

San Angelo Football Officials' Association
Monday, May 7, 2007
Board Meeting Minutes – Draft

Board Members Present: Doug Kirkham, Oscar Martinez, Bradley Petty, Miller Walker, and Scott Westmoreland.

Board Members Absent: Greg Swindle

Guests Present: Tom Jones, Jack Lieber, Eddie Long, Randy Minton, Dan Robertson, Mike Smith, and Mike Von Willer.

Mr. Walker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the ASU Center for Human Performance Conference Room.

The agenda was distributed and reviewed.

The minutes of the previous meeting were distributed and review. There were no revisions. Mr. Walker indicated that the minutes stand approved as written.

No Financial Report was introduced due to the fact that Mr. Swindle was absent.

New Business:

By-Laws Review

- Mr. Walker informed the board that the by-laws should be reviewed, revised, and submitted to the membership for a vote this year. This is a working document, which is an on-going process. Mr. Walker indicated that we would devote one Board meeting to review and revise the SAFOA By-Laws. A concern was addressed that the Nominations and Elections process should be reviewed and revised. The changes would be brought to the board for a vote, and then taken to the membership for final approval (OPEN).

Game Contracts

- Mr. Petty reported that Mr. Swindle and he met to update the contracts. Mr. Swindle suggested to Mr. Petty during the meeting that we should send the contracts to the schools before the end of the high school academic year, which is the end of May. Mr. Petty reported that the UIL and TASO were to produce a memo regarding the strict enforcement of sideline management, which should be submitted to the coaches and administrators at the same time the contract is submitted. However, the letter has not been sent from TASO and the UIL. Mr. Petty indicated that if TASO and the UIL do not produce the letter by the middle of May, the chapter would send the contracts without the sideline management memo. (OPEN)

All-Star Game Assignment Fee and Reimbursement

- Mr. Petty reported that TASO recommended at the President's and Secretary's Meeting that the local chapters present the officials, who were selected to officiate the All-Star Football Games, with a game fee and reimbursement of travel expenses. Dr. Westmoreland moved that the Board pay the officials who officiate an entire game \$100

plus UIL travel expenses and officials who officiate half of a game \$50 plus UIL travel expenses. Mr. Petty seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (CLOSED)

Hotel Rooms at State Meeting

- Mr. Walker reported that the chapter will reserve several hotel rooms at the state meeting for members to utilize. Mr. Long indicated that Mr. Swindle has reserved the rooms in the past. Mr. Walker agreed that Mr. Swindle would reserve the rooms again this year for the members. Dr. Westmoreland inquired that we might reserve a van to take members to the meeting. Mr. Walker informed the Board that the van would be too costly for the chapter, and it would be better to carpool to College Station. The Board agreed with Mr. Walker. Only the rooms would be provided by the chapter. Members wishing to attend would be responsible for all other expenses. Mr. Walker informed the Board that attendance at the state meeting has been decreasing over the years. He encouraged all members to attend if possible. Mr. Petty indicated that TASO informed the chapters that members attending the state meeting would receive 30 education points beginning this year to help increase attendance. Members interested in attending should inform Mr. Swindle. (CLOSED)

Possibility of San Angelo Chapter Hosting Rules Clinic in 2008

- Mr. Petty informed the Board that Mr. Chuck Hudson, Abilene Football Officials' Chapter President, called him inquiring about the possibility of San Angelo hosting the 2008 Rules Clinic. Mr. Hudson was concerned that the San Angelo and Abilene Chapters should not compete against each other because clinic attendees normally come from this region, which would decrease attendance. Mr. Minton informed the Board that the San Angelo Chapter conducted a rules clinic in the past but gave it up. Mr. Walker noted his concern was that quality rules clinics are hard to find. He noted that TASO has an application process and the chapter is not guaranteed to receive the clinic. Several dates and clinicians must be provided on the application, and then TASO determines what date and clinician we receive. Mr. Mayer indicated that since the State Meeting was in Abilene in 2008, our attendance at the rules clinic would be low. He suggested that we consider hosting the rules clinic in 2009. Mr. Long and Mr. Mayer both interjected that if the San Angelo Chapter does decide to host the rules clinic, all San Angelo members should be required to assist with the clinic. Mr. Petty stated that he would discuss this possibility with the Abilene Chapter at the State Meeting. (OPEN)

