

WCSOA membership meeting

Minutes of meeting held Sept. 5, 2018

Location: Holy Cross High School

Meeting: Interpretation meeting for 2018 season

Time: Meeting called to order by president Gary Watts shortly after 7 p.m.

Gary opened with some general remarks and welcome to all in attendance.

Rules interpretation

WCSOA rules interpreter Art Hamm made his annual presentation.

Art reminded members that there are no hard copy rule books this year (as a cost saving measure); pointed out that technical difficulties at the time prevented videos from being shown; and as old school teacher had members move forward in auditorium.

1. Briefly reviewed some of changes last year, including one that head gear allowed in some cases.

2018 changes

1. Uniforms: white now for visiting teams; dark (contrast to white) for home teams. Shorts can be any color.

2. Undergarments

Can be any color now, but all players on a team must wear same color. There was some discussion about under shirts.

3. Socks.

Straps or tape that is visible must be the same color as the socks.

Ankle braces are OK.

4. Head covering.

Religious coverings now OK; should have a letter with a confirmation ruling from CIAC. If there is no such letter at field, allow player to play in game and notify WCSOA executive board (which will contact school)

5. Kickoffs.

One player on the team kicking off may stand in the opposing side of field since kickoff may now go in any direction. This means trail official should be further back at kickoff, even as far as even with second to last defender.

6. Player in offside position can't come back from other side of field and legally play ball.

Video equipment still not working despite feverish attempts to sync it up

7. Point of emphasis.

Excessive substitution should be carefully watched. If the winning coach is doing it late in match in an attempt to delay game you can stop the clock (your judgement), and this behavior by the coach could lead to caution (yellow card).

8. Goal scoring opportunity.

Example: Goalie comes out to play ball as offensive player attacks alone, goalie trips player in the box. Correct call is PK and yellow card. On yellow goalie MUST leave field and must be replaced. Idea here is to remove the old double jeopardy penalty (PK and red card). This ONLY applies in the penalty box.

Video equipment now up and running thanks to dedicated work of Kurt Miller

Art shows several examples of above (goal scoring opportunities), and discusses with members.

9. OT rules same as last year (none for preps, NVL, FCIAC and SWC; 2-5 minute periods for CCC and BL.

Old business

1. Gary Watts speaks about founding member Paul Bourdeau who passed away last year and asks for moment of silence.
2. Gary introduces 1st and 2nd year members with their mentors. He also recognizes returning members Paul Maloney and John Larson; as well as transfers Roberto Theodore and Willis Howell.
3. SECRETARY REPORT: Al Schoenbach motion to accept minutes from banquet meeting Nov., 2017; Andy Mozelak second. PASSES.
4. Lee Lewis speaks about importance of correctly reporting red cards and explains the procedures for reporting yellow and red cards for various levels of soccer.

Joe DelBuono stresses how important this is being taken by CIAC, with veiled threat of returning to writing cards in the scorebook at field. MUST be done the right way by our officials.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT: Juan Rumino reports the following balances as of the meeting date:

Checking: \$7,016.60

Savings: \$9,622.31

Total: \$16,638.91

Juan speaks briefly on report and says he will send a more detailed report to members before the Sept. 18 meeting. He also says that any dues or fines owed by members should be sent to him; commissioner's fee goes directly to Joe DelBuono.

6. Dues for 2019 are \$109 and may be paid to Juan up until banquet with no late fees.
7. Volunteers for audit committee sought.
8. Art Hamm returns to briefly speak about making the mentor program work well.

New business

1. Gary Watts informs members that Holy Cross requests to be paid nominal amount for use of their building for WCSOA meetings. After brief discussion agreed that we will do that and continue to hold meetings at HC.
2. Bourdeau Fund.

We have money that has been donated in the name of Paul Bourdeau and Gary speaks about possible uses for that money including scholarships, soccer camps. Andy Savio suggests delaying any decision until more ideas may be solicited, which is agreed upon.

3. Uniforms.

While the old uniforms we have been using for many years may be discontinued by the manufacturer, Gary reminds members that as long as the two officials at the game are wearing same, they are all fine.

4. Honorary Life Member.

Gary says that Executive Board has nominated Phil Monteleone for this special status. Gary reads bio of Phil with his soccer accomplishments and says we will have a vote via paper ballot.

Voting off to rough start when VP Jim Matranga looks for paper ballots in someone's lunch sack on stage. Ballots are found and voting commences.

VOTES ARE COUNTED AND PHIL CONFIRMED AS HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

5. Probationary members.

Gary lists following probationary members as having passed probation and eligible for voting in as full members:

David Cardoso, James Hester, Steve Miller, Jason Simon and Brad Fidler.

MOTION: Gary Watts to accept above as full members; Phil Marcoux second ... PASSES.

Commissioner's report

Joe DelBuono presents his annual preseason report touching on many topics.

1. Among highlights: lowest numbers of officials on our roster in many years; more schedule changes for variety of reasons (non-weather) this year; we MUST cover sub-varsity games or schools may move to other boards (this in reply to some grumbling from members about having to do these games); Joe reminds that there are more sub-varsity matches on schedule than varsity; check with partner night before match to coordinate uniforms, parking, etc.; schools using ArbiterPay include Taft, Bristol schools, Brookfield, Naugatuck, Southington and Plainville.
2. Joe also says he may not be as generous with game turnbacks this season due to tightness of schedule.

Joe ends his remarks and 12 members stand to leave; president Watts quickly tells them "we're not done yet" and they return to seats.

Better officiating

1. Gary Watts thanks Jaimi-Lyn Scheib for her past work with committee and introduces Phil Monteleone for this year's initial presentation.

Phil's presentation:

1. Stresses player safety as critical issue in ALL matches.
2. Communication important between officials at all points before and during match: should walk field together, check goals, check balls, check with timekeeper, tell trainer to only come on field when beckoned.
3. If you stop the clock for an incident a card MUST be issued.

4. Phil has a few other remarks on general issues and then says, “think I’m done” ... which is met with loud applause.

2018 meeting dates

General membership:

Sept 18. (Holy Cross, 7 p.m.)

Oct. 17 (Holy Cross, 7 p.m.)

Banquet: Nov. 19, Aria in Prospect

Meeting ended at 8:51 p.m. as room quickly emptied.