

SPORTS OFFICIALS ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting: Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Location: SDHSAA Office, Pierre

Time: 10:30 AM

Sports Officials Advisory Council Committee Members:

Basketball	Larry Osborne, Rapid City	2020 (2)
Cheer/Dance	Jasper Diegel, Pierre	2020 (2)
Football	Mark Smith, Pierre	2019 (1)
Gymnastics	Shavonne Mitchell, Pierre	2020 (1)
Track/XC	Steve Charron, Huron	2020 (1)
Volleyball	Kelley Devine, Sioux Falls	2021 (1)
Wrestling	Edward Heisinger, Piedmont	2020 (1)
Athletic Director	Paul Nepodal, Deubrook	2019 (1)
Native Am. Rep.	Mary Tobacco, Oglala	2021 (2)
Soccer	Tom Hilsendeger, Bath	2019 (2)
Ex-Officio	Buck Timmins, Mitchell	
Secretary	Bo Beck, Aberdeen	
Treasurer	Terry Duffy, Brookings	

1. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting was called to order by President Steve Charron at 10:35 AM. Absent was Mary Tobacco and Jasper Diegel (Diegel arrived at 11:20 AM). Jo Auch, SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director and John Krogstrand, SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director were also present at the meeting. All members that were present introduced themselves to the Council.

2. Expense Statements

Expense statements were filled out by committee members and turned in to Treasurer Terry Duffy (Fall expenses paid by the Sports Officials Advisory Council, Spring expenses paid by the SDHSAA).

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Osborne, second by Heisinger to approve agenda. Motion approved 8-0.

4. Approval of Minutes from 4/11/2018

Motion by Smith, second by Osborne to approve the meeting minutes from 4/11/2018. Motion approved 8-0.

5. Financial Report

Treasurer Terry Duffy reviewed the financial report. He discussed the checking account balance and the 2017-2018 budget to actual report.

The cost of the Officials 25/40/50 Year Awards Program was reviewed. Jo Auch discussed that the awards program is currently for active officials. She has been asked if it was a possibility to honor retired officials as well as active officials. Jo Auch asked the Council if it was their intention to continue honoring only active officials? Mark Smith commented that he sees no reason to change as it will be difficult to determine the

number of retired officials to give awards. The consensus of the Council was to continue the 25/40/50 year awards program for only active officials.

The next item reviewed was the budget line item Recruitment & Education. The 2017-2018 budget was \$7,087 and \$472 was used. The 2018-2019 budget is \$650 and \$222 has been used. Discussion was held on when/how often mentor officials are paid and the number of jamborees/mini jamborees per sport. Jamborees are reimbursed at a rate of \$200/jamboree per sport and mini jamborees are reimbursed \$50/mini jamboree per sport.

A discussion was held that this will be the last year of basketball jamborees. In following years, the plan is to have a mini jamboree in each region, every year. Jo Auch commented that the mini jamborees have been positively received in volleyball.

Motion by Heisinger, second by Mitchell to approve the Financial Report. Motion approved 8-0.

6. Sports Reps Reports

**** Football – Mark Smith**

- Finished season with 7 championship games in Vermillion. There was a table set up at the state championship games to help recruit officials. Flyers were handed out and a number of potential football official candidates seemed interested.
- Concerned about officials evaluation system that is supposed to be completed by the coaches. We are having the same problems this year as the previous year. Mark Smith commented that his football officiating crew received only about 50% of their evaluations this year from the coaches.
- Mark Smith thanked Buck Timmins for all the work he does on the in-season football newsletter.
- Steve Charron asked if there will be any consideration of replay at the Dome (championship games). John Krogstrand commented that any deviation from the NFHS rules would have to be experimental. He has brought the subject up at a previous National Meeting and didn't receive much response. Minnesota has since gone to using replay in their state championships @ U.S. Bank Stadium on a 2-year rule experiment. John Krogstrand said the SDHSAA would have to decide what will and what will not be reviewable. Also, why is the state championship so special and not have it at other games? John also commented that we could tie into the USD system at the Dome for state championship games and this makes a lot of sense.

