

DUGOUT CHATTER

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN SENIORS SOFTBALL CLUB OF SACRAMENTO (WWW.GSSCS.ORG) CLUB HOTLINE: 491-1721

LOWER LEAGUE FEES FOR 2016 AND HIGHER AGE FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT

With significant changes, the club membership application for renewals and new players is posted on the club website, and has been mailed to the 2015 membership, including a \$5 reduction in league fees for the coming year.

The major adjustment involves Wednesday night League 4 at the Complex, where the minimum age is increased from 50 to 60 for men and from 45 to 55 for women. Club Player Agent Dave Tanner, in a cover letter sent to returning players and posted on the website, said the purpose of the age change is to “provide a place for those over 60 club members that are not available to play days to have a place where they feel they can still play competitively.”

Tanner said it is hoped that “those players aged out because of this change will chose to change to L3 (Tuesday night) or L5 (Thursday night) and remain a part of Golden Seniors.”

Adjusting the age is part of a strategy to deal with the perennial problem of recruiting enough players to field six teams for the Wednesday and Thursday night leagues.

Tanner said in a cover letter with the renewal forms for the 2016 season that the club Board of Directors has adopted a separation of club dues (\$20, which is waived for life members), and a lowering of league fees by \$5. (See Page 2)

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, JAN. 11, 2016

IN THIS ISSUE ...

Changes in some league age requirements, lower league fees for 2016.

Sunshine & Health. Rest in Peace: Jack Booth, Wayne Leonard, Stan Scott.

Cady is top Golden Senior batter in 2015.

League commissioners for 2016.

Rules committee for 2016 does not expect major changes.

Short Hops, Long Bounces: Winter practices; glove conditioning.

List of Sponsors. Club Contacts.

APPLICATIONS HAVE SOME CHANGES FOR 2016 (From Page 1)

Tanner said league fees differ based on the cost to the club in making them available. Night leagues are more expensive than day leagues as they are played at the Sacramento Softball Complex with lights.

Fees were reduced for seven of the club's eight leagues, all but the 75 and over league that began play in 2015.

To guarantee a space in the league drafts, applications had to be returned by Dec. 1, after which players were to be added to draft lists on a first-come basis of fully completed applications and payment of dues and fees. Club directors also have simplified the refund process.

Using the address on the application, Tanner said, "Please forward your application and check to me as soon as possible. We will begin forming the league draft lists after the first of the year."

There also is a third page to the application for members to indicate interest in volunteering to serve the club in various capacities. #

CLUB RULES COMMITTEE MEETS; LITTLE NEEDS TO BE DONE

Club Commissioner Bobby Ellison reports that the Rules Committee for the 2016 season has been formed and had its first meeting, looking at more than 20 items in the Rule Book and finding only a few changes are likely to be recommended for board action. Because previous rule committees did an outstanding job, little was needed to be done.

Serving on the committee, with day and night leagues represented, as well as umpires, are Ellison as chair, Freddy Miller, Bill Greene, Tom Bussey, Deanna Sesso, Bill Hill and Norm Blackwell Sr.

Ellison also said that in the future, anyone interested in contributing to the club as a team manager, league commissioner, member of the Rules Committee, or umpire, should let the club commissioner know in the month of October because of league deadlines. #

2016 LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS

As approved by the board, Club Commissioner Bobby Ellison announced the following GSSCS league commissioners for 2016:

- L1 Henry Low 391-3939**
- L2 Bob Smartt 973-8269**
- L3 Mel Tennyson 838-6811**
- L4 Brian Pearson 947-4384**
- L5 Larry Lagomarsino 600-5854**
- L6 Ray Lucas 718-3348**
- L7 Jim Stinson 397-3012**
- L8 Cloicec Wade 393-5809**

SUNSHINE & HEALTH REPORT

REST IN PEACE: JACK BOOTH, WAYNE LEONARD, STAN SCOTT

Life Member **Jack Booth** passed away on Oct. 24 at the age of 86. He had a pacemaker but did not allow it to slow him down. Jack, who joined the Golden Seniors in 1995, played with the Golden Seniors on Monday mornings. He was drafted on Ron Thomas' 2015 team, but had to drop out early in the season. He also played in the over-80s league at Carmichael Park. Jack, considered a cheerful and friendly teammate who loved the game, also played on a travel team and was president of the Rancho Cordova Sportsmen Club.

