

25 FEBRUARY 2019
NASOA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING V.1

President

Cedric Thomas opened the meeting at 6:00 PM. Minutes of the 13 February meeting were approved.

Cedric urged all members to accept or decline a game assignment quickly. Delaying and then rejecting an assignment causes major headaches for the assigner who must then scramble to find a replacement.

Be advised that if you decline an assignment, you can not be assigned another game that day. For experienced referees who may have a game assignment in another state, be sure to block that date in the NASOA Arbiter and Game Officials software.

Treasurer

Kim Hensley announced he has sent out 43 invoices to the high and middle schools with due date of 1 March 2019.

High School Assigner

Andy Dye announced that 160 games have been cancelled so far due to weather. Major scheduling problems exist since many schools have a “No Wednesday” play date policy. The impact is that if schools do not reschedule on Wednesdays, many middle school, JV, and non-section varsity games may be cancelled.

Referee Travel Limitations (Blocks) in Arbiter have been a problem. Some referees including experienced referees have maintained a 5 mile travel limitation. This limit has cause major headaches for the assigner. His recourse may be to limit those non traveling referees to lower level matches.

Andy reported many referees let their game assignments “TimeOut” without any response. Again, this causes unneeded work for the assigner.

If you have a problem with an assigned game or game position, referees are asked to telephone or text Andy to explain their problem- DO NOT decline the game assignment prior to speaking with Andy. There is no explanation block in Arbiter when a ref declines a game.

Also if a referee blocks the 9AM to 5PM time frame, that block **applies equally to Saturday and Sundays**. Therefore block times only for the days that are needed. If you do not work Wednesdays, for example, do not block that day or Saturday or Sunday.

USSF State Director of Assessment

Klaus Staefe reported the results of the FIFA Fitness Assessments held last Sunday. Some referees did very well. However, he noted that many referees prepared only to meet the minimums of the test. As a result, many referees did not pass especially on the long distance endurance portion of the test.

He did report two out of state referees passed both the FIFA Center and the FIFA AR test back to back with only a 90 minute break.

Klaus will conduct another FIFA Fitness test at Pelham High School on 14 April at 9AM. He advises referees not to accept games the day of the fitness test. He will not adjust test times to accommodate any referee who asks for an early start. He encourages all female referees to participate in the test to understand the requirements and pass the test.

USSF has issued "Condensed Considerations for Video Analysis ..."
This was distributed to the membership.

President

Cedric again asked for volunteers to become USSF assigners. He asked all members to contribute to the game in 2 or 3 aspects: player, coach mentor, assigner, assessor, etc. Please contact Cedric if anyone is willing to become an assigner.

Training

Daphne Brown explained how an injury to a high school player at midfield behind the referee and play gave unfair advantage to the attacking team at the indirect free kick restart. (no foul was called)(clock was not stopped & the injured player was not required to leave the field). The attacking team scored as a result of the IFK.

How to prevent? At the pregame tell the trailing AR to assess the injury to the player directly- if not significant, tell the player to recover. If significant, signal to the referee to stop the play and clock. Attend to the player, remove the player from the field and then restart. Normally do not stop play in this situation.

If playing under USSF rules, the restart would be a dropped ball.

Cedric pointed out a dangerous situation on a corner kick: the referee should not be in a position that allows an attacking player to run from behind the referee toward goal and briefly touch the referee as the ball is in flight- the touch is a distraction at a critical time. Refs should vary their position on corner kicks and prevent this possibility of a distraction.

Member at Large

Mike Smid asked if the board had sent notices to referees who had not registered. No answer was available to his question.

Cedric closed the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Attendees:

Cedric Thomas
Andy Dye
Bill Der
Robert Sullivan
Daphne Brown
A.J. Hicks
Austin Holt
Bill Buchanan
Mike Smid
Hannah Smid
Klaus Staefe
Shane O'Neil
H. O'Neil
Ken Brown
Nelson Walner
Kim Hensley
Mike Moran