

# DUGOUT CHATTER

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN SENIORS SOFTBALL CLUB OF SACRAMENTO ([WWW.GSSCS.ORG](http://WWW.GSSCS.ORG)) -- MARCH 2011

## DRAFTS COMPLETED ... "LET'S PLAY BALL!!!"

Thoroughly relieved that the process of drafting 39 teams for the 2011 season was completed, with sponsor uniform shirts ready and better balls to bat, leaders of the Golden Seniors Softball Club of Sacramento announced on March 14 that all leagues were primed and ready. Finally, after a long winter, it is time to "PLAY BALL," said Bill Hill, club president.

Player Agent Linda McCollum-Greene said the job was completed ("Thank God the drafts are over!") and all leagues were ready to go -- weather permitting.

Of course, the weather didn't permit L-1 from opening its regular season as scheduled on March 14. The Monday 70+ league has nine teams and does not have practice games, but the games of March 14 were rained out -- canceled. They will not be made up, and the second games of the season also were threatened by the forecast of more rain, said L-1 Commissioner George Hodsdon.

Players in five leagues (Tuesday day and the night leagues) have one practice date on the schedule (the week of March 22-24) for managers to meet players, hand out uniform shirts and hats, get Complex waiver forms signed, etc. The first regular season games were set for the week of March 29-31 at the Complex.

Members are reminded to check the GSSCS hotline (491-1721) if skies are threatening or fields could be soggy from prior downpours.

Meanwhile, the club Board of Directors made adjustments to the new rule book. The board rejected a courtesy runner rule change that would have restricted a player who is removed for a substitute runner from getting more than a single in a subsequent at-bat. The board also decided that no player who wants to stay on as runner could be removed for a pinch runner against his or her will. McCollum-Greene argued for the change, noting that she had been taken off the bases for a pinch runner when she preferred to run the bases herself. The courtesy runner restriction continues to read that the same courtesy runner cannot be used more than twice in a game and once an inning, and substitutes cannot be used to pinch run. So Rule 5.1 on Page 12 of the rule book stays as it is. (Note: L-1 plays by its own rules.) (SEE PAGE 2)

**NEXT  
GENERAL  
MEETING:  
MONDAY, 7:30  
P.M., MAY 16 AT  
THE VFW POST  
67 HALL ON  
STOCKTON  
BOULEVARD**

### *IN THIS ISSUE ...*

*Resolution honors the late Jerry Jodice*

*Sunshine Report*

*Club Sponsors*

**2011 GENERAL  
MEETINGS (7:30 P.M.  
AT THE VFW POST 67  
HALL, 2784  
STOCKTON BLVD.)  
(NO APRIL  
MEETING) MAY 16 ...  
JULY 11 ... AUGUST  
15 ... SEPTEMBER 24  
(IN CONJUNCTION  
WITH ANNUAL  
PICNIC/PLAYOFFS)**

## **March 14 Meeting News (from Page 1)**

Also, the board clarified that the newly published updated rule book contains a “misprint” that hats are “optional.” Players must wear an officially issued GSSCS hat (from 2011 or earlier season). However, this rule is waived for players who have medical concerns (such as skin cancer) and want to wear hats with wide brims. They should have the GSSCS logo embroidered (at their expense) or sew on a logo taken from an old hat. Contact Pete Ward, 2nd VP in charge of equipment, for advice. He said the lettering is not too expensive and players could get embroidering done themselves. Also, players who wear facial protection (masks) are not required to wear hats. However, when they take off the mask, when at bat for example, they must put on a club-approved hat.

President Hill said it is his observation that “we are bogged down with too many rules for a softball club.” Yet he agreed that it is vitally important for the club that players wear their proper uniforms at all games.

More coverage of the March 14 meeting:

**Conserve Hats.** Pete Ward, 2nd VP, urged members who are in more than one league to accept just one hat, to be issued by the manager of his or her primary league team. Also, players on league championship teams in 2010 are expected to use the caps awarded for the championship in 2011. This would save the club enough money to purchase uniform shirts for a whole team. “A guy doesn’t need three hats,” Ward said.

Ward also announced that balls left over from last season will be used in practice games, with the new, improved balls being saved for the regular season.

