



**Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association**  
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**Mr. Eddie Bonine, Executive Director**  
**Mr. Ray Mathis, President**

June 11, 2008

TO: NIAA Sport Commissioners / NSOA Official Associations / NIAA Member Schools

FR: Jay Beesemyer, Assistant Director

RE: **2008 COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**

*The 2007-2008 NIAA Commissioners meeting was held Friday, June 6, 2008 at the NIAA office in Reno, Nevada.*

**Commissioners Present:**

Leon Reyes, NENOA  
Rick Kaufmann, NNOA Swimming  
Chris Healy, NNOA Baseball  
Dave Nevin, NNOA Wrestling  
Carl Olsen, NNOA Football  
George Ritter, NNOA Softball  
Roger Pagni, NNOA Soccer  
Dave Sanger, NNOA Basketball  
Ellen Townsend, NNOA Volleyball

**Association / Chapter Presidents:**

Chris Bibbins, SNOA  
Bill Webb, NENOA  
Bill Morrill, NNOA Soccer  
Mike Evans, NNOA Softball

**Also Present:**

Eddie Bonine, NIAA Executive Director  
Jack Young, SNOA Soccer Assignor  
Barth Aaron, NNOA Baseball Board Member  
Sharol McDade, NNOA Volleyball  
Don May, SNOA Vice President

**Commissioners Not Present:**

Marc Ratner, SNOA

***COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES***

1. The meeting began at 8:30 AM. The 3 new NNOA Commissioners were introduced;
  - Dave Sanger, NNOA Basketball
  - Rick Kaufmann, NNOA Swimming & Diving.
  - Dennis White, NNOA Wrestling Commissioner (not present)
2. All contact information for Commissioners and Presidents was updated.
3. The 2007-2008 meeting minutes were reviewed. It was noted that all Commissioner vacancies have been filled. The football mercy rule implemented last year was reviewed and the consensus was the rule is working well. Barth Aaron, NNOA Football representative, did voice concerns that there are too many situations in which the clock is stopped after the point differential has been attained.

4. Registration procedures and the use of *The Arbiter*, the officials assigning program used by many NSOA member associations, was again discussed with a conference call placed to Clark Evans, Vice President of the software company. Clark filled everyone in on new developments for the *Arbiter* program. Jay was given approval to view all information and will be set up to have access to all *Arbiter* groups. Even though the *Arbiter* program has addressed some previous registration issues, the NIAA will again register all officials in 2008-2009 seasonally.

Mr. Bonine made everyone aware that “background-checks” on our officials is in the works and as soon as funding is secured, it will, at some level, become part of an official’s registration requirement.

5. The NIAA / NSOA liability insurance requirement for all member officials associations was reviewed. Current policies in place were discussed. It was confirmed that policies currently in place for SNOA and NENOA are due to expire in August 2008.

NIAA Executive Director, Eddie Bonine, expressed his feelings and interest in having all NIAA registered officials also becoming NFHS Official Association members. He stated that a “100% state” status enables all officials in the state to pay the lowest possible rate. The NIAA would administer and be responsible for registering all officials with the NFHS.

Without opposition, it was decided that beginning in the Fall 2008, all properly registered officials will be provided membership in the NFHS Officials Association for one year from the date of (1<sup>st</sup> sport) registration.

Beginning in 2008-2009, all member associations will pay NIAA / NSOA registration dues of:  
**\$24.00 per official for the first sport registered**  
**\$12 for each additional sport**

All registered officials will be provided the required liability insurance coverage and all other benefits associated with being a paid member of the NFHS Officials Association.

**Note: The NIAA will make three seasonal submittals (Fall / Winter / Spring) to the NFHS with accompanying payment. Each association is reminded that timely submittal of a current roster is needed to provide the proper coverage to our working officials. Coverage is for 1 year from the date of submittal to NFHS.**

The NSOA Registration form was reviewed. The SNOA has added an additional item (#7) which addresses an official giving priority to the SNOA as far as availability to the form. There was concern as to the legality from both the NNOA and NENOA. The approved registration form for 2008-2009 will be posted on the NIAA website.

