



SOUTH DAKOTA BASEBALL UMPIRE ASSOCIATION MEETING
January 26, 2020 11:30 AM
Arrowwood Cedar Short Report
Oacoma, SD

1. The meeting was called to order by President Matt Clark at 11:40. 31 members were present.
2. The 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed.
 - A. Motion to approve: Ace Boschee.
 - B. Second: Joe Schlimgen.
 - C. Approved.
3. The 2019 financial report was presented by Treasurer Steve Leber.
 - A. The 2019 \$200 donation to the SD Baseball Hall of Fame will be added to the 2020 year.
 - B. Motion to approve: Brad Peters.
 - C. Second: Mike Carda.
 - D. Approved.
4. Announcements:
 - A. 300 Registered members for 2019. 61 new members in 2019.
 - B. 2019 Hall of Fame Inductees:
 - i. Joe Schlimgen, Mitchell
 - ii. Honorary: Scott Healy, Aberdeen
 - iii. Hall of Fame Committee: Gene Bierle, Duane Miller, Rock Rockafellow, John Witcraft.
 - C. 2019 SDUA Dick Ruddell Scholarship Winner:
 - i. Kayla Jacobson, Rapid City. She is attending Mount Marty College and is studying nursing.
 - ii. Scholarship Committee: Bert Ready, Joe Schlimgen, Mike Carda.
 1. Rock Rockafellow asked to be removed from this committee. President Clark appointed Mike Carda replace Rock.
 - D. 2019 State Champions:
 - i. Amateur: Alexandria (B), Sioux Falls Brewers (A)
 - ii. American Legion: Lennox Post 174 (B), Renner Post 307 (A)
 - iii. Junior Legion: Lennox (B), Renner (A)
 - iv. VFW: Canova (B), Dakota Valley (A)
 - v. High School: Lennox (B), O’Gorman (A)
 - E. 2019 Sportsmanship Awards:
 - i. Amateur (Bob Deming): Clark
 - ii. American Legion (Porter T. Talcott): Redfield (B), Rapid City Post 22 (A)
 - iii. Junior Legion: Warner-Ipswich-Northwestern (B), Watertown (A)
 - iv. VFW (Lou Thury): Wessington Springs (B), Beresford (A)
 - F. American Legion “Big Stick” Winners:
 - i. Camden Osborn, Redfield (B Sr.)
 - ii. Calvin Hegg, Renner Post 307 (A Sr.)
 - iii. Peyton Eich, Lennox Post 174 (B Jr.)
 - iv. Liam Porter, Rapid City Post 22 (A Jr.)
 - G. John Krogstrand (State A Sr. Legion) and Jeff Friman (State Amateur) were awarded Umpire shirts for their first State Tournament selection.

