

**CIAC Officials' Association  
Advisory Board Minutes  
October 12, 2006**

**Members Present:** Rose Carlucci, Jane Dahle, Ray Faustich, George Ford, Barry Fowler, Kevin Holmgren, Dave Leete, Tony Barbaro for Hank Luzzi, Terry Schanbacher for Joe Miller, Frank Begen, Fred Colosimo for Barbara Startup and Lev Torgerson. All sports were represented. *CIAC Rep, Joe Tonelli, welcomed the group. Introduction of members followed. Paul Hoey and Tony Mosa from the CIAC Executive Staff also attended part of the meeting.*

**ACTION ITEMS / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Approved the minutes of May 16, 2006 –

Motion - Ray Faustich, Second – Ro Carlucci, Action – Passed

**Discussed a general action plan to accomplish the goals of the CIAC Officials' Association for 2006 – 2007.**

As we reviewed each goal, we were pleased to note that we have already taken steps to help meet many of these goals. Ro Carlucci suggested that we continue to work on a definitive action plan to ensure that we address all the goals to our satisfaction. All agreed, and the specific plan will be formulated with input from the board and reviewed by the Advisory Board.

**Discussed an action plan to address the issues that were identified by the various officials' boards.** CIAC is committed to working with the Advisory Board and the local boards to make progress in these areas. We will approach these issues in a similar manner to accomplishing our goals, by formulating a specific action plan. Some initiatives have already begun to address some of the issues, and the progress made was mentioned by several members of the board. The e-mails sent to all athletic directors, and communication by Joe Tonelli at CAAD Board of Control meetings, are two excellent communication vehicles through which some of these issues can be brought to the attention of the schools and leagues.

**Financial Report** – A detailed report, listing all income and expenses to date, was distributed to the Advisory Board. The total income as of 10-12-06 is \$27,680 and the expenses totaled \$891.58. Invoices were sent on October 10<sup>th</sup> to the groups that owe the enrollment fee. We should know the total income from enrollment by early November.

**Budget for 2006 – 2007** – The budget process for the CIAC Officials' Association will be as follows: The budget will be built by a sub committee of the Advisory Board, who will work with Joe Tonelli and Paul Hoey from the CIAC staff. The budget will then be presented to the Advisory Board for approval. The budget, when approved by the board, will be posted on the CIAC Officials' Association webpage for the benefit of the membership.

**Membership report** – The CIAC Officials' Association membership figures have surpassed last year, and has exceeded everyone's expectations in the first year with a membership fee. The total number of officials enrolled in all sports is 3758. We are pleased to report that we have 100% enrollment from the officials in the following 9 sports: Baseball, Basketball, Ice Hockey, Field Hockey, Girls Lacrosse, Gymnastics, Swimming, Volleyball, and Wrestling. In addition, we have registered 388 softball umpires, which represent the entire membership in 13 out of 14 boards. Also, we have enrolled 420 football officials, which represent the entire membership in 5 out of 6 boards. In boys' lacrosse, there are two officials' groups, and we have enrolled all members in the largest group (98 officials). Finally, in soccer, we have enrolled 276 referees, mostly from 4

of the 6 boards. We will continue enroll officials in the 4 sports where we have not achieved 100% membership. The committee thanks the officials for their tremendous support.

**Membership cards / Enrollment Period** – Membership cards for 2006-2007 have been mailed. Within a month, we will begin to process the refunds for multi sport officials who are enrolled in 3 or more sports. Thanks for your patience in this period of adjustment for your local boards and CIAC. Local boards will have to adjust their timelines in order for the enrollment process to run efficiently in the future. To guarantee that all officials receive their cards before the first game next fall, and to ensure that multi sport officials have all their sports listed on one card and get their refunds in a timely, we will need all rosters by September 1, at the latest. It was noted that Basketball is a winter sport that has more than 1,000 members and baseball is a spring sport with over 800 umpires and they are able to meet this suggested deadline. Both groups are very well organized, and they submitted their rosters and payment through their respective State Board Secretary/ Treasurer in mid July. By planning ahead and making a membership renewal decision this year for 2007-2008, we think it is doable for all your boards. The Advisory Board will discuss the details for this at the January 9<sup>TH</sup> meeting, but it is necessary to give the fall sports advanced notice.

**CIAC Officials' Association Webpage** – Thanks to Matt Fischer, we now have our own webpage that can be linked from the [www.casciac.org](http://www.casciac.org) website. The CIAC Officials' Association web address is [www.casciac.org/ciacofficials.shtml](http://www.casciac.org/ciacofficials.shtml). We would like to link State Boards and/or Local boards from our webpage to yours. Send your sport, board name, and URL address to [samos@casciac.org](mailto:samos@casciac.org) and Matt will make this happen.