**** Basketball – Larry Osborne**

- Larry Osborne led a discussion on items of interest that he has been contacted about from coaches and athletic directors.
- The subject of replay in the state basketball tournament keeps coming up. Issues that would need to be addressed would be cost, venues, # of cameras, etc.
- Osborne discussed the subject of the potential rule change that would allow officials to administer a technical foul to coaches for improper player equipment. Thus, a coach would lose his/her coaching box. Larry Osborne reported that he has received at least 50 phone calls. A discussion was held about the pros/cons of the potential rule change and taking responsibility from officials and making the coaches responsible to have all players legally equipped and ready to play.

- Larry Osborne also reported that he has been getting a lot of phone calls about the 5-year sit-out rule in basketball. Should it be eliminated or changed? Larry reported that a number of region coordinators are interested in increasing the sit-out rule to 7 years. Larry reported that most of the phone calls he has received prefer to leave the 5-year sit-out rule as it currently is established. Jo Auch said it will be discussed with the selection committee and see what their opinions are on the subject. Larry Osborne commented that in his opinion, the limit of 6 officials sitting out every year should be increased to all officials who qualify for the 5-year sit-out rule when they are eligible to sit out.

** Cross Country/Track – Steve Charron

- Three jamborees are being planned for this year in the spring. Locations will probably be Sioux Falls, Rapid City, and Huron.
- This was the first year that a registered official was required at all cross country meets. The track advisory met and had received many positive comments from the cross country coaches and athletic directors that having a registered/certified official helped with liability and safety concerns of courses/athletes.
- The state cross country meet went well.

** Wrestling – Eddie Heisinger

- The first ever wrestling officials jamboree was held in October with 17 officials in attendance.
- The season is just getting under way and there are approximately the same # of officials as last year
- Recruitment of officials – Eddie Heisinger commented that he went to the AAU banquet and mentioned that if anyone knew of potential officials that were interested in becoming registered to contact him.
- Jo Auch asked how close we are to having a requirement of an officials jamboree in the sport of wrestling similar to basketball/volleyball/football. John Krogstrand commented that there still is a limited pool of wrestling officials that are certified or registered and they are located all over the state so having a large jamboree would be a geographical issue.

** Gymnastics – Shavonne Mitchell

- Yearly clinic was held in September with many new rules this year.
- The required clinic has always been held in Pierre. A vote was conducted at this year's clinic on future locations of the clinic. Following the vote, it was decided to move the clinic to Mitchell next year and not make it a required clinic for officials.
- New judges were recruited this year.

** Native American Issues – Mary Tobacco

- No Report

** Cheer/Dance – Jasper Diegel

- Season finished in October with a great state event in Brandon.
- There were new judges at the state event.

- Diegel commented that she served on advisory this year and there will be upcoming changes to the judges sheet to make it less subjective. Diegel commented that these will be good changes.
- There is still a statewide shortage of judges.

** Soccer – Tom Hilsendeger

- Season is complete.
- Tom Hilsendeger commented that he has been contacted about a couple of issues as points of discussion:
 1. Looking for guidance/policy on what soccer officials can wear on Breast Cancer Awareness week/games (i.e. pink socks, etc.). Jo Auch commented that officials dress should never take away from the game. It was discussed that in basketball & volleyball, officials can only wear/use a pink whistle and/or lanyard – nothing else. In football, officials can wear/use a pink whistle, lanyard, bean bags, and/or flags. John Krogstrand suggested that we find common ground in all sports and list it in the officials handbooks. Jo Auch advised that we check with each sport rep and determine what would be appropriate officials gear for Breast Cancer Awareness activities.
 2. Question on why the number of matches to qualify as a state tournament official is set at 7 matches? John Krogstrand commented that it was set originally as approximately 1 match per week during the seven (7) week season.