Life Member **Wayne Leonard**, 87, passed away on Feb. 18, according to his wife, Verlee, who said, "He loved being a Golden Senior ball player although he wasn't able to play the last few years." He joined the club in 1988.

Life Member **Stan Scott** passed away on Sept. 15. He was 89 and joined the club in 1985. He has been a nonplaying member the last few years, according to his son, Shane, who said, "He really loved playing in the league and having fun with you guys."

Henry Low, life member, league commissioner and former club secretary, had hip replacement surgery on Nov. 12 and suffered a "mild stroke" before awakening the next morning. He was recovering at the KP Rehab Center in Vallejo. Henry said he was progressing well and expected to be home by Dec. 6.

Golden Senior **Jim Wait** continues his recuperation from the stroke he suffered in September. His wife, Patty, said in a Dec. 3 email that Jim has moved to the Villa Westlake residential care facility at 490 Hawkcrest Circle in Natomas, where visits are welcome.

Club Commissioner **Bobby Ellison** is recovering from a broken arm suffered in the Las Vegas Senior Softball Championships in early October.

Golden Senior **Terry Hennessy** issued a statement that he is undergoing treatment for stage three cancer that has spread from his prostate, causing him to take time off from playing softball and leading Senior Softball USA as its chief executive officer. "My cancer is treatable and I will be rejoining you on the ball field as soon as the treatment is complete," Terry said in a statement to players, managers and supporters of Senior Softball USA. "This is NOT a death sentence, but a not-so-subtle reminder that health, and life, should not be taken for granted." He said Fran Dowell will lead the Sacramento-based organization in his absence. Hennessy also praised the Can-SIRS organization for publicizing the need for early detection and treatment of cancer, especially prostate cancer. "I've had prostate exams annually and it is because of these exams that the cancer was caught in early stages. I cannot recommend more strongly that male players have these exams -- they literally can save your life." He concluded: "I intend to play ball for many years to come and look forward to seeing you on the field."

#

CADY IS TOP GOLDEN SENIOR BATTER OF 2015

Golden Seniors batters in 2015 continue to assault the coveted mark of getting at least eight hits for every 10 at-bats, or in the case of Rick Cady, pacing all 2015 hitters with a scorching .891 mark.

Cady threatened the .903 club record average set by Mike “Mick” Tursky in 2014, the only .900 hitter in the 10 years that records have been kept. Cady moved ahead of Rich Edwards (.882 in 2012) as the second-highest average since 2006.

The 63-year-old pitcher is the son of Life Member Norm Cady, 96, a pioneer Golden Senior who joined the club in 1981 and played into his eighties.

Here are last season’s seven regular-season league batting champions (the new L8 for players 75 and older did not keep batting stats): L1 -- Bob Scollard .817; L2 -- John Shintaku .814; L3 -- Larry Ellsberry .846; L4 -- Rick Cady .891; L5 -- Shawn Rogers .846; L6 -- Hal Johnson .795; L7-- Everett Richardson .792.

Cady topped the list of 10 Golden Seniors who hit .800 or more in 2015 with the requisite 50 plate appearances to qualify (or 3 per game played by the team).

Tursky hit .811 in L2, joining Don Jackson and Emilio Lobato as three-time .800 hitters. Only Rich Edwards and Monte Miller have hit .800 four times. Bob Scollard in L1 and Jack Wabinga, who hit .804 in L4, join Jarvis Quenga and Dave Vargo as two-time .800 hitters. First-time .800 hitters include L3 champion Larry Ellsberry, Chris Aguilar, who hit .841 in L5, L2’s John Shintaku, and a pair of batters who hit .800 on the nose, Ray Lucas in L2 and Bob Kunnman in L5.

The stats report update for 2015 was produced by Dave Vargo, continuing his analyses of GSSC batting stats dating back to 2006. Much appreciated is the work of Head Scorekeeper Colette Barnes, her husband Russ Barnes, who worked on spreadsheets, and Scorekeeper Dawn Gerlach.

