

SPORTS OFFICIALS ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting: Wednesday, April 9, 2025

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	Nick Huntimer, Madison	2027 (1)
Wrestling	Bud Postma, Madison	2026 (1)
Athletic Director	Mike King, Irene-Wakonda	2025 (1)
Native Am. Rep.	John Long, Lakota Tech	2027 (2)
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

The meeting was called to order by Assistant Executive Director Kristina Sage at 10:30 am. Absent was Guy McNeely (Soccer), Brett Distel (Softball), and Justin Ingalls (Official Coordinator). Dan Swartos, SDHSAA Executive Director, Randy Soma, SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director, Larry Osborne, Dylan Kvaale, and Marty Weismantel were also present at the meeting. Kristina Sage turned the meeting over to President John Long.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Casper, second by Jacobson to approve the agenda. Motion approved 9-0.

3. Renewing/Expiring Terms

Renewing Terms: Scott Jacobson and Mike King

Expiring Term: Guy McNeely – Kristina Sage thanked Guy for his years of service to this committee.

4. Approval of Minutes from November 26, 2024

Motion by Jacobson, second by Mikkelsen to approve the meeting minutes from 11/26/2024.

Motion approved 9-0.

5. Financial Report

Treasurer Terry Duffy reviewed the financial report.

1. Checking account for FY 2024-2025 (Balance on 4/3/2025 is \$44,709.97).
2. Budget to Actual for 2024-2025 (SDHSAA support of \$2,600.00 has not been requested).
3. Preliminary Budget for 2025-2026 (Duffy stated that he has not put together yet but it will be similar to the 2024-2025 budget of \$13,600.00).

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

A request was submitted in the amount of \$6,000 by the Volleyball Officials Association for their Summer 2-Day State Clinic in Sioux Falls.

Motion by Huntimer, second by Postma to approve the request. A lengthy discussion was held by the SPOC Committee during which two more requests were submitted:

- \$500 for the Black Hills Summer Basketball Clinic
- \$1,500 for the Sioux Empire Football Coaches Clinic

Following further SPOC Committee discussion, Substitute Motion by King, second by Jacobson to table all requests and create a committee to discuss. Motion approved 9-0.

6. NASO Update

Kristina Sage stated that SPOC will pay registration fees (and possibly other expenses) for SPOC committee members and to let her know if anyone is interested in attending.

“Dare to Lead”

- a. Dates: July 27-29, 2025 in Montgomery, AL
- b. Registration: <https://www.sportsofficiatingsummit.com/>

Larry Osborne has expressed interest in attending.

Motion by Jacobson, second by Mikkelsen to approve Larry Osborne’s attendance at NASO and pay his expenses. Also, permit Treasurer Duffy to write the check. Motion approved 9-0.

7. Sports Reps – Current Season Reports/State Events

**** Basketball – Jeremy Mikkelsen**

- Dylan Kvaale discussed the officials calling of the spin move.
- Larry Osborne gave a recap of the season.
- Mikkelsen stated that there are 507 total basketball officials including 72 new officials
- Jeremy Mikkelsen discussed proposed rule changes:
 - #1 = Rule 4 Section 10 Closely Guarded: Exception: Closely guarded is not in effect when a player is dribbling the ball.
 - Motion by Mikkelsen, second by King to approve. Motion approved 9-0.
 - #2 = All SDHSAA varsity basketball contests will follow NFHS Shot Clock Rules as identified on pages 71-73 of the NFHS Basketball Rules Book.
 - Following SPOC discussion, the general consensus of the committee was against this proposal – no action taken to move proposal forward.
 - #3 = Change the wording on suspension from officiating for one year for failing to meet the same requirement for 3 consecutive years to: suspended from the sport in which the official fails to meet the requirement in for 3 consecutive years.
 - Motion by King, second by Bennett to approve. Motion approved 9-0.
 - #4 = Add 3rd classification of registered officials across all sports. This classification would only be eligible to work regular season contest, no post season eligibility. Requirements would be minimalized, no jamboree requirement, 1 region meeting requirement as examples.
 - Following SPOC discussion, the general consensus of the committee was against this proposal – no action taken to move proposal forward.
 - #5 = Officials shall not work a post season contest within a region that involves a school in which they have a student enrolled.
 - Following SPOC discussion, the general consensus of the committee was against this proposal – no action taken to move proposal forward.
 - #6 = Requirement to work SoDak 16 sub-state assignment – the official must hold a “certified” classification for a minimum of 2 years (eligible on the 2nd year of certification). In the event the official’s certified officiating experience is interrupted,

prior years of service will be counted if the period of interruption does not exceed two years.