- H. 2020 State Tournaments:
- i. Amateur – Mitchell: August 5-16, 2020
 - ii. “A” Sr. Legion – Brandon: July 24-28, 2020
 - iii. “B” Sr. Legion – Groton: July 31-August 4, 2020
 - iv. “A” Jr. Legion – Pierre: July 24-28, 2020
 - v. “B” Jr. Legion – Redfield: August 7-9, 2020
 - vi. “A” High School – Sioux Falls: May 23, 2020
 - vii. “B” High School – Sioux Falls: May 25-26, 2020
- I. American Legion Central Plains Regional Tournament: Sioux Falls Stadium: August 5-9, 2020
- i. SDUA donated \$200 to the 2019 tournament.
 - ii. Motion by John Krogstrand for the SDUA to donate \$200 to the 2020 Central Plains Tournament.
 - iii. Second: Connor Singhisen.
 - iv. Approved.
- J. American Legion Central Plains Division II Regional Tournament: Webster: August 6-9, 2020
- i. Motion by Bert Ready for the SDUA to donate \$200 to the 2020 Central Plains Division II Tournament.
 - ii. Second: Clyde Millslagle.
 - iii. Approved.
- K. 2021 State Tournaments:
- i. Amateur – Mitchell:
 - ii. “A” Sr. Legion – Rapid City Post 22
 - iii. “B” Sr. Legion – Gregory
 - iv. “A” Jr. Legion – Sioux Falls
 - v. “B” Jr. Legion – Clark
 - vi. “A” High School – Sioux Falls
 - vii. “B” High School – Sioux Falls
- L. PayPal is still an option for paying Membership Dues. 84 members used PayPal to pay dues in 2019.
- i. Usage Fee: 2.9% + \$0.30 per transaction (Dues: $\$30 \times 2.9\% = \$0.87 + \$0.30 = \1.17).
 - ii. Checks and cash still OK.
- M. High School Rulebooks (NFHS): Ordered 180 books through the SDHSAA @ \$7.00 per book. Orders must be placed by March 2020 for the 2021 NFHS Rule Books. SDUA officers will place order for appropriate amount based on motions passed during the 2019 Winter Meeting.
- N. New Member Exam:
- i. Online: 106 completed tests
 - ii. Hard Copy: 12 completed tests.
 - iii. Average Score was 23/30.
- O. SDUA T-Shirts are available for purchase. Contact Matt Clark for details or visit the SDUA website.
- P. SDUA Caps can be ordered online and via phone through Dauby’s Sports in Sioux Falls.
- Q. Website – Keep visiting.
- R. The SDUA began honoring its 25-year umpires in 2019 with a commemorative plaque:

Ace Boschee	Scott Deutsch	Bryce Holter	Brad Peters
Don Cassels	Pat Dockendorf	Rich Kotrba	Joe Schlimgen
Matt Clark	Joe Drab	Jeff Leber	Greg Warren
Rick Coyle	Dan Gettert	Steve Leber	John Witcraft

Future 25-year umpires:

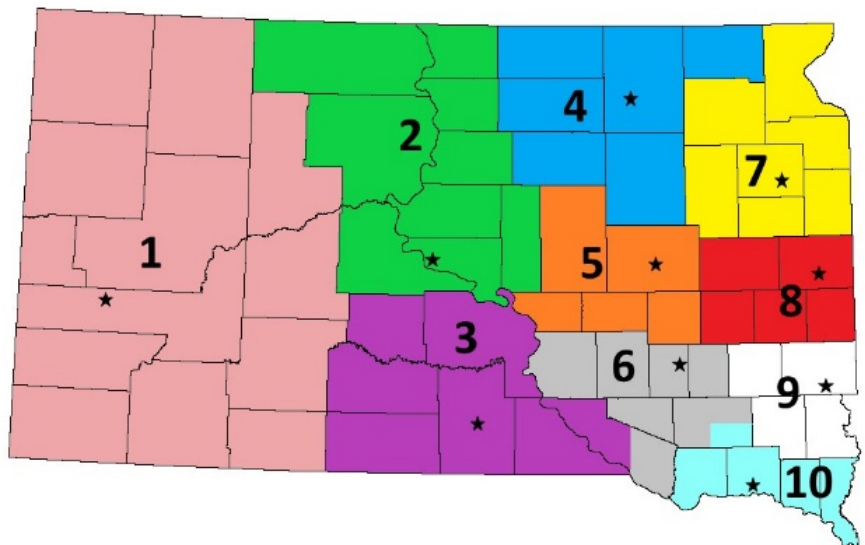
- 2020: Cam Corey
- 2021: Mike Held, Kelly Meiners
- 2022: Jim Drotzman, Tracy Fuerst
- 2023: Dave Beste
- 2024: Tony Beste, Al Hansen, Brad Tucker, Mark Zalme

Future 40-year umpires:

- 2023: Ace Boschee
- 2024: Scott Deutsch, Brad Peters, John Witcraft
- 2025: Greg Warren

