

**CIAC OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Advisory Board Committee**  
**January 8, 2008**

**Members Present:** Frank Begen, Jane Dahle, Lorraine Duffy, Ray Faustich, George Ford, Barry Fowler, Lucy Goodridge, Brian Manzi for Kevin Holmgren, Dave Leete, Hank Luzzi, Joe Miller, Barbara Startup, Lev Torgerson, Guest Ed Carboni, and Joe Tonelli, CIAC. All sports were represented! Great Job!

**Action Items/Discussion Items**

- Approved the minutes of October 11, 2007.

Motion Hank, second Barry, action- carried.

- Distributed the membership report of January 8, 2008 which indicates that we surpassed 4,000 officials.
- Distributed the budget report and the income to date is \$40,610.00. Also reviewed the expenditures to date.
- Reported that \$1650.00 was refunded to multi-sport officials. All checks were mailed in the first week of January.
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**Old Business/information Items**

- The fall and winter rules meetings continue to experience increased attendance
- The Fairfield Basketball reported that they had 100% attendance at the rules meeting for the first time.
- Requested that the spring dates for rules meeting for coaches be submitted as soon as available and the earlier the better. Also, the goal is to publish the fall dates before the summer recess.
- Reviewed the dates for the NFHS interpreters meetings in January. Reported that Connecticut will be represented in all the applicable sports.
- Mentioned that the baseball and softball NFHS rules interpretations meetings will be held during the week of January 14<sup>TH</sup> in Indianapolis and CT will be represented in both sports.
- Noted that the girls and boys lacrosse rules interpretation meetings will be held in Philly in conjunction with the US Lacrosse National Convention. Our state interpreters will be in attendance.

**Ejection/DQ Reports Online**

- The new online reporting system for DQ's is working well. The key to the success of this initiative is for each of our 54 boards to designate one person, usually the commissioner, to receive the

reports from the game officials and then forward the reports to the CIAC. Our goal is to record every ejection on the freshman, JV, and varsity level. The principal and athletic director of the offending school will be notified on all ejections by CIAC. Spring officiating boards should begin to plan to handle this requirement and inform their members about the process.

- The Advisory Board Reps for the CIAC board was reviewed and updated.

January 17- George Ford; February 14- Frank Begen; March 20- Barry Fowler; April 24- Lev Torgerson; May 22- Dave Leete

### **Social Security Numbers**

- Distributed a letter from the Commissioner of Education to schools regarding the removal of student's social security numbers from health assessment records for privacy reasons. Although the topic of the Commissioner's memo is unrelated, we may be able to use the concept to present the plight of officials regarding security and privacy issues relative to their social security numbers to the schools.

### **Independent Contractor Status for Officials**

- Distributed the ruling from the IRS about the status of officials as an independent contractor.
- Distributed the two part interview that appeared in the IABBO Board #10 newsletter about the role of the CIAC Officials' Association.

### **New Business (Discussion)**

- Distributed the CIAC recognition standards for all boards which were approved by the CIAC OFFICIALS COMMITTEE on March 17, 1983. The standards were designed to serve two main purposes:  
To ensure that all official's groups are constituted and structured in a manner that will enhance their ability to serve their member schools. The theory was that all groups would submit evidence to illustrate the specific ways the board meets each standard; (2) to provide some protection for existing groups by establishing a set of standards that all groups must satisfy. It is the responsibility of the CIAC Officials Negotiating Committee, not the Officials' Association, to manage and oversee this initiative. The standards were developed in concert with the reps from all officials groups.

The Advisory Board suggested that the standards be completed online. Joe will pass that suggestion along.

- Background checks for officials have become a topic of discussion in recent years. None of our current officials groups require their members to have background checks. We will continue to periodically review this topic.
- Insurance coverage was discussed by our guest Ed Carboni. He explained that football investigated the Bollinger Plan for liability, access medical and directors and officers insurance. Ed reported that the switch to Bollinger provided all of the above mentioned coverages for the same amount of money that they paid for liability insurance only the previous year. The lowest premium is achieved when a group contains a minimum of 202 members. Ed distributed contact and premium info regarding the Bollinger Plan and offered to share what football experienced to any board who may be interested.

#### Around the Table

- Ed Carboni mentioned the tremendous TV coverage by CPTV and Channel 3 for the CIAC football playoffs. Two games were televised live and four others were televised tape delay. The telecasts were professionally done and received excellent ratings. He officiated one of the championship games and commented that the entire experience was great.
- Joe Miller thanked Ed for the insurance info and stated that soccer will investigate their current coverage as it compares to Bollinger.
- Ray mentioned some of the initiatives like the DQ reports, NFHS rules meetings etc. as example of the benefits of the CIAC Official's Association
- Lev mentioned that the hockey officials have to remain on the ice in order to move the goals for the zamdoni. He wondered if there was another way for rinks to accomplish this task so the officials can get to the locker room.
- Barry also mentioned the TV coverage and suggested that we should use the opportunity to recruit new officials. Barry also reminded Joe Tonelli that the Thanksgiving game fee which has been in place for many years needs to be clarified under 7.3 J in the CIAC Handbook for next year. Joe will take care of it.

- George emphasized that the recognition standards were not forced upon the officials by CIAC. They were developed with the blessing of the existing groups to protect the interests of the officials and to enhance quality officiating.
- Hank mentioned the difficulty in assigning officials when leagues play all their games on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Jane echoed Hanks' sentiments and said it is a major problem in field hockey where they only have 97 officials.
- Lucy praised to advisory board for sharing ideas of common interest and providing useful information for all official groups.
- Dave Leete shared the protocol he follows when the demand for officials surpasses his pool of officials.
- Lorraine's problem in gymnastics is compounded since they only have 20 judges.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.