL and our social media platforms are not the place for bullying, starting fights, or harassment. Going forward, league bashing, bashing members of the Executive Board, player bashing will not be tolerated and there will be consequential action. Commissioner illustrated an example from the NAGAAA Winter Meetings that he attended and was approached by delegates from other cities that heard

rumors of CFSL and Orlando splitting into two leagues. Commissioner told them that this was false and told the managers that this damages the CFSL Brand. He then offered to anyone who wishes to leave and depart CFSL to leave with no judgement cast and motioned toward the door.

All managers remained in the meeting.

Commissioner continues on the topic of league branding and stressed to the managers that we are about bidding for the Gay Softball World Series for 2023 and we have to stop the social media complaints and league bashing because this is further damaging our reputation. He then added that managers should stress to their players this importance.

Commissioner illustrated an example that he sees on social media members from our league:

“Monday – Gay Dodgeball – Team members post a picture with the hashtag #BestLeagueEver. Yay Gay Dodgeball.

Then Tuesday night comes and its Tuesday night softball – team members again post a picture with the hashtag #BestTeamEver. Yay Tuesday Softball.

Then Wednesday night comes and its Gay Bowling – Team members post a picture with the hashtag #BestLeagueEver. Yay Gay Bowling.

Then Thursday night comes and guess what its Thursday night softball. Team Members post a picture #BestLeagueEver. Yay Thursday Softball.

Then Friday night comes and its Gay Volleyball – Team members post a picture with the hashtag #BestLeagueEver. Yay Gay Volleyball.

Saturday comes and its Gay Kickball – Team members post a picture with the hashtag #BestLeagueEver. Yay Gay Kickball!

And here comes Sunday and its Crickets. You don't bash any other league so you shouldn't be bashing ours. Support your own league.”

Commissioner ended with opening the floor to any questions. No questions were asked. He introduced Asst. Commissioner with Athletics & Rules of Play.

Athletics & Rules of Play– Asst. Commissioner

Rules of Play/Procedures to Changing

Asst. Commissioner distributes Amendment Six: Rules of Play. She introduces the document to the managers and advises them to review them and on the back are instructions and the proper protocol on how to change any rules of play for the next meeting.

The following topics were discussed:

Stealing

Current Rules of Play: *Stealing is allowed in the Open A/B division and all Women's divisions. In all other divisions, stealing is not allowed.*

Manager from Women's Division believed stealing was not allowed. The current Rules of Play state that stealing is permitted in Open A/B Division as well as Women's. Asst. Commissioner stated that she recalled the women voting to change to allow it some time ago. However, nothing in regards to stealing was recorded in the last meeting and if they wished to change it the proper procedure outlined on the back of Attachment Six can be followed and voted on in the next manager meeting.

Manager from Voltage – stated that he believed that stealing was not occurring in the Upper Open A/B division and proposed the upper division managers meet and discuss and vote on this next week.

Home Runs

Current Rules of Play: *The number of homeruns allowed is defined below. Any homeruns in excess over the limit will result in an out, except in the Open A/B division, where it will be an inning ending out.*

Women's B/C: 4 homeruns

Women's D: 2 homeruns

Open A/B: 2 homeruns, then 1 up to 4 (Inning Ending Out)

Open C: 1 homerun

Open D and Social Division: 0 homeruns

Point of Order from Manager (Voltage) that Open A/B division should have 2 homeruns.

Secretary confirmed this in the NAGAAA Governing Manual.

Manager (Voltage) proposes an edit to the Rules of Play to reflect what is in the NAGAAA Governing Manual.

Asst. Commissioner noted that this would be a procedure to amend the rules of play and would be voted on at the second managers meeting.

Courtesy Runners

Current Rules of Play: Team are allowed 1 courtesy runner per inning. The runner may be any player on the team roster. If a courtesy runner is on base and their turn to bat comes up, the courtesy runner shall be called out and they shall bat in their correct spot.

Manager (Just Practicing) asked for clarification for using a substitution listed on the roster as the courtesy runner in the inning.

Asst. Commissioner clarified that this was correct.

Asst. Commissioner asked if there were any more Rules of Play questions or amendments to discuss before moving on.

No further amendments or questions.

League Guideline Revisions

Asst. Commissioner made all managers aware that the League Guidelines have been revised and cleaned up to prevent any further confusion or misinterpretations.