Vargo also notes, by use of italics, the players whose high averages were accomplished since the club allowed high-performance bats in the five leagues that play at the Sacramento Softball Complex. He also noted that some club batting records, such as home runs and RBI, were not broken in 2015, probably because the length of the regular season was shortened to allow more playoffs dates in a double-elimination format.

For greater detail on batting statistics, including leaders in home runs and runs batted in, go to the club website at www.gsscs.org. #

SHORT HOPS AND LONG BOUNCES

GLOVE NEED FIXING?

Howard Shaw, also known as The Gloveman, says he can fix fielding gloves “better than anyone we both know.” His service includes lacing, cleaning and reconditioning. He can be reached at: 421-6643 or his cell: 996-9490

PRACTICES ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAY

Batting practice and practice gamers continue through the off-season at Carmichael Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting at 9 a.m. Get there early to sign the clipboard as teams for the first game are based on order of signups. Contact: Greg Leurgans, 332-7953. #

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

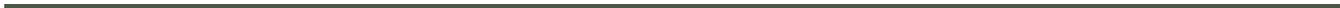
Sponsors Committed for
2015 as of March:

AMERICAN MEDIQUIP, LLC
AVALON HEARING AID
CENTER, INC. (TEAM 1)
AVALON HEARING AID
CENTER, INC. (TEAM 2)
BECKS, IN MEMORY OF
BILL AND SHIRLEY BECK
BERTOLUCCI BODY &
FENDER SHOP, INC.
BILL HILL REPLACEMENT
WINDOWS
BILL HILL ROOFING &
VINYL SIDING
C&C PLUMBING AND
ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES
EG THREADS
ESPANOL ITALIAN
RESTAURANT (TEAM 1)
ESPANOL ITALIAN
RESTAURANT (TEAM 2)
GEREMIA POOLS
GSSA (GREATER
SACRAMENTO
SOFTBALL ASSN.)
HARPER PROPERTIES
JERRY JODICE, IN
MEMORY OF
JOLLY ROGERS
L&S SURVEYS
L&S SURVEYS #2
MARK E. WHITE, DDS
MERRILL BOOKKEEPING
AND INCOME TAX (Ray
Merrill)
*PHOTO FINISH
R.H. NIELSEN REAL
ESTATE/APPRAISAL
R.H. NIELSEN REAL
ESTATE/APPRAISAL
(TEAM 2)

OVERHEAD DOOR
COMPANY OF
SACRAMENTO, INC.
RAMBIT, INC. (Ray Merrill)
*RDR FINANCIAL
SERVICES --
TAX PREPARATION
REINWALD'S HEALTH AND
DENTAL INSURANCE
*SACRAMENTO AREA
FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 522
SAM'S HOF BRAU
SHOW BIZ PRODUCTIONS
SPORTS LEISURE
VACATIONS
TANNER AND ASSOCIATES
TRI-C MACHINE CO. OF
AUBURN, INC.
VFW POST 67
*WENELLI'S PIZZA
RYAN R. WILGUS, DDS
YANCEY COMPANY
* = New sponsor in 2015

For information on how to
become a sponsor for 2016
or take advantage of two-
year sponsorship terms,
contact Rocky Wilkerson,
first vice president, at
595-2941

***THE NEXT DUGOUT CHATTER WILL
BE PUBLISHED IN JANUARY***



BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2016

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

1st Vice President **Rocky Wilkerson** ...
595-2941 (Responsible for team
sponsorships.)

2nd Vice President **Chuck Knutson** ...
524-9763 (Responsible for uniforms and
equipment.)

Treasurer **Don Wall** ... 434-8308

Secretary **Deanna Sesso** ... 955-8195

Player Agent **Dave Tanner** ... 216-1941
(Responsible for player applications,
player substitutes, waiting lists.)

Club Commissioner **Bobby Ellison** ...
212-7498 (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:

Dave Tanner 216-1941

Player Applications: Dave
Tanner 216-1941

Sunshine & Health: Trudy
Smartt 973-8269

GSSC #3912 Blood Bank:
456-1500

Safety Coordinator: J.C.
Terry 457-3393 Cell:
505-2570

Entertainment: Lou Coppola
444-6138

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