

CIAC Officials' Association  
Advisory Board Minutes  
January 9, 2007

Members Present: Frank Begen, Jane Dahle, Ray Faustich, George Ford, Barry Fowler, Lucy Goodridge, Kevin Homgren, David Leete, Hank Luzzi, Lev Torgerson, Sr., and Terry Shanbacher for Joe Miller.

Absent Members: Rose Carlucci and Barbara Startup

*CIAC Rep, Joe Tonelli, welcomed the group. Paul Hoey, from the CIAC Executive Staff, also attended part of the meeting.*

#### ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Approved the minutes of October 12, 2006

Motion-Dave Leete, Second-Ray Faustich, Action-Passed

Distributed the membership report. Total members as of 1-09-07 = 3,775 members

#### **Membership Income**

As of January 9, 2007 our membership income is \$34, 220.00. We anticipate additional membership income of \$3, 280.00. Our total income for 2006-2007 will be approximately \$37, 500.00.

#### **2006-2007 Budget**

The Budget Committee of Rose Carlucci, George Ford, Dave Leete, and Hank Luzzi conducted two (2) meetings to prepare the proposed budget that was presented to the Advisory Board. Ray Faustich commended the committee for their fine work and praised the group for presenting a very favorable budget picture. The committee informed the Board that as a result of the income from enrollment, and the excellent support from CIAC and their willingness to help reduce the operational expenses of our organization, the Advisory Board will have sufficient funds that can be allocated for the benefit of the officials. After a thorough discussion, the budget for was unanimously approved.

Motion – Ray Faustich, Second – Barry Fowler, Action – Approved

The budget committee will schedule a future meeting to discuss expenditures that will be worthwhile and beneficial to the officials and their member associations. The Advisory board reps will present the budget to their respective groups and answer any questions they may have.

#### OLD BUSINESS/INFORMATION ITEMS

#### **Pre-season Rules Interpretation Meetings**

The feedback from officials' groups regarding the attendance of coaches at these meetings has been positive. In fact, the attendance is the best that it has ever been. However, we must work together to strive for 100% attendance in all sports. The CIAC regulation, which requires the head coach or his designee to attend the meeting, is working well. All groups were encouraged to submit their dates for the interpretation meetings to Joe Tonelli as far in advance as possible. To avoid major conflicts, it was emphasized that officials' groups should confer with key individuals in the leagues or schools that they service, before finalizing the date. Another essential component of a successful interpretation meeting is the quality of the program and the ability of the presenter(s) to make the rules session informative and worthwhile. If done well, these meetings will provide an excellent opportunity to open the lines of communication and further enhance the relationship and spirit of cooperation between officials, coaches, and member schools.

## **Insurance Committee Report**

An Insurance Committee report was distributed to the board. The committee is in the process of creating a spreadsheet that will summarize the coverage and insurance costs of all groups. The board agreed that this investigation is very worth-while and could produce some valuable information for all boards. It was also reported that some large insurance companies are interested in providing group insurance for all officials in our association. The committee will meet again in late January or early February.

## **Assault Bill**

The CIAC Officials' Association will continue to pursue and support the Assault Bill in this legislative session. Representative Paul Davis, one of the sponsors of the bill and a swim official, stated that he and other supporters of the bill were researching similar legislation in other states in order to strengthen their position. We will keep you informed.

## **Enrollment Period for 2007-2008**

The enrollment period for the CIAC Officials' Association will be June 1, 2007-September 1, 2007. The board agreed that this enrollment period would work for all groups. The board emphasized that all groups should be prepared to pay their CIAC membership fees during the enrollment period so the 2007-2008 budget can be finalized in a timely manner.

## **Action Plan for Goals and Issues Identified by Officials' Groups**

These issues are being brought to the attention of the schools in the following ways:

- Periodic e-mails to Athletic Directors.
- Important items are brought to the attention of the Board of Control of the Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors by Joe Tonelli.
- Pertinent issues are brought to the attention of the sports committees by the official who represents that particular sport.
- Pertinent issues are brought to the attention of the CIAC Board of Control by the official who represents the CIAC Officials' Association.

