

WMSOA Board Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2010

Members Present: Greg Pilbeam, John Crumb, Mark Lundvick, Larry Olsen, Paul Holwerda, Bob Powers, Doug Turkstra

Others Present: Matt Carlson, Keith Miller, Bill Wagner, Mike Wint

AGENDA

- 1) **Spring Season Assigning** – Schedules are in for all schools except GR Union, and they have been contacted for theirs. GR Central has decided NOT to field a team this spring. Assignments will start to go out in about 10 days. First games can be played on March 24, but there will be a number of scrimmages on March 20.
- 2) **Recap communication with MHSAA** – There has been considerable communication with Tom Minter about tournament assignments and the perception that the requirements MHSAA asks officials to follow are not being used to make the assignments. Officials are being assigned who have not turned in game schedules or have not worked enough games to qualify, and qualified officials who have not previously been offered games in our board, and he agreed to do so. Greg will invite him to a future meeting.
- 3) **Planning 2010 events and meetings** – The following dates were noted or established:
 - 03/20 (Sat)...First scrimmages of the Girls Spring season
 - 03/23(Tue)...Spring Training Meetings–6:30PM Refreshments/7:00 PM Meeting
Muskegon @ Fairfield Inn Grand Rapids @ GR Christian HS
 - 05/04 (Tue)...Spring Cracker Barrel Meetings
Muskegon @ Fairfield Inn Grand Rapids @ Holiday Inn/68th St
 - 08/07 (Sat)...Fall Pre-season Fitness Test and Meeting @ Grandville HS
 - 08/19 (Thu)...HS Referee Training Date & NISOA Fitness Test Alternate Date
@ GR Christian HS
 - 10/04 (Thu)...Fall Cracker Barrel Meetings – Sites to be announced
 - 12/04 (Sat)...Annual General Meeting @ Grandville HS
- 4) **Response to OK Conference decision on pay** – Greg and John report that the OK Conf voted 36-15 to freeze pay for another year through the 2010-2011 season. In response, WMSOA will ask that beginning in the FALL of 2010 the game length for ALL JV games be set at 70 minutes (in keeping with what is being done in all other known situations in the state), that the “mercy rule” be applied to games at ALL levels of competition, that overtime be used in the regular season only for conference games, and that schools be asked to conform to defined starting times for games that are part of a “triple-header” schedule.

- 5) **New Referees** – Bob Powers passed out a list of “new” referees containing 16 names. The recruits have varying levels of experience, and we will be working to assign most of them to games this spring in positions and at competition levels that seem appropriate for them, as their availability allows.
- 6) **Web Page** – Paul Holwerda is spearheading a project to update the WMSOA website. He has assigned specific areas of the website to the board members and assignors for their review and revision, with the intent of making certain that the content is as current, informative, and easily accessible as possible. We are to review our areas and submit suggestions for updates to Paul by March 1 in the format specified in his handout. Paul will then coordinate the actual website update with a capable website designer, with the understanding that it may be necessary to spend \$2000 to \$3000 on this project.
- 7) **Treasurer’s Report to date** – Mark Lundvick reported that WMSOA has approximately \$14,000 presently in its account, though about \$5500 for member dues must be paid out to NISOA. This payment is late going out, as we have waited for members to pay. It was suggested that for next year, members wishing to pay NISOA dues through WMSOA would need to have them in to the treasurer no more than one week after the AGM. Our assignors have all been paid up to date, and invoices will soon be going out to the high schools for the spring season assigning fees. We will likely increase this fee to the schools next year. We currently have 130 WMSOA members and 64 NISOA members, almost all of which are paid up. Also of note, the Arbiter fee is now \$5 per official.
- 8) **Other** – The OK Conference has expressed concern about the numbers of cards being issued to players, and especially red cards. The conference is considering whether to increase the game suspension policy for certain red card offenses and has asked for input from WMSOA concerning this. They are also considering some form of “accumulation” system for yellow cards, similar to the college system. Board members should submit any suggestions about these issues to Greg, so he can summarize them for presentation to the conference.
- 9) **Next Meeting** – Tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 15 – Site to be determined.