

CIAC OFFICIALS' ADVISORY BOARD

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

February 12, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gloria Bellucci, Chris Burns, John Chernovetz, Ray Faustich, Pat Javorski, Jay Kelleher, Dave Leete, Joe Miller, Kelly Murphy, Carl Pignone, Lev Torgerson, Terry Scanbacher, Dan Scavone, CAAD President Elect / Official and Joe Tonelli, CIAC Staff

ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

On a motion by Dave Leete, the minutes of October 16, 2014 were approved.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

3,895 individual officials occupy 4,996 officiating slots. 2220 officials are members of the NFHS Officials Association.

CT BOARDS USING ARBITER ASSIGNING PROGRAM

The Northwest Corner Softball Board applied and received the standing grant for becoming a first time Arbiter Assigning Program user. They have already received their \$250 grant. The total distributed in the CIAC Officials Association Grant Program has reached \$12,000. This program was a huge success and contributed to many excellent programs initiated by the local boards for the benefit of their members and the schools they service.

FINANCIAL UPDATE – MULTI-SPORT REFUNDS

Joe T reported that \$2,500 was distributed to the multi – sport officials who are enrolled in 3 or more sports. These officials increase the officiating pool. Encouraging officials to pick up another sport was the first goal of the Sub Committee on Recruitment and Retention of Officials. Some individuals work 4, 5 or 6 sports. Providing an honorarium to clinicians and mileage reimbursement for the preseason rules meetings for coaches, is another initiative and financial investment that has reaped numerous benefits for schools, enhances the relationship between officials and coaches and keeps the lines of communication open so everyone can be on the same page relative to NFHS rules. Thus far in 2014-15, we have invested \$5,500 for these rules meetings and NFHS rule interpreters meetings. It is money well spent.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Dan Scavone, president of CAAD mentioned that he is plans to speak to the athletic directors at the state-wide AD at the end of March about ways to reduce non weather relative changes. Some important concepts that Dan will emphasize are as follows: Anticipate non school days, holidays, S.A.T and A.C.T Testing dates, exams, major school events and other school issues that could affect the game time so the times are reflected accurately in the original schedule; Finalizing the scheduling details with your opponents in accordance with the posted deadlines; Resolving remaining conflicts during the designated "conflicts period". Dan will also

stress that AD's cannot let their fall schedules sit idle throughout the summer and then make numerous changes when they return to work in the fall. He will explain the extra work it causes for the assigners. Dan will also stress the importance of checking Arbiter to be sure officials have been assigned to your game, especially on a change.

OLD BUSINESS / INFORMATION ITEMS

ARBITER MEETING

Matt Fischer attended a two day conference with Arbiter in Utah. Matt also had a private meeting with the Arbiter executives to make a definitive decision on what registration program CIAC should use for Officials Association membership to best serve needs of the CIAC Officials Association. We provided the Arbiter Exec's with our current program that Matt custom designed to meet our registration needs and provide other valuable reports. Clark Evans, the COO of Arbiter concluded that since our program meets our needs and it is very well designed, that it would not be wise for us to incur a per official cost to switch to their program. All agreed that with some additional enhancements to our membership registration program it would be best for us to continue to use our current custom system.

Matt also learned something new about Arbiter Pay. The originator of the Refpay system was an account and a referee. He created the system to expedite the payment of officials and create a more secure way for officials to receive their game payments. Arbiter offered to send him to Ct in the future to speak to the leadership of the officials to further explain the benefits of this payment system.

PRESEASON COACHES' RULES MEETINGS FOR SPRING COACHES

These rules clinics are being finalized and will be posted on line and emailed to athletic directors.

NFHS ONLINE RULE INTERPRETERS MEETINGS

Many of our rule interpreters continue to take part in these meeting to get the new rules from the national interpreters and rules editors. This is an important first step in meeting the worthy goal that we borrowed from IABBO basketball officials, "One rule-one interpretation".

NFHS FREE CONCUSSION COURSE

The CIAC Officials Association website provides access to a free NFHS Concussion Course that can be shown to all boards or better yet each individual official can chose to take the 25 minute course. It will provide good information for your members.

CAS – CIAC HALL OF HONOR NOMINATIONS

Joe T reported that he received 2 nomination forms from officials groups for the first year of the Hall of Honors program. Since both nominations were approved by their respective executive boards Joe T passed them along to Steve Wysowski who heads up this initiative. It was agreed that we would not make the names of the nominee's public in case they are not selected. All nominees are screened by an initial screening committee and the final selections are made by a second committee. The first induction dinner will be held in the fall of 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

NASO BOOKLET -STRONG SAFETY

This excellent resource gives some good ideas that officials can incorporate to help enhance their safety, before, during and after games. Officials should work together with schools and site directors but they should also advocate for themselves in this regard.

CONCUSSION MEMO TO SPRING INTERPRETERS

Joe T sent an important reminder to all spring sport interpreters to review the signs and symptoms of concussion as stated in the NFHS rule book, the concussion cards that have been distributed to all officials and the concussion protocol for all officials.

ARTICLES AND OTHER INFORMATION IN THE MEETING PACKET

- Background Checks – Boston Globe Article
 - Rhode Island Article
 - Leg Maintenance: Protecting your Quads and Hamstrings
 - Concussion Cards
 - Oklahoma City Public Schools v Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association
 - Court ruling on a temporary restraining order and/or a temporary injunction
 - Newspaper article on new basketball rules
-

AROUND THE TABLE

Jay Kelleher asked if any other sport had any issues with athletic trainers during games with regards to complaining about calls that should be made by the refs. No other sport could share any negative experiences. For the most part it was felt the officials and the trainers enjoyed a good working relationship. Bud Chernovetz asked if CIAC gathered information on technical fouls, aside from situations where 2 T's are called on the same player or coach, resulting in a DQ. Joe T said that CIAC does not chart that but suggested that if a particular player or coach seems to be getting several T's that boards should follow the protocol and contact the athletic director of the school. A few individuals commented on the number of schedule changes that was discussed earlier in the meeting and the group appreciated the willingness of Dan Scavone to assist with this issue. Donna Vavrinc complimented the athletic directors in the schools she services for field hockey for their excellent cooperation in rescheduling postponed games to dates when she was able to provide officials.

Ray Faustich, speaking on behalf of the Advisory Board, acknowledged that this was the 10th Anniversary of the restructured CIAC Officials Association. Ray had some very nice things to say about the accomplishments of the Advisory Board and the initiatives that assisted the local boards and their respective officials. He emphasized the excellent working relationship that exists between the officials groups and the CIAC staff. To commemorate the 10th Anniversary, Jadwiga Brown, the Administrative Assistant to the officials association pulled off a "Gotcha" on her boss by having the Advisory Board members present Joe T with a clever caricature highlighted the 10th Anniversary.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm. The next meeting of the CIAC Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2015 @ 4:00 PM @ CIAC. The state- wide meeting will be held on Thursday, June 18, 2015. Food 5 P.M - Meeting start time 5:30 P.M