**Proposed Draft Seniority Requirements.** At the urging of President Hill, the board put over to a future meeting discussion or action on a recommendation from the club Planning Committee to assign lower priority for league preference to late registrants. The club should elevate priority for new players who get their applications and fees in on time, said Dave Vargo, leader of the Planning Committee. And returning players who pay on time should have high priority. The club has around 100 multi-league players who take up some 216 slots on teams.

“This is something to think about during the year and make changes for next year,” Vargo said.

McCollum-Greene said the club will continue to have issues with late signups, creating more work and problems with drafts and preseason activity, unless the club sticks to deadlines, after which a returning player forfeits seniority rights. She got strong support from L-1 Commissioner George Hodsdon, a former club player agent. “I agree 100 percent. Enforce that ‘drop dead date’ and 90 percent of the problem is solved,” he said.

**Club Roster.** Henry Low, who maintains the club’s computerized player data base, announced that he was dropping 54 names from the master roster, deleting those who did not renew for 2011. This brought the club’s roster to 460 members, he said. As of March 1, Low said 42 new members had been added since September.

**Waiting Lists.** McCollum-Greene reported that as of March 14 the two leagues had no extra players for a waiting list (L-4 Wednesday nights and L-5 Thursday nights). L-3 Tuesday night had two players waiting and Tuesday 10:30 a.m. had one player waiting. L-2 9 a.m. Tuesdays had a waiting list of about 10 players. (See Page 3)

**(From Page 2 -- March General Meeting News)**

Additional signups are needed as there are always roster openings as injuries or illnesses occur. Members are encouraged to refer prospective players to the club web site for applications or have them contact the player agent.

**Sponsors Report.** Dick Latimer, club 1st VP in charge of sponsors, said there were still a few sponsorship checks to come in, and, assuming they do, the club is adequately sponsored for 2011. Latimer also urged managers to fulfill a commitment to sponsors by giving them a uniform shirt and club hat. Some sponsors will display the shirt and hat on their business wall, giving the club even more publicity, he said. This is in addition to team photos that are placed on plaques for the sponsor to display.

**Picnic News.** President Hill said the Howe Avenue Park picnic grounds have been reserved for the Sept. 24 club picnic, for \$105. There also was the possibility of gaining permission to use some of the Home Depot parking nearby to alleviate what would otherwise be a shortage of parking spaces inside the park. The club's Picnic Committee, led by Dante Ciardella and Henry Fontes, already has estimates of \$8 per meal (chicken or tri-tip, with condiments). With field rentals and beer and soda, the committee is hopefully going to bring it in for under \$3,500. Hill said he would pursue other sponsorships if needed to make the picnic more affordable for the club.

**Japan Quake Donation.** Club directors approved a \$100 donation to help earthquake and flood victims in Japan.

**L-1 Commissioner Change.** For health reasons, Bob Havrilla has stepped down as L-1 commissioner. His assistant, George Hodsdon, assumed the post. The new assistant is George Langan. Henry Low is the L-1 rules chairman. Hodsdon said Bob, who continues to play and manage in the league, experienced cardiac issues late last year and needed reduced stress.

**Dugout Chatter.** Editor Ron Roach reminded members that with the March issue, the print edition will be available to players at the fields. Members are expected to read the newsletter by accessing it through the club web site ([www.gsscs.org](http://www.gsscs.org)). The print edition will continue to be mailed to sponsors, and members who do not have Internet access and cannot get a copy at the fields.

The Dugout Chatters for March, April, May, June, July and August are published mostly online. The Sept-Oct, Nov-Dec, January and February issues are mailed to the entire membership, except those who have asked to be removed from the mailing list so they can read it online and save the club some money. It is important for league commissioners to notify managers that a new Dugout Chatter is online so they can read it on the web site. For those who need a printed copy, game scorekeepers will a limited supply. According to Henry Low, 51 members with access to the club web site have opted not to receive the newsletter by mail.

Note that the online edition contains more information and pictures than appear in the print edition. Members should check the club web site regularly for newly posted information that may be available between newsletter publications.

**Advertising.** GSSCS sponsors may run ads in the Dugout Chatter that also will be posted on the web site. A half-page ad costs \$75; a quarter-page ad costs \$50. Contact the editor at 422-2500 or [coachrwr@comcast.net](mailto:coachrwr@comcast.net). Rates are higher for non-sponsors.