**Preseason rule interpretations meetings** – These meeting are now mandatory for the Head Coach or his/her designee. CIAC will be lenient with schools and coaches during the adjustment period, but a significant increase in attendance is expected. CIAC needs the dates, times, and sites for all meetings in all sports. We would like to establish some deadlines for sports to submit the dates to CIAC for these rules clinics for coaches.

Fall - By June 1; Winter – By October 1; Spring – By February 1. This will allow ample time for proper notification and should result in increased attendance.

**Advisory Board Meeting Schedule:** The Advisory Board will meet a minimum of 3 times per year. The next meeting is January 9<sup>th</sup> @ 4: 00 pm at CIAC.

**CIAC Board of Control** – The CIAC Officials' Association is now permitted to have a consultant on the CIAC Board to give officials a “voice” in all CIAC decisions. Initially, we decided to send 2 different reps to each monthly meeting to orient all members to the workings of the CIAC Board of Control. Thus far, George Ford, Dave Leete, Ray Faustich, and Lucy Goodrich have attended. Lev Torgerson and Kevin Holmgren will represent the association at the October meeting.

**Parameters for sending information through the CIAC technology system** – Only information that will further the interests of the CIAC Officials' Association, its members, and high school sports can be sent via the CIAC technology system. Matt Fischer, the Director of Communication and Information, is responsible for ensuring that all organizations adhere to this policy.

**Recruitment of Officials** – Included on the CIAC webpage will be a recruiting piece entitled, “Do you want to be a High School Sports Official”. The Advisory Board approved it and gave CIAC permission to list phone numbers and e-mails for the contact people in each sport. This will help point interested prospective officials in the right direction.

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

**Assault Bill** – Representative Paul Davis, a candidate for re-election in the 117<sup>th</sup> District (Milford, Orange, and West Haven) and a swim coach and official for many years is committed to introducing legislation in the upcoming session. Hopefully, he will be re-elected to another term so he can continue to pursue this much needed legislation to protect sports officials, coaches, and teachers, all of whom will most likely be part of any proposed bill. It was also mentioned by Terry Schanbacher that if we are successful with this legislation, we should pursue a limited liability statute to further protect sports officials.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Budget Committee** – The budget committee will include the following members of the Advisory Board who volunteered to serve: Rose Carlucci, George Ford, Dave Leete and Hank Luzzi. The committee will meet in early November.

**Insurance Committee** – This committee will investigate group liability insurance for CIAC Officials' Association members to determine if a lower rate can be obtained by including all officials under one policy. The Advisory Board member on the committee will be Frank Begen (Softball). Other members from the Officials' Association membership include: Ed Carboni (football), Jim Tebo (soccer), Bob O'Dea (basketball), Rich Coyle (baseball) and Dave Kershaw (Hockey). Others may be added; since we need all the help we can get on this topic.

The committee will try for a noon meeting in early November or sooner. If you know an official, especially in the sports not already represented, who has some expertise in the insurance area, and can make a 12 noon meeting, we would be happy to add them to the committee.

**Around the table** – Tony Barbaro complimented the work of the association and also mentioned the insurance IAABO is considering; George Ford suggested that schools have W-9 forms for an official to complete for their school system and an envelope to secure this info; Lev Torgerson, in speaking of the improved communication, said that it is already working in hockey with our recent e-mail to hockey regarding an editing clarification in the rules; Terry Schanbacher said that we should let everyone know that practically all officials in the state have joined CIAC. He said the progress the association has made is way ahead of where he thought we would be at this time; Dave Leete stated that some of his officials are still waiting for payment from the spring. (CIAC is looking for boards to identify these schools so the problem can be addressed); Kevin Holmgren mentioned that the Wrestling officials leadership is so supportive of the CIAC Officials' Assoc. and confident that their membership will also support it, that they enrolled and made payment in advance of their full membership meeting; Rose Carlucci mentioned that it will be helpful to have a standard format for submitting the excel file to Matt Fischer, and she also received the new rule clarifications from CIAC; Frank Begen stated that one of his softball umpires works for the Speaker and may be able to help with the Assault Bill; Fred Colisimo stated that the leadership of their board were convinced that the Officials' Association would be beneficial to the Volleyball Officials, and they made the decision for their members to join. He said the interaction on the Advisory Board is beneficial, since sharing common problems would not be possible without the CIAC Officials Association. These comments are very encouraging and lend credence to our collective efforts to benefit the officials and high school sports. There is much work to be done!

**Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm. Respectfully submitted, Joe Tonelli

**Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2007 @ 4:00 PM @ CIAC.**