

# CIAC OFFICIALS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

October 20, 2011

**Members Present:** Melissa Arms, , Bud Chernovetz for Hank Luzzi, Ray Faustich, Pat Javorski, Hank Koritkoski, Marie Lavin for Gloria Bellucci, Dave Leete, Kelly Murphy, Terry Schanbacher for Joe Miller, Lev Torgerson and Joe Tonelli, CIAC

## **ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

On a motion by Ray Faustich the minutes of May 12, 2010 were approved.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

4,038 individual officials occupy 5,080 officiating slots. 2140 officials are members of the NFHS Officials Association.

## **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2011-2012**

The budget committee did not meet yet since they wanted to wait to get a better handle on the anticipated expenditures for the 2011-2012 school year. It was emphasized that the background checks would be done throughout the year at no additional cost to the officials or their respective boards.

To date \$7,500 has been expended on grants, \$14,000 on background checks, \$1,400 on interpretation meetings, and approximately \$5,000 on the membership card project and recruitment brochures. The CIAC Officials Association continues to have a solid financial base as a result of the CIAC subsidy.

## **NEW RECRUITMENT BROCHURE**

The new brochure was distributed. It is an excellent public relations piece. The brochure order was reduced, since it is also on line. Boards that want them for distribution can email [jbrown@casciac.org](mailto:jbrown@casciac.org). Just tell Jadzia how many you need and she will mail them to you.

## **LIABILITY / ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

The importance of having the proper insurance coverage was emphasized. Recently a couple of our officials were named in a lawsuit and fortunately they are members of the NFHS Officials Association and have good insurance coverage. The board suspects that some of our officials groups, in an effort to save pennies, may be under insured.

## **OLD BUSINESS/INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **PRESEASON RULES MEETINGS/WINTER AND SPRING DATES**

Joe Tonelli requested the winter sports rules meeting dates for coaches. He encouraged boards to accommodate leagues, when possible. We will provide an honorarium of \$50, plus mileage reimbursement, to any official that provides a rules meeting for coaches only.

### **NFHS ONLINE RULES INTERPRETATIONS MEETING SCHEDULE**

Softball –Wednesday, Jan 18, 2012

Baseball –Thursday, Jan 19, 2012

Track & Field – Fri, Jan 20, 2012

Boys Lax - Tuesday, Jan 24, 2012

For your convenience, interpreters now have the ability to log on from their home, office, or a designated location. 5 logins are permitted. It is no longer necessary to come to the CIAC for these sessions.

## **CIAC BOARD OF CONTROL MEETINGS**

Reps for the CIAC Board Meetings. All meetings are at 2:00 PM

October 27 –Ray Faustich      March 1    TBA

Dec. 1 – Dave Leete              March 29 TBA

Jan. 19 – Kelly Murphy      April 26    Lev Torgerson; May 24, if needed - TBA

Please mark your calendars and let me know if a conflict arises.

## **INCENTIVE GRANTS PROGRAM**

Hank Koritkoski reported that the committee approved and awarded 33 grants thus far. Boards that did not apply can apply prior to the end of the 2011-12 school year. Two standing grants were also approved...one for joining the NFHS officials' assoc; the other one is for first time users of the Arbiter Assigning program. These grants can be in addition to a previously awarded grant.

## **BACKGROUND CHECKS/BIRTHDATES/CONSENT FORMS/POLICY**

The background checks are going extremely well. The fall sport officials have been checked and all boards were notified as to the results. Winter sport checks are in progress and boards will soon be notified. Then we will work on the spring. The CRIS Company has been excellent to work with. With some common names the company has requested full legal names, including the middle name. Officials have been very cooperative in providing this information.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **STATE-WIDE MEETING SUMMARY**

The meeting summary was distributed and it is posted online at <http://www.casciac.org/pdfs/statewidemeeting11.pdf> The meeting was well attended and successful. Many positive comments about the format and the information provided.

### **RULES INTERPRETATION MEETINGS FOR LEAGUES**

We realize that it is a challenge, especially for boards that service the entire state to accommodate all leagues by sending an interpreter or a qualified official to provide a rules meeting, in conjunction with the league coaches meeting. However, the advisory board believes it is good PR to provide this service. The CIAC Officials' Association Advisory Board by unanimous consent, agreed to assist local boards in meeting this need by providing some financial assistance.

### **NFHS Officials Association Membership Benefits**

There are many benefits to joining the NFHS Officials Association aside from an excellent accident/access medical and liability insurance plan that covers officials for all sports they officiate in high school and for non-high school leagues. Detailed information about the NFHS Officials Association and the membership benefits can be accessed at [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org). Click on "officials" and you can preview the many benefits of membership and the new education videos and program that are now available and continue to be developed.

### **NEW NFHS OFFICIALS ASSOC INSURANCE CARRIER**

Here is some info and three (3) links that should be helpful to those boards that are members of the NFHS Officials Assoc. Excellent coverage!!

<http://www.dissingerreed.com/nfhs/about>

<http://www.dissingerreed.com/nfhs/certificate-request>

The claims site is:

<http://www.dissingerreed.com/nfhs/claims>

### **MARY STRUCKHOFF RETIRES FROM NFHS**

Mary headed up the NFHS Officials Association and was the rules editor in basketball and softball. The NFHS is in the process of finding a replacement. Mary has moved to Kentucky. She will be missed.

### **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

The board discussed 3 questions:

- **Officiating numbers** – The number of officials seems to be on the upside. Most boards can meet the demands of the schools they service, but there is always a need to have new blood.
- **Physical Conditioning of Officials** – The group felt that they can do more in this area. It is a sensitive topic. Very few boards require physicals.
- **Conflict Resolution** – Boards talk to their officials about this but they feel they can always do more in this area. Officials need to be a calming force and not pour gasoline on fires. Good officials know how to talk and respond to coaches.

### **AROUND THE TABLE**

This has become a valuable part of the meeting and gives board members a chance to survey the group for feedback or mention some item of interest. One of the items mentioned involved the contract language relative to the notification of officials on postponements, especially on the day of the game. A concern was raised that that the contract language was changed to acknowledge that in this day n' age that notification can be achieved via email, text messages etc. Joe said he will seek clarification on this because the key to any means of communication is confirmation that the message was received. Joe will report back on this at the next meeting.

Many commented that the grants program is serving us very well and is a great way for the CIAC Officials' Association to assist local boards.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm. **The next meeting of the CIAC Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, February 2, 2012 @ 4:00 PM @ CIAC.**