

ASSSL Managers' Meeting

Thursday – February 20, 2025

Attendees: Vince Schell, Dave Bieniak (for Kelly Monterio), Keith Avary, Larry Mikla, Bryan Ristau, Al Grosso, Craig Lehmann, Doc Watson, Tom Dury

1. Can we have a more formal ceremony for Robert Richie? His lady friend has indicated that there will be no ceremony. Do we want to make a memorial donation to honor Robert Richie? **The league will supply a plaque to the VFW to post names of teammates that have passed away. Robert will be eulogized at the next player luncheon with the plaque idea. He will also be given a moment of silence prior to the games on Thursday, 3/6/25.**
2. Resolution of the Tom Dury suspension. **No suspension will be imposed. The event has been resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. The suspension should be imposed by the player's manager after a warning for unsportsmanlike conduct.**
3. Managers, please remind your players if they have a question they must consult with their manager. **No changes – please emphasize this to all players.**
4. Change to the walking rule; i.e., if a batter receives a walk, that batter can have the option of proceeding to 1st base or continuing to bat with no strikes counted against him/her. **No changes to the current rules.**
5. Lower the minimum pitch height to 5 feet. **No changes to the current rules.**
6. The home team scoreboard is the controlling scoreboard. Suggest that managers consult each other as to the number of runs scored and the present game score after each ½ inning. There is the suggestion that a scoreboard be placed behind the catcher and updated on a continuing basis. **No changes but the managers will place more emphasis on scores every half inning. Additionally, the managers will verify the score and inning at the end of the fifth inning.**
7. Eliminate the standings again. There seems to be a much higher level of controversy. **No changes for the remaining season. Whether to have standings or not will be put to a vote of all league members at the next luncheon for the next season.**
8. A reminder that the visiting team is to rake the pitching mound and home plate. **Managers will remind players.**
9. Ask if players if they have any old league shirts that can be given to the pool players. We had a surplus of hats and Craig and I gave them to the pool players. They were pleased to have them. **Tom and Craig have some extra shirts and Doc will get them to redistribute as needed.**

10. There needs to be a definition of “verbal interference”. It needs to be resolved by the managers. No changes to the current rules. Obvious “verbal” interference will be handled by the managers at the time of the incident. Attempting to “bait” a runner is considered unsportsmanlike conduct. Managers are to have catchers be louder and signal fair or foul calls.

Additional Items;

- Before the meeting began, Doc asked the managers if they still wanted him to remain as commissioner. The group was unanimous in telling him yes!
- A player luncheon is scheduled for April 10th immediately following the scheduled games. Details are forthcoming.
- A discussion was held concerning players’ complaints. As stated in the rules currently, a player is to address concerns directly to their respective manager. If that avenue proves unsatisfactory to the player, the player should approach the *Board of Managers* for possible resolution.
- Discussion about venting new players more closely to ensure all players’ safety especially that of the incoming player.
- Using bye team players as umpires was strongly encouraged to try and minimize arguments.
- Tom to purchase a new set of cones for the foul lines, a new flat base, a replacement dugout sunscreen and new bags for the pitching screens.
- Tom will work on rewording the current rule about player injury and immediately stopping play.