

NH SRC Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Marion Gerrish Community Center, Room 2

Members Present: SRA, Mark Sadler; SYRA, Frank Scarito; SDI/SDA, John Breda; Secretary and Southeastern Area Representative, Jack Merriken; SAC, Kevin Coeyman; SDF, Doug Campbell; Capital Area Representative, Nick Wallner; Manchester Area Representative, Chantal McGuire; Seacoast Area Representative, Steve Zoldak.

Guest Attendees: NEP/NSL/NNESL/NHSL League Assignors (US Officials): Fil Faria, Ryan Faria
State Referee Web Site Upgrade Committee Member: Cullen Madden

Members Absent: Treasurer, John Ferreria; Southwestern Area Representative, Rick Wood

M. Sadler announced new Manchester Area Representative, Chantal McGuire; new State Assignor Coordinator, Kevin Coeyman (vacating the SGA position, which is now vacant).

1. Reports

Jan 18th SRC Meeting Minutes Review and Approval (J. Merriken):

J. Breda requested names (v. positions) be used, and had several requests for deletions, then told J. Merriken he would send him the remaining edits later. S. Zoldak moved to table the approval of the minutes to a later date, F. Scarito 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

SRA Report (M. Sadler):

M. Sadler asked if there are any questions. Financials (Balance Sheet): Fixed Assets Acct # 140 (Equipment) will be removed by the next meeting (fully depreciated down to \$0.00). USSF has set the minimum age to enroll in the Grassroots class at 13, starting in the 2020 registration year. M. Sadler said our current background check is likely insufficient and we'll need to require our non-minor (aged 18 and older at time of registration) referees to obtain a more thorough background check going forward (it will no longer be done through NHGameOfficials). Safe Sport training and certification will be required of all non-minor referees starting with 2020.

SYRA Report (F. Scarito): F. Scarito said NHSA's State Cup won't happen this spring.

SDA & SDI Report (J. Breda):

National and State level assessors and instructors will become referee coaches. M. Sadler said he doesn't plan to appoint a separate SDI, and will keep the SDA & SDI combined into one

position. Referee coach training class for state-level instructors and assessors will be conducted by USSF this summer. It is undetermined how lower-level instructors and assessors will be combined into referee coaches. J. Breda said there are 10 CPR/First Aid/AED certified instructors.

SDF Report (D. Campbell): None.

Area Reps: J. Merriken asked M. Sadler if he's still seeking a replacement for Southeast Area Representative. He said he is. He said NHGO site is going down very soon. The certified referee listing is an unanswered question. J. Breda said he can use the current state referee web site for sign-ups for summertime Grassroots Referee training classes, if necessary, but asked for the new site to be ready by 1 July. M. Sadler informed C. McGuire that a Bedford club requested a Grassroots Referee training class for the summer; he asked her to coordinate with J. Breda.

2. Old Business:

State Referee Web Site Rebuild (J. Breda):

J. Breda (committee: C. Madden, C. McGuire, J. Asari, E. Iwaskiewicz) is evaluating two vendors, GoDaddy and the Hedstrom's, to create our new web site. M. Sadler asked if he has a recommendation; J. Breda said not yet. A discussion regarding intellectual property (M. Sadler) and the importance of a thorough, valid contract, the application, WordPress, and the importance of time in commission by 1 July (K. Coeyman) ensued. J. Breda said the Hedstrom's proposal was favorable in 5-6 weeks, and they'd train us to run it. He asked J. Merriken for GoDaddy contact information (he has not contacted them yet); J. Merriken referred him to the email chain in the Jan 17th meeting's minutes for this information. D. Campbell suggested the committee get three web site examples; J. Merriken said GoDaddy will want to have a virtual meeting with our committee to demonstrate real-time live templates, based on our stated requirements. It was suggested that the committee contact GoDaddy NLT 1 May for their input/proposal/prototype for comparison with the Hedstrom's.

SRC By-Laws Revision (J. Merriken):

F. Scarito suggested Art. V (Executive Board), Sections 1 & 2 be reverted back to the original verbiage; J. Breda concurred, saying that the Executive Board should not be the same as the Board of Directors. Discussion on yellow and blue highlighted segments ensued, with many revisions being made to the document presented (one being deleting two bullets concerning violations of USSF policy or the Referee Code of Ethics being presented to the BOD for determination of convening a formal NHTA Disciplinary Board hearing). J. Merriken will make these changes and forward "cleaned-up" document to M. Sadler for approval and dissemination to SRC members for an email vote or vote at the next SRC quarterly meeting. N. Wallner so moved and J. Breda 2nd the motion; it passed unanimously.

3. New Business

R. Faria asked for assessors for NHL spring season playoffs tournament. F. Scarito said there is a referee applying for the Book Scholarship; M. Sadler will follow-up with this referee.

Abuse and Molestation Policy (J. Breda):

F. Scarito is in favor of this proposal based on USSF. K. Coeyman suggested (motion made) this proposal be reviewed by competent legal counsel. F. Scarito 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Policies/Guidelines Regarding Social Media and Contact Information (J. Breda)

J. Breda thinks 'should' is better wording than 'require'. F. Scarito suggested striking 'Policy' from title. N. Wallner requested M. Sadler provide his Disciplinary Board with guidance for this new area to confront and adjudicate violations. M. Sadler suggested current statutes and USSF policy should provide necessary guidance to the Disciplinary Board. F. Scarito moved to have competent legal counsel review this proposal; K. Coeyman 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.

Whistleblower Policy (J. Breda):

K. Coeyman moved to have competent legal counsel review this proposal; F. Scarito 2nd it. Motion passed unanimously. D. Campbell asked about reporting procedures. J. Merriken asked if referee certification can be revoked if this policy is violated; M. Sadler said this is up to USSF.

East Region Proposal (J. Breda):

F. Scarito said the name should be changed to East Region. J. Breda wants us to cover referee coaches' travel expenses (including meals) to East Region events, as an enticement to motivate coaches to transport referees and attend these out-of-state (W. VA next two years) events. M. Sadler clarified referee coaches concept. F. Scarito moved; K. Coeyman 2nd it. Motion passed.

Miscellaneous New Business:

R. Faria asked J. Breda for assessors for his leagues' games' referees.

M. Sadler reviewed the new USSF referee grade structure, effective in 2020 registration year. Current USSF grades 9, 8, and 7 will become Grassroots referees; current grades 5 and 6 will become Regional referees. Current grade 7 assessors/instructors will become referee coaches.

J. Breda said one-third of Grassroots applicants never complete their training and fail to certify. M. Sadler said 100 referees don't complete their IST training and do not recertify annually.

F. Faria asked how assignors will be able to see the current referee list (for 2020) when NHGO site goes inactive. This is currently unresolved. K. Coeyman discussed a possible live Google document as a 'work-around' until the new USSF site becomes active and available for usage.

J. Breda said the new Grassroots referee course will be longer (6 hours), and all current referees will likely have to complete it for their 2020 recertification, along with Safe Sport certification.

S. Zoldak moved to adjourn at 8:25 PM; K. Coeyman 2nd the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectively submitted,

Jack Merriken

Jack Merriken

Secretary

New Hampshire State Referee Committee

April 19, 2019