League Ratings – Commissioner/Asst. Commissioner

Commissioner introduced a new system to conduct ratings and a ratings proposal to be effective this Spring 2020 Season. This would consist of increased the current ratings committee from 4-5 members to at least 10-12 members. He asked the managers to write down the Top 3 people they thought should be on ratings committee. The Board and Ratings Chair will review the list and may nominate additional members. He advised that these people should have the capability of making correct ethical decisions. He added that this would encourage managers to get involved and take on more of the responsibility of ratings by having a peer nominated committee.

Commissioner opens the floor for discussion on this proposal and the following points were made:

- Manager (Circus) adds that there has never been a documented public ratings policy on how ratings occur or what the exact policies are. He adds that managers should agree to a consistent ratings policy. In past seasons he was allowed to use other league's books as sole source of documentation in rating appeals.

- Asst. Commissioner clarifies that Manager (Circus) was allowed to use only league books from another league because he had no CFSL league data. The new LG's are revised to state that books from other leagues are not permitted as the only source of data but permitted as a secondary or supporting source.
- Asst. Commissioner adds that CFSL scorekeeper books only portray outs and runs which is not sufficient data, doesn't show if a hit was a base hit, etc.
- Manager (Circus) proposed that the ratings committee is conducted in a transparent manner like the manager meetings, so that managers can sit in and listen to the discussion on ratings.
- Manager (Voltage) added that if someone wants to sit in on the ratings committee discussion, they should volunteer to be a part of the committee.
- Manager (Voltage) adds that being a former member of the ratings committee it required a huge time sacrifice, lots of hours watching games, took away from the playing experience.
- Asst. Commissioner adds that CFSL scorekeeper books only portray outs and runs which is not sufficient data, doesn't show if a hit was a base hit, etc.
- Asst. Commissioner adds that the ratings committee must be confidential and adds that going forward members of the ratings committee will be asked to sign confidentiality agreements.
- Secretary adds that this proposal will help increase the amount of people on ratings committee which would result in less of a time commitment for its members which could be an incentive.
- Ratings Chair adds that it is important to write numbers and full names on score cards/line up cards so that the ratings committee can easily identify the player in question.
- Commissioner wraps up the discussion with a recap of the proposal and asks the managers to write down 3 names for nominations for the ratings committee. He asks if there are any additional questions regarding the proposal.
- Manager (Scrub Jays) asked how Interdivisional play was going to work this season and if D1 and D2 split was still going into effect.

- Parliamentarian proposed we open the floor for discussion for this topic.

Open D Division Structure

Commissioner officially opens the floor for the D1-D2 structure discussion, and the following points/comments were made.

- Commissioner starts by saying that last season D1-D2 structure proposal would take the upper D teams as D1 competing for a bid to world series and the lower D2 teams not competing for a bid.
- Asst. Commissioner adds that the way teams were split was by the use of team overall ratings cap and overall finish in standings of the previous season. She adds that this was a clean break.
- Comment made in regards to the D2 teams were happy with the split and having fun.
- Manager D2 (Swing Left) comments that they would enjoy playing more competitive teams because that's how you get better and we still have fun, that's why we moved into D.
- Manager D2 (I'd Hit It) agreed playing D2 was fun but they missed seeing more people that they have known for years by not playing more teams.
- Manager (Tailgators) E Division – asks the Board what they are doing to grow the E division because he would not feel safe if the E division had to play in the D division as an interdivisional structure.
- Secretary advises that they finish the D1/D2 split proposal topic and then we discuss E division structure.
- Manager D2 (Scrub Jays) adds that his players are D2 – truly recreational players and that there are safety concerns. He also adds that his team didn't enjoy being crushed by upper D teams.
- Manager (Onslaught) proposes the idea of splitting it into D Competitive and D Social.
- Commissioner adds that E division can play D2 teams and we can make D1 larger and those teams who want to go for a bid to the World Series play in D1.
- Manager (Tailgator) asks Who would then get the E berth?
- Commissioner makes a point of order that the new NAGAAA GSWS Berths increased Orlando's berth by 1 in each division, so A/B are unlimited, C is 3, D is 3, and E is 2 berths.
- Secretary added that although he understands the safety concerns of E players, playing interdivisional against D2 teams could only make them more competitive due to the fact that most E teams in NAGAAA right now resemble mid-level D teams.

- Manager asked if they vote on the D1-D2 split.
- Asst Commissioner/Commissioner let the managers know that the final decision regarding divisional structure was the board's decision but this discussion was helpful feedback.
- Commissioner closes the topic for discussion and introduces the E Division Discussion.

