

# Vintage Softball Club

## Board of Directors Meeting

### February 6, 2024 @ 7:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom

**Meeting Called to Order at 7:35 PM**

**Attendees:**

**Officers:**

Bob Sprague, President  
Cole Maston, Vice President  
Rick Newson, Secretary  
Don Shrank, Treasurer ← Absent



**Directors:**

Chris Milosovich  
Theresa Biagini  
Jim Palte  
Kent Gaynor  
Charlie Carinalli

**Commissioners:**

John Leong, Fun League  
Blain Thomas, Saturday League  
Dave Alderette, Tuesday/Thursday Leagues

**Guests:**

George Espinosa

## **New Members:**

WELCOME to our new Club members:

**No new Club members since our last Board Meeting.**

## **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**

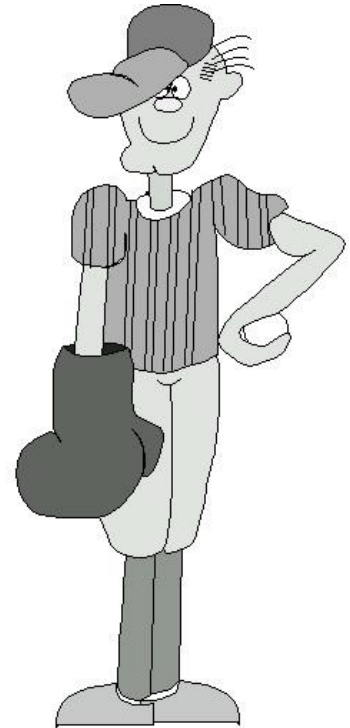
The Board approved the December 2023 Board meeting minutes that are posted on our website.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer's Report was entered into the record but was not yet formally approved by the Board.

## **Rules Committee Report:**

- **Nothing to report.**



## **Old Business:**

- **Summary from President Sprague:**

Board Approval of Funding of Mise Field reservations for Tues/Thursday Leagues

A proposal was presented to the board by Dave Andrette, Cole Maston and Bob Sprague to provide funding to pay for reservation of the Mise Field for the Tuesday and Thursday leagues. The necessity of this is to provide an artificial field that works well even when damp to which we can get guaranteed. Because of conflicts on the field with other organizations and dissatisfaction with the Fair Oaks option, which cannot be reserved and is a difficult location for south Bay people to reach easily because of traffic, there was concern that there was such unhappiness in the league about the current field status that people would quit. The amount requested is  $\approx$  \$3100 to enable reserving the fields through the end of March, which is the rainy season for San Jose (3-inch average rainfall in Jan., Feb., and Mar. and not much after that). At the end of March we will review the financial status and reconsider the funding strategy moving forward and whether we need to consider raising next year's dues at the board meeting in October.

A vote on this proposal was taken by email on January 11 with 11 votes in favor and no votes against. Tue/Thu Commissioner Dave Andrette was requested to proceed as soon as possible to secure these field reservations.

- **Renting Mise:** After discussions, the Board approved renting Mise an extra month which takes us through April 2024 at an additional cost of \$560.

- Club Member Status: Per VP Maston we have 187 total members with 23 members from last year who have not yet reupped. While the total membership for 2024 is a bit lower than we had last at the end of last year, we are about the same as this time last year.



## **New Business:**

- **Budget projection and plan for April Review:** The Board discussed budget numbers such as equipment, uniform costs (shirts/hats, softballs) and social events (Holiday Party) which are pretty much set. Field costs are still being determined. While subject to change (new members, field costs, etc.) current budget numbers project an annual loss of \$7600. The original budget that was approved projected a \$2000 loss. Renting Mise and having fewer members in 2024 has caused an increase in the projected loss.
- **Field Status:** The situation at Arcadia is frustrating since we pay for 4 winter months but seem to only play 4 or 5 games there due to the extremely strict weather policy. The Club is considering not renting the fields at Arcadia during the winter months with a final decision to be made by June. We still have Calabazas for Saturday games. As mentioned above, we are renting Mise through April for Tuesday/Thursday games and will use Fair Oaks as needed. The Fun League continues to play at Hamann Park on Monday and Wednesday.



## **League Commissioner's Reports:**

**Fun League:** From Commissioner John Leong:

“Morale in the Fun League is good. We are a non-competitive bunch. Most players are friendly and supportive toward each other regardless of which team they are on. We know the limitations of senior players. Instead of criticizing mistakes we just laugh them off and with the players.

We have about 40 regular players who play at least one game a week. We usually have about 24-26 players for each game, depending on weather.

We have a number of rules that are unique for the Fun League. I need to compile and record them to make them official.

There are no communication issues.”

## **Tuesday/Thursday Leagues:** From Commissioner Dave Alderette:

“We will have 4 teams again on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There are currently 62 players on the Tuesday rosters and 62 players on the Thursday rosters.

As Cole has informed you we have permits for Mise through the end of March. I would like to extend the Mise permits through April. Also, we currently only a permit for one field at Arcadia for this season. Cole is working on the fields situation.

Attendance has been sporadic due to the sporadic field situations as well as it being the end of the season.

Rules- The only thing that I can think of is that sometimes the outfielders play too short, before the outfield commit lines/boundaries. Cole has purchased some range finders and new cones so we can place the cones at the correct distance.

Communication- Regarding the draft. The most difficult thing for me as a commissioner is getting everyone to communicate with me in a timely manner as to whether or not they want to be included in the draft. Inevitably there are either people who are included when they didn't want to be or more often they are excluded from the draft. To make the commissioners' jobs easier, I would like to implement an online survey where each member would have to respond to a very short questionnaire as to their wishes for any upcoming draft. I have heard that there is software that can easily track and organize their responses. Since Jim Palte organizes our elections through Survey Monkey(I think), perhaps he could steer us in the right direction with a survey for the draft.

As far as requests from the board, we may need to pay for software to help with the surveys.”

## **Saturday League:** From Commissioner Blain Thomas:

“We have 5 teams (14 per team). We also have 17 players who want to be a bucket player only. On Saturdays we have different types of players: competitive tournament (50-60 yrs.), casual, and the fun league type. Unfortunately, it's like mixing oil and water. Now, of those 17 players in question, I have spoken to about 90% of them. These are their reasons: 1. Don't want to be drafted by a certain manager. 2. Don't want to be on a team with a certain player. 3. They want to play with their buddy. 4. Not being able to play at Arcadia full time. I have spoken to players and managers and explained that this

is a club and while trying to win can get competitive, the first word of the Vintage mantra is FUN along with Fair and Safe. I'm trying to lead by example, communicate, being positive will increase morale and attendance. Rules, people know them, they don't always want to follow them. Overall things have improved. I do not have any requests.”

The Board voted to adjourn at 8:27 pm, PST. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.



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

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