

Redwood City *Señors* Softball Club

Autumn 2007

# Newsletter

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Ladies of Softball

## **President's Message**

Welcome to all the new members of our club. I have been involved in Redwood City Senior Softball since 1983 and have watched our club grow to almost 300 members. Our tournament teams are earning respect across the United States by their tenacious and competitive play.

Our summer League was a huge success thanks to Commissioner Mark Kaufmann and Bill Picht. As we start our Winter League, I am sure that Commissioner Debbie Coyne will maintain the high standards and great play that have always been part of this program.

Day play continues Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9-12 and thanks to the new turf at Griffin and Bechet fields, we will have fewer rainouts.

Our board has had some changes. Rick Allen, Ron Albrecht, Joe Buzzuto, and Gene Lind were unable to continue their terms for personal reasons. We thank them for all they contributed to the club. New board members Dennis Logie, Pat Michael, Debbie Coyne and Joe Kirby will join remaining board member Al Davis.

The rest of the board includes Vice President Bill Picht, Secretary Dave Reck, Treasurer Bob Cushman, Member Secretary Donna O'Farrell, and me, Glenn Kovas, President. Special thanks to Jack Hoover for acting as our liaison with the Redwood City Recreation Department.

Good luck this next year. See you on the fields.

Sincerely,

*Glenn Kovas*

## **Saturday League Begins November 24**

This year's Saturday League will begin on November 24, with 8 teams invited to participate. As in the past, Hawes Park is available, but there is a possibility of moving to an all-weather field in Redwood City. Usually teams play a double-header on Saturday during the day, and there is often room for walk-ons to play each Saturday for teams missing players that day. All members of teams, and walk-ons, must be members of the Señors, as the play is paid for by the club. Bob Cushman and Dean Perkins will serve as co-commissioners of this league that will end in early February.

## **Tuesday Night Winter League**

The Tuesday night league will begin again with winter play in November. Debbie Coyne will serve as the commissioner and the league will play in the evening at Hawes Park. Those interested in playing should contact Debbie at 650-365-2785 or [cphouse@mindspring.com](mailto:cphouse@mindspring.com).

## **Holiday Party on December 8**

The club's annual Holiday party will be held on Saturday night, December 8, at the Veteran's Memorial Building. Plans are for another splendid meal, lots of raffle prizes, an open bar, dancing, the announcement of Most Improved Player of the Year, and fun and fellowship. If you have an item to donate for the raffle, please contact Helen Amaya at 368-8916.

## **Deadline for Dues Is December 31**

Just a reminder that dues can be paid at any time for the full year of 2008. New members after October 1 who pay their dues for 2007 through the end of the year will also be covered for 2008! What a bargain! Why not think of someone you can bring along to join the Señors? Please note that after January 1, only current members will be able to participate in open play or be part of a subsidized team for tournament play. We are also interested in updates on address, phone, and e-mail information to keep our large roster current.

## **What Your Dues Cover**

Once again, dues remain unchanged at \$35.00 for the entire year to be a member of the Redwood City Señors Softball Club. What do these dues cover? A variety of things: new softballs every day for open play about 150 times a year; liability insurance for members while playing; support for club sponsored teams in their tournament play; costs for hosting the annual Redwood City Tournament and the July Fourth One-Pitch Tournament and picnic; subsidizing a Holiday Party; and more. What a bargain! No wonder our membership has grown to 280 as of October 1, 2007.

## **Information: Rain Line and Web site**

If you are concerned about field conditions, location of open play, rain conditions at tournaments out of the area, and many other items, the club has an info line at 650-363-1140. It's accessible 24-hours a day. Check there first for information. The club also has a website at [www.softball.us](http://www.softball.us).

## **One Pitch Tournament Results**

The annual Fourth of July One-Pitch Tournament and picnic was a great success with 8 teams with 109 players participating and a large crowd of fans present on this holiday occasion. Teams were balanced for skills and age, with each team pitching to itself. Congratulations to Jerry Marsh who threw a no-hitter...at his own team!

## **Tuesday Night Summer League**

This summer's Tuesday night league was an active and competitive one. Thanks to Mark Kauffman for serving as commissioner of this league.

## **2008 Tournament Dates**

For those of you who like to plan ahead, our annual Redwood City Tournament for teams throughout California will be held on June 21 and 22, 2008. Our One-Pitch Tournament will be on July 4, 2008. And the nearby Palo Alto Tournament dates have been set as June 7 and 8, 2008.

## **Home and Away Challenges**

As senior softball develops in nearby communities, there are increasing opportunities for home and away games with teams from these areas. Recently, players from San Bruno have been playing some of our players during the week.

## **Tournament Results For Sponsored Teams**

The club has always encouraged the formation of club members into tournament-worthy teams. This encouragement is more than good wishes! We pay the ASA registration for these teams, pay their liability insurance through ASA, give them \$350 toward tournament entry fees, and waive the tournament fee for our own Redwood City Tournament.

This year, seven teams benefited from this support. Here is how they did in Northern California Senior Softball Association tournaments through the end of the season:

The Bay Supporters 50s, our top team, ranked 30th in northern California, won one tournament, but also won a bronze medal from the Huntsman Senior World Games against major and major+ teams, including former gold medal winners.

The Cardinals 60s, ranked 75th, won in 2006, then struggled early on but won their first tournament, undefeated, in September.

State Roofing Systems Royals 70s, ranked 78th, won last year's World Championship and a Huntsman Games gold medal in their age bracket. Despite being reclassified into higher brackets in 2007, based on these wins, they still won 4 tournaments, plus the California Cup and the Northern California championship.