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## **SAFETY NEWS: RESOLUTION HONORS JERRY JODICE**

A memorial resolution for Jerry Jodice, who led the club as its president, newsletter editor and safety coordinator, was presented at the March 14 general meeting, where members applauded his hard work and dedication.

The resolution, read by Jodice's successor as club safety coordinator, Curtis Holcomb, was presented to Jamyn Jodice, Jerry's son.

Jodice passed away last year at the age of 80, not long after he was honored as a life member.

His family is sponsoring a team in his honor.

As was noted in the resolution, Jerry Jodice brought the club into the 21st Century by the development of a site on the Internet, which Jamyn continues to voluntarily manage for the club. Tom Sansone addressed the March 14 meeting, praising the club's web site and Jamyn for managing such a major attribute for the club. He said it sets the GSSCS apart as a cut above other organizations.

As the resolution stated, more than one GSSCS member probably owes his life to the safety equipment and training that Jerry Jodice brought to the club as its safety coordinator.

Holcomb, meanwhile, is determined to carry on the club's emphasis on safety. He said he was still compiling his list of members who are certified to administer CPR/AED and will arrange for training once there is sufficient interest in attending a class. #

## **SUNSHINE AND HEALTH**

Life Member Ed Campini's wife, Pat, passed away on March 10 of a massive heart attack. Pat was 84.

Shirley Dessen, wife of Bryant Dessen, passed away on March 13. Bryant played in L-1 for the past several years.

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## **CLUB "HOTLINE" SOURCE FOR NEWS, INFORMATION**

Operated by Don Shank, the club's hotline provides recorded information for members, such as the general meeting schedule. It also is where players can call to make sure their games are going to be played as scheduled due to threatening weather or other events that make the fields unplayable, such as water main breaks or thefts of copper wire that prevents use of lights for night games. These things have happened, so even if the weather looks balmy, and you can't be reached by your manager, you might be advised to give the "hot line" a jingle at 491-1721.

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## **CLUB RULES COMMITTEE FOR 2011**

Club Commissioner Bruce Gilmore has named members of the Rules Committee to consider changes for 2011: Night Leagues -- Bill McMahan, Ed Frantz and Bill Greene. Day Leagues -- Rich Edwards, Bob Havrilla, Curtis Holcomb, Larry Campbell and McMahan. Chief Umpire Freddie Miller provides technical advice. #

# ***Golden Seniors 2011 Sponsors***

## **PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORS**

(\* = New Sponsor)

AMERICAN MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

AVALON HEARING

BERTOLUCCI'S BODY AND

FENDER SHOP

CALIFORNIA ENERGY SERVICES

COTTONWOOD ESTATES

DUMONT PEST CONTROL

EAST LAWN, INC.

ESPANOL ITALIAN RESTAURANT

\*EXECUTIVE LIMOUSINE

GEREMIA POOLS

GREATER SACRAMENTO SOFTBALL

ASSOCIATION (GSSA)

\*FUDDRUCKERS

HARPER PROPERTIES

\*JERRY JODICE

JOLLY ROGERS

L&S SURVEYS

LIVINGSTON CONCRETE

MARK WHITE DDS

MERRILL'S BOOKKEEPING & TAX

MONTE'S MUNCHIES

NIELSEN REAL ESTATE

APPRAISAL

NORCAL JACKETS

OLD HORNETS

OVERHEAD DOOR OF

SACRAMENTO

RAMBIT

\*REINWALD'S HEALTH & DENTAL

INSURANCE

RE/MAX CENTRAL

\*SHOW BIZ PRODUCTIONS

SILVER CATS

SPORTS LEISURE VACATIONS

VFW POST 67

RICHARD WILL ATTORNEY

WION'S BODY SHOP

\*9TH & X SELF STORAGE

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## **2011 Teams and Managers**

