

Minutes of E.M.S.O.A. Annual Business Meeting held at VFW Hall, Needham, MA on December 2, 2006.

Regrets: K. Moore, M. Salerno, P. Roche, A. Tighe

Members Absent: R. Beaudoin, P. Callanan, G. Chandler, S. Cronin, B. Dickey, F. Hasek, M. Kadala, M. Kelley, P. Kristo, D. Laversa, J. Linehan, J. Livingston, N. Martens, A. Pandolph, P. St. Clair, R. Valle.

Meeting called to order at 1:45 pm. By President Campbell.

Minutes of Business Meeting of Dec 4, 2005 was distributed to the members. Motion to accept. **VOTED in the affirmative.**

Election of Officers: Sec./Treas. Ringuette explained how the election of Interpreter and Sec./Treas. should have taken place last year. Due to an omission on the part of Sec./Treas. Ringuette, the election did not take place. An election should be held at this meeting for a two-year term only for these offices. Nominations from the floor are now open. Hearing no nominations for Interpreter, a motion to close nominations was made and seconded. The President advised the Sec./Treas. to cast one ballot for Frank Scarsella, Interpreter until 2008. Hearing no nominations from the floor for sec./Treas. a motion to close nominations was made and seconded. President Campbell casts one vote for Bob Ringuette, Sec./Treas. until 2008.

Treasurer's Report; A report of the Treasury was distributed to members. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made and seconded. **VOTED in the affirmative.**

Committee Reports:

Judiciary Committee – Cal Perry indicated a loss of approx. 32 members for non-attendance at the Interpretation Meeting. Last year clinics realized a total of 60 – 70 new members. There is still a shortage of officials to meet the needs of the schools serviced in our area. 2007 clinics will be listed on www.emsoa.org in the near future. Any and all testing should be pre-approved by the judiciary committee. The objective of the EMSOA is to train new officials over a span of 16 hours of instruction with a shortened version for Lev. 7 and Lev. 8 USSF officials wishing to become members. This should make it easier to attract members.

F.Y.I. only!!!!

MIAA Game Officials Committee has indicated that all 3-man games during the regular season will be paid at the rate of 85% of the Varsity fee. Tom Stagliano indicated that Leagues govern the # of officials used in games. A thrust will be introduced at the next MISOA Meeting to address this notion with the GOC and Soccer Committee.

MISOA has asked that the Game Reporting System (Incident Report) be restricted to varsity games only. The MIAA indicates there will be electronic reporting of all games in the future. Names of officials who worked Tournament Games will be forthcoming and made public in the near future.

MISOA Report – R. Valle absent. **No report**

Committee Reports (Cont'd.)

50th Anniversary Committee - Thomas McNair reports that a Banquet will be held in January of 2008 at a site to be determined later. The Hilltop in Saugus has been mentioned; also a commemorative toss coin will be struck for all members as a keepsake of the occasion. Tom would like to conduct a survey to check on interest, maybe at the Interpretation Meetings?

Chapter Reports:

North Chapter – C. Sanderson has been nominated President for another term of office. Bruce Anderson is the new Vice-President and the new Interpreter is Richard Valle. Meetings will be held at Lynnfield High School next year. Letter of thanks sent to school on behalf of the EMSOA.

South Chapter – R. Cocuzzo has submitted dates for the Spring Clinic and Fall Meetings. All to be held at Hanover High School. Ron also described the Double Dual System that was utilized in two games in the South area this past season. A game at Sharon and another at Mansfield proved to be a reasonable alternative to the Diagonal System. Ron has a meeting with Bill Johnson, Chairman of the MIAA Soccer Committee to discuss the possibility of using this system more in the future. Comments from the MIAA Game Observer, Bob Ringuette, a videotape and coaches comments will be presented. Coaches were surprised there were fewer whistles, maybe because the SR's were close to play and could comment to players. Good preventative mechanics possible with this system. Third officials were paid by EMSOA. Nancy Martens supports this idea in the tournament.

West Chapter – President Wayne Brown discussed changes in the meeting schedule to eliminate the late October meeting and still have two in September. This past season the West chapter initiated a series of presentations, which was topical in nature. Small discussion groups were utilized to present situations and how to resolve them. Ed Rae was used to present these programs, which resulted in skill set improvements. Funds that were returned to Chapters from clinics were used to pay for this program. A proposal will arise under New Business to provide funding for future groups and training. Tom Stagliano was interested in any stats regarding the elimination of one meeting in October? Larry Wise was introduced as the west Director of Assessment.

