

8 JANUARY 2019
NASOA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING V.1

Attendees:

AJ	Hicks	Andrew	Knedlik
Mike	Moran	Troy	Evans
Douglas	Vechinski	Mohamed	Mohamed
Ken	Brown	Abdallah	Abuspetani
Daphne	Brown	Noah	Brazelton
Kris	Bailey	Celeste	Roberts
Jackie	Svehlak	Pat	Miller
Kim	Khoon	Tim	Holt
	Ong	Austin	Holt
Nelson	Warner	Joe	Brannon
Gary	Doran	Kimberly	Brannon
Brandon	Glover	Claudiu	Muntele
Jeff	Roberts	Robert	Johnson
James	Green	Bill	Stealy
Cedric	Thomas	Mark	Potter
Tim	Barron	Joseph	Patterson
Scott	Bialkoski	Allen	Craven
Connie	Geary	Mark	Barnes
Todd	Owen	Andy	Dye
Kim	Hensley	Klaus	Staefe
Robert	Sullivan	Chris	Wiehe
Diego	Chulan	Wallace	Tate
David	Barreto	Luke	Lamonte
Darrell	Schmidt	Chris	Boyer
Kevin	Hood	Mike	Krassick
Dan	Cutshall	Richard	Robinson
Magdi	Eltom		
Bill	Derr		

President

Cedric Thomas opened the meeting at 6:04 PM. He welcomed Tim Holt as Vice President to serve through June 2019. He also introduced new referees: Joseph Patterson, C. Johnson and Allan Freeman.

AHSAA District Coordinator

Richard Robinson announced the State/District Camp to be held on 26 January 2019 at 0830 at Athens High School . Topics will include Foul Identification, Dual Referee System, Report Writing, and management of games involving Hispanic Americans whose method of play differs from other Americans. Lunch will be served. Richard Robinson announced that attendees will be awarded 30 District points and some additional State points toward certifying for Playoff, Semi Final and Final games. NASOA will cover the \$30 cost. The NASOA website should be open this week to register on line. Referees must be registered with AHSAA to attend.

Richard emphasised referees must enforce high school uniform rules from the onset. Report all violations immediately in the game report. The old uniforms may be used in the 2019 season but the referee team must be in the same uniform. It was suggested the old referees bring an extra old style jersey so new referees who will have new uniforms can wear the old jersey if needed. Richard said the preferred new uniform is green. A member asked what referees are to wear in cold weather since the Praetorian Guard at AHSAA decided only short sleeve jerseys would be available. Answer- the undergarment must match the ugly green new ref shirt.

Richard reported a significant uniform change: the away team must wear "all-white" Jerseys. Reason- home teams want to wear their school colors.

High School Assigner

Andy Dye announced the mandatory District Referee Clinic will be held on 2 February 2019 at Jack Allen Complex in Decatur. Referees may sign up on the NASOA website. Andy reported 50 teams will participate in the clinic which will feature shortened halves and referee performance feedback at halftime. Andy and Tim Holt are working on the points of emphasis for the clinic.

Treasurer

Kim Hensley reported only 30 referees have registered for high school soccer. Kim indicated Form 1099 at the end of the month.

SDA

Klaus Staefe urged all referees, high school and USSF, to get fit. He cited new running criteria for Grade 7 - 10 - ¼ mile laps to be run in 28 minutes, 33 seconds. Many experienced referees failed the fitness test last week in Miontgomery and many had muscle pain due to being not up to fitness standards.

Member Comments:

Jeff Roberts urged strict enforcement of hair control rules. Many high school players return from spring break with metal hair ends, colorful hair bows, etc.

Instructor

Daphne Brown urged referees not to tell players, "Your uniform is not correct- it's OK this time but correct by next game". Allow them to play but write up the violation in the game report and tell the coach at the time of noticing the violation.

SRA

Pat Miller announced the next four entry level clinics: 12 Jan in Prattville, 19 Jan in Smith Town, 2 Feb and 9 Feb in Birmingham,. There is only one recert clinic to be held on 19 Jan in Birmingham.

Board Member

Gene Uhl asked if USSF will use GameOfficials software. Pat Miller confirmed. Gene pointed out the problem of having to block dates/times in GameOfficials if referees are assigned games in high school Arbiter software.

SDI

Kris Bailey announced she will resign her SDI position but will still be active as a referee coach. Cedric thanked her for her outstanding contributions to soccer in Alabama. Ryan Campbell will be the new SDI. Cedric also cited Daopne Brown for outstanding service to NASOA over many years.

SDA

Klaus Staefe advised referees needing upgrade or maintenance assessments to contact him early in the season to schedule the assessment. Do not wait until the end of the year. Also referees wanting a ref out of state must get permission from the SRA and if they desire an assessment, they must contact Klaus as soon as possible. He will then arrange an assessor with that state's SDA.

HASL Representative

Tim Barron announced six fewer adult teams will not participate in the spring season. That means three less games per week and fewer opportunities for assessments. Tim also reported assignment of referees will be more focus than last season. HASL will start in mid February. Most of HASL games will be on the new artificial turf fields. Spectator areas will be defined and no food or beverages will be permitted on the turf fields. There is minimal space between fields so teams must depart quickly.

Assigner

Bill Sealy mentioned a WPSL (?) team will play in Huntsville soon.

MSSL Assigner

MSSL non USSF sanctioned league starts next week. Referees who participate must be paid refs in AHSAA for insurance purposes.

Communication Board Member

Celeste Roberts announced the set up of Instagram and Facebook sites. Kris Bailey strongly advised refs to refrain from personal adverse observation on game performance, coach behaviour, etc. since only bad things can happen in those instances.

Legal Advice

Jeff Roberts strongly urged refs to make a police report if threatened by anyone at a soccer game. Alabama laws are strict when defending game officials.

Other Matters.

Discussion of the take aways from the USSF State Referee Clinic last week.

Darrell reported five solutions to improve refs' mental attitude in midst of a "bad" game:

1. Go to a Happy Place in your mind
2. Use a Mantra
3. Reflect on the positive reason for refereeing
4. Reflect on a favorite color
5. Take deep breaths

The season will be long- keep mentally and physically fit.

SDA

Klaus strongly advised to limit the number of games referees perform in a week: high school no more than two per day (center & AR), youth - no more than 3 per day AND take off at lease one day.

AHSAA District Coordinator

Richard responded to a question concerning the requirement for a school administrator to be at high school soccer games. Refs are to identify the administrator prior to the statr of each game. Administrators must be immediately available at all yimes.

President

Cedric announced all January meetings will be on Mondays at 6PM at Merrimack Complex. Starting in February, we will meet every week and a half- dates to be published.

Meeting ended at 7:19 PM.