L-1 MONDAYS AT HOWE AVENUE PARK  
Commissioner George Hodsdon 481-9304  
Asst. Commissioner George Langan 483-6874  
Monday Rules Chairman Henry Low 391-3938  
Team 1 Nielsen Real Estate -- Norm Blackwell Sr. 452-1539  
Team 2 L&S Survey -- Benny Benson 383-0179  
Team 3 Avalon Hearing -- John Chatfield 965-1932  
Team 4 Dumont Pest Control -- George Langan 483-6874  
Team 5 Merrill Bookkeeping and Tax -- Bob Benham 961-7131  
Team 6 American Medical Equipment -- Bob Schwan 971-1199  
Team 7 Show Biz Productions -- Joe Kline 331-7042  
Team 8 Jerry Jodice -- Bob Havrilla 285-5413 and Joe Sugimoto 359-4111  
Team 9 Wion's Body Shop -- Ray Ward 421-8875

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## **LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS FOR 2011**

Nominated by Club Commissioner Bruce Gilmore and approved by the Board of Directors, the club's League Commissioners for 2011:

League 1 Monday Day, 70 and older: George Hodsdon -- 481-9304 (George Langan, assistant)

L-2 Tuesday Day 9 a.m., 60 and older: Curtis Holcomb -- 600-6065 (Jim Wait, assistant)

L-3 Tuesday Night, 50 and older: Jerry Toenyas -- 354-4126 (Brent Korff, assistant)

L-4 Wednesday Night, 50 and older: Bill Greene -- 391-5559

L-5 Thursday Night, 50 and older: Allen Riker -- 485-9567

L-6 Tuesday Day 10:30 a.m. Select, 60 and older: Rich Edwards -- 483-1293

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**NEXT DUGOUT CHATTER: APRIL 2011.** READ THE DUGOUT CHATTER ONLINE AT [WWW.GSSCS.ORG](http://WWW.GSSCS.ORG) WHERE NEWS UPDATES AND PHOTOS ARE PUBLISHED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO, YOU CAN REMOVE YOUR NAME FROM THE DUGOUT CHATTER MAILING LIST AND READ THE NEWSLETTER ONLINE, SAVING THE CLUB POSTAGE, PAPER AND INK. TO GET OFF THE SNAIL-MAIL LIST, CALL HENRY LOW AT 391-3938.

MARCH-THRU-AUGUST ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER ARE GENERALLY AVAILABLE ONLINE WITH SOME PRINTED COPIES AVAILABLE AT FIELDS (SEE SCOREKEEPERS). THE ONLINE EDITION IS USUALLY ACCESSIBLE DAYS OR EVEN WEEKS BEFORE THE PRINTED EDITION ARRIVES VIA SNAIL MAIL. THE ONLINE EDITION ALSO MAY CONTAIN MORE INFORMATION AND PHOTOS. #

ADVERTISING: CLUB SPONSORS MAY RUN ADS IN THE DUGOUT CHATTER (\$50 FOR QUARTER-PAGE OR LESS, \$75 FOR A HALF-PAGE. NON-SPONSOR RATES ARE HIGHER.) CONTACT LOU COPPOLA, 444-6138. #

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2010-2011**

President **Bill Hill** ... 804-2243

First Vice President ... **Dick Latimer**  
363-9555 (Responsible for team  
sponsorships.)

Second Vice President **Pete Ward** ...  
989-4722 (Responsible for team  
uniforms.)

Treasurer **Glen Cole** ... 966-4561

Secretary **George Lamb** ... (530)  
681-8070

Player Agent **Linda McCollum-  
Greene** ... 391-5559 (Responsible for  
player applications, player substitutes,  
waiting lists.)

Club Commissioner **Bruce Gilmore** ...  
424-0920 (Responsible for enforcement  
of playing rules, oversees league  
commissioners.)

## **TELEPHONE HOTLINE**

### **Club Answering Machine**

(managed by Don Shank):  
491-1721 for meeting news and  
field conditions.

### **Phone or Address Changes:**

Henry Low 391-3938

**Player Applications:** Linda  
McCollum-Greene 391-5559

**Sunshine & Health:** Trudy  
Smartt 973-8269

**GSSC #3912 Blood Bank:**  
456-1500

**Safety:** Curtis Holcomb  
600-6065

**Entertainment:** Lou Coppola  
444-6138

**Dugout Chatter:** Ron Roach,  
editor 422-2500  
([coachrwr@comcast.net](mailto:coachrwr@comcast.net))

**Planning:** Dave Vargo, contact,  
[dvargo@frontiernet.net](mailto:dvargo@frontiernet.net)  
689-7061