

Minutes of MSBOA State Board Meeting

11-21-2021, Zoom Meeting

Call to Order – President John Rafferty called the meeting to order at 10:01AM. Attendance was taken online. A moment of silence was held for those who have passed away since our last meeting.

Attendance

BOARD 25 – Peter Gutmann, Rich Butler

BOARD 26 – George Valery

BOARD 27 – Bob Sterling, Steven Shorter, Rich Antonelli, Chris Devlin, Rich Collins, Jim Grady, Dave Engleson, Michael Hammond, Tom O'Connor

BOARD 28 – Mike Churchill, Mike Volpe

BOARD 30 – Bruce Anderson, Jay Horrigan, Brian Mikolazyk

BOARD 31 – Jeff Rivet, Chuck Elias

BOARD 44 – Lou Levine, Tim O'Brien, Dave Cady, Rich Ikonen

BOARD 54 – None

BOARD 95 – John Rafferty, Jon Lowe

BOARD 130 – Mike Muchmore, Dave Margossian, Bill Boutillier, Dan Bryant

BOