

Meeting Minutes NASOA 6 November 2018 v.1

Merrimack Soccer Complex

Members present:

Mark Potter	Mohamed S Mohamed
Dan Cutshall	Jackie Svehlak
Bill Der	Abdallah Abuspgtani
Ken Brown	AJ Hicks
Daphne Brown	Chris Boyer
Mark Barnes	Klaus Staefe
Matthew Grimm	Darrell Harris
Connie Geary	Tim Holt
Magdi Eltom	Austin Holt
Mike Smid	Celeste Roberts
Paul Galloway	Claudio Muntelee
Douglas Vechinski	Mike Moran

President

Cedric Thomas opened the meeting at 6:00 PM. Minutes of 2 October 2018 were approved. Cedric announced this meeting would be the last of 2018. The next meeting will be on 8 January 2019 at the First Christian Church on Whitesburg Drive in Huntsville. There is no need for another meeting this year since HASL will be finished on 19 November.

Cedric cited the need to recruit referees for the high school season. Tim Barron published a flyer last year that we will use again to reach out to candidates.

Cedric congratulated those referees who supported the State games in Foley, AL last weekend. He also cited Celeste Roberts, Austin Holt and Tim Holt for supporting the Kicks Tournament as mentors.

He requested a volunteer to fill the Board position of Vice President who will focus on referee recruitment, mentoring and retention. This is especially needed for the high school season.

USSF Representative

Klaus Staefe suggested NASOA maximize the use of social media to recruit and to make announcements. Facebook, Twitter, etc. should all be in the communication mix. Member-at-Large Celeste Roberts will be the board focal for social media outreach.

Klaus also announced the Physical Fitness Test will be held on Saturday, 10 November at Morris K-8 School on Bob Wallace Avenue at 10:00 AM. This test is mandatory for USSF Grade 7 & 6 and for Grade 8 to advance to Grade 7 and for Grade 7 to advance to Grade 6.

There will be USSF State Referee Clinic on 5 January 2019 in Birmingham with the physical fitness test on 6 January. State clinic is January 5th, mandatory for grade 5 and 6, invitation only by SRC if not a 5-6. Instructors and Assessors will also attend. January 6th is fitness test and Intermediate clinic for grade 8 going to grade 7.

Member comment:

Some high level matches at the Kicks Tournament had inexperienced AR's. Instructor Daphne Brown explained that the Center must adjust his/her management plan by advising coaches that all comments are to be directed to the Center Referee and no comments are to be directed at the new AR. The Center must ensure the new AR succeeds.

Treasurer

Kim Hensley reported a balance of \$19, 748.00 in NASOA's checking account. Kim reported he was in contact with AHSAA District Rep, Richard Robinson and found out the High School State and District Referee Camp will be on 26 January 2019 in Athens.

Klaus Staefe proposed a motion to require the treasurer to submit a financial statement to be included in the minutes. After a discussion, the motion was modified to require a quarterly financial statement to be included in the minutes that reflects the requirement of the By-Laws effective 1 January 2019. The motion passed on a voice vote of the membership.

Training

The last USSF recertification class in Huntsville will be held on 8 December 2018 at Merrimack Soccer Complex from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM A recert class will be held in Birmingham on 17 November as well.

Member at Large

Mike Smid requested clarification regarding the “no heading rule” for youth players. The Kicks Tournament rules and some other state tournament rules seem to not agree with USSF rulings on youth player heading. Daphne Brown stated all must follow the letter of the USSF rule but leagues and tournaments may only make the rule more restrictive but may not relax it. See ANNEX.

Mike also cited a game situation where the AR flagged a nasty foul but the Center decided no foul. The subsequent counter attack was stopped down field with reckless force. Notwithstanding the pregame instructions, it was the opinion of many that the Center should have called the foul based on the AR’s better angle of the play. Failure to support the AR could have made subsequent cooperation among the Center and the AR’s problematic at best.

Assignment Duties

Cedric reported no one has stepped up to be a replacement assignor. The assignor duties are very difficult.

Training

Daphne Brown announced the Brown's Christmas party will be held on 15 December at her home. All are invited.

The meeting closed at 6:55 PM.

ANNEX:

USSF Heading Rule:

- **The Federation is recommending, and US Club Soccer is requiring immediately, new rules as it relates to heading, as follows:**
- Players in U-11 programs and younger shall not engage in heading, either in practices or in games.
- Limited heading in practice for players in U-12 and U-13 programs. More specifically, these players shall be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes of heading training per week, with no more than 15-20 headers per player, per week.
- Clubs should be aware of circumstances in which individual consideration is needed. For example:
 - A 10 year old playing at U-12 or older should not head the ball at all.
 - An 11 or 12 year old playing at U-14 or older should abide by the heading restrictions in practice.
- Referees should enforce these restrictions by age group according to the specified rules. Referees will not be assessing the age of individual players on the field; they will enforce the rules for the age group.
- **Leagues and organizations are free to set their own standards, as long as the minimum requirements outlined above are met.**

See Separate File: Financial Report YTD 1 Jan 18 to 1 Nov 18

Heading Appendage:

AL State Rules are more restrictive for heading than the ones you cited.

USSF:

- Players in U-11 programs and younger shall not engage in heading, either in practices or in games.

Alabama State League Rules:

7.11 Heading

7.11.1 ASA has eliminated heading for players 12U and younger. This directive is to protect players 10 years old and younger regardless of what age group they are playing in.

7.11.2 A purposeful header by these players shall result in an indirect free kick awarded to the opponent at the spot of the infraction. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

7.11.3 Please refer to the ASA Concussion Policy for further information.