

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



Meeting Date: January 28, 2024
Type of Meeting Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting Location: Zoom Meeting Link
Present: Eric Sperbeck, Bernard Grimsley, Rodney Dickerson, Josh Saunders, Michael Corpening, Hubert McCloud, Carl Erickson, Jerome Smith
Absent: None
Guest(s):

- I. The meeting was called to order by Eric at 12:30 pm.
- II. Member Responsibilities and Compliance:
 - a. Concern remains that members are not applying the proactive communication that is being sent out via Facebook and arbiter emails. Specifically, the board continues to hear concerns regarding:
 - i. Completion and Communication of the AT6 forms. Member officials still are not informing board members prior to submitting an AT6.
 - ii. Member officials are not removing people from the end line during games. This was communicated as a player safety concern and members were told to address it at their game. Eric will communicate this point of emphasis to the private schools (In addition to Hillsborough County Schools) to get their added support.
 - b. The board agreed that a written enforcement policy needs to be developed and implemented to support accountability to members who aren't following processes/procedures. Specifically, what is going to be the standard consequence when members don't follow procedures and processes?
 - c. Eric asked board members to bring their recommendations and thoughts to next week's meeting on discipline policy, criteria for official rankings and criteria for playoff crews.
- III. WCOA Sportsmanship Classic:
 - a. While history is not clear, it's the understanding that Dave Queen initiated the Classic with the support of past board members.

- b. Dave Queen recently sent an email providing information on the classic and stated it was “co-sponsored with WCOA” and has the same leadership.
- c. While the premise of sportsmanship is supported by the board, one of 3 things ought to be done regarding the co-sponsoring:
 - i. If the Sportsmanship Classic is co-sponsored by WCOA as stated by Dave Queen, then we should have member input/participation into the operations and input into the distribution of finances. WCOA board has no input into the operations or finances.
 - ii. If another group wants 100% authority over the Sportsmanship Classic, then they should take the reins and remove WCOA’s name.
 - iii. If WCOA wants to take on the Sportsmanship Classic, then we should have full control of it.
- d. Rodney clarified that it was difficult to separate the Sportsmanship Classic board from the WCOA board. This led to confusion by WCOA members “voluntary” vs “mandatory” participation. Members felt obligated and it created a negative cloud. Eric expressed that the board needs to clear this up for the members, so members understand the relationship.
- e. It was agreed that the WCOA Executive Board needs to make the ultimate decision on the use of WCOA’s name on the classic.

IV. Bell Creek Update:

- a. FHSAA has ruled that schools are free to use whatever association they choose. As long as there is a contract in place.
- b. FHSAA has ruled that members listed on the state website are merely a list of available associations.
- c. There is concern that Bell Creek not letting WCOA know of their decision to change associations was not good business practice. Bell Creek deemed it as a misunderstanding since they communicated their intention for football and assumed it was for basketball also.
- d. Carl recommended we clear up our process for getting contracts signed accurately and timely. Dave Queen took control of contracts previously and there are unsigned contracts on file.

V. Voting Process:

- a. Members have asked about releasing the election results in detail. Eric said that members have asked about the release of details and it’s the board’s responsibility to provide them with clarification.
- b. Bernard confirmed that detailed percentages of votes were released at last years election.

VI. Promotion of Officials:

- a. Eric is cleaning up the new list with transferring officials to ensure everyone is being considered.
- b. Eric challenged the board to develop criteria for promotions and to focus on individuals that are deserving of promotions. Be prepared to discuss names soon.
- c. The board agreed that promotions along with demotions need to be discussed. We need to be transparent with highly ranked officials that are “slipping” in their performance and be transparent with concerns.
- d. Rodney confirmed that the board has demoted a member ranking level in the past. The past VP sent a letter to the member that was demoted.
- e. Eric challenged board members to develop clear criteria of what the criteria of each level should be and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting. The board needs to try and remove as much subjectivity as possible. With an understanding that subjectivity will always be part of the process. This applies to individual rankings and playoff crews.
- f. Attending a certain percentage of the meeting should play a part in the ranking system.
- g. Discussion was had regarding participation at camps, specifically FHSAA camp, as part of the ranking process.
- h. Eric will reach back out to St Leo university regarding camp opportunities.

VII. Special Olympics:

- a. One of our members is a part of the Special Olympics committee.
- b. Special Olympics is interested in using our officials for events.
- c. This is a great cause, and we should explore how much we can engage in this cause.
- d. Eric will get more information on the needs and requirements.

VIII. End of Year Get Together:

- a. The board needs to start thinking about the event. Location and participation.
- b. Eric communicated that VP business expenses are less than years past. He clarified unique situations where he would incur a business expense for the good of the association and the board had no concerns with his practice.

Eric ended the meeting at 2:05 pm and the meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING

To be determined

PREPARED BY

Steve Lanham, Secretary