Rules Meeting with District Director

- Mr. Petty indicated that Mr. Dan McGlasson, District II Director, requested that the Chapter provide him with several dates for the District Meeting. The Board decided that July 30 or August 6 would be the best dates so more officials would be in attendance. Dr. Westmoreland asked if the Chapter would have to reimburse Mr. McGlasson's travel expenses. Mr. Walker indicated that TASO provides travel money for the district director for this purpose. Mr. Petty said he would inform Mr. McGlasson of the dates. (CLOSED)

Officials' Scheduling Software

- Mr. Petty informed the Board that he researched the possibility of purchasing scheduling software for the football chapter. He contacted Zebra-Ware and the Arbiter. After reviewing their software packages, Mr. Petty recommended that Zebra-Ware would be a better option for our chapter. There are several good points about the program: (1) The Chapter would not have to purchase software, since this is a web-based program,

(2) Officials can accept or decline games on-line, (3) Officials can view game schedules on-line, (4) Officials will automatically receive e-mail informing them of schedule changes, partner changes, and other updates, (5) Officials can track game fees and points throughout the season, and (6) Coaches can log-in to the program and submit game schedules, change game schedules, and/or view what officials are scheduled to their games. The cost would be \$250 for the first year, then \$5 per official per year following. Mr. Petty indicated that there are some negative points to the program: (1) He warned that the Basketball Chapter utilized the program in 2006-2007 and found that if the schedule is posted before the Monday night membership meetings, officials tend not to attend the meetings, (2) It is easier to reject games on-line or ignore the e-mails all together, and (3) Some members might not have access to a computer. Mr. Petty stated that the Chapter could minimize these problems by not posting the schedule on-line until after the meeting. Then, members still have to attend the meetings to obtain the schedule, which would also eliminate the problem of requiring everyone to have access to a computer. Also, since only a few games are scheduled, unlike basketball, officials will have the tendency to accept what games they receive. Dr. Westmoreland informed the Board that he has received negative feedback regarding the program. Mr. Mayer indicated that this program would assist the Secretary with his duties. Mr. Minton indicated that the Chapter had a program similar to this in the past, which was extremely useful. Following discussion, Mr. Kirkham moved to purchase the Zebra-Ware web-biased program for a one-year trial biases. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (CLOSED)

On-the-Field Clinic

- Mr. Petty requested that the Board consider a date for the on-the-field clinic. The Board decided on Saturday, August 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mr. Petty would contact Mr. Scofield for permission to use the field. Mr. Petty stated he would work with the new Vice President to plan the clinic. Mr. Mayer asked if this clinic would be TASO sanctioned. Mr. Petty stated it would not be a TASO sanctioned clinic. Mr. Walker informed the Board that this would be the last year TASO would conduct sanctioned clinics. (OPEN)

Nominations and Elections for Vice President's Position

- Mr. Walker informed the Board that he has selected individuals to serve on the Nominations and Elections Committee for the Vice President's Search. Mr. Alan Jones (Chair), Mr. Danny Byrd, and Mr. James Holland was recommended. The Board unanimously approved the individuals. Mr. Petty reported that Dr. Tony Dutton declined the nomination for Vice President. Mr. Eddie Long, Mr. Mike Von Willer, Mr. Richard Mayer, and Mr. Steve Wilson expressed interest in the position. Mr. Petty informed everyone to inform the Nominations and Elections Committee of their interest to serve. (OPEN)

TASO Honorary Members

- Mr. Petty reported that he discuss this issue with Mr. Richard Mayer. Mr. Mayer informed Mr. Petty that Mr. C.B. Seldon was awarded Honorary Membership status around 1996 when the football association was Southwest Football Officials' Association. Also, after further research, Mr. Bill Flint, Mr. Buddy White, and Mr. Jerrold Martin were also qualified to receive the TASO Honorary Membership Award. Mr. Walker informed Mr. Petty that he would like to nominate each of these gentlemen for the TASO State

Award in 2008. (OPEN)

