

Meeting Minutes NASOA 30 July 2018

Members present:

Dan Cutshall	Douglas Vechinski
Mohameds Mohamed	Kevin Hood
Skye Svehlar	Cuauhtemoc Havarrete
Celeste Roberts	Pat Miller
Wes Brown	Klaus Staefe
Bill Seely	Howard Blevins
AJ Hicks	Bill Pottrantz
Bill Der	Gary Doran
Tyle Der	Tim Holt
Ed Tate	Austin Holt
Jody Lavtigar	Chris Bryer
Daphne Brown	Madhav Gentela
Robert Sullivan	Diego Chular
Colin Sullivan	Kim Hensley
Kim Ong	Tim Barron
Darrell Schmidt	Todd Owen
Allen Craven	Cedric Thomas
Claudiu Muntele	Kris Bailey
Scott Randolph	Mike Moran
Nelson Walner	

(Apologies for misspellings but some can't print clearly !)

President

Cedric Thomas opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. The 5 June minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting. Cedric opened the floor to suggestions for best days to ensure maximum attendance in the Fall and Spring seasons. The motion to conduct meetings on the first Tuesday of August to December was approved. Thus the next meeting will be on 7 August. Meetings in the Spring high school season will be determined later. He also cited the excellent training at the USSF Road Show and recertification on 28 August at Sparkman High School.

Vice President

Tim Barron Discussed the new Game Officials software the USSF assigners, teams and referees will use for the 2018-19 season. Due to complexity of implementation, the State League may delay start of games by one week.

HASL

Tim Barron reported that Game Officials software has not been kind to HASL team registration. The system crashed after Tim loaded the team data. Tim is working with the software guru to fix the problem. He mentioned that there is a shortage of playing fields in the fall for HASL due to maintenance by the city.

SRA

Pat Miller further explained the workings of Game Officials software implementation. Referees can block dates in Game Officials. Also set blocks in Arbiter for high school games since the two systems are not linked. Referees must set up a GoPay account. RefPay will no longer be used. Referees are to set preferences in Game Officials to indicate what part of Alabama they are available. Set Huntsville Area in preferences to avoid being assigned to games elsewhere in the state. Assigners will link referee preferences to the area preferences. Referees should click on the Group Emails option (News and Info) in Game Officials to ensure receipt of soccer correspondence.

Vice President

Tim Barron cited the critical shortage of referees. He has asked every member to recruit at least one new referee by 1 October. He passed out recruiting flyers to the members. Members should start with relatives, friends and coworkers to recruit. Tim will take action to add a referee recruitment link on the NASOA webpage.. Daphne Brown mentioned the entry level class on 4 August will include players from Huntsville Football Club . USSF minimum age is 14. Another entry level clinic will be held at the end of September and in October and will try to avoid the D2 Kicks Tournament.

USSF Representative

Klaus Staefe announced the USSF Fitness Test will be conducted on 27 October at Bob Jones High School (possible conflict with Kicks tournament ?). He suggested

arriving early with a good fitness level. Be sure to train for the test. Since the criteria for Grades 7, 6, & 5 levels differ, referees must be on time for their particular test event. Klaus noted that the Alabama fitness criteria are more rigorous than the standard USSF criteria.

Treasurer

Kim Hensley said only Tanner High School is delinquent in ref fees. Cedric will send a letter to AHSAA to cite Tanner. Mike Moran suggested he also include the tardiness of many schools to pay on time.

Membership

Darrell Schmidt said referees should work for acceptance rather than agreement on decisions in game management

Lessons Learned from Referees who participated at Regionals, National, and Presidents Cup

Tim Barron said every match was assessed by a FIFA referee. Pregame coordination among the referee team is critical. He cited an example of lack of coordination on a PK mechanics.

Tim Holt mentioned the need for professionalism on and off the field at these high level events. Tim also said to maintain the 45 degree viewing angle on plays.

The visiting TN referee (name?) suggested game mechanics include “letting the play come to you” rather than running excessively into the play. He also recommended watching other referees at these games to see good and not so good mechanics. He also cited a situation where he made a mistake early in a game but recovered to manage the game.

Nelson Walner said that fitness is a challenge especially on days 2 & 3. Be professional and open to learning.

Celeste Roberts echoed the need for a thorough pregame conference. Showcase yourself at all times. Manage the game as well. If players and peanut gallery expect a call to go a certain way, let them have it that way if not significant. That will make subsequent calls more acceptable. However Cedric cautioned not to let players “game” you.

Diego Chulan also cited the pregame even if the team has worked together many times.

Klaus suggested that in “hot Spot” situations where something happened that may be confusing- MAKE THE Call and get out of the area quickly.

Austin Holt emphasized the pregame must include signals from the Other Official (AR) in PK situations- AR to run to goal line if 100% sure fouls are in the PA. But consider showing the “Skirt” flag if not 100% sure the fouls are in the PA.

The meeting ended at 7:20 PM.