

Soccer Committee Minutes
September 15, 2020

- Called to order- 10:07 by Rob Pearl
 - Attendance: Rob Pearl, K. Kampersal, Sean Mackin, Ted Zwada, Chris Schmidt, Tania Rich, Ted Currie, Robert Mullaney, Danny Erickson, Joseph Francis, Bob Keuther, Karen Guillemette, Sue Hendee, Ric Beaudoin, Robert McArdle, Jake Oliveira and David Kerr
 - Media: Jason Kates Masslive, Eric McHugh Patriot Ledger, Brandon Chase Boston Globe, Matt Feld Boston Herald, Jessica, Mac Cerullo, Daily News of Newburyport and a rep from the Western MA News.
 - Conflict of Interest-please complete and return to Rob or Katie
 - MIAA Governance-linked attached to agenda for member reference
- Election of officers: 14 Voting members
 - Chair- Bob Keuther was nominated by Tania Rich: 2nd by Robert McArdle-Unanimous
 - Vice Chair- Danny Erickson was nominated by Ric Beaudoin; 2nd by Sean Mackin-Unanimous
 - Secretary- Cheryl Walsh was nominated by Ric Beaudoin (even though she was not present she informed committed that she would like the position); 2nd by – Bob Keuther, Unanimous
- February 4, 2020 Minutes
 - Sean Mackin thought that there was a discussion of a rule change proposal-All playoff games must be played in their entirety. There was a game called at the 4 minute mark due to weather conditions. The rule change proposal would have allowed the game to be finished at a later time.
 - Committee does not remember the conversation; Rob Pearl would follow up with Phil Vaccaro, Bob Keuther would also look into this.
 - Motion made by Bob McArdle to approve minutes; 2nd by Tania Rich-Unanimous
- Introductions of all members.
 - Jessica from media/news asked if it was ok that she was recording the meeting. Committee unanimously stated that would be fine.
- Officials update
 - Ric Beaudoin talked about the rule changes for the Fall 2020 season due to Covid-19.
 - There will be no slide tackles, no throw ins, no heading, ball must stay on ground
 - Goalie-cannot throw/kick beyond midfield
 - Game will be played in quarters
 - No shoulder to shoulder contact
 - Officials do not have to sign off/fill out any paperwork
 - Bob Keuther- Are there any questions about the rule changes?
 - He stressed that he wanted the students on the field and playing.
 - Explained due to the time that the modifications had to be turned in they created a subcommittee to help draft the modifications
 - Fall season would be starting Friday September 18

- Focus on educational athletics. The students need to be out on the field, even if the game is different they need to be playing.
 - Ric also mentioned that there were 8 NFHS Rule Changes
 - Did not go into detail about changes
- Infractions report
 - The report was send out to all members prior to the meeting
 - The use of the report is to analyze the data and check to see which schools are receiving too many cards.
 - Due to shut down the schools that had 13+ cards were not able to come in and have a hearing with the MIAA. Each school was notified and asked what has happened/why so many cards/what was being done.
 - These schools will be checked during the Fall 2020 season to monitor the number of cards the team is receiving.
 - Rob Pearl-most of the schools have had coaching changes and the AD's are aware of the problem and working with the coaches.
 - Ric Beaudion mentioned that officials would report to the assignors of any cards and the assignors would then report them to the MIAA.
 - Chris Schmidt- questioned the App and the process that was already in place (where the schools report the cards to the MIAA after the game)
 - Rob Pearl stated this would be addressed later in the agenda.
- Email from AD at BC High with concerns regarding player/coach disrespect towards officials
 - Rob Pearl stated a modification allows the officials to give a yellow card to any player or coach that goes towards the officials to dispute the call. If a player/coach gets within 6 feet of an official they will be given a red card.
 - Bob Keuther asked the committee to please share this modification with their districts.
 - Ted-please let BC High know how we are addressing this concern.
 - Ric-Cards are up 20% from 2019.
- Rule modifications
 - Due to EEA Guidelines a sub committee was formed to meet this guidelines so the Fall 1 soccer program could take place.
 - The subcommittee consisted of coaches/officials/committee members/AD's.
 - Bob Keuther reminded the committee that we must "Keep our eyes on the ball" these kids need to play
 - The modifications are only for 1 yr.
- Game Sheets
 - Game sheets can be printed off the MIAA website. There will be no physical contact or passing of papers during/after any game.
 - Players on field will still have consequences to the number of yellow/red cards.
 - Danny Erickson-going back to Ric point should home schools be responsible for sharing information with away school and leave the officials out of the reporting (expected for DQ's)
 - Scores and infractions must be reported through the members only tab, or using the MIAA app by the home team immediately following the conclusion of the game.

- Ric-very welcomed to this idea, assumed it was on the officials to keep track of infractions.
 - Danny Erickson-officials should be contacted if any questions or follows up are needed.
 - Bob Keuther- Asking committee members to email their districts to remind schools to communicate between each other. Officials should just continue with what they have been doing. Let the admin/home team take care of the reporting like in the past.
- No Handshake
 - Teams should line up, 6 feet apart, and walk down the line giving the other team a head nod and saying good game.
- Rule Changes
 - Rob Keuther- mentioned that this should be tabled until October. This will give the committee more time to become familiar with the rule changes. A date for voting will be set and sent out to all committee members; 2nd by Tania Rich-Unanimous
- Rob Pearl at 10:50 for the press to please leave and called an executive session for the committee.
 - Executive session was called to discuss the process in which the subcommittee for modifications was formed, the process of the modifications and the events of the leaked modifications before the soccer committee was notified.
- Motion to adjourn made by Bob Keuther, 2nd by Danny Erickson- Unanimous
- Meeting adjourned at 11:02