E Division

Commissioner officially opens the floor for the E Division discussion and the following points were made:

- Manager (Tailgaytors) asked how the E games were going to be played and what the board is doing to grow the E division in this league.
- Commissioner proposed that the E division plays D2 division tentative on the split decision.
- Commissioner added that growing the E division nationwide has been a challenge, even for NAGAAA, and it is not only our league that is struggling.
- Manager (Tailgaytors) added that we could do more recruitment events having separate E division recruitment events and advised the board to look into a proper structure for the E division.

Player Registration – Secretary/Treasurer

Secretary gave a brief overview of what each column of the Roster sheets mean and why they are important in terms of player registration and keeping records. He added that rosters will be updated every Friday by the latest. Last season rosters were being updated every day and the Board would receive emails for updated rosters daily. This alleviates the frustration on both ends.

Secretary reviewed the player rostering process and introduced the Free Agents concept to the managers. He then reviewed the opening day payment procedures again. Treasure also commented on payment methods and where to find the two of them on opening day to pay and complete registration. She then asked the managers to complete the updated contact information form on page 2 of their agenda and submit at the end. Treasure also announced she would be taking payments for Team Registration fees at the end of the meeting,

Website Walkthrough – Secretary

Secretary did a live walkthrough demonstration of the CFSL Website introducing new pages and the team pages and how managers can look at their rosters.

Manager (Scrub Jays) asked how soon can they see the player on their roster after they are added.

Secretary answers by stating that this will depend on the connection speed of the device you are using but this was tested with high and low speed connections and the lag speed was 30 minutes to an hour at the most.

Manager (Michaud-Johnson) asked if there was a way to add letters to player ratings for women (B,C,D) because currently the women have to select None/Other as their rating choice.

Secretary thanked her for bringing that to his attention and will work on getting that fixed.

Manager (Snyder) asked if there was a way to update the scores/standings a bit faster or in real time.

Secretary mentioned the primary issue was due to the blues swapping the women's game scores and writing them on the wrong side and he apologized for the mess and delay.

Manager (Snyder) added that she did not know she had to sign off on the scores either.

Another Manager asked if the league were bringing scorekeepers back this season.

Commissioner stated that we would not be having scorekeepers and Treasurer explained the budgetary reasons why.

Commissioner stated that at the end of this season we will discuss that topic because it would be a full year of CFSL Softball back at Lake Fairview. Two full seasons has to be completed to analyze a budget and rearrange expenses.

Manager (Onslaught) proposed the idea of a scorekeeper committee.

Commissioner and Treasurer agreed that they had been working on that idea as well,

Secretary finished the CFSL Website tour and advised the managers to check their rosters on by Friday evening online and that they will be getting a printed copy of the roster at the next managers meeting as well.

Secretary also notified managers that the Sponsor page is up and running and that they should email new logos/designs or something from their sponsor so we can advertise.

Secretary opened the floor for questions.

No further questions asked,

Social Chair – Basil Zakaria

Commissioner introduced Basil Zakaria as the CFSL Social Chair.

Basil greeted the floor and reviewed the upcoming dates of the planned social events thus far.

These dates are listed below.

Item 1: Season Kickoff Party (2/21 @ Savoy 6pm-9pm)

Item 2: CFSL Team Tailgate Contest (Opening Day)

Item 3: Mr & Miss CFSL (4/5 @ Parliament House)

Item 4: CFSL Sawmill Easter Weekend (4/12)

Item 5: Closing Party (5/3 @ Southern Nights)

Commissioner then introduces Anthony Andreala as the Executive Director for the GSWS 2023 Orlando Bid.

GSWS 2023 Bid Information – Anthony Andreala

Anthony greeted the floor and presented the information for the GSWS 2023 Bid. He stated that they plan to start with town hall meetings, one for community partners and one for volunteers and committees to be involved. Any announcements regarding the GSWS update will be linked to the CFSL FB Page. Anthony added that although the GSWS is 3 years away and is a marathon of work we have to sprint to the bid because that is happening this August 2020 in Columbus at the NAGAAA Summer Meetings.

He advised that if you can help in any way to keep that at the top of your mind or if you know anyone with connections. He added that fundraising will be the big challenge since were looking at needing a budget of 350k-400k but even the smallest donations make a difference. If you are interested in a committee chair position contact Anthony. Anthony added that the flavor is geared towards Disney and their fields. NAGAAA requires 25 fields but Disney think they can handle more, however Disney only has 15 fields over 250 ft.

Anthony and his team are confident and have been working hard and they recommendation to board to put deposit bid down. He noted there is nothing but excitement!

Commissioner thanked Anthony and gave his closing remarks.

Meeting Adjourned - Commissioner

Commissioner says closing remarks and adjourns meeting.

