

NASOA Membership Meeting 5 February 2018 V.2

President

Cedric Thomas opened the meeting at 6:00 PM at Merrimack Soccer Complex, Huntsville. 28 members were present. Minutes of 29 January 2018 were approved.

Cedric announced the passing of Andy Dye's father.

Jamboree

Cedric thanked all involved in the 3 February jamboree, especially Andy Dye Tim Barron, Daphne Brown, the referee mentors, and the referee participants. All did well in the 30-degree temperatures.

Vice President

HASL

Tim Barron announced an 18 February start date for HASL Open Division and a 19 Feb start date for Women and over 35 divisions. He also said that after 13 March, HASL will use two new fields whilst City North Fields are resurfaced in artificial turf. These new field are at Mastin Lake Park and are being refurbished by the city parks & rec people. HASL will also use Sandra Moon East (old Grissom High School field, Bell Mt., and Whitesburg Middle School fields.

Tim reminded refs doing HASL matches to verify all HASL players by: having the team captain distribute passes to the players, and using the game roster to call each player to the ref to verify the pass (he suggested the ref ask the player to confirm the Date of on the pass every now and then!). Tim Holt is the new assigner for HASL. A member asked about send offs in HASL; refs will not retain the player pass but will report the incident by telephone soonest to Tim Barron and Klaus Staefe, and submit a full USSF game report within 24 hours.

High School

Bill Steely will partner with Andy Dye to assign high school games. There is a critical shortage of referees. As of 2February there are 44 referees available to be assigned to high school games. Area matches will have priority followed by Varsity, JV, and Middle School matches. Some games will be cancelled. Referees are to set blocks in Arbiter soonest.

SDI

Kris Bailey announced the last USSF recert clinic will be held 10 February in Birmingham along with an entry clinic. Daphne Brown will conduct the entry-level clinic. There is also a district camp in Birmingham 10 February. Kris encouraged refs to work the Open Cup tournaments to advance their advancement possibilities. Experienced out of state referees are scheduled to work these Open Cup tournaments and will support the referee clinics during the tournaments. Amanda Ross, a FIFA AR, will also conduct the clinics.

Instructor

Daphne Brown encouraged refs who want to advance to 7-6 & 5 levels to work the Open Cups to be considered for Regional tournaments..

President

Cedric cited a number of tournaments on the schedule: the Open Cup (USSF) for girls is 6-8 April and 13-15 April for boys, the HFC tournament is 20-22 April. There is a scheduling conflict with the Open Cup on 6-8 April; the Southern Soccer Challenge is the same weekend.

Member

A member cited a high school rule on page 24 (Rule 4, Section 1, 4.1.1 regarding undergarment color and asked for guidance on how to enforce same. Cedric said our first priority was safety; if cold weather is a concern for player safety, we are to allow a different color undershirt with long sleeves **but advise the coach that under normal weather conditions such different color undergarments are illegal**. We are encouraged to put the circumstances into the game report but not into Arbiter. **Our goal is to ensure all teams playing in sub state and finals are legally equipped per Rule 4.**

Diego Chulan suggested all referees have another referee to discuss past game performance.

Instruction

President

Cedric asked the members for comments on the jamboree. Bill Steely said one entire team “took a knee” when a player was hurt prior to the referee stopping the game. He suggested a conversation with the coach to prevent future incident and perhaps including this possibility in the pregame session.

Cedric suggested to all referees to be proactive in their movements: if standing, refs are to walk; if walking, refs are to jog; if jogging, refs probably should be running! He cautioned AR’s on “ball watching- their primary duty is off side observation. Cedric described the need for refs to come off the traditional diagonal to handle actions in the corner near the AR who should be focused on offside.

USSF Representative

Klaus Staefe announced that Mike Smith and Tiffani Turpin (both from Birmingham) have been selected for “Tier 1” Pro Division (USL) level matches and tournaments. Refs must be willing to travel to be considered for this recognition.

Klaus Staefe cited Diagram 8 in the high school rulebook on page 92. The suggested position of the referee is wrong on a free kick near the goal line. The referee should be more in the center of the field observing the players jockeying for position and NOT in line with the players- the AR is responsible for offside –not the referee.

Instructor

Daphne Brown suggested the pregame include specific instructions to ARs to “watch my back” for incidents that need the ref’s attention. Daphne also said injured female players do not respond the same as male players when asked “Are you hurt”! Instead ask the injured player “Do you need a minute/ or “ Do you need a trainer?” She mentioned female players do not like to be touched!

Vice President

Tim Barron cited a situation during the Leicester-Liverpool match on 3 February where Harry Kane was in an offside position as the ball was played toward him BUT a Liverpool defender redirected the ball toward the corner. The Liverpool defender’s action put Kane on side! Tim cited the new high school rule on this matter on page 42.

Members at Large

Tim Holt encouraged referees to remember the differences between high school and USSF rules on substitution and other situations. Also in high school games a goal CAN be scored directly from a drop ball but not in USSF.

Mike Vesoulis advised members to know the Alabama high school rules on overtime: If game is tied- 5 minutes to coin toss- play 5 minutes, 2 minute half to change ends, play 5 minutes –go to KFM. The high school national rulebook cites different procedures.

Also referees are to leave the field as a team especially if hostile spectators are present. Also enter the field as a team.

The meeting ended at 7:10 PM

The next meeting will be 12 February 2018 at Merrimack Soccer Complex, Huntsville. The subsequent meeting will be on Wednesday, 21 February 2018 at Merrimack Soccer Complex. We will alternate Mondays and Wednesday on 1-½ week intervals. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.