

Solent Softball League AGM 27/1/2019

Register

Zoe Williams, Scott Summers, Sarah Cole, Cathy Moore, Matthew Horton, Liam Riddy, David Morris, Matt Tebb, Helen Perriam, Nicky Puckett, Matt Andrews, Tracy Robinson, Sefton Chatfield, Scott Amero, Andy Burgess, Kat Carter, Jude Ellinger, Ross Anderson, Mike Doe

Welcome from chairman

Election of officers

Chairperson: Matthew Tebb Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Secretary: Zoe Williams Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Treasurer: Sarah Cole Second- Jude Ellinger In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Welfare Officer: Tracy Robinson Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Umpire in Chief: Simon Tymms Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Membership & Fixtures Officer: Matthew Andrews Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0

Abstain- 0

Coaching Officer East: VACANT

Coaching Officer West: Kat Carter Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Tournaments Officer: Matt Tebb Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

SSL Recruitment Officer East: Andy Burgess Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

SSL Recruitment Officer West: Judy Ellinger Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Publicity and Media Officer: Scott Summers Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Solent Seahawks Organiser: Scott Amero Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

SSL Kit Officer: Pippa Saunders Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Tangier Field Key Holders:

Matt Tebb Second- Sefton Chatfield In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Cathy Moore Second – Sefton Chatfield In favour – 19 against – 0 abstain - 0

Nicky Pucket Second - Matt Andrews In favour- 19 Against- 0 Abstain- 0

Motion number 1: Changes to the Constitution

Tebb – Will be removing the u18 ruling from the constitution and putting it into additional rules instead. Due to it being in the ISF rules which we abide by it's not necessary for it to be in our constitution. We can also alter the rules when the ISF do easier if it's in additional rules rather than the constitution.

Second – Kat Carter In favour - 19 Against - 0 Abstain – 0

MOTION PASSED

Teams for the 2019 season are as follows

Knicks

Dodgers

Sluggers

Falcons

Div 2

Sharks

Spitfires

Zombies

Shafters

Div 3

Brewers

Raiders

Vikings

Hurricanes

Supermarines

Committee positions to give their reports

Chair – Mike Doe

Explained his time as chair, ups, downs and gave thanks to the rest of the committee who sat beside him all these years.

New chairman Tebb gave a small speech which was requested by Beefy –

“I want to try and get the SSL more inclusive like it used to be – would rather grow the league in strength not numbers and have more of an emphasis on friendships”

“Lots of changes will be coming up for Softball in general like a brand-new rule book for slow pitch so I will be steering the league through all of that when it comes up.”

Treasurer – Sarah Cole

Everything is paid and nothing is outstanding from the 2018 season – thank you to everyone you are all getting very quick at payments!

Just over £6000 in bank account right now but about £5000 is paid out to new balls/equipment, BSF, development team – tournaments, council, pitch fees etc
We always need a balance of about £5000 to cover the year before the year starts
The EoS fee is not increasing

**BSF fees – if your team has been around for more than 4 years you now pay £200 instead of £180. If your new then you pay £100 per year for two years and then £200 here after
Pitch fees are increasing to £33.67**

Storage fees – not 100% sure what is going on with the bowls club in Portsmouth but kit insurance gets paid in June so not a problem yet – kit insurance is for all of the SSL properties as long as Sarah Cole knows the address.

Pitching machine – looking to purchase one but the net is very expensive. Need to work out a plan for storage and use – something the committee will be discussing at length.

Beefy is constantly on the lookout for equipment on Ebay

Last year we donated £800 to Tom Prince – this year our chosen charity is Samaritans

Liam - When do we get our fees invoice? Usually February

Welfare – Bryan not present so led by Mike

Knicks have a new U18 player but need to double check age. The newly appointed welfare officer needs to look up the lowest age to play softball to confirm it is 14 years.

There was an accident at the indoor tournament that needs the paper work processing.

UIC - Simon not present because he was attending GB trials/training

Tebb – He has nothing really to report. Wants to try the “mentoring system” again.

Liam - How many BASU umpires do we have now? Do we want to push for more in the league and think about bringing our standard up? We currently have 5 – maybe aim for 10?

Kat – perhaps look at recruiting umpires that aren't players? Like members of other sports or retired players?

Ideas that were thrown around which is great food for thought for the committee –

Financial incentive for umpires?

Could buy the kit for the BASU qualified?

Maybe if you umpire a lot you get a bonus?

Bring back 3rd team to umpire?

Focus on a recruitment drive of umpires this year because it failed last year

Fixtures and Membership – Lauren not present

Matt Andrews to lead chat

Could try this schedule - home game, away game, week off and then repeat? That way we will always have two games at Baffins, two in Testlands and one at Bishopstoke every Wednesday.

This will only work if captains stop re arranging games

Matt needs to keep track on why games are being cancelled which will help us see the problem and then hopefully fix it.

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Mike – when he was fixtures at the end of every month he and Slappy (UIC) would contact all the captains, find out what games have and haven't been played and then go from there... which is a lot of work but it did work well.