All agreed that we are making progress in addressing these concerns.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Recruitment Committee**

The board directed Joe Tonelli to form a Recruitment Committee. The main charge of this committee will be to increase the number of officials in all sports. Joe reported that we have several volunteers for this committee and asked the board to recommend additional members. We will also seek the support of coaches, athletic directors, sports committees, and the colleges to enhance our efforts.

### **Large Meetings**

The board suggested that we schedule separate meetings this year for the following groups:

- Secretary/Treasurers
- Commissioners
- Interpreters

The purpose of these meetings is to seek the input of those individuals who hold leadership positions in their respective organizations to ensure that the CIAC Officials' Association is meeting their needs. Also, it will provide the opportunity for these individuals to share information that can be helpful for all groups. In addition, it will provide a forum for updating the leadership of the respective organizations on the current work of the CIAC Officials' Association and future initiatives. It was suggested that next year we schedule a meeting for all board Presidents.

## **NFHS Rules Surveys**

Each season the NFHS conducts on-line rules surveys and requests a designated number of coaches and officials from each state to participate. We want ensure that the individuals whose names we submit to the NFHS participate in the survey in order to have maximum input in the rules that govern each sport.

## **Reps. for Future CIAC Board of Control Meetings**

January 18, 2007 – Hank Luzzi; February 15, 2007 – to be named; March 15, 2007 – Jane Dahle; April 26, 2007 – to be named; May 24, 2007 – to be named. Advisory Board members who are available for the open dates should contact Joe Tonelli at (203) 250-1111.

## **Expenditures from the budget allocation**

The board approved the followings expenditures: \$200 per sport reimbursement for the state interpreter/board or his/her designee to attend the NFHS national rules interpretation meeting. This individual, upon returning from the meeting, will provide the necessary paper work to Joe Tonelli confirming their attendance; Approved the concept of spending some funds to print brochures to promote high school officiating for the purpose of recruiting more officials in all sports; Approved a sponsorship for the IAABO International Convention that will take place in Mystic Connecticut in April. These expenditures, and all future expenditures, require approval by the Advisory Board.

## **Around the Table**

**Frank Begen and Lucy Goodrich** praised the CIAC Board of Control and said they were very impressed with the meetings they attended. To have input at that level is a plus for all officials in the state; **Jane Dahle** said she would check her schedule to see if she could attend a future CIAC Board Meeting; **Ray Faustich** stated that he will be attending the NFHS baseball rules interpretation meeting in Indianapolis and will then meet with the interpreters of all baseball boards to ensure consistency throughout the state. **David Leete** thanked the CIAC for informing athletic directors about the fees for league tournaments that are specified in the CIAC Handbook for all sports; **George Ford** clarified that the swim fees for league tournaments depend on how the meets are structured; **Barry Fowler** asked the procedure for changing CIAC by laws and stated that he felt the CIAC Officials' Association is progressing well; **Terry Shanbacher** added that in his opinion the association has accomplished much more in a short time than anyone could have expected. As a result the State Board of soccer officials (CSOA) voted unanimously to enroll all 600 soccers officials in the CIAC Officials' Association for 2007-2008. Terry also mentioned the change in daylight savings time starting in 2007 – Daylight savings time starts the 2nd Sunday of March and ends the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in November. **Kevin Homgren** stated that the Wrestling officials are also on board and appreciated the support of CIAC when needed: Hank Luzzi emphasized the importance of getting the leadership of all groups together, especially the Secretary/Treasurers, to share ideas. He also thanked the group for the support of CIAC and the Officials' Association for the international convention; and Lev Torgerson, Sr. distributed a recruiting brochure from the National Ice Hockey Officials' Association (NIHOA) as an example of what we might be able to do in Connecticut to get more officials.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.