

UCSSL MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 13, 2019

The following is a summary of our league meeting of February 13, 2019

30 were in attendance, with 22 of 23 teams represented (Liberty Lighting Group was not).

Pat Mooney is the new manager of Roselle Legion,
Bob Pells is the new manager of Linda's Driftwood Bar,
Ed Lubas is the new manager of American Legion.
Kilkenny House will have a new sponsor (Kenilworth VFW?)

Managers were reminded that shirt order forms are due no later than the March league meeting, and that hats should only be ordered if they will be worn. Needed equipment should also be ordered, including replacements for worn bases and a new first base for each 60+ team -- as a safety precaution, the 60+ Division will be using a separate base at 1B as recommended by NJSSA and approved by officers in December (this will go into effect in the 50+ Division in 2020). Managers were asked to replace their old, slightly worn bases but save them for use as the runners' first base. We will check to see if there are other leagues that might be interested in purchasing our double bases to help defray the cost of the new separate bases.

Advanced Financial has requested additional time to decide if they want to remain in the 50+ B Division as a result of Linda's desire to stay in the C Division this year. They will respond before our next meeting.

We are awaiting notification of what fields are available to us from Union County Parks & Recreation. It is hoped that we may be able to add Rahway River #1 (and possibly also #3) as regular fields. Warinanco #2 has also been requested. We are also hopeful that some 7:45 slots on Linden fields may again be possible.

Pete Costello, Kareem Draper and David Levine volunteered to work together to set ground rules at each of our fields. Managers will need to discuss and accept or modify their recommendations no later than our April meeting.

Managers need to let the commissioner know if they need players.
The State Tournaments will be as follows:

50+ Tournament	July 27	Rain Date July 28	Linden
60+ Tournament	August 17	Rain Date August 18	Linden
70+ Tournament	August 22 (Thursday)?	Warren Park,	Woodbridge ?

[The next NJSSA meeting scheduled for Friday, March 15]

Last year we established a deadline to complete our regular season schedule so that we would have enough time to play a full playoff schedule. This was extremely fortunate as we had 26 playing dates with postponed games (16 full and 10 partial interruptions). We have set a similar date beyond which there will be no regular season games again this year: Thursday, August 8.

With 6 teams in the 50+ B Division, that season runs longest due to the additional playoff games involved. Officers suggest that we consider the possibility of not scheduling mid-season bumper games in the 50+ B Division; this will allow us to start the B Division playoffs one game day sooner (the "loss" of one regular season game is offset by playoffs which last longer). After discussion, it was agreed that for 2019 we would keep the mid-season bumper games in the schedule with the option of replacing them with postponed B Division games from earlier in the season if we should again have a large number of early season postponements. We can revisit the idea of not scheduling these mid-season bumper games in the B Division in future years no later than next January.

UCSSL follows USA/ASA bat certification rules. There have been no changes to the USA list since March 22 of 2017.

70+ players are allowed the option of using "senior bats," as determined by SSUSA. There is an updated senior bat listing, the only change is that Mizuno bats have been added to the list. The commissioner will forward both sets of lists to managers.

Managers were reminded that the March meeting typically involves discussion of, and voting on, UCSSL rule change proposals. There were preliminary discussions of a few ideas that might be considered in March, including a second round of bat testing prior to playoff games as well as the possibility of returning to our former rule of allowing any player to use any approved bat from either team during all league games.

The annual UCSSL awards banquet has been scheduled for Friday, October 11.

Remaining UCSSL 2019 meetings (each is a Wednesday):

March 13 -- Discussion and possible revision of rules. Please review current league rules and begin preparing wording for proposals for change. Email the commissioner with any proposals for change in advance of the March meeting. Shirt orders due. Possible field selection.

April 3 -- Sponsor fees and \$45 forfeit fees are due. Field selection if not already accomplished in March. Distribution of balls, rule books, scorebooks, umpire fee checks.