Assessors Reports:

South Assessor – George Cataldo indicated he saw each new official a minimum of two times each. He felt the feedback was well received by these individuals. When veteran officials were assessed he thought they resented being observed and evaluated with some resistance to constructive criticism. Walter Mortimer assisted George in these evaluations.

North Assessor – Mike Pelletier provided a written report with several suggestions for improvement. Discussion of these items will be held at next executive Board meeting. Mike felt

Assessors Reports (Cont'd.)

Assignors should be made aware of availability of Assessors to view new officials. He also indicated he had fewer new officials this year. He thinks referees are improving; Roy Condon has his assignments on line and is a big help in locating games to observe. Mike also indicated other Assignors are hard to reach. Another area of concern is the fact that members may not be aware that Assessors are available to **THEM** for observations. Maybe an announcement in the Newsletter would help?

West Assessor – Larry Wise saw 35 officials this season, he thought the new officials liked the evaluations. Jim Palmer wants to know how to improve the Assessment program. Assignors need to be in contact with Assessors.

General Comments: A general comment to the effect of using a universal assessment document is one in use, North and West used it, and South has yet to use them for feedback. Tom Stag. “some assignors are still using fellow officials to evaluate”. GC does not agree with this situation.

Can all three Assessors get together and assist in the improvement of making assessments? Key seems to be getting the assignors on the same page in order to provide up to date scheduling information. Perhaps the assignors could use a computerized scheduling or information system?

Communications:

Life Member – A list of members eligible for Life membership is presented for consideration. The Executive Board has approved this list. Motion to accept. **VOTED in the affirmative.**

Unfinished Business:

Job Description – Director of Assessment. – C. Whiting Rice moves to add two bullets to description. Motion made to accept job description with amendments. Bullets to include sharing information with Interpreters, Chapter presidents, and the official observed. Motion to accept as amended. **Voted in the affirmative as amended.**

New Business:

Amendment to Bylaws: Article IV – Ethics. This proposal combines the MIAA and NHFS codes of Ethics with the existing EMSOA Code of Ethics to make it all encompassing. Ten additional items will bring the total to 19 articles of ethics dealing with interscholastic officials. This will place a cover on the Code of Ethics we employ. Some discussion regarding circumstances was addressed dealing with an issue. Hearings and decisions are based upon the existing Bylaws. Motion to accept. **Voted in the affirmative.**

New Business: (Cont'd.)

Chapter Instructional Clinics. – Wayne Brown, President of the West Chapter proposes the following: *A budget item be appropriated annually by the EMSOA to each chapter for the express purpose of funding instructional clinics at Chapter regular Season Meetings. The maximum amount of \$500.00 to be expended annually, by each Chapter with the express approval of the Chapter President. Funds may be used only to fund training materials and to provide honoraria to Clinicians who must be currently be registered and certified as USSF Instructors, USSF Assessors – Grade 7 or above, and/or NISOA Clinicians or National Clinicians.* Discussion of this motion includes the following comments; Intent of this motion is very good, some details need to be worked out. There appears to be a general agreement in concept for this idea. The use of individuals with this type of experience is encouraged; the use of case studies and situations provides a platform for group discussions is a great learning situation. Further discussion about alienation of individuals regarding Certified Instructors? Amendment offered to have local chapter officers (President/Interpreter) decide the “who, what and why” of these clinics. Proposed amendment is to delete the portion dealing with “certified and registered clinicians from USSF and NISOA” and replace it with, *“Clinicians who must be approved by the Chapter President, Chapter Interpreter and the EMSOA Interpreter.* Wayne Brown is acceptable to this amendment. This proposal will be placed under the category of Article III: Organizational Structure, Section IV: Chapters. Add as Item D. Motion to accept **Voted in the affirmative.**

Cheryl Sanderson – North Chapter President – problem of Tournament Finals with officials showing up in NISOA Warm-Up gear. When you walk on the field with NISOA gear it sends a different message, NISOA warm-ups and badges for a MIAA Tournament game should not be allowed. Each Chapter should emphasize the use of “uniform and proper attire”. Until such time that a designated uniform is approved we should attempt to bring uniformity to the association. Can the Executive Board come up with a designated uniform (warm-up)? Motion to table to the Executive Board for further study. **Voted in the affirmative.**

Point of Information – Jim Palmer announced that the State Basketball Board is not enrolling with the MIAA. This is brought about by their lack of communication with the State Basketball Board regarding concerns raised by them. **No action.**

Inquiry from member from regarding obtaining MIAA passes for tournament games. There is a fee involved around \$75.00. **No action.**

Point of Information – Fred Rich indicates the EMSOA web site will be changing the email address after the first of the year. **No action.**

Motion to adjourn at 3:45. Voted in the affirmative.