- Motion by Jacobson, second by King to approve. Motion approved 9-0.
- #7 = Increasing the number of games worked throughout the season to work state contest. Currently, officials must work a minimum of 12 regular varsity contest (non-gender specific) during the current school year to be eligible to officiate any post season contest. It should be increased to 15 regular varsity contest (non-gender specific) during the current school year to be eligible to officiate any post season contest.
 - Motion by Mikkelsen, second by King to approve. Motion approved 9-0.
- Mikkelsen also discussed the NFHS proposals:
 - Goaltending Addition – ball contacting backboard
 - Basket Interference

**** Athletic Director Conference Update – Mike King**

- Mike King discussed and gave a summary of the recently completed AD Conference including the following topics:
 - Officials pay in the sport of football
 - Riders mileage
 - Future requirement of emergency action plans for facilities

**** Track – Tim Casper**

- Tim Casper stated that there are 86 registered officials in the state.
- He also said that there were 5 in-person clinics held this year and that a total of 58 officials, 1 AD's, and 20 coaches attended the clinics this year.
- Tim commented that their website is up and running and an online store has been created to purchase track & cross country officials gear.

**** Gymnastics – Jenny Christian**

- Jenny Christian stated that the state gymnastics meet went well this year with great weather and a number of new state records.

**** Wrestling – Bud Postma**

- Bud Postma stated the state tournament went well this year in Rapid City.
- Postma discussed a new proposal on how wrestling officials qualify for the state tournament. Officials would need 16 points to qualify to officiate the state tournament (Previously it was 10 points).
 - Dual = 1 point (was 1 point)
 - Tri/Quad = 2 points (was 1 point)
 - 1-Day Tournament = 3 points (was 2 points)
 - 2-Day Tournament = 4 points (was 2 points)

Motion by Huntimer, second by Mikkelsen to approve. Motion approved 9-0.

**** Native American Rep: John Long**

- John Long discussed proposed rule changes:
 - Asked to remove request #1 due to it being previously approved.
 - Request #2 = remove the 5-year sit out rule in basketball
 - Proposal died due to lack of a Motion
 - Request #3 = require only one (1) region meeting per year for certified officials
 - Proposal died due to lack of a Motion
 - Request #4 = change to college basketball officials shirt and make mandatory by the 2027 season.

- Proposal died due to lack of a Motion
- The SPOC Committee discussed sending out a survey to basketball officials to gauge interest in a new basketball officials shirt. Also, discussion was held on requiring at least a 60% threshold of approval to move forward.
- Discussion was held on the possibility of reinforcing officials game contracts with officials that are getting out of contracts to officiate different games. Dan Swartos stated that he will send a reminder to officials and AD's about ethics and the importance of officials honoring contracts.

**** Softball – Brett Distel**

- Absent – No report.

**** SDHSAA Report – Kristina & Randy Soma – Discussion was held on the following:**

- a. Proposals at AD conference (discussed earlier in meeting)
- b. Officials Pay/Riding Pay
- c. Softball officials jackets survey results (82% yes to approve NCAA jacket)
- d. Ref Reps update – grant, USD enrollment, etc.
- e. Adopt modification to the closely guarded rule (done earlier in meeting)

8. Reports Already Given – Anything to Add

**** Football – Scott Jacobson**

- No report.

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

- No report.

**** Soccer – Guy McNeely**

- Absent – No report.

**** Volleyball – Nick Huntimer**

- No report.

9. Other Items of Concern

- a. Handbook discussion
 - None – All items discussed earlier in the meeting.
- b. Proposals for Consideration
 - None – All items discussed earlier in the meeting.

10. Other business

- a. Steve Withorne Award
 Congratulations to Pete Entringer on receiving the Steve Withorne Award.
- b. Policy Reminder: Elect the President-Elect in April, to take over at the November meeting – No nominations were received for the 2025-2026 SPOC president position. Kristina Sage will send out an email to the SPOC Committee to nominate a president for 2025-2026 and also subcommittee nominations.

11. Next Meeting Date/Adjournment

The next meeting of the Sports Officials Advisory Council will be held by Zoom on Tuesday, November 25, 2025 beginning at 10:30 AM CT.

Motion by Mikkelsen, second by Huntimer to adjourn the meeting at 12:52 pm. Motion approved 9-0.