5. Officer Reports.
 - A. No specific reports from the officers.
6. Report from SD Amateur Baseball.
 - A. Fred Obermeier was introduced as the new State Tournament Umpire-In-Chief.
 - B. Rock Rockafellow:
 - i. State Tournament went very well.
 - ii. Asked the group to continue to enforce the between innings speed up rule. As a group we can do a better job of this.
7. Report from SD Legion Baseball.
 - A. Matt Clark (attended Legion winter meeting):
 - i. "B" regional dates: July 22-26
 - ii. "A" regional dates: July 17-18
 - iii. "B" Jr. regional dates: July 17-21
 - iv. "A" Jr. regional dates: July 27-28
 - v. State Sr. Tournament game fee has increased to \$70 per game.
8. Report from High School Baseball.
 - A. Brock Sundall:
 - i. NFHS has revised the DH rule, SDHSBA has adopted the new rule. SDUA to send more details to our members regarding this new rule.
 - ii. Catchers must wear a chest protector with NOSCAE approval.
 - iii. Baseballs used during the regular season do not require the NOSCAE Stamp. All postseason baseball DO require the NOSCAE Stamp.
 - iv. Catchers are still required to wear the hockey-style mask.
 - v. All ejections must be reported to the SDHSBA for any and all high school games.
 - vi. Class B will use a new playoff format in 2020.
 - vii. Umpires interested in working the High School baseball postseason must apply online by April 15th. The application is posted on the SDUA website. <http://sdumpires.org/applications/>
9. Old Business:
 - A. Members of the Arbitrary (Appointed by President Clark):
 - i. Rich Kotrba: Term Expired. Rich was reappointed.
 - ii. Steve Bertrand: Term Expires in 2020.
 - iii. Joe Schlimgen: Term Expires in 2021.
 - B. Liability Insurance:
 - i. 2020 Premium is \$750. RPS Bollinger. Same premium and coverage as 2019.
 - ii. Motion by Connor Singhisen to purchase insurance for 2020.
 - iii. Second: John Witcraft.
 - iv. Approved.

10. New Business:
 - A. District Umpire Alignment:
 - i. By-Law change to District Umpire geographical jurisdiction.
 - ii. Adopt District Umpire state map.
 - iii. Motion by Al Hansen to adopt new by-law language and the state map as presented at meeting.
 - iv. Second: Ben Bordeaux.
 - v. Approved. New map will be posted on SDUA website.



B. District Umpire terms:

- i. By-Law change to District Umpire appointments. Appointed by SDUA President to 3-year terms.
- ii. Motion by Bryce Holter to adopt new by-law language.
- iii. Second: Joe Schlimgen.
- iv. Approved.
- v. District Umpires were appointed by President Clark.

District	District Umpire	Term Expires
1	John Witcraft	2023
2	John Krogstrand	2021
3	Austin Richey	2022
4	Ace Boschee	2023
5	Mike Carda	2022
6	Joe Schlimgen	2023

District	District Umpire	Term Expires
7	Dan Lund	2021
7	Doug Ruesink	2022
8		2022
9	Al Hansen	2021
9	Brad Peters	2023
10	Jason Selchert	2021
10	Connor Singhisen	2023

C. Annual Dues: Increasing our annual dues.

- i. Debate on need to increase dues.
 1. We showed a loss of \$1440.69 in 2018, \$2573.76 in 2019.
 2. We currently have \$8809.79 in a CD that expires in July 2020.
- ii. Motion by Clyde Millslagle to keep dues at \$30 for 2020 and to provide authority to officers to manage the CD based on the financial needs at the time of expiration.
- iii. Second: Joe Schlimgen.
- iv. Approved.

D. Adopt statewide recommendations for weather threats:

- i. Lightning:
 1. Detailed discussion if/how the SDUA should adopt language.
 2. Umpires have authority when deciding when to suspend a game for lightning.
 3. SDUA suggests members use discretion since they may be held liable for any lightning-related incidents. NFHS has a written lightning procedure and can be used to supplement your decision.
 4. Ultimately, no specific language was adopted.
- ii. Heat:
 1. Discussion on how best to handle heat-related incidents.
 2. Ultimately, no specific language was adopted.

