

**NDOA Board Meeting
Via Teleconference
2/15/09**

President Donna Hutchison called the meeting to order at noon with Richard Peterson, Troy Huber, Dennis Reep, Mike Schmitt, Ron Wright and Greg Selbo participating.

Minutes of the previous meeting were e-mailed to the board for approval. Selbo moved approval and second by Reep. Motion passed.

The Board recognized that we are approaching critical levels in the number of officials available to cover the NDHSAA sponsored competitions. Some experienced officials move on to higher levels of competition (i.e., college) making them less available for high school competitions. Some experienced officials are approaching retiring from active officiating. It has been difficult to fill positions with younger persons for various reasons, including what is perceived to be negative influences from parents/fans at events, refusal of experienced officials to “give up” a big game or a full complement of games, and compensation. Recruiting new officials has to be everyone’s responsibility, from the school’s AD’s, coaches and current officials. NDOA desires to establish a program that will be on-going to retain current officials and recruit new.

The board discussed options for the retention and recruitment of officials.

Some action item possibilities are:

Promote the positives about officiating - Work to reduce the negatives

Officials promoting officiating through presentations at schools & groups

Officials’ & one-on-one recruiting

Locating college students who might be interested in becoming officials

Contact city league officials who are recommended by supervisors

Secure help from AD’s with scheduling games overlapping with bigger club events

Present at AD and Coaches’ meetings

Utilize “high profile” officials with North Dakota ties PSA’s radio and TV

Some possibilities may be: Joel Heitkamp

Mike Schmitt

Thor Nelson

Gary Cederstom

Mike Cannon

Phil Hanson

Mike Deutsch

Milo Moyano

Mentoring by “seasoned” or retired officials

Check national promotions on which to “piggy-back”

Brochures and posters – Troy is designing

Emphasize at all rules clinics

TV interviews – Ron Wright is contacting Jon Cole and Richard is contacting Joel Heitkamp

“Recruit Officials Blitz” (ROB) July 26 – August 1 and September 27 – October 3

Positive news releases

Every current official: invite two people to begin officiating

Ron Wright reported on the possibility of having a football officials' camp in conjunction with a team camp at VCSU June 12 & 13, 2009. Wright moved to go forward with camp plans; second by Reep Motion carried.

Dave reported the softball workshops in Fargo, Grand Forks and Bismarck are being organized for this spring's season.

The following officials were recognized and are thanked for 20 years of service: Arden Anderson, Karen Ashley, Frank Conlon, Connie Courtney, Randy Deckert, Nancy Deutsch, Scott Ellis, Kevin Evenson, Steve Glasser, Jim Glasser, Greg Grooters, Rick Hedberg, Casey Henderson, Greg Johnson, Darin Keller, Brian Keller, Todd Miller, Mike Nider, Wendy Peters, Terry Quintas, Wade Zahn and Marvin Zerr.

The following officials were recognized and are thanked for 25 years of service: Dave Achen, Greg Bohrer, Chuck Bokinski, Carl Buechler, Kip Erickson, Jim Ladbury, Dave LaDouceur, Scott McPherson, Doug Nelson, Melton Olin, Dennis Smith, Tim Steinwand, Kevin Sundre and John Tschider.

The board discussed the sub-varsity basketball fees. Troy Huber (chairman), Richard Peterson and Ron Wright will research further and report at the September meeting.

The Board discussed the Day Camp requirement for basketball. Because there was a lack of numbers some camps were cancelled and created hardships for a few officials who chose to wait until the last year to fulfill the "once-every-three-year" requirement. The Board does not recommend a change in the rules requiring participation in a camp every three years to be eligible for assignments to regional or state events. The NDOA Board is of the opinion that it is the personal responsibility of each official to meet the requirements. NDHSAA authorizes but does not sponsor Day Camps.

Reep moved to nominate Brad Nold for the Northeast, Don Martindale for the Southeast representatives vacated by Hutchison and Selbo. Second by Peterson Motion passed.

Next year's meetings will be at noon September 13th in the NDHSAA Office and at noon February 14. The February meeting will be conducted via teleconference. All board meetings are open; the February board meeting is the annual meeting.

Selbo moved to nominate Ron Wright for president & Dennis Reep for vice president for 2009-2010. Second by Schmitt and motion carried.

The Board is very appreciative for the many years of faithful service afforded the NDOA Board by Donna Hutchison and Greg Selbo. The Board issues a special "thank you" to Donna and Greg.

Having no further business, President Hutchison declared meeting adjourned at 1:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Carlsrud, Secretary

Recognize officials' families????????????????????