Jude requested games start a few weeks into April to allow for training. Last year games started first week of April and there was no time to get back into it which impacted the results.

Mike brought up the M27 road works. Need to take it into account and have a 7pm start in height of summer for teams who are travelling across due to high traffic?

Tournaments officer – Matt Tebb

So tournaments didn't really go well last year – Firstball was rained off, Summerball didn't happen and Lastball got rained off.

Rookie ball and Tom Prince were great though!

We will be running one day tournaments this year as discussed with the captains at the EoS wrap up meeting.

Indoor charity tournament 9th Feb – 3 spaces left!!

First ball – Baffins beginning of April date TBC

Rookie ball – 4th of May at Testlands

Instead of Summerball have a single sex tournament – hopefully 4 games per sex and then alternate throughout the day for who takes the field. TBC

Last ball – Early sept to hopefully avoid the rain. Date TBC

Coaching officers – Kat Carter

Want to try and get more players to training because 5 isn't dynamic enough to broaden people's skill set.

Kat wants to coach people to be coaches – bring more people up to a good standard of coaching.

Mike said don't feel it needs to just be you to coach. Get others in to coach too (which goes with the previous point brought up)

Liam – there are a lot of coaches that can train newbies. But do we have any level 2 or higher to coach older players who are more experienced? High level coaching also requires smaller group to focus skills.

Mike – We have looked at running a level 2 course here but the fees are crazy high. Kat got her training through Southampton city council so maybe need to look into that.

Jude - Southampton healthy living gave a grant to recruitment of females so maybe that is something to look into for female coaches?

David Morris – I wouldn't worry too much about everyone sitting courses. With a lot of thought anyone can coach. Kat - But we need qualified coach at an SSL organised event for insurance purposes.

Recruitment officers – Beefy and Jude

Beefy – we try and come up with ways to recruit new players such as Facebook ads, posters, flyers etc

Once the league has started we have a problem getting guys into teams. Females can come along whenever and join any team throughout the year but males struggle to get any game time which causes them to fizzle out. So, what can we do to keep the guys?

Sunday evening single sex league – you sign up as an individual and you get assigned a team. This could soak up a lot of new male faces. Will also allow everyone to get to know each other too. The nucleus of the league would be existing players - it's just a way of getting new male players game time straight away.

We need one person to run something like this – Matt Andrews has put himself forward as it's something he is kind of doing for the indoor league already.

Jude-

A Softball liaison officer idea was thrown around. When new players turn up to the field they can have an obvious point of contact such as someone in an SSL hoodie?

Beefy said he always give someone a point of contact when he chats to new players he doesn't just tell them to turn up.

Pippa – Perhaps approach other sports that play on our off season for recruitment opportunity

Scott – Ran sessions every Wednesday eve and Sunday morning – about a third have stayed and it was very hard to keep them. This could be where a Sunday evening league could come in??

Media officer – Scott Summers

Redesigned the website, ran some Facebook adverts

We all decided to target our Facebook adds to women – men will always find us!

Pippa suggested we target other sports that have women who know something about sport such as hockey or netball.

Scott - Need more generic flyers and posters to hand out all year that don't have dates on them.

Have a video of the league to put on our website and Facebook like other sports and softball leagues have – the more professional the better

Need to post more on Facebook about the games when they are, results, pictures – bring the friendship side of the league back.

Domain will be renewed but we are looking at website payment options.

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Liam - Are all the images of recruitment posters available on the website for people to print off for putting up at work?

Scott will do that - has now been done.

Tournaments captain – Scott Amero

Tomahawks

Last year did very well and was proud of the team. This year there is an NSL 3 north and south – two tournaments Windsor and Bristol main.

3 diamond tournaments planned

Can everyone please send Scott an email or message with new players names, emails, phone numbers etc so he can put them under the development team – that way they are covered by insurance

Main drive is to get the level up for the tomahawks this year.

Kit officer – Pippa

There are 3 price different options for Solent kit – the committee will decide which option we go with.

Cheaper screen printed option

Mid price range

Embroided tee which is crazy expensive

Will always have a couple unisex sizes to use as back up for tournaments but anyone who wants to play for an SSL team you need to buy your own kit.

EOS

Set shirts for 25th anniversary like 20th anniversary - Captains to go ahead and ask members if their players would buy two new shirts in two years

Sponsorship for the 25th anniversary shirt?

Pippa -Perhaps we can have a patch option on the SSL shirts that can be purchased this year?

Cathy and Matt Andrews will be organising the SSL EoS do this year – it will be Southampton based this year.

AOB

Scott summers – Vikings are somewhere by grey field and Titchfield.

Sarah Cole – invoices will be out ASAP

Matthew Horton – Hurricanes are looking at moving to Eastleigh but probably staying in Bishopstoke

David Morris – Chichester doesn't need any new match balls this year please

Matt Andrews – indoor league still has spaces for teams

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Tracy Robinson – Nationals – All 2018 league divisional winners can take up the place they have earned in the Co-ed Slow-pitch Nationals in 2019 at the appropriate grade only if they attend the BSF AGM which is on the 23rd of Feb in North London – details on their website.