

UCSSL 50's Meeting Minutes

Dec. 1, 2021

Assistant UCSSL Commissioner Marty Marks brought the meeting to order at 7:10 PM

Sign in sheet was circulated and it was noted that 11 out of 15 teams from 2021 were represented. In addition to team representatives, UCSSL league officers John Malone and Mike Rosenberg were in attendance. Welcome new 50's Managers Carl Gamba of Cranford VFW and Alan Dente of All Pipes! The only teams that were not represented were Phenomenal Boyz, Sonia's BCE, Futon World, and Contact Lens and Vision. There were no prospective new 2022 teams present.

- Managers were reminded of the new Uniform rule where it would be the team's responsibility to procure their own uniforms, use previous years' uniforms, or some hybrid of the two. Uniforms must have the UCSSL logo and the sponsors name and should be consistent in color throughout the roster.
- Registration fees would accordingly go down to \$55/player/team. Managers were encouraged to begin collecting registration forms and checks from their players and begin submitting them at our January meeting.
- The premise of this early winter meeting was the prospect of having a major shake-up in the 50's Division for 2022. Rumors of teams dissolving, combining, and possibly being newly created abound. Officers need to know no later than the end of January where we stand with the number of teams so that division alignment and schedules can be created in a timely fashion.
- There was not a lot of news to report on the status of our teams.
 1. It was confirmed that some type of merging of teams would take place between players from All Pipes Plumbing, Linwood Inn, and Phenomenal Boyz which would constitute an All Pipes team. It is anticipated that the remaining players from Linwood and Phenomenal Boyz would still enter teams for 2022 but this is still unconfirmed.
 2. Nick Mennona of Jun's Construction reports that the return of this team is still uncertain
 3. As Futon World was not represented at the meeting, communication with their representative(s) needs to take place as to confirming their status for 2022.
 4. Subsequent to the meeting, Kerry Gelb of Contact Lens & Vision informed the league that he and at least one other player would be playing in the 60's Division on a team to be sponsored by CL & V. Kerry stated that Steve Wieczerszak would lead and sponsor the former CL & V in the 50's Division. This needs to be confirmed
- The discussion turned to roster size and the prospect of amending our out of county (OOC) roster rules. There was sentiment from some that it will continue to be a problem to field the number of teams we now enjoy as the number of newly minted 50 year-olds wanting to play is diminishing. . Marty Marks presented a history of the league in regard to our OOC roster limits. There was just about unanimous sentiment that increasing the OOC limit would almost certainly benefit the better teams and that the competitive disparity from top to bottom in the 50's division would lengthen further. Invariably this would cause a need to play almost exclusively within a team's respective division which would not sit well with some.
- There was also discussion that if the OOC limits were increased, the competitive disparity lengthened, AND there was a desire to not play the same teams over and over again, that it would be advisable to have just two divisions and have teams play ONLY within a 7 or 8 team division (dependent upon how many teams we finally register). This would be a subject of a subsequent meeting after we determine what (if any) our new OOC roster rule will be, and the total number of teams participating in 2022.

- Discussion shifted to how the 60's division handles OOC and that 68 and over who have played 5 consecutive seasons are not to be considered against the OOC limit. This prospect in some form for the 50's division began to gain some traction. A motion was made by All Pipes and seconded by Jun's to leave the OOC roster limit at 8, however if an OOC player had participated in 5 consecutive years they would no longer be counted against the OOC limit. Additionally, at the discretion of the officers, waivers could be granted if a player missed the 5 **consecutive** year mark because of injury or some other quirk of nature such as a pandemic. The following voted in favor of the motion: Jun's, Linwood, Garwood Metal, Suspenders, Douglas VW, and All Pipes. Those voting against were Deegan Roofing, AJ Jersey, Cranford VFW, Linda's Driftwood, and Rocky's Bar & Grill. **The motion passed 6-5.**
- Another motion was then made by Suspenders and seconded by Jun's to also increase the Out of County roster limit to 9. Those in favor were Suspenders, Jun's and Linwood. Those voting against were Deegan Roofing, AJ Jersey, Cranford VFW, Linda's Driftwood, Douglas VW, All Pipes, Garwood Metal, and Rocky's. **The motion failed 8-3**
- There was also some discussion about increasing the minimum roster size and accordingly the minimum threshold for a team to add a player or players after the deadline. No motion was made in this regard but is a potential for a subsequent meeting.
- All but 4 sponsor's plaques were disbursed, and a reminder of the Jan 5 meeting was issued.