MIAA Game Officials Committee Meeting  
Tuesday January 16, 2018 10:00AM 
Minutes

1. Meeting called to order

2. Minutes from September 6, 2017 approved (9-0)

3. New Business
   (a) Officials Roundtable Debriefing
      - Richard Pearson gave rationale ie: the debriefing
      - Explained how Richard and Phil N met with board leaders from around the state.
      - Handed out overview packet based on roundtable meetings. Feedback organized from repetitive feedback to sport specific.
      - Roundtables seemed to be generally appreciated by the officials.

      - Don Fredericks questioned why you would want to spread games (ie hockey, basketball, etc) to Thursday’s during the weeks as opposed to just Wed/Sat because you can rely on the same officials. He brought concerns about expanding basketball or baseball to three officials.
      - Chris Schmidt asked if that would actually promote mentoring or promote nepotism.
      - Don asked if we should expand to three officials at sub-varsity levels. It would be more affordable.

      - Tim Broadrick commented on official development program (referenced USA Hockey).

      - Richard mentioned that timelines re: payment being the biggest issue (erratic).
      - Elizabeth Legault brought up the fact that “arbiter pay” is the way to go because it leads to officials getting paid quicker. Nobody carries checks and cash anymore.

      - Richard brought up issue of cumulative penalties for coaching fouls.
      - Don reiterated the importance of this. He mentioned concerns of young officials being negatively affected by fan/coach treatment of them (sportsmanship).
      - Elizabeth McAndrews stated this is inconsistent among leagues in the state.

      - Richard referred to National Officiating Survey and reviewed the aspects of it. He also handed out extra packet w/ more detailed data.

      - Richard asked “what now?”
        - Do we form a sub-committee?
        - Do we create suggestions from the GOC to officials’ boards?
        - Have assignors go to the leagues and come up with a plan and then get MIAA approval for the plan?
        - Elizabeth M. agrees that this needs to be approved.

      - Chris Schmidt has concerns...re: how de-centralized officiating seems to be...one assignors plays against another, etc). Should we centralize the process?
        - Elizabeth M. directed conversation back to a sub-committee.
        - Richard agreed he would love to see this. We can’t let this stuff die on the vine.

      - Avery Esdaile wonders how we can utilize the upcoming MIAA Annual Meeting. Also look at how AD’s themselves can improve upon this.
        - This will help to shine a bright light on some of the GOC problems and open it up to larger groups to help problem solve.
3 main issues seem to be payment, recruitment and site management. We need an action plan.

-Elizabeth M. said we need cross-act of representation on the sub-committee.
-Don F., Bill Stewart, Tom Pileski, Elizabeth Legault, John Graceffa, Aaron Robb, Elizabeth M will serve on this sub-committee.
-Richard will check with Bill Gaine to see if this can be included on agenda at Annual Mtg. in April.
-A sub-committee conference call will take place in 2-3 weeks.

(b) **Cross Country Tournament Fee Proposal - $5 increase for 2018 tournament**

-This will be the last time we do this so we can get into the process we set moving forward.
-Discussion on fact that XC fees are flat fees and not percentage based like most other sport tournament fees.
-Elizabeth moved to approve XC fees this one time, Paul Gibbons seconded.

**APPROVED 12-0**

**Indoor and Outdoor Regular Season Proposal - A fee and ½ for double dual or tri-meets**

-Charlie Butterfield explained fees.
-Tom Pileski asked some clarifying questions.
-Paul Gibbons asked some clarifying questions.
-Consensus was to table this vote until the March meeting

**TABLED**

(c) **Other Business**

- Paul Gibbons raised concerns over regular season wrestling tournament fees being set by officials groups. Fees should be set by GOC.
- Don F. asked for an update on background checks
  - Richard has nothing new to report. Plan on using same process moving forward

4. **Sportsmanship/Educational Athletics Initiatives**

-Richard detailed the upcoming events

5. **Informational Items**

-Richard reviewed these. References to program in Minnesota to recognize/thank a ref.

6. **Officials Input**

-Charlie B. submitted track officials minutes to Elizabeth.
-Hockey going to extend time of hockey periods and penalty periods.
  - Richard offered additional thoughts on this.

7. **Other**

-Richard brought up “Pre Game Conference Message” and where it is being read by the officials at the beginning of the games with captains.
- Discussion ensured on whether to continue it or not.
- Don F. thinks each specific sport committee needs to be aware of the cards.
- Richard will continue to push this out
- Handshake line….are they being done? Are officials staying for them?
  - Yes

Next Meeting March 6, 2018 at 10:00AM

Adjournment