Report for the Ethics Committee Regarding Mr. Bill Hollis

- Mr. Walker asked Mr. Westmoreland to report the findings of the Ethics Committee. Dr. Westmoreland reported that following a review of the complaints, it was found that Mr. Bill Hollis did violate the ethics code of the SAFOA. He stated that the committee recommends the following sanctions against Mr. Hollis: (1) Mr. Hollis should be prohibited from holding any Board position for five consecutive years, (2) He should be ineligible to officiate during the 2007 football play-offs, and (3) He should be prohibited from officiating 4A-5A level games during the 2007 season. He noted that these sanctions should be in effect when Mr. Hollis is a member of good standing in the SAFOA. Mr. Walker discharged the Ethics Committee. Mr. Walker then called the Board into Executive Session. After approximately 10 minutes, Mr. Walker closed the Executive Session. Mr. Walker reported that the Board passed the recommendations of the Ethics Committee. Mr. Walker will send Mr. Hollis a certified letter informing him of the sanctions. Mr. Hollis may appeal to the Board but must be done before the June 4, 2007, Board Meeting and must be done in writing. If Mr. Hollis refuses to accept the certified letter sent by Mr. Walker, he right to appeal is terminated. (OPEN)

Game Assignment Policy

- Mr. Petty distributed an excel spreadsheet indicating the board's vote regarding officials selected to officiate at each level. The board reviewed the list. Mr. Petty asked the Board to review the level of each individual and provide feedback. Mr. Petty recommended that Level 4 officials be allowed to officiate 5A games. He noted that in the past, we did not differentiate between 4A and 5A games. If an official is selected, they could referee either or both levels. Mr. Kirkham inquired about the possibility of Level 3 officials be allowed to officiate 4A/5A games. After some discussion, it was decided that Level 3 officials would be allowed to officiate 4A/5A games if needed by the Secretary to fill position due to scratches from the coaches or officials' injury.
- Mr. Petty presented the Board with the Central and Lake View Officials' Lottery. He explained that Central and Lake View both have a total of five non-district and district games in 2007. Five officials will be selected to White Hat those games. They will be considered the crew chiefs of each game. Based from the Board pre-season vote, officials will be placed into the lottery. Positions as Umpire, Head Linesman, Line Judge, and Back Judge will be determined by the officials' preferred list that will be distributed on June 4, 2007, to the membership. Each official will be asked to rank each of the five positions from 1 (most comfortable) to 5 (least comfortable) indicating which position they feel most comfortable working. From this list, Mr. Petty will place each of the qualified officials in the lottery within a position. The crew chiefs will then select from the lottery which officials they would like to work with them on that game. Mr. Petty indicated that this process would allow the crew chiefs the ability to select their crews for 4A/5A games. Individuals might be eliminated from the lottery due to scratches from the coaches or poor game performance throughout the year. This process will take place in June. (OPEN)

New Member Update

- Mr. Petty reported the current status of the following members:
 - Mr. Justin Rhodes – Transferring to Wichita Falls

- Mr. Mark Butler – Transfer from Lubbock; 6 years; Recommended by Nicholas Katchur
- Mr. Shannon Scott – Submitted End of Year Summary

New Member Update

- It is with deepest sadness that we report that passing of Mrs. Dorothy Jones on Saturday, April 21, 2007, Mr. Tom Jones' mother. Our thoughts and prayers are with Tom and him family.

Additional Comments

- Mr. Petty inquired about the possibility of the Football Chapter purchasing a cell phone that has e-mail and telephone capability that could be used by the Secretary for SAFOA business throughout the year. Mr. Petty expressed concern that ASU personnel should not be burdened with the high demand of calls or e-mails that derive from SAFOA business. Mr. Walker agreed and stated that Mr. Petty should look into buying this telephone. Mr. Kirkham stated that this should be a separate telephone with a distinct phone number designated as the SAFOA phone number. If this is done, it could be passed along to future Secretaries. Mr. Petty added that this would eliminate the possibility of impropriety by the Secretary instead of using personal telephones. The Board unanimously agreed that Mr. Petty should purchase a designated telephone for SAFOA business and the bill should be paid by the SAFOA. (OPEN)

Mr. Martinez moved to adjourn. Mr. Kirkham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bradley Petty
SAFOA Secretary