

WMSOA Board Meeting - Minutes of March 15, 2010 Meeting

Members Present: Greg Pilbeam, John Crumb, Mark Lundvick, Larry Olsen, Doug Turkstra

Others Present: Matt Carlson, Keith Miller

AGENDA

- 1) **Assigning Update** – Matt indicates that scheduling for the lakeshore area is pretty well set for the spring season, though several schools are still waiting to see if they will be able to field a JV team. Greg says that the situation is much the same for the schools that he and Bill Wagner assign in the Grand Rapids and Holland areas. The assignors are still waiting for any last-minute additions and are also planning to pre-schedule the referees for the dates of OK Conference tournament games for those divisions that hold them, though game sites and times will not be available until the week of the event. Greg will also soon begin publishing college game assignments for the Fall 2010 season. With Kim Vieira's assumption of assigning oversight for the GLIAC, Greg will continue with GVSU and Ferris State games, as well as assist with assigning Saginaw Valley and Northwood.
- 2) **Planning Pre-Season Meeting** – Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, March 23, at 7:00PM, with refreshments available at 6:30PM. John, Doug, and Matt will conduct the Lakeshore meeting at the Fairfield Inn in Muskegon. Other board members will be at the Grand Rapids meeting at GR Christian HS. Topics to be covered: Updates on assigning; Game management and control; How to do Game Reports; MHSAA Rules Insert and "Weather" procedures; Need to check and update Arbiter; Importance of attending WMSOA meetings
- 3) **Planning Mid-Season Cracker Barrel** – Meetings are schedule for Tuesday, May 4, at 7:00PM at the Fairfield Inn in Muskegon and at the Holiday Inn/68th Street off US-131 in Grand Rapids. A review of the spring season to that point will be part of the meeting, including any issues or concerns arising from the games. The "uniform bulk purchase" will be presented, and officials will be encouraged to prepare for the fall season by updating Arbiter availability by June 1, so High School assignments can be made prior to July 1.
- 4) **Web Page Update** – Larry reported that Paul Holwerda has received the suggested updates to the various pages of the WMSOA website from each of the board members and is in the process of collating all of the information. He is also working with Dave Whitehouse to find an appropriate new format for the website, and he plans to make the changes after the end of the spring season. In the meantime, Larry will send minutes of Board meetings to Dave for posting, and any NECESSARY updates to other information (those needed immediately) can be added to the website by sending the information to Paul, who will forward it to Dave.
- 5) **OK Conference Update** – Greg received a call from Carl VanHeck of the OK Conf on Thursday, March 11, wanting access to general WMSOA information on Arbiter; but he was not able to provide a good explanation of the need for this information, other than perhaps to "go out to games and see what is happening". John spoke to Jerry DeGroot of Unity Christian (who is on the OK Officials' Committee) about this call. Jerry indicated the Conference does NOT want to take over assigning officials, but there was still no indication of what else the Conference might be interested in. The Board was in

agreement that we do NOT want the Conference “re-rating” officials, since coaches are already doing this. If schools or the Conference want rating information, they should be sure to get (or keep) copies of coaches’ ratings before they are submitted to the MHSAA. If there are issues that the schools or the Conference have with officials or game situations, they should be submitted to WMSOA so that a two-way communication with the Board can take place. Greg will follow up with Jim Haskins of the OK Conf about this. There are also still issues with some of the schools and how they are handling officials’ Social Security numbers, either continuing to request them again and again from referees or failing to properly secure them when obtained. This issue will also be raised again. We are still waiting, too, for a report back from the Conference about their request for our suggestions about supplemental suspension policies for red card disqualifications and/or yellow card accumulations.

- 6) **Other** – Greg reported that the MIAA will NOT provide a pay increase for the Fall 2010 season, due to general financial and budget constraints facing all the schools; but there is currently a plan to provide an increase for Fall 2011. Mark reported that our WMSOA financial condition is good, all bills are being paid in good order, and that all schools have paid for the Arbiter fees except the GR Public Schools, which still owe for Fall 2009 and for Spring 2010. Mark will contact GRPS about this again.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Olsen / WMSOA Secretary