Also discussed was the importance of all officials having access to (and reading) the officials’ publication, *Referee Magazine*. The NIAA will pursue a sponsorship or in some other way, secure funding, to have the current NIAA registration dues also include a paid subscription to *Referee Magazine*.

6. The 2008-2009 National Federation rule book order form was presented. The *NFHS/Referee Magazine* pre-season publications will again be provided.

*NOTE: NNOA Volleyball, Swimming and Wrestling submitted their orders at the meeting.*

7. **Upcoming calendar for 2008-2009 was made available but not discussed in detail. All in attendance should review next year's calendar. Spring sport Commissioners and Presidents are reminded that state events will occur during the Memorial Day holiday weekend and to please plan in advance!**
8. NIAA Activity Cards: Cost will again be \$35 in 2008-09. It was noted that the cost may increase to \$50 in the very near future. Last year, 121 officials purchased NIAA Activity Cards. (10 – SNOA) (45 – NENOA) (66 – NNOA) - It was noted that 6 cards were purchased by officials who registered in 2006-2007 but did not register in 2007-2008. A request to issue cards to association evaluators at no cost was denied.
9. The NSOA Constitution was reviewed. Minor changes were made. The NSOA Constitution (with recommended revisions) will be presented at the June 2008 NIAA Board of Control meeting for approval. The document will then be distributed to all association commissioners, presidents and posted on the NIAA website.
10. The 2008-2009 NSOA Fee Schedule was compiled in a mini-workshop, to assure all understood the history and how 2008-2009 fee increases were computed. The new statewide mileage allowance information was also distributed and discussed. The “driver rate” for 2008-2009 increases from 44.5 cents per mile to 48.5 cents per mile, while, once again there was unanimous support to leave the “riders fee” at its current “rate” (18.5 cents per mile). All association mileage charts will be updated and posted on the NIAA website.
11. An increase to official fees for softball and soccer officials was discussed. Jay agreed an adjustment was needed and stated he thought soccer was especially “out of line” compared to other sports. It was proposed by Jay that softball fees simply be \$10 less than baseball. It was agreed to propose the following fees to our member school districts (superintendents): (Soccer (\$140.00 for 3 officials) / (Softball \$52 Varsity and \$41 JV). Jay will draft a letter and begin the process by communicating with superintendents and league representatives.
12. 2007-2008 Ejection numbers were presented. There was no discussion.
13. 2007-2008 State Official assignments were presented but not discussed. No new procedures were established in the number of assignments allocated to each association. Mike Evans stated that “if” games need to have the same allocation as the championship game - so no officials are forced to show up and then not work, due to no “if” game being played.
14. A general discussion took place in regards to what association policy should be in regards to levying disciplinary action against a member official. The NNOA Wrestling chapter suspended and expelled officials this past season. Both actions followed the procedures outlined in the association bylaws. Any appeal by either official would have to be made directly to the NIAA.  
  
It was suggested that an “appeals panel” be established. Jay said he would organize the selection process for the panel with the help of those present, and have it in place for the upcoming 2008-2009 season.
15. The group discussed coming up with a general philosophy in regards to officiating a contest with only one official. It was determined that these situations need to be looked on a case by case basis to determine the ramifications. All agreed that having a rule to simply NOT play the game is not in the best interest of our member schools since travel and associated cost factors are significant in Nevada.

16. The group discussed differing philosophies on officials taking required exams either “open book” or “closed book”. The group was split as to how they currently administer exams with positive points made for each case. Again, it was felt that unless the group decided as a whole, the NIAA would not mandate one method over the other at this time. Current requirements, per the NSOA Constitution state that a minimum score of 70% be attained.
17. All in attendance were reminded that the “appearance of impropriety” was to be taken seriously and associations should properly screen their officials to determine if a conflict of interest exists.
18. An updated roster of officials was distributed showing that 1,233 officials registered in 2007-2008. There were 306 new officials while 252 officials were lost from the previous year.

***The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM***