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## **ASAA OFFICIALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**August 4, 2006**

**9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**(Lunch Provided)**

### **AGENDA**

#### **I. Welcome / Purpose of Committee**

**Jim Gordon, ASAA Director of Officials**

**Gary Matthews, ASAA Executive Director**

Gary Matthews (GM), ASAA Executive Director, opened up the meeting and welcomed all who were attending. Gary also introduced Bernie Saggua, former Executive Director of the Iowa High School Association. Bernie extended his appreciation for the opportunity to participate with the Advisory Committee and at the upcoming Summit meeting.

GM explained that the goal of this first Advisory Committee meeting will be to move the profession of officiating forward in Alaska by learning to communicate with each other.

GM reviewed a brief history for the formation of the Officials Advisory Committee. Two models for committee structure were presented to the ASAA BOD. The ASAA BOD adopted the model which will allow an 11 member committee. The committee will be two times a year; one meeting in conjunction with the Officials Summit and the other via a conference call. The BOD also recommended that committee members serve for 2 years.

The committee reviewed several handout and noted corrections for their phones numbers: Mike Graeber - change the last 4 digits to 3847; Cheryl Severns - 488-9498; Lori Krier - 224-9065 (classroom phone).

#### **II. Introductions**

The following Advisory Committee members were in attendance:

Darren Kadel - Fairbanks, Hockey

Lori Krier - Seward, Volleyball

Bruce McKay - Anchorage, Football

Jim Gordon - ASAA, Officials Certification Officer

Rod Hill - substituting for Mike Graeber, Anchorage, softball

Lucito Munoz - Anchorage, baseball

Cheryl Severns - Fairbanks, Gymnastics

Ton Vania - Anchorage, Wrestling

Pat Schachle - Fairbanks, Soccer

Joe Alston - Anchorage, Basketball

Fred Angerman - Wrangell, Basketball

Also in attendance were:

John Andrews (JA) - ASAA Director of Special Events

Lavonne Norman - ASAA Director of Office Operations & Marketing

### **III. Review of 2005 Summit Points of Emphasis - Priorities / 2006 Summit Agenda and Plans**

Gary reviewed the main points of Emphasis from the 2005 Summit and the prioritizing of these points for the 2006 Summit meeting:

Training

State Tournament Officials Selection

Recruitment and Retention

Sportsmanship/Citizenship

Task:

Online database of officials: John Andrews (JA) has a small database of officials who attended the summit last year. He would like to expand this list.

GM explained that many states are going to on-line testing. In Nebraska officials register on-line and take their tests on-line. He would like to see ASAA work towards this on-line process. JA has developed a coaches data base. Some states are also asking officials to enter their schedules on-line, if the officials does not comply then the official is not eligible to officiate at the state tournament. Some states assign officials for all regular season games. GM explained that at this time the ASAA staff could not take on that project.

Joe Alston explained that ASOA (Anchorage Sports Officials Association) has initiated this on-line process.

#### Officiating Fee Structure

#### Advisory Committee

#### Training Jamborees -

Joe Alston explained that ASOA has developed a program to train 3 crew officials for basketball. Clinics have been held in Nome, the Peninsula and Anchorage.

Bruce McKay explained that football clinics are given in conjunction with school scrimmages for the purpose of recruiting and training.

Rod Hill trains officials for softball by using a "Bat Around".

Pat Schachle - a mentor program for soccer officials in Fairbanks was begun 10 years ago.

GM asked Fred Angerman from Wrangell how officials were trained in Wrangell. Fred explained that in order for an athlete to be able to go to a state tournament, the high school student must contribute \$300 and participate in 60 hours of community service. This Community Service usually involves officiating in youth games which is overseen by veteran officials.

#### Officiation Curriculum - online

#### Leadership in Promoting Sportsmanship

#### Review of ASAA Bylaws

#### Post-season Tournament Selection

#### Fee Structure

The 2005 PRIORITY ITEMS were: (1) Advisory Committee; (2) Online Database and (3) Pre-season meetings with officials/coaches/administrators.

GM announced that nominations are open for officials to be nominated for the Alaska High School Hall of Fame. In March 2006, the inaugural Alaska High School Hall of Fame was introduced. 21 inductees were selected, but there were no nominations for officials. GM would like to see officials nominated this year for review by the Selection Committee.

## **2. Officials Pay Issue**

GM reviewed the handouts and emails he received from his survey to state associations. The ASAA BOD is in the process of investigating officials fees throughout the state of Alaska. GM also surveyed the school and some schools responded that they would like minimum and maximum fees set. GM is asking the Advisory Committee for advice:

Lucito Munoz - Region 4 (ASD) schools do not pay officials fees. Fees are paid by booster clubs since this is an outsourced sport. GM explained that if the ASAA BOD sets fees for officials, the BOD philosophy is not to differentiate between school sports and outsourced sports. All sports need to be held at the same level.

### **DISCUSSION:**

A lengthy discussion was held. Official associations throughout the state would like ASAA to set fees for ASAA State tournaments. Due to the size and logistics of the state there is much inconsistency for fees. Bernie Saggua reminded the committee that this topic has been discussed throughout the states since 1947. He can see that Alaska has logistical hurdles. In Iowa an official cannot work a game for the school district in which they reside. He encouraged the committee to not get "love" mixed up in considering fee amounts. If an official is not paid enough, the "love" will dwindle. The committee discussed the possibility of dividing the state into regions/conferences to set fees.

GM concluded this discussion by reiterating that it is necessary to look at the totality of the issue. Perhaps it needs more investigation. The ASAA BOD will have to take some action. He will give the ASAA BOD a report of what issues have been discussed.

## **3. Rating System**

The committee discussed evaluation vs. rating of officials. Several officials associations are rating and evaluating their officials. GM reviewed systems that are used by other state associations and individual committee members explained their association's system for rating and evaluation. Bernie Saggua reminded the committee that the evaluation of coaches has nothing to do with rating of officials. There may be some officials who make high grades of rating but are poor officials. A standard needs to be set. The idea of a rating system is to encourage officials to excel. GM concluded that at this time there is nothing in Alaska that provides consistency for an official to learn rules. The consensus seems that a rating system is a good thing to pursue.

## **4. On-Line Rules Clinics / Officials Education**

This topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

## **5. Officials Association — Review Montana model**

This topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

## **6. State Tournament Selection Process**

GM reviewed the processes used by regions throughout the state to select officials and discussed the problems that have been encountered. He reviewed with the committee the information in the packet. The committee expressed concerns about the competency of Head Officials. JA reported that he has received concerns that even though officials are selected from all regions, not all regions can provide the same level of officials.

The committee reviewed Page 103 #6 in the ASAA Handbook and suggested that the following wording be added: “if no official, from a region, meets the required criteria, the selection will be moved to another region/conference.” The committee also discussed the need to develop a mentor program. The general consensus was to allow a mentor to be selected to attend the state tournament, not to fill the quota, but only as a mentor. GM suggested that a region send this additional person at their expense, not as an ASAA expense.

Rod Hill noted the number of officials allotted in the Handbook for State Softball. He asked that 10-12 officials be allowed with the expansion of this tournament. Lori Krier expressed that she would like VB officials to be used to do line judging rather than college kids. The committee discussed the pros and cons of this concept.

## **7. Recognition / NFOA Awards**

GM explained that ASAA has the opportunity to nominate officials for the NFOA awards. The packet info was reviewed. ASAA has had no process to provide forms to officials to receive nominations. Lori Krier expressed strong approval for this recognition program. Bernie suggested that the Advisory Committee take the nominations. He expressed that it is very important for officials to be recognized. The committee decided to follow a process :

1. Criteria for nomination will be sent out from the ASAA office to the Advisory Committee
2. Nomination forms will be sent to each Adv Committee member, representing each sport
3. The committee members would distribute the nomination forms to officials in that sport
4. The Advisory Committee will review the nominations and make recommendations to the NFOA for its selection process.

## **8. Screening of Officials**

GM reviewed the packet information and gave a brief history on this subject. Many state associations are discussing this topic and GM is wondering what is being done within the local level of officials associations. Some associations have a “box” for an individual to indicate that they have been convicted of a felony or are a registered sex offender. This information is only for the records of the officials association. Bernie described the plan that will go into effect in Iowa. GM asked the committee to talk to their groups about this topic and give more feedback at the winter meeting.

### **Additional Information / Points:**

- 2005-06 NFHS Officials Department Survey Results
- 2005-06 Registered Officials by Sport
- Winter Meeting Date - Mid January - Jim Gordon will notify the committee**
- Selection of Committee Chair
- Committee Member Substitutes