

**SOUTHERN CALFORINA FASTPITCH LEAGUE  
2008 MANAGER SETUP MEETING  
OCTOBER 6, 2007**

**AGENDA**

Present: Fred Hanker (SCIFL Commissioner/Black Sox), Clyde Bennett(SCIFL UIC/ Young Bucks), Lenny Molina, (Amigos), David Carrillo & Cecillo Smalling (Flor de Cana), Fernie Ramirez Sr. (Panteras), Fernie Ramirez (Panteras II), Tyler Villander (Pelicans), Doug Rooney (RAW), Robert Hernandez (SCIFL Tournament Supervisor)

Meeting started at 10:05 AM on Saturday, October 6, 2007

Robert recapped the success of the 2007 season to open the meeting. The league finances were also discussed at this time and the breakout of expenses were provided. For the 2008 season, Tyler will assist with the financial portion of the league.

During this time the following items were discussed in detail:

- Classifications – it was explained that appeals are allowed at anytime and the Classification Committee attempts to review them as soon as possible, usually within a week. The Committee will be discussing year-end moves in October and will then start on appeals that are received, if any. Appeals should be forwarded to Robert with the reasons why.
- Alliance Standings/Funds – Robert went over the breakdown of how the funds are created for the Alliance and how the prize money is distributed at the end of the season. Discussion on this item was based on the distribution of funds and it was recommended that the fee's be paid on how they had been in the past, with teams that go to the Championship event held by the leagues affiliation organization. This supports the affiliation organization as they have provided services or goods to the league over the course of the year.
- Open Pitchers – it was discussed that pitchers on the “Open” list be allowed to participate both days of the tournaments. Both sides of the issue were discussed and debated. At this time a decision still has not been reached and will be discussed amongst the Executive Board prior to the January Manger’s meeting.
- Illegal Bats – it was discussed that umpires were not acknowledging the use of illegal bats during tournaments. Also, managers were told by the umpires that they were not to enforce this rule. The league does use the Governing Body’s Certified Equipment list and does not allow bats that are on the list in the tournaments. This is an appeal play and managers have the right to check the status of a bat if they feel it is on the list. The tournament Director has a copy of the list in the event of an appeal. The umpires will be reminded at each tournament that only certified equipment can be used at the tournaments. Clyde and Robert will also see if there is another way to mark the equipment during a tournament so that appeals are not necessary.

The proposed schedules were provided for both the Alliance and Master's teams. The Alliance will have at least seven (7) dates in the 2008 season, including a tournament in Las Vegas in April. The Las Vegas tournament will be the NAFA Area Qualifier which, depending on the number of teams entered, pays the entry fee to the 2008 NAFA World Series to the Division winners. SCIFL will also host at least four (4) separate dates for a Master's League that will play two games on Sundays. The Master's dates will not conflict with regular Alliance dates. The tournament formats will remain the same with the three game round robin followed by single elimination the format of reference. The NAFA three game guarantee brackets may also be used.

Brought up for discussion was the idea to have consolation brackets for teams that lose their first games on Sunday. After much discussion, it was decided that this item would go out as an email vote to the managers that registered teams last year. The pros and cons of what was discussed will be on the message.

It was decided that for the 2008 seasons the tournament fees would remain the same to continue with the "League Recovery Fee" to supply the league with the necessary resources. Fences were discussed and it is hoped that the league will have them by the first Santa Fe Springs tournament. It was proposed by Robert that four (4) teams per weekend assist with the set-up and take-down of fences each weekend and it was declined by the managers present. The alternative was to find and pay an individual to perform this task for the league, as well as assuming the grounds keeper duties during the tournament. It was voted and approved that \$200 per tournament weekend in which the fences were used would be earmarked for this task. Currently \$100 is set aside for groundskeeper. Fernie Ramirez, Jr. took the responsibility for this task and will also house the fences when they are not in use. The additional funds that will be needed for to comply with this task will come from the "League Recovery Fee".

Expanding the team base was discussed with the idea of bringing in new teams and players. Teams should be interested in bringing out players that have an interest in playing and if they could not use them, the league would assist in finding them a team. It was also discussed that we should attempt to bring teams from other areas, particularly the teams from the Bakersfield/Taft area. Depending on the amount of tournaments they attend in 2008, we would make an effort have a tournament in 2009 in their area or beyond.

Statistics and scorers were discussed as teams wanted to have the stats on-line in a more timely way. As this was the first year with the web site, we were working on getting the bugs and kinks out. Fred and Robert will work with the web host for the 2008 season to update the site on a timelier basis. Both Fred and Robert gave acknowledgement to Jim Flanagan for his work behind the scenes with both legal and web site assistance. As there were comments from players on the stats and scores this past season, Robert explained the process of how the scorers are trained. In summary, there is a meeting for all scorers at the beginning of the year to go over the rules and they are monitored by the statistician during tournaments on how well they record games. In games that had issues, most times

the teams are not keeping books on their own, which can alleviate problems. It was also suggested that teams ask the umpires in between each half inning what the score is to insure that all parties have the same score. Once a new inning has started, scores cannot be changed.

The item of players playing for multiple teams, specifically the Young Bucks, was discussed. The league does not allow for players to play for more than one team per weekend. Clyde has asked that this rule be waived for the Young Bucks players. Once again, after much discussion it was decided that this would also be sent to managers for an email vote.

For the 2008 season there will be two new board members. David Carrillo of Flor de Cana has been elected to be the A Division Supervisor and Fernando Ramirez was elected to be Player Representatives. The league would like to thank Bobby Cole and Chris Mingoue for their time and participation during the 2007 season. The remainder of the board will return for the 2008 season.

Robert also announced at the meeting that during the NAFA World Series the Executive Committee re-organized and added two new positions. Robert was asked and accepted the position of Vice-President of the Pacific Area. Fred Hanker will remain as the State Director at the NAFA Regional Level.

The 2008 World Series will be held in Mankato, MN the week of August 14 – 24. The exact dates of which divisions will be playing is still be decided by the NAFA Executive Committee and should be finalized by the end of November. The Master's World Series will be held once again in Carson City, NV and is scheduled at this time for the weekend of September 14 – 15. This was originally listed as 21-22 on the schedule that was passed out at the meeting. Long Beach Deadwood and the Yard Dawgs participated in this year's event and it is hope that we can get a couple of other Master teams from the league to play in 2008.

It was brought up that as a league we should attempt to find a hotel partner to provide rooms for teams at a discounted cost. For this to work we would need 100% participation from the teams when rooms are required. A Best Western type hotel was the preference of choice. Robert will work on this task of locating a partner in time for the tournament season.