

# **SPORTS OFFICIALS ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Meeting: Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Location: Zoom Meeting

Time: 10:30 AM

## **Sports Officials Council Advisory Committee Members:**

Basketball	Jeremy Mikkelsen, Pierre	2026 (2)
Cheer/Dance	Christina Bennett, Pierre	2026 (2)
Football	Scott Jacobson, Rapid City	2025 (1)
Gymnastics	Jenny Christian, SF	2026 (1)
Track/XC	Tim Casper, Lake Preston	2026 (2)
Volleyball	Kelley Devine, Sioux Falls	2024 (2)
Wrestling	Bud Postma, Madison	2025 (1)
Athletic Director	Mike King, Irene/Wakonda	2025 (1)
Native Am. Rep.	John Long, Lakota Tech	2024 (1)
Soccer	Guy McNeely, Yankton	2025 (2)
Softball	Brett Distel, Box Elder	2026 (1)
Secretary	Bo Beck, Aberdeen	
Treasurer	Terry Duffy, Brookings	
Official Coordinator	Justin Ingalls, Sioux Falls	

### **1. Call Meeting to Order/Attendance/Welcome to New Members**

Meeting was called to order by Jo Auch, SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director at 10:30 AM. Absent was Bud Postma (Wrestling), Mike King (Athletic Director), Terry Duffy (Treasurer), and Justin Ingalls (Official Coordinator). Randy Soma, SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director was also present at the meeting. Jo Auch turned the meeting over to President Kelley Devine.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Distel, second by Long to approve the agenda. Motion approved 9-0.

### **3. Duties and Responsibilities**

Jo Auch welcomed the new members to the Sports Officials Council:

1. Jenny Christian, Gymnastics Rep.
2. Tim Casper, Track/XC Rep.

Jo Auch explained/reviewed the purpose of the Sports Officials Council Committee.

### **4. Approval of Minutes from 4/23/2023**

Motion by McNeely, second by Christian to approve the meeting minutes from 4/23/2023. Motion approved 9-0.

### **5. Financial Report**

Treasurer Terry Duffy was absent, so Jo Auch reviewed the financial report.

1. Checking account activity/ending balance for FY 2022-2023 (Ending balance on 7/31/2023 was \$36,680.89)

2. Budget to Actual Expenses for FY 2022-2023 (Amount Budgeted was \$13,375.00 with Actual Ending Expenses on 7/31/2023 of \$11,923.01. Thus, the cash flow comparison to budget for FY 2022-2023 was \$1,809.99).
3. Checking account activity for FY 2023-2024 (current balance on 11/9/2023 is \$33,413.37).
4. Budget to Actual Expenses for FY 2023-2024. SPOC has not yet received the annual fees from officials or the annual support from the SDHSAA.
5. Jo Auch stated that she would like to use funds for the Ref Reps Program. She also stated that Larry Osborne went to the NASO Conference and would like to reimburse Larry \$1,000. Motion by Jacobson, second by Distel to approve the request to reimburse Larry Osborne \$1,000. Motion approved 9-0.

Motion by Distel, second by Casper to approve the Financial Report.  
Motion approved 9-0.

**6. Sports Reps Current Season Reports/State Events (discussion items only, no formal proposals until April meeting)**

**\*\* Basketball – Jeremy Mikkelsen**

- Jeremy Mikkelsen discussed the following items:
  - Reached out to the other Coordinators and received no response.
  - There will be no 1-on-1 Bonus free throws this year as the rule has changed to 2 shots after 5 team fouls per quarter.
  - The basketball season starts on Tuesday.

**\*\* Competitive Cheer/Dance – Christina Bennett**

- Christina Bennett commented that the state event at Sioux Falls went well and there will be changes coming to the safety score sheet.