** Volleyball – Kelly DeVine

- DeVine summarized the recently completed state tournament and commented that it was the “best run” state tourney ever.
- Lyndsey Atkinson, rules editor/liaison, from the NFHS office in Indianapolis was in attendance at the state tournament. She was impressed with the camaraderie of the officials that were selected to work the state tournament.
- DeVine emphasized the continual need to recruit more volleyball officials statewide
- Jo Auch stated that the volleyball region coordinators did away with the 5 year sit-out rule a number of years ago. Discussion was held at the region coordinators meeting to possibly reinstate the 5 year sit-out rule in volleyball

** Athletic Director – Paul Nepodal

- Nepodal asked if there was any push to designate pay for other officials groups as we do in football? A discussion was held on the varying pay of officials statewide. Mark Smith commented that football officials are assigned to their games so they need to be paid the same rate for all games. John Krogstrand commented on possibly setting “bottom floor” as pay for officials in other groups. He also stressed the timeliness of paying officials around the state. Krogstrand said that it is becoming a bit of an issue that officials aren’t getting their game checks in a timely manner (i.e. schools waiting until their monthly school board meeting or requiring officials to have a direct deposit on file in the business manager’s office). Krogstrand finished with the request that this needs to be looked at in the Spring State Athletic Directors Conference this year to possibly set a standard for timeliness of pay and minimum officials pay in all sports.

- Jo Auch stressed to the sports reps that they need to visit with officials in their area/sport groups and find out what the “bottom floor” should be in their respective sport.

7. Recruitment of Officials – State Tournament

** It is a goal of the SDHSAA to recruit more officials statewide. There will be a table set-up at state tournaments this year to recruit officials. Jo Auch challenged each sport group rep to see what will work at their respective state events to help increase the number of officials and retain them. Following the meeting today, pictures will be taken of the sports reps in their respective sports officials gear. These pictures will be used in future promotional items/advertisements dealing with the recruitment of officials.

8. NASO Report

- ** Buck Timmins attended NASO and discussed the following items of interest:
- a. Recruiting of Officials
 - b. Sportsmanship
 - c. Retention of Officials – if we can keep officials for 3 years, usually they will continue.

9. Requirements and policies Handbook

** Jo Auch requested that the sports reps look at their specific rules in the handbook before the next meeting (April 3, 2019). They should also send an email out to officials in their respective sport to find any needed or requested changes in the handbook rules.

10. Other business

- ** Nominations for Steve Withorne Award:
- Jim Aberle (Basketball) – nominated by Larry Osborne
 - Mark Smith (Football) – carried over from previous year
 - Paul Shriner (Football) – carried over from previous year
- Motion by Mitchell, second by Diegel that nominations cease. Motion approved 9-0. Mark Smith left the meeting at 1:05 PM. The committee voted by paper ballot and the winner of this year’s Steve Withorne Award is Mark Smith.
- ** Assault Policy
- This will be on the April meeting agenda.
- ** Policy Reminder:
- Elect the President-Elect in April, to take over at the November 2020 meeting.
 - Steve Charron will be the 2018-2019 President of the Sports Officials Council.
 - Mark Smith (current President-Elect) will be the 2019-2020 President.
- ** Other Concerns
- John Krogstrand discussed two (2) items that should be on the April 3, 2019 Agenda of the Sports Officials Advisory Council:
 1. Video review of ejections
 2. Role/power of state assigners –how they affect officials who are awarded a state tournament and limit the pool of officials for particular state tournaments.
 - Shavonne Mitchell asked for clarification on who pays for the expenses of the required coaches certification classes? Jo Auch replied that schools have different policies in regards to reimbursement. It is a local school board decision and the rule established by the SDHSAA board doesn’t specify who pays for the classes.

11. **Next meeting Date**

The next meeting of the Sports Officials Advisory Council will be held in Pierre at the SDHSAA Office on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 beginning at 10:30 AM.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Osborne to adjourn at 1:25 PM. Motion approved 8-0.