

CIAC OFFICIALS' ADVISORY BOARD

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

May 14, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gloria Bellucci, Chris Burns, Ray Faustich, Pat Javorski, Jay Kelleher, Hank Koritkoski, , Dave Leete, Hank Luzzi, Joe Miller, Kelly Murphy, Steve Richetelli for Lev Torgerson, Dan Scavone (CAAD President) and Joe Tonelli, CIAC Staff.

ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

On a motion by Joe Miller the minutes of February 12, 2015 were approved.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

3956 individual officials occupy 5,089 officiating slots. Also, there are approximately 2,281 NFHS Officials Association members who obtain accident, medical and liability coverage along with many other benefits and on line access to a wealth of educational information relative to officiating. As members of the CIAC Officials Association, boards can enroll in the NFHS for a special rate of \$17 per member. To encourage membership the CIAC has a standing grant of \$250 to help defray the cost of membership in the first year. CIAC / NFHS Membership Fees for 2015-16 CIAC = \$13; NFHS = \$17 The membership year runs from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

STATE-WIDE MEETING

The Advisory Board was invited to attend the state-wide meeting on June 18, 2015. 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 and there can be 2 reps from each board.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

It is important when meeting with new candidates to provide them with a copy of the background check policy and the consent form. Both of these documents can be accessed on line at www.ciacofficialsassociation.org. Utilize this opportunity to get the full name of the new candidates, including their middle name or initial.

OLD BUSINESS

PRESEASON RULES MEETINGS FOR COACHES

Officials' groups should send the dates of their preseason rules meetings FOR COACHES to Joe Tonelli ASAP.

ARBITER PAY UPDATE

Joe T emphasized that the individual that developed "Repay", now known as "Arbiter Pay" was a basketball official who was an accountant executive by day and a ref at night. His goal was to develop a more secure way to provide social security numbers and other required info to schools, which was a prerequisite for

officials to receive payment for the game. This method of making payments to officials has been discussed on numerous occasions at NFHS meetings and it is an acceptable way for schools to pay officials as long as the schools provide the option that results in the full fee being deposited in their account. If this option is provided and the official chooses to receive a check, then the official is responsible for the \$5 service charge fee. The security of the Arbiter Pay system and the mechanics of the system will be discussed at the state wide meeting. In fact, Arbiter has offered to speak with the leadership of the officials groups in Connecticut in an effort to make you more aware of how the system works.

At the request of the leadership of the ice hockey officials, the CIAC experimented and used the "Arbiter Pay" system to pay the refs for the CIAC Ice Hockey Tournament. It worked out great. There were no issues and all the refs received payment immediately after the tournament. The CIAC business office is very pleased with the system which significantly reduced the time spent to accomplish the task of making payment to the game officials

NEW BUSINESS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

NFHS ON LINE RULE INTERPRETER'S MEETING DATES

Joe distributed the 2015-16 online interpreters meeting schedule and emphasized that interpreters will be able to register individually. The list will be part of the state wide meeting packet and Joe will be sending info to the fall sport interpreters.

CIAC OFFICIALS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2015-2016

Fall Meeting – October 15, 2015;

Winter – February 11, 2015;

Spring – May 12, 2016;

State – wide meeting – June 16, 2016

DISCUSSION ITEMS / SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES

The following topics were discussed by the Advisory Board for the purpose of sharing information: How do boards address "conflict of interest" in making game assignments? Does your board charge officials for turning back games after acceptance? Do you permit schools to block any officials, prior to the season? How does your board hold officials accountable for missing deadlines, meeting attendance, missing assignments, inappropriate conduct at games and rules errors? Many interesting ideas surfaced which provided food for thought?

AROUND THE TABLE

Some additional questions and thoughts surfaced as we went around the table pertaining to the following topics: Dealing with officials who think they are better than others perceive them...one suggestion was to have an observer evaluate this individual and give him an honest assessment. It was mentioned that having Dan Scavone, President of CAAD attend the advisory board meetings has proven to be a very positive thing and leads to further enhancing the working relationship between officials and member schools. The mention of observers led to a discussion as to the number of observers on the various boards and what boards pay observers. It was also mentioned that an article appeared in the Boston Globe regarding Massachusetts starting background checks.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m. The next CIAC Officials Association meeting will be the state-wide meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2015. Sandwiches will be available at 5:00pm and the meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Officials Assoc. Advisory Board is Thursday, October 15, 2015