OAOA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2015 – 9:00 AM – OSAA

Present: Gasper, Scott, Reichert, Woods, Shimer, Whittemore, Garabedian; Toyas, Rink, Rutledge (teleconference); Squires (teleconference); Johnson (teleconference); Sanders, Folliard

Absent: Berg, Huxel

Guests: Brad Garrett, OSAA Staff, Cindy Simmons, OSAA Staff; Peter Weber, OSAA Staff; Rob Younger, OACA; Steve Bulen, Basketball SRI; Vern Sparling and Gary Pigott (tel.), Honig’s.

1. Call to Order/Introductions

The meeting was called to Order at 9:05.

2. OSAA, OACA, OADA Reports:

Brad reviewed the first meeting of the OSAA/OAOA/OADA Recruitment and Retention Committee. Notes from each meeting will be published to all officials, associations and schools. This initial meeting was primarily for organizational matters. Future meeting agendas and schedule will also be published and posted on the OSAA website.

Cindy mentioned the recent change to 3 out-of-5 games for sub-varsity volleyball matches. Nine leagues are currently using 3-person crews in basketball. Cindy also mentioned an upcoming proposal adding to the OSAA Conflict of Interest Policy language that an official who has been employed by a school in the last four years would not be able to work that school’s varsity contests. Further discussion needed.

Peter reviewed pitching limitations proposals for baseball and that overtime in soccer has been eliminated during regular season.

Rob reported OACA membership numbers are up. A handout was provided with details on the OACA football clinic for coaches in March, 2016 and the Coaches vs. Cancer awareness program. Proposals from the OACA for tennis, baseball, wrestling and track and field were also mentioned. The experimental rule regarding blindside blocks in football has been favorably received by football coaches. OACA awards banquet will be May 21st; they honor two officials annually. Nominations come from local associations.
3. OAOA Awards and Recognition Program deadlines:

   a. Official of the Year nominations:

      Soccer: Oct. 31
      Football: Nov. 14
      Volleyball: Oct 24
      Wrestling: Feb 1
      Basketball: Feb 8

      Baseball/Softball: May 10

   b. Association of the Year: June 30

   c. Coach Meritorious Sportsmanship Award: Apr 30

Clark reviewed deadlines for the winter sport Official of the Year awards and reminded the Board to solicit nominations for other OAOA awards. Clark acknowledged the fall sport winners and announced that the Lane County Wrestling Association has been chosen as the Association of the Year.

4. OCEP Program:

   a. Clinic summary – 2015-16 expirations – need for clinics!

Jack reviewed the handout summary of OCEP clinics noting that the OCEP certification for many officials will expire in July in 2016. Officials must have current OCEP certification to work playoffs. Emphasis will be placed on getting as many officials as possible re-certified before the big rush in 2016. Several OCEP clinics will be scheduled.

5. Discussion Items:

   a. Honig’s uniform/equipment proposal. Vern Sparling/Gary Pigott

Jack introduced Vern and Gary from Honig’s. Gary reviewed the Honig’s proposal to partner with states for uniforms and officiating supplies. The proposal could be for 2, 3 or 4 years and would be a 10% discount for officials. In return, Honig’s would ask for promotion on the OAOA website and seasonal emails to officials under the control of OAOA. Vern discussed the role Honig’s could play in recruiting new officials; also promoted the customer service component of Honig’s.

Following Board discussion, the Board accepted Honig’s proposal for a 10% discount on purchases from OAOA members in exchange for OAOA promotion of their products as value added to OAOA membership. This is non-exclusive so other suppliers who contact OAOA would be offered the same opportunity. Again, non exclusive with promotional emails limited to one per sport season.

   b. OSAA Recruiting and Retention Committee

Jack noted the 3 OAOA members on the R/R committee. Highlights of the first meeting include the history of local associations as the primary source for recruiting and the costs to become an official. Schools recognized they not only have a vested interest in recruiting but
could provide resources towards this effort. Should there be a reduced cost to become an official? Positive relationships amongst officials and schools (sportsmanship) are very important. Brad will develop an exit survey of previously registered officials; any potential questions or ideas should be sent to Brad or Jack. This is an excellent start joining with the OSAA, OADA and OACA.

c. 2016 NASO Summit – San Antonio

Jack shared a packet of information from NASO on the August 2016 Summit. We need to have a board member attend this very informational and important conference. As a sponsor of the Summit, OAOA is entitled to a complimentary registration ($400+ value). If none of the board members can attend, this complimentary registration will be offered to the general membership.

d. Board committees

Jack asked about the need to have Board committees. Issue to be addressed during under general review of OAOA governance structure.

6. Board Standing Sub-Committee Reports:

   a. Finance – Ken (chair), Bob and Jamie
   b. Regional Reps – Darin (chair), Jamie, George, Ron, Dwayne
   c. Bylaws – Bob (Chair)
   d. OCEP/Training – Darin (chair), Jamie, Darla, George, John
   e. Recruitment/Retention – _____ (chair), Ken, Harry, Dwayne
   f. Awards and Recognition – George (chair), Ron

George talked about establishing a OAOA of foundation of sorts to assist officials in need. The idea of an annual or semi-annual OAOA State Awards Banquet was discussed perhaps in conjunction with training opportunities. Could OAOA sponsor an Officials vs. Cancer program similar to the OACA program? Football officials may wear pink whistles/use blue flags to support breast and prostate cancer awareness. Is there any interest in an OAOA flipping coin used in several sports?

g. Technology – Darin (chair)

Emphasis needs to be placed on how to better integrate video clips into SRI Bulletins.

7. State Sport Committee Reports:

   a. Wrestling (Gasper)

Officials and coaches clinic held this past October. Another OCEP clinic in January 17 in Central OR at either Redmond/Ridgeview HS. Wrestling has gone to a 3 year OCEP certification. Some associations not represented at state tourney; different selection process
to be implemented. Michael requested $800 from the Wrestling Committee’s budget for the January clinic.

**MOTION: Woods; SECOND: Whittemore to allocate $800 to wrestling as additional training funds. MOTION PASSED**

b. Basketball (Scott)

OCEP playoff clinic 1/17 at Wilsonville HS; Blue Mountain association will host a clinic on 1/31; at Hermiston high school. Unified Sports (combined teams of Special Olympic athletes and fellow classmates) basketball games start in January; officials will be paid at the lowest sub-varsity rate.

c. Baseball (Whittemore)

OCEP clinics are being planned for the Spring.

d. Softball (Reichert)

John Christensen is the new OSAA Softball SRI replacing Larry Harwood. Thanks to Larry for many years of excellent service.

e. Football (Woods)
f. Soccer (Garabedian)
g. Volleyball (Huxel)

**8. Financial Update:**

Jack reviewed the financial situation of OAOA. The 2015-16 proposed budget is the same as the 2014-15 budget. **MOTION: Garabedian; SECOND: Toyas to approve the proposed budget for 2015-16. MOTION PASSED.**

Discussion of a needed dues increase. The last increase was in 2009 over six years ago. Expenses have exceeded revenue in each of the last four years per Board approved budget with sufficient reserves. Revenue is declining due to reduced number of officials. Ken and the finance committee will study this issue and report to the Board in March. Per the bylaws the OAOA Executive Board determines the dues structure. Any proposed change must be published at least 90 days before becoming effective. For implementation beginning of the 2016-17 school year, the deadline is June 1, 2016.

**9. Future Meetings:**

Meeting dates for 2016 were confirmed: **March 17; June 15; September 21; December 14**