

**WEST COAST OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
BASKETBALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES**



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Meeting Date: December 1, 2024

Type of Meeting: Board of Directors Meeting followed by a member meeting.

Meeting Location: Zoom Meeting Link

Present: Eric Sperbeck, Bernard Grimsley, Rodney Dickerson, Jerome Smith, Richard Miller, Josh Saunders

Absent: None

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- I. The board meeting was called to order by Eric at 7:01 pm.
- II. Eric asked all board members to review the updated official ranking sheet this week.
- III. Member Promotion and Demotion:
  - a. Eric reminded Jerome to start discussions for the 2024-2025 playoff recommendations. The recommendations are due in early January.
  - b. Jerome is already in contact with committee members and is arranging a zoom meeting.
  - c. Eric encourages board members and assigners to give their feedback to the Recommendation Committee on officials.
  - d. Eric challenged members and assigners to factor in positive performance and lack of WCOA engagement into their analysis for promotions and demotions.
  - e. Eric opened discussion on the newer officials and members that are improving. Eric reminded members to keep members in mind that should be considered for promotion or demotion, when warranted. Eric asked board members to email him their thoughts and recommendations.
  - f. Eric asked Nolan for an update on the volume of games vs official availability. Nolan confirmed that there are still short of officials compared to the volume of games.
  - g. Richard posed the question of whether the Assignment Committee should meet with the Recommendation Committee to discuss viewpoints. Eric supported this meeting.
- IV. Special Olympic Participation:
  - a. Eric solicited feedback from the board on whether WCOA should volunteer to participate in Special Olympic events.
  - b. Richard recommended we open it up to members and see what their feedback would be.

- c. Based on feedback from the board, Eric will look deeper into what the Special Olympics events consist of.
- V. Eric motioned to end the board meeting at 7:29. Motion passed, and the board meeting ended.
- VI. The Member Meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm.
- VII. Mike Varnadore reviewed the nominating process and voting process for WCOA basketball.
  - a. Mike made a motion to open the nominating process and motion passed.
  - b. Mike polled the nominating board to see if they had any recommendations.
    - i. Mike Varnadore brought forward Jerome Smith as a self-nomination. No other nominations were received from the election committee.
    - ii. Open positions up for election/re-election:
      - 1. WCOA President
      - 2. Vice President of Basketball
      - 3. Two Sports Committee Positions
    - iii. Mike called for nominations for President of WCOA. No other nominations were received in addition to the WCOA Football nominations. Candidates remain Justin Crow and Rodney Dickerson.
    - iv. Mike called for nominations for Vice President of Basketball.
      - 1. Eric Sperbeck was nominated for re-election. The nomination was formally accepted.
    - v. Mike called for nominations for the Sports Committee (2 positions available):
      - 1. Jerome Smith was nominated and accepted the nomination.
      - 2. Josh Greenstein self-nominated. The nomination was formally accepted.
      - 3. Dennis Douglas was nominated. The nomination was formally accepted.
      - 4. Julia Gonzalez was nominated. The nomination was formally accepted.
    - vi. Mike read the campaigning rules to the candidates and the voting rules to the members.
- VIII. Areas of Clarification from Eric:
  - a. The black, full zip with WCOA logo pre-game jacket is required at all games effective December 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - b. A couple teams in the area don't have proper uniforms. Eric instructed officials to apply the rules accordingly and penalize the offending team.
  - c. Jewelry is not permitted in the game. It's our responsibility as officials to address it. Officials should not be wearing jewelry, including necklaces and wristwatches.

- d. Illegal undershirts need to be addressed accordingly.
  - e. NEW CLARIFICATION: No electronic devices should be worn by players during pre-game (including earbuds or headphones). FHSAA supports the ruling of NFHSA and encourages us to enforce the topic during pregame.
  - f. Cameras/Fans Along Endline: WCOA officials should enforce this requirement and not permit fans from being along the entire endline. We are trying to prevent an unsafe environment. Lannis from Hillsborough County Schools has sent out a notice to schools and wants us to enforce this practice.
  - g. Please don't take offense if your game details (including video) are used for training purposes. We are all trying to get better and it's an attempt to help the greater good.
  - h. Administration of double fouls should not include free throws. Report double foul and return to point of interruption.
  - i. Ensure we are adhering to the four designated spots for front court throw in.
  - j. No matter how many overtimes a game goes, the officials should never end the game prematurely at their discretion.
  - k. The Faking Being Fouled Rule (Flop Rule) was reviewed in more detail, including video review.
- IX. Eric took a few extra minutes to review the areas above for those that couldn't join the meeting earlier.

Eric ended the meeting at 8:34 pm and the meeting adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING**

First Sunday of each month.

**PREPARED BY:** Steve Lanham, Secretary