**\*\* Football – Scott Jacobson**

- Scott discussed the following items:
  - 7 State champions were crowned in Vermillion, and all went well.
  - Reached out to Region Coordinators:
    - Jamboree requirement for football – what else can we do that is more beneficial to improve officials.
    - Jo Auch commented that this is an important topic as most sports require a jamboree.
    - Group discussion was held on current practices and how to improve/expand jamboree opportunities.
    - Discussion on raising current football officials pay of \$125 and riding time. Scott commented that officials are very appreciative of improvement but there needs to be a continuing emphasis, so all schools participate.
    - Discussion was also held on the pay for the Alternate Official for the State Championship games. It is currently \$52.50 and no riding mileage. Scott suggests that all 6 officials are paid the same as the alternate official is a very important member of the crew.
    - Randy Soma commented that in the past the SDHSAA as hired a local official. Now we pick one off the State Championship Crew. Randy

added that the SDHSAA Office will review this practice. The current pay for State Championship Game Officials is \$150.

**\*\* Soccer – Guy McNeely**

- Guy McNeely stated that he is in Arizona and is staying busy – no report.

**\*\* Track/Cross Country – Tim Casper**

- Tim discussed the following items:
  - Year 2 of the one-site, 3-day State Track Meet @ Howard Wood in Sioux Falls. We continue to tweak the schedule.
  - Javelin will be scored for all classes starting with the 2024 State Track Meet.
  - The State Cross Country Meet at Sioux Falls had 746 runners. The weather was perfect, and it went well.
  - The South Dakota Cross Country and Track & Field Officials Association has been created and is active/rolling. There are 94 cross country officials and 105 track & field officials. All Track & Field Officials must attend a Clinic in the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 years.

**\*\* Volleyball – Kelley Devine**

- Kelley Devine stated that the State Tournament in Rapid City went well. She also commented that the only change this year was the move to the new volleyball officials jackets.

**\*\* Gymnastics – Jenny Christian**

- Jenny stated that the gymnastics season starts on November 27<sup>th</sup>.
- She also commented that the schedule had to be changed as Sioux Falls was not having gymnastics this year and now they are participating.

**\*\* Wrestling – Bud Postma**

- No Report.

**\*\* Softball – Brett Distel**

- Brett commented that the 1<sup>st</sup> State Tournament was held in Aberdeen and went well. The State Tournament returns to Aberdeen again this year.
- Brett added that we will be adding more teams this year.

**\*\* Athletic Director – Mike King**

- No Report.

**\*\* Native American Issues – John Long**

- John commented that they are continuing to try and recruit Native Officials.

**\*\* SDHSAA Report – Jo Auch/Randy Soma**

1.Remove the requirement for Mechanics Tests for BB and FB due to NFHS no longer producing a test for that.

- a. Jo Auch commented that the NFHS is no longer making the mechanics test and she will recommend to the SDHSAA Board at the April Meeting to eliminate the mechanics test requirement for football and basketball.

- b. Discussion was held among the SPOC Committee. Scott Jacobson would like to have a required mechanics meeting at a jamboree or region meeting. Jeremy Mikkelsen agreed with this approach and that this would be more beneficial than taking a test.
- 2. Review Official Minimum Pay
  - a. Jo Auch reviewed the Officials Minimum Pay Document and stated that she believes we are low in the sports of track & field and softball. Jo commented that this is a good start and needs to be reviewed annually.

**7. Other Items of Concern**

Scott Jacobson asked if officials could get a tournament pass for all state tournaments. Jo Auch commented that there was one available to officials this year for \$35 and it included admission to all state tournament events. Scott was wondering if there could be a one-sport state tournament discount.

**8. Other business**

a. Steve Withorne Award – Nominations for the Steve Withorne Award were taken at this time. The following individuals were nominated: Terry Duffy, Gary Duffy, Paul Rozell, Travis Ladson. It was a consensus of the board to gather more information on each candidate and select the Steve Withorne Award Winner at the April meeting.

**9. Next Meeting Date/Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Sports Officials Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2024 beginning at 10:30 AM. Jo Auch commented that we will look at proposals at the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting.

Motion by Distel, second by Mikkelsen to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 am.  
Motion approved 9-0.