

NDOA Board Meeting Valley City, 9/21/08

President Donna Hutchison called the meeting to order @ 11:47 AM with Richard Peterson, Ron Wright, Mike Schmitt, Troy Huber, Dennis Reep and Greg Selbo attending.

President Hutchison welcomed all and especially new board member, Richard Peterson.

Selbo moved to approve minutes of the February meeting. Second by Huber and motion carried.

A discussion concerning the upcoming board term vacancies and representation was held. Geography, sport representation and registration in one sport of a board member's portfolio were brought forward for consideration.

The board welcomes nominations or personal requests from individuals who would like to serve on the NDOA Board. Three board positions will be open for next year: northwest where Mike Schmitt serves and is eligible to run again; northeast where Donna Hutchison serves and is not eligible to run again and southeast where Greg Selbo serves and is not eligible to run again.

Donna Hutchison and Ron Wright will serve as the NDOA nominating representatives.

The Board thoroughly discussed the shortage of officials in North Dakota. Another concern is the average age of the officials in the state seems to be considerably older than in the past. Below are some ideas brought forward to help organize retention and recruiting:

1. Officials' Recruiting week; Tuesday, October 14 is National Officials Day
 - a. Newspapers
 - b. Radio & TV
 - c. Posters to colleges and high schools
 - d. Brochures
 - e. Parks & Recreation departments
 - f. One-on-one recruiting
 - i. Retired people
 - ii. People from the business community
 - iii. Schools; teachers and students
2. CLARIFY - Local recruiting emphasis for fall, winter and spring sports seasons
3. Emphasis to the schools of the NDHSAA that recruiting help from school personnel is imperative
4. Officials or people need to see there is "protection/support" for them

The Sub-varsity Officiating Program organized by the NDIAAA, NDHSCA, NDOA and NDHSAA is under way. There are a few adjustments to make to improve for next year, but it appears it will serve a need for our schools. See below:

Sub-Varsity Registered Officials: Qualified to officiate contests below the JV level.

- a. Workshop - required
- b. Registration Fee (\$28) - required

JV Football may use Sub-Varsity Registered officials.

Rationale for the 2nd level of officiating:

- Meet the needs of schools not able to hire registered officials for contests.
- Some training of officials will help protect a school in the area of liability issues.
- Better knowledge of officiating for officials within our communities.
- Knowledge of NDHSAA rules for officiating.
- Schools can help recruit officials to work in their schools and provide them minimal training.
- It will be better for the game and all involved

* The board reminds officials that looking good in your uniform as an important step in being a good official. Take pride in your appearance.

Active Officials' Awards – Baseball, Mark Wisnewski, Lidgerwood; Boys' Basketball, Dave Klundt, Fargo; Girls' Basketball, Larry Grondahl, Williston; Football, Don Wick, New Town; Gymnastics, Karen Dahlseng, Fargo; Hockey, Tom Mikelson, Thompson; Soccer, Brent Geiss, Bismarck; Swimming, Grant Richardson, Fargo; Volleyball, Maureen Groth, Gackle; Wrestling, Darin Luther, Williston. Schmitt moved to accept the Active Officials' Awards. Second by Selbo and motion carried.

Selbo noted the cost of living increase according to COLA is approximately 5% and moved the officials' fee schedule be increased by 2.5% Second by Reep. Motion carried.

Schmitt moved to induct Duane "Bud" Schmitz, Dent, MN; Jan Adair, Moorhead, MN; and Larry Ukestad, Jamestown, ND into the NDOA Hall of Fame. Second by Wright and motion carried.

The next board meeting will be held Sunday, February 15th at noon in the NDHSAA Office in Valley City. Board meetings are open and people are welcome. Please contact a board member or Dave Carlsrud in advance to be on the agenda.

It was reported that the online testing is working well despite the tests being a little late the day because 100 questions went up instead of 50. The change was made and the tests went online by mid afternoon after which things went well.

The Board recommends the online tests be more readily printable so a hard copy can be taken on the road for completion after which it would be entered online.

** The board discussed the possibilities of football camps similar to one that has been held in Sioux Falls the past few years. Officials are provided classroom opportunities with peers and guest speakers as well as on-field work. If there are officials who would be interested in helping develop such a camp, please contact Dave at the NDHSAA Office.

Huber moved to have an "official football" adopted for use in North Dakota. Second by Reep and motion carried.

President Hutchison declared meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Carlsrud