

# CIAC OFFICIALS' ADVISORY BOARD ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

May 10, 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Gloria Bellucci, Chris Burns (Swimming), Ray Faustich (Baseball), Patricia Javorski (Girls Lacrosse & Field Hockey), Jay Kelleher (Football), Hank Koritkoski (Softball), Dave Leete (Boys Lacrosse), Joe Delbuono (Soccer) for Joe Miller, Lev Torgerson (Ice Hockey), Ray Vanacore for Hank Luzzi (Basketball), Kelly Murphy (Wrestling), Melissa Zigmont (Gymnastics) Dan Scavone, Consultant and Joe Tonelli, CIAC Staff

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## **ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

On a motion by Joe Delbuono, the minutes of February 13, 2018 were approved.

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## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

3,812 individual officials occupy 4,915 officiating slots. 2,222 officials are members of the NFHS Officials Association. In comparing these numbers with last year, we are down 100 members

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## **STATEWIDE MEETING**

The Advisory Board was invited to attend the state-wide meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2018. Sandwiches will be available at 5:00 pm and the meeting starts at 5:30 pm. The email invitations will be sent to all boards. There can be 2 reps from each board, not counting the CIAC Advisory Board members. Since we plan to focus on "recruitment, training and retention issues", and with the approval of the advisory board, we are going to suggest to the boards that one of their two (2) reps be the new officials contact. Either the person that responds to potential candidates or the person that trains them.

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## **JOEL COOKSON – Director, CIAC Media Relations**

Joel told the group that he would like to write positive articles about officials and asked for their help in identifying officials who would be willing to write about why they became a sports official and the positive benefits they gained through officiating high school sports. He distributed his business card and asked that they contact him with names and he would follow up directly with them.

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## **ATHLETIC DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Dan mentioned that at the CAAD conference in March, the recruitment of officials was mentioned in 3 separate sessions in order to raise the awareness of the need for more officials. A pitch was made to solicit their help to identify students or faculty that may be interested in becoming a high school official. Joe spoke about it at the CIAC workshop; Dan Scavone and Diane Callis spoke about it at two

other sessions. Dan also told the group about two excellent recruitment programs he attended. One was the SWC Leadership Conference for underclassmen where he teamed up with Bill Vasaturo, a three - sport official and Marie Lavin, a volleyball assigner. Dan also attended a career day at St. Thomas Moore Prep School. On both occasions he had the opportunity to distribute brochures, promote interest in officiating and answer questions.

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## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **PRESEASON RULES MEETINGS FOR COACHES**

Officials' groups should send the dates of their fall preseason rules meetings for coaches to Joe Tonelli as soon as you can confirm them with the leagues and schools you service.

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## **NEW BUSINESS / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **CIAC OFFICIALS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2018-2019**

Fall Meeting – Thursday, October 18, 2018;

Winter – Wednesday, February 2019;

Spring – Thursday, May 9, 2019

*All Advisory Board Meetings start at 4:00 P.M.*

State – wide meeting – June 13, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M.

### **NFHS ONLINE AND IN-PERSON RULE INTERPRETERS MEETING SCHEDULE 2018-19**

The list of meetings was distributed. It was noted that Field Hockey, Volleyball, Soccer, Football, Girls Gymnastics and Swimming & Diving will have in person meetings in Indianapolis this year and there will be no online meetings in these sports. All others will have on line meetings as in the past. Each year, the plan is to have some sports hold in person meetings on a rotating basis and when the cycle is completed, evaluate these meetings to determine the schedule moving forward. The CIAC Officials Association will reimburse the CIAC state interpreter for these important meetings.

### **NFHS RULES APPS**

Members of the NFHS Officials Association will be able to access free rules apps during the 2018-19 season. This will be explained at the state - wide meeting.

### **Dr KARISSA NIEHOFF NAMED THE NEW NFHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

CAS -CIAC Executive Director, Dr Karissa Niehoff was recently named the new NFHS Executive Director, effective August 1, 2018. She replaces Bob Gardner who is retiring. This is a great honor for Karissa and the state of Ct. She will surely be missed by all of us, but we now have friends in high places. Karissa was very supportive of all officials which was very much appreciate. A search for her replacement is currently underway and the goal is to have a new CAS-CIAC Executive Director in place in the near future.

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## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **PLANNING FOR THE STATE-WIDE MEETING**

The board discussed some ideas for the state-wide meeting agenda. The goal is to provide food and some socialization...start the meeting on time...provide some important information...share some important information and best practices in the recruitment, retention and training of officials and other related topics of interest and get them headed for home at a reasonable time.

### **AROUND THE TABLE**

We did a brief around the table which always produces some interesting information

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:50 P.M. The Next meeting is the state-wide meeting – Thursday, June 14, 2018.

**5:00 P.M. – Sandwiches**

**5:30 P.M. – Meeting begins**