E. SDUA Website: Member contact information privacy and security.

- i. Jesse Devine: Many reports where members are receiving spam and phishing emails. Email addresses may be taken from SDUA website. Options for better security include password protection and/or captcha functionality. Costs for implementation depend on the level of security we implement. We don't want too much restriction, so we don't keep people from finding our contact information to hire umpires or verify their membership.
- ii. Motion by Steve Leber to allow Jesse Devine to work with our website developer to implement security measures while minimizing cost.
- iii. Second: Connor Singhisen.
- iv. Approved.

F. SDUA Secretary Salary: Increasing Secretary's salary. Current salary is \$250 per year.

- i. Motion by Rock Rockafellow to increase Secretary's annual salary to \$500.
- ii. Second: Al Hansen.
- iii. Approved.

G. Winter Meeting attendance. How do we increase attendance to the Winter Meeting?

- i. Discussion regarding meeting timing, what we've done in past years, door prizes, etc.

H. Dick Ruddell Scholarship. How do we increase applicants?

- i. We have only received a handful of applications in last few years. We discussed the criteria for consideration. SDUA to remind members that the scholarship is available and open to all students entering at least their second year of post-secondary school.

- I. Recruitment and Retention. Open Floor
 - i. SDUA numbers are steady and slightly rising (2 more in 2019 than 2018), but we continue to lose about 20% of our members each year.
 - ii. 61 new members in 2019
 - iii. 59 members left the SDUA in 2019. 29 of these members were members for only 1 year. 49 of these members have been members for 5 years or less.
 - iv. 148 of our members have been members for 5 years or less.
 - v. 224 members have been members for 10 years or less.
- J. Open Floor.
 - i. Group:
 - 1. How do we put new members in contact with teams, organizations, etc. so they can be hired to work games?
 - 2. How can we better ensure the District Clinics are consistent? Anonymous sources say the clinics are not covering the same material.
 - ii. Jesse Devine: The SDUA was contacted by Force3 equipment looking to establish a relationship. Force3 is willing to offer all members a temporary discount for anything ordered from their website if we add Force3 branding to our website, etc.
 - 1. Motion by Scott Kortan to establish a relationship.
 - 2. Second by Connor Singhisen.
 - 3. Approved. Jesse Devine will send details to members when complete.

11. 2020 District Clinics/Meetings (Tentative Dates):

Date	District	Location	City	Time	Contact
March 11, 2020	10	Gayville High School	Gayville	6:00	Connor Singhisen
March 11, 2020	3	American Legion	Winner	7:00	Austin Richey
March 14, 2020	1	Rapid City Post 320 Hitting Shed	Rapid City	9:00	John Witcraft
March 14, 2020	5	Huron High School	Huron	9:30	Mike Carda
March 21, 2020	4	The Flame	Aberdeen	11:00	Ace Boschee
March 22, 2020	7	Watertown City Auditorium	Watertown	6:00	Dan Lund
March 25, 2020	9	American Legion	Sioux Falls	7:00	Al Hansen
March 29, 2020	6	Mitchell High School	Mitchell	12:45	Joe Schlimgen
March 29, 2020	8	American Legion	Brookings	1:00	Jesse Devine
April 5, 2020	2	SDHSAA Office	Pierre	3:00	John Krogstrand

12. District Umpire Meeting: April 19, 2020 at 11:30, Mitchell, SD. All Officers and District Umpires to attend.

13. Election of Officers:

- A. Treasurer:
 - i. Jack Wenger nominated Scott Kortan, second by Austin Richey.
 - ii. Ace Boschee nominated Steve Leber, second by Al Hansen.
 - iii. Motion to cease nominations by Austin Richey, second by Ben Bordeaux.
 - iv. Steve Leber elected.
- B. President:
 - i. Rock Rockafellow nominated Matt Clark, second by Brad Peters.
 - ii. Motion to cease nominations by Bryce Holter, second by Ace Boschee.
 - iii. Matt Clark elected

14. 2021 Winter Meeting will be Sunday, January 31st, 2021.

15. Motion to Adjourn by Greg Warren, second by Jesse Devine. Approved. Meeting Adjourned at 2:45PM.