State Roofing Systems Royals 65s, ranked 79th, won one tournament, coming in second to the Royals 70s in the Northern California championship.

Palo Alto Chiefs 70s, ranked 90th, had an extremely successful year, winning 4 tournaments.

Redwood City Chiefs 65s, ranked 98th, a new combined team, did not win a tournament but was very active in tournament action.

Redwood City Chiefs 75s, ranked 103rd, still entered 11 tournaments, but was not successful this year in winning any. They were the highest ranked 75 team in the NCCSA.

### **Miken Bats In Open Play**

Have you seen Bob Wilson's smile recently? And his hitting? The board voted in the spring to allow the use of Miken Ultra II bats in open play by all members 80 and over. Thanks to a generous donation by a member, the club was able to buy, for 1/3 the list price, a new Miken to be shared by the older players. This step was so well received by our older members, and those regulars playing with them, that the board voted to extend the use to any member 75 and older.

### **New Fields For Open Play**

With the completion of its new fields, Redwood City welcomes the club back to the new all-weather artificial surface fields at Griffin and Bechet. Our old field has been reconfigured and is no longer large enough for open play. There is the possibility of using McGarvey when there is contention for fields, as well as the fields at Hoover School. These upgrades should allow a lot more games during the wet season.

### **Club Hats Still Available**

President Glenn Kovas still has some club baseball hats with this year's design available for sale. If you would like one, they are only \$8.00.

### **Trip To the San Jose Giants**

In what has become a summer tradition, 32 members journeyed to an evening game of the San Jose Giants AAA ball club. The scores and game are usually forgotten, but

everyone remembers the fantastic barbecue and good times. Join us this coming year for this fun event.

### **We Remember**

Since our last newsletter notice, the following club folks have passed away:

Bob Null, February 2006  
Dick DeBrine, April 2006  
Ray Garcia's wife, Ann, June 2006  
John Gardetto, September 2006  
Ramon Dominquez, September 2006  
Ray Doherty, April 2007  
Joe Bozzuto's wife, Emily, May 2007  
Albert Hopkins, June 2007  
Al Lambrechts, October 2007  
Rusty Lewis, October 2007

### **Batting Instruction Planned**

The board is investigating the possibility of group batting instruction with a professional instructor, former S.F. Giant, Terry Whitfield. This instruction would be on Mondays and Fridays in Redwood City and limited each day to ten players to allow personalized help. Group instruction should keep the fees at \$10.00. Send Donna O'Farrell (donna94025@aol.com) your email address as more information will follow.

### **See's Candy**

Brenda Guzman has registered the club with See's Candy for the "quantity discount" program for the Christmas Season. The catalog and order forms will be available during day-play sometime in November.

Order different kinds of chocolate, regularly \$14.50 per pound, discount price is \$10.75. For some candies the discount is from \$14.50 to \$10.15!

### **Ron Baughman Appreciated**

Club member Ron Baughman is a volunteer umpire not only for many open play days, but also for our Saturday league. He travels by bus to be present at these games, and is willing to walk from the bus a mile away. The club appreciates his effort, and recently the board voted a modest gift of a bus pass as a thank you.

### **By-laws Change Proposed For Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting of the club will be on January 7, 2008. At that time, election of officers will take place, new board members will be confirmed, and other agenda business items will be addressed. Every member is welcome to attend.

This year, there are some By-laws revisions to vote on. In summary, there are some typographical corrections, and some additions intended to clarify eligibility for membership in the club, particularly in light of the necessary skill level to prevent injury. The entire proposed by-laws are posted on the Señors' web site, including changes. Proxy statements can be obtained from the Secretary. Significant excerpted By-laws changes are as follows:

**Article II. Section 2.(b) Admission of Members (current)**

An applicant shall be admitted to membership in the Corporation upon recommendation of an active member.

**Article II. Section 2.(b) Admission of Members (proposed)**

All new applicants must submit a written application along with proof of their age, and their first year dues payment. All new applicants must also successfully meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Possess a basic knowledge and understanding of the game and what is expected of a player.
2. Have the physical agility and ability to play the game.
3. Be observed by no less than two (2) current club members that can certify the applicant's basic knowledge of the game and overall playing ability.

New applicants do not become Active Members until such time as all of the above requirements have been successfully completed. If a new applicant is found not meeting these requirements, their dues payment will be returned to them.

**Article III. Section 1 Annual Membership Meetings (current)**

[No indication of how members are notified of the annual meeting]

**Article III. Section 1 Annual Membership Meetings (proposed)**

Notice will be mailed by postal mail, or by electronic mail for those members who have notified the Secretary that they have access to electronic mail, at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

**Article VI. Section 1. Committees (current)**

The Corporation shall have such committees, with such members, to perform such functions as shall be designated from time to time by the Board of Directors.

**Article VI. Section 1. Committees (proposed)**

The Corporation shall have Committees/Commissioners, to perform such functions as shall be designated from time to time by the Board of Directors. All Committee/Commissioner actions are subject to review by the Board of Directors.

**Article VIII. Section 2. By-laws Amendment (current)**

New by-laws may be adopted or these bylaws may be amended or repealed by first presenting such proposal in writing, to each member by mail, at least thirty (30) days before a meeting can be called to vote on them.

**Article VIII. Section 2. Bylaws Amendment (proposed)**

New bylaws may be adopted or these bylaws may be amended or repealed by first presenting such proposal in writing, to each member by mail, or by electronic mail for those members who have notified the Secretary that they have access to electronic mail, at least thirty (30) days before a meeting can be called to vote on them.