

WCSOA membership meeting

Minutes of meeting held Aug. 29, 2013

Location: Chase Collegiate School

Meeting: Annual interpretation meeting for 2013 season

Time: Meeting called to order by vice president Robinson Leech at 7:01 p.m.

Interpretation

RL introduces WCSOA rules interpreter Art Hamm for annual interpretation meeting.

Visiting coaches: 11 coaches from area high schools attended the meeting, including 2012 Paul Bourdeau Award winner Bill Sweet of Bristol Eastern.

Visiting officials: Just 1 official from another state board was in attendance.

AH spent some time organizing the room.

His presentation (all Power Point slides are available for viewing on WCSOA web site):

1. DVD from NFHS played with new rules.
2. Power Point slides emphasize new rules

New rules summary

RULES CHANGES

3-3-2b(1): During a dead ball as the result of an injury, either or both coaches can now give coaching instruction to his/her team.

3-3-2 (new) and 3-4-1b: Before they enter the field, substitutes must be beckoned onto the field by the referee except at the start of a period.

4-1-1c: Clarifies that tape applied to the socks cannot change the basic color of the socks.

12-8-1e: The use of electronic communication devices is allowed in the bench area. These devices, however, cannot be used to communicate with athletes on the field during the game.

12-8-1f(14) (new): An unsuccessful attempt to deny an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by a foul (i.e., a goal is scored anyway) is now unsporting conduct and a caution (yellow card). Previously, this was a disqualification (red card).

12-8-2d(2): A successful attempt to deny an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by a foul (goal is not scored) is still serious foul play and a disqualification (red card).

18-1-1n: This change defines that on a free kick the ball has not been properly kicked into play when a player merely taps or steps on the top of the ball with his/her foot. The ball must now also move.

3. Equipment: teams will be allowed, for example, to wear pink socks (or other color) for special occasions. Typically home team must have white socks, visiting team 'dark' socks.

4. AH emphasizes that when a foul is committed near the goal, but the goal is scored the offending player is now given yellow card (not red).

5. Ball put in play must "move", not just be tapped on the top of the ball. Does not necessarily need to move one revolution.

Ball rolled with cleats ... AH needs clarification on what 'kicks' means. Says not to allow it for now, pending review.

6. Field diagram: action by Connecticut officials (we were major player in this) prompted change to "suggested" that there be no objects within 10-feet of field borders. Still responsibility of officials to check fields before game.

7. Bench areas: rule book said they should be marked. If not, play game and notify WCSOA commissioner and secretary, who will contact school.

8. Yellow card rule: players getting yellow must come off field, but no longer sit out 10 minutes. Player may return at next legal substitution opportunity. THIS IS A MAJOR CHANGE.

9. ALL cards must be reported to CIAC. **Red cards** need to be reported to both CIAC and a full report completed and sent to WCSOA secretary Lee Lewis within 24 hours of incident (prefer quicker).

10. Anchoring goals ... must be done before game can begin. This should be part of the officials' pregame checks.

11. Injury policy: has not changed, trainer or coach must be beckoned onto the field. If no trainer/coach comes on, player may remain in game. If anyone comes onto field to attend to injured player, player MUST come off field. No different for goalie.

12. White uniforms: Home team must have white uniforms and white socks. If not white, play game and send email to WCSOA (commissioner, president, secretary). Only pertains to varsity games.

13. Pre-game: "Will your team be properly and legally equipped?"

AH dismisses any coaches in attendance.

Rules review

AH presented several questions off the annual rules test for discussion.

Officer reports

President

1. Andy Savo offers some brief welcome remarks.
2. AS talks about establishing an assessment program. Asks for committee members to help develop this program. More information on the WCSOA web site.

Secretary

1. Lee Lewis spends short amount of time going through WCSOA web site features.
2. LL talks about importance of properly reporting cards to both CIAC and WCSOA (red).

Treasurer

1. Jim Smith talks about importance of sign-in sheets, which are left on the table near the room entrance. Easy way to avoid fines.
2. JS explains financial obligations of all members. This information is also posted on the WCSOA web site.

Commissioner's report

1. Joe DelBuono stresses that he can get through meeting with little said, if members visit Arbiter regularly. This should certainly happen on day of meeting to help streamline process.
2. UPDATE Arbiter for all conflicts continually.
3. JD explains how blocks work on Arbiter.

4. JD explains game fees and says it is wise that officials fill in amounts on vouchers when they are completed before the games.

5. 2 hour rule for weather postponements; 24 hour rule for non-weather ppds.

6. Assault: If someone touches official, stop game IMMEDIATELY and call police to file report. Then make sure to contact WCSOA commissioner, president, secretary following the match and complete game report on Arbiter.

7. Contact Joe at WCSOA email address during season.

8. JD fields cell phone call during presentation.

9. JD goes through assignments for scrimmages and early season matches.

10. Game report on Arbiter should be filled in by the No. 1 official as listed on the game schedule.

11. JD wraps up his report to light applause.

Overtime policy

SWC, FCIAC, preps: no OT

BL, CCC, CSC: 2 5-min. OTs (no golden goals)

NVL: 2 10-minute (no golden goals)

Fitness test

MOTION: AS presents the following motion, which is seconded by George Bradford:

The WCSOA will conduct a physical fitness test for its members annually during the month of May. The Executive Board will determine benchmarks for the test and the results will be used by the Commissioner, at his discretion, in assigning both regular season and postseason matches.

Discussion:

Why May? Because if it is later than that JD can't use it as an assigning tool.

Dates? Probably 3 separate dates at 3 locations, such as was the case this year.

Do other state boards do this? JD reports that Central Board also does this.

Andy Mozalak: Was voted out by membership in 2001, was any research done on returning it?

Injury concerns: part of reason for dropping it previously.

AS says it should be held on 3 different days of the week at 3 locations.

Al Schoenbach: Is this for all officials, college and NFHS? AS says that college officials already do a PT test and they must pass that one. If they don't they must take our test.

JD: Biggest complaint received by coaches/ADs are on fitness level of our officials. They complain about officials who can't keep up with level of play. Some games require higher level of fitness than others.

JD emphasizes that this is the No. 1 complaint he hears in the season.

AS: At October meeting EX will have dates for the 2014 season and benchmarks (times for the 3 different PT tests).

... as discussion wanes, AS calls for vote.

MOTION passes by hand vote

New business

Life member

1. AH presents proposal on extending honorary life member status to Terry Schanbacher. He details some of Terry's accomplishments and service to the board, both ours and the state board.

2. Needs written vote (2/3 of total membership to pass ... 90 votes)

MOTION: AH to give Terry Schanbacher Life Member status. 2nd by Andy Mozelak.

MOTION passes after written vote with overwhelming support

AH presents lightning policy

1. The policy on lightning is posted on our web site. Bottom line: maximum wait time in case of lightning to resume game is 1 hour

Meeting dates

WCSOA

Mon., Sept. 9: Second meeting at Chase Collegiate, 7 p.m.

Tues., Oct. 8: Third meeting at Chase Collegiate, 7 p.m.

New members need to report at 6 p.m. on meeting nights

Mon., Nov. 18: Banquet (details forthcoming)

Meeting ended around 8:59 p.m. as room quickly emptied