

**4 FEBRUARY 2019
NASOA GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING V.0**

President

Cedric Thomas opened the meeting at 6:00 PM at Merrimack Soccer Complex, Huntsville, AL. Minutes of previous meeting were approved by the membership.

Cedric thanked all who helped make the 2 Feb Referee Clinic at Jack Allen Complex a success: Andy Dye, Tim Holt, and Kris Bailey.

High School Coordinator

Andy Dye reported there are 65 high school referees registered but not all have taken the on line test (53 have taken the test). Cedric encouraged all to take the test. Andy will not assign matches to referees who have not passed the test. Refs must set blocks in both Arbiter and Game Officials immediately if you accept a game in either system.

Andy said 61 teams participated in the referee clinic. He plans to limit participation to varsity and selected JV teams next year.

Andy urged refs to correct uniform problem in the first game - don't make it difficult for follow on ref teams. Goalies need numbers, etc.

Observations from referee clinic participants:

Coaches and players well behaved

Usual uniform issues- small shin guards, undergarments not the same color/length, etc. There was some confusion on new high school uniform rules regarding undergarment color and length.

Celeste Roberts informally polled coaches for feedback on last year's referee performance. Some items included were: Coaches cited need for consistency on offside and handling calls as well as the need for better communication with the referee team during the match.

Cedric explained the need for professional conduct by all referees, especially while speaking with coaches and other team personnel - explain calls when possible using the rule book language .

Training

Kris Bailey has issued Federation guidance on undergarment rules in DropBox.

Kris observed problems caused by teams warming up beyond the goal and touch lines during the referee clinic. For example a ball from the warm up team came on the field of play causing a control problem. Solution: warm up away from the field of play or better, warm up without the ball.

Kris also noted too many experienced referees kept eyes down instead of on the horizon to observe play- heads up! On duals, refs must be near the play to judge accurately and credibly. She noticed the biggest problem was the overall lack of fitness, agility, and hydration among the majority of

referees.. The Dual System requires ref movement sideways backwards and forwards.

She urged refs to bring their own water to the field and to hydrate the day prior to a match. Don't rely on a teams water jug!

She cited the need to understand when substitutions are allowed in high school matches- some differences with USSF.

Member Comments

Dan Cutshall asked what time should be indicated in Arbiter to show availability during the work week. The response was to indicated when the ref gets off work. The system will allow for travel time to the game so that if one shows an availability of 1600, the first game start time would reflect travel time later than 1600.

One member cited a situation on a dual game where the junior ref issued a red card. As senior ref he had to write the report without first hand knowledge of the incident- Andy said in those cases to call him and Andy will change the senior ref designation.

One member asked about unmarked team areas- solution- have the home side define tem areas with cones and enforce the rules to control the team areas.

HASL Coordinator

Tim Barron reported that HASL teams must have rosters with player photos on them. No photo, no play. The HASL season will end by 2nd week in May.

Also if assigned a HASL game, be sure to block that date/time in Arbiter.

Tim also reported he inspected the new field at Madson Academy. It had similar drainige inlets as at Westminster Academy but will be covered for games.

Fee Committee

Tim Barron reported on progress to date of the fee committee. The committee is reviewing options regarding the \$5 fee as well as options for the \$8 per day travel allowance.

USSF SDA

Klaus Staefe announced the Grade 5 and 6 Fitness Test will be held in Birmingham on Sunday, 24 February. Place and time will be announced shortly. Fitness test for Grade 7 and upgrading 8's will be held soon.

Klaus said he has received requests from Atlanta, Nashville, and Memphis for senior referees from NASOA. He advised all referees to report to him if any out of state organization contacts them to referee. Klaus will coordinate the out of state ssignments along with all assessments.

He advised referees to get assessments done early in the spring season.

He also reported the WPSL will have a team in Huntsville soon. Those games are considered "PRO".

Cedric closed the meeting at 7:20 PM

Attendees: To be published