

CIAC OFFICIALS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

October 14, 2010

Members Present: Melissa Arms, Jane Dahle, Ray Faustich, George Ford, Barry Fowler, Hank Koritkoski, Dave Leete, Hank Luzzi, Joe DelBuono (for Joe Miller), Dom D'Aurio (for Barbara Startup), Lev Torgerson and Joe Tonelli, CIAC

ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

On a motion by Hank Koritkoski the minutes of May 12, 2010 were approved.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

4,025 individual officials occupy 5,009 officiating slots. 1,376 officials are members of the NFHS Officials Association.

BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2010-11

Hank Luzzi reported on the budget committee meeting that took place earlier in the day. Hank, George Ford and Dave Leete proposed a balanced budget that reflects anticipated income of \$52,700 from CIAC membership dues and actual expenses at \$52,7000. Hank proposed that an additional \$14,500 be allocated as a direct result of the CIAC subsidy to cover the NFHS interpretation meetings; the recruitment brochures and special projects. The CIAC Officials Association continues to have a solid financial base. Hank mentioned that under new business we will discuss a new initiative to redirect funds back to the state and local boards for programs that will benefit their members or the schools they serve. On a motion by Ray Faustich the 2010-11 budget was approved.

NEW RECRUITMENT BROCHURE

The new brochure was distributed. It is an excellent public relations piece. The brochures are available at Dick's Sporting Goods stores and other public forums. Joe DelBuono mentioned that he thinks most people learn about officiating from the on-line brochure rather than the printed copy. He suggested that groups survey their new members to ask how they initially learned about officiating to access whether the brochure should be professional printed every year or done away with completely.

OLD BUSINESS/INFORMATION ITEMS

PRESEASON RULES MEETINGS/WINTER AND SPRING DATES

Joe Tonelli requested the winter sports rules meeting dates for coaches. He encouraged boards to accommodate leagues, when possible.

EJECTION REPORTS

It is important that the disqualifying official file the DQ Report on the CIAC form that can be downloaded at www.ciacofficialsassociation.org

NFHS ONLINE RULES MEETING

The rules meetings held on line were very informative. The dates for the January meeting were distributed. The Advisory Board agreed that the CIAC Officials Association will reimburse the attendees for their mileage.

CIAC BOARD OF CONTROL MEETINGS

Reps for the CIAC Board Meetings. All meetings are at 2:00 PM

Nov. 18 Don D'Aurio March 31 Lev Torgerson

Dec. 22 Ray Faustich April 28 Barry Fowler

Jan. 20 Dave Leete May 19 Joe Miller

Feb 17 George Ford

Please mark your calendars and let me know if a conflict arises.

BACKGROUND CHECKS/BIRTHDATES/CONSENT FORMS/POLICY

The background checks will begin in late spring of 2011 for the 2011-12 season. In the initial year the checks will be done at no additional cost to the officials or the boards. An early start is necessary to attempt to avoid an official being eliminated during the season. A summary sheet that indicated the number of missing birthdates for each board was distributed. **All missing birthdates must be submitted to CIAC by April 1.** Consent forms and the background check policy can be downloaded on the www.ciacofficialsassociation.org website. Multi-sport officials are asked to sign the consent form for each board they are on, since it is the responsibility of each board to verify that all of their members have consented to the background check. The local boards will keep the forms on file.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS FOR SCHOOLS

At the request of one of the state boards, Joe T asked the advisory board to revisit the notion of having all the social security numbers in the CIAC database for schools to access with a password. After discussion and by unanimous consent, the board reaffirmed its previous position that providing schools access is too risky and not something that would be wise to do. Some of the board members believe that the situation has improved since CIAC has raised the awareness of the concerns regarding this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

STATE-WIDE MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting summary was distributed and it is posted online at www.ciacofficialsassociation.org. The meeting was well attended and successful.

CONCUSSION PROTOCOL FOR OFFICIALS

The concussion protocol was distributed and discussed at all of the online rules meetings. Concussion cards were also distributed. The concussion protocol clarifies the role of the officials and is consistent with the intent of the NFHS rule and in compliance with the state law. The protocol can be accessed under downloads at www.ciacofficialsassociation.org.

INCENTIVE GRANTS PROGRAM

Hank Luzzi mentioned in the budget report that incentive grants may be a vehicle through which the CIAC Officials Association can provide some start-up funds for local or state board programs that benefit their members or the schools they service. An excellent discussion took place and the general feeling of the Advisory Board is that it is an idea worth pursuing. It was decided to form a committee that will report back to the full board at the January meeting. Those that volunteered to serve were Melissa-Tot-Arms, Dom D'Aurio, Hank Koritkoski and Ray Faustich. We may add one or two more members. A few of the programs mentioned are as follows: Mentor Program, Arbiter Assigning Program, Evaluators, etc.

RULES INTERPRETATION MEETINGS FOR LEAGUES

We realize that it is a challenge, especially for boards that service the entire state to accommodate all leagues by sending an interpreter or a qualified official to provide a rules meeting, in conjunction with the league coaches meeting. However, the advisory board believes it is good PR to provide this service. The CIAC Officials' Association Advisory Board by unanimous consent, agreed to assist local boards in meeting this need by providing some financial assistance. We will provide an honorarium of \$50, plus mileage reimbursement, to any official that provides a rules meeting for coaches only. This decision is retroactive to the fall season.

NFHS Officials Association Membership Benefits

There are many benefits to joining the NFHS Officials Association aside from an excellent accident/access medical and liability insurance plan that covers officials for all sports they officiate in high school and for non-high school leagues. Detailed information about the NFHS Officials Association and the membership benefits can be accessed at www.nfhs.org. Click on “officials” and you can preview the many benefits of membership and the new education videos and program that are now available and continue to be developed.

UPCOMING NFHS ONLINE RULE INTERPRETERS MEETINGS

Jan. 19, 2011 Softball Interpreters

Jan. 20, 2011 Baseball Interpreters

Jan. 21, 2011 Track & Field Interpreters

Jan. 25, 2011 Boy’s Lacrosse Interpreters

Please let me know how many will be attending, since we provide pizza and soft drinks.

AROUND THE TABLE

Some of the items mentioned by the board members:

- Hank Koritkoski – The softball officials’ association merger in the Fairfield County was approved by the state board and should prove to be beneficial.
- Hank Luzzi – The CBCBO basketball board in the Waterbury area merged with the New Haven Basketball Board. All boards are now IAABO members.
- Barry Fowler – His football board is concerned that one school plays football games with no medical coverage. He also floated the idea that boards should consider funded an additional official for semifinal and final games to provide better coverage for these high caliber games.
- Lev Torgerson - Mentioned that long time hockey commissioner Joe Reilly is recuperating from heart surgery and is progressing nicely. He also mentioned that many good things are happening to benefit officials as a result of the CIAC Officials Association and the Advisory Board works well together.
- Ray Faustich – Expressed his belief that the scrimmage guidelines to compensate officials was a good start and he feels that it is time to negotiate definitive scrimmages fees. He also mentioned that he was pleased to be part of the background check committee and is pleased that this initiative will soon become a reality. He also stated that he was proud to be a member of the Advisory Board.
- George Ford and Melissa Arms – Mentioned that they have been talking to the CIAC Fees Committee about the changes that have been made over the years to the state meets that has increased the time commitment for officials without commensurate compensation. They were pleased that they have been provided the opportunity to present the information to CIAC.
- Several board members mentioned that many non high school leagues pay a higher game fee than sub-varsity high school games in several sports which makes it difficult for assigners to serve games.

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, January 27, 2011 @ 4:00 PM @ CIAC.**