

CIAC OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION
Advisory Board Minutes
May 16, 2006

Members Present: Sandy Rimmer for Rose Carlucci, Kathy Cawley, Jane Dahle, Ray Faustich, George Ford, Barry Fowler, Lucy Goodridge, Kevin Holmgren, Dave Leete, Tony Barbaro for Hank Luzzi, Joe Miller, Frank Begen for Ed Schullery, Barbara Startup, Fred Colosimo and Lev Torgerson. All sports were represented. *CIAC Reps, Joe Tonelli, Paul Hoey, and Tony Mosa welcomed the group. Introduction of members followed.*

ACTION ITEMS/ DISCUSSION ITEMS

Approved the minutes of March 1, 2006

Motion: George Ford

Approved, by unanimous consent, the goals of the CIAC Officials' Association for 2006-2007.

The Goals are as follows:

- To be an "official friendly" organization, responsive to the needs of officials and their respective organizations.
- To provide a conduit for an improved communication network between officials, the schools you serve, and the CIAC.
- To identify issues common to all officials' groups and develop and implement an action plan to address the concerns.
- To establish an organizational structure that provides officials with the opportunity to have direct input in the governance of CIAC, by having representation, with voting privileges, on all sports committees and representation on the CIAC Board of Control.
- To have a representative in all sports on an advisory board, whose main purpose will be to provide expert council to CIAC for the betterment of officials and to serve the best interests of high school athletics.
- To have all officials become members of the CIAC Officials' Association.
- To provide an opportunity for officials to work collaboratively with school administrators, athletic directors, coaches, and the CIAC staff to better serve athletics in Connecticut.
- To develop a CIAC Officials website that is linked from the CIAC home page.

ENROLLMENT PERIOD – Approved, by unanimous consent, the June 15 to September 30th enrollment period for the CIAC Officials Association. A summer enrollment period will permit the CIAC to issue membership cards that include all sports in which the officials are enrolled. We want to get the cards out so officials will get full use of them. The preferred enrollment method is to send an excel file to mfischer@casciac.org which includes all your current members. The data on each member school should include name, address, city, state, zip code,

all phone numbers and most importantly, an e-mail address. The cost is \$10 per member. If a sport wants to facilitate the membership in another way, the CIAC will be happy to work with you on it. In addition, if payment cannot be sent at the time the group membership list is submitted, we will work with you to accommodate your needs.

BOARD OF CONTROL REPS - Approved the concept of having two Advisory Board Members per month attend the CIAC Board of Control Meeting with Joe Tonelli. In this way, in a one-year period, all members will be educated as to the workings of the Board. The June 7, 2006 meeting was attended by Dave Leete (boys lax) and George Ford (swimming). The meeting schedule for 2006-2007 with the suggested consultant rotation will be sent when finalized. After the first year, the Advisory Board will finalize the rep and related issues for 2007-2008.

ENROLLMENT GOAL - Discussed enrollment solicitation and projections. The leadership of all groups will soon receive a membership letter to facilitate group enrollment. The goal of the CIAC Officials' Association is to get all of the officials to join our group.

BUDGET - Paul Hoey discussed the manner in which the budget will be built and emphasized that the Advisory Board will decide how the money will be spent. Since we won't have a handle on income until the enrollment period is over, a budget will be presented for the Advisory Board's approval at the fall meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/ UPDATES

ASSAULT BILL – Because three Senate amendments were added to the Bill and because there was not complete agreement by the House and Senate on one of the amendments, we ran out of time in this short session. Because of the excellent lobbying effort by the members of the CIAC Officials' Association, we gained a tremendous amount of credibility with the legislators, and since coaches and teachers were added to the Bill, we are hopeful that a united lobbying effort by all three groups can get the Assault Bill passed in the 2006-2007 session. We are told that it usually takes 3 attempts to pass legislation of this nature. Thanks to all who helped the cause.

SPORTSMANSHIP COMMITTEE - Paul Hoey reported that the committee is enthusiastically moving forward to establish standards of sportsmanship for all schools to follow.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES – Paul Hoey and Tony Mosa reported that two constitution changes were approved that should be pleasing to all officials. The CIAC has always sanctioned member schools, and now as a result of the recent vote at the annual meeting, the CIAC can now sanction school personnel, i.e. coaches. Also, as part of the membership agreement, coaches are required to attend pre season rules clinics. This new regulation came about in response to requests from several officials' organizations.

CIAC OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION WEBSITE - Matt Fischer, the CIAC Director of Technology and Information Services, discussed the creation of an Officials' website designed to assist with the recruitment of new officials and many other things such as, but not limited to, rules interpretations, contact people from all Boards, posting information from a particular sport such as field markings etc. Matt emphasized that the website should enhance communications. Matt also mentioned that the submission dates for fall schedules has been made earlier at the

request of many fall sport commissioners. The AD's were very supportive of this change to assist the fall commissioners.

NEW BUSINESS

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED - At the request of the CIAC, officials' boards and individual officials identified their top 5 issues where CIAC help and support can assist their efforts. A complete chart of issues was distribute and prioritized. The following list of issues are some of the concerns that were raised: insurance, improved communication, written CIAC policy for coaches conduct / sportsmanship, require coaches to attend rules clinics, improve assignor/ AD relationship, continue to pursue the assault bill and limited liability legislation, protection of social security numbers, assist groups in securing meeting/training facilities, encourage schools to abide by the officials contract regarding payment, dressing facilities and parking, assist with recruitment / retention of officials, assist with the distribution of rule changes and interpretations, and encourage representation and involvement of all boards.

ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES – An action plan will be formulated by CIAC and the Advisory Board to address these issues. After discussing these issues and sharing information with one another, it became evident that all groups could benefit through improved communication as well as CIAC intervention to assist with these concerns.

ADVISORY BOARD FALL MEETING – The board will meet in early October. The specific date will be determined soon.

SUMMARY – The CIAC is very pleased with the support and cooperation from practically all officials' groups in the first year of the CIAC OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION. We look forward to working with you in the 2006-2007 school year and in the future, for the betterment of all officials and high school sports. With the input of the Officials' Advisory Board, we have already achieved some of our goals, but as the song says, "we have only just begun". Have a great summer.

ADJOURNMENT – The 4pm meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm. Respectfully submitted, Joe Tonelli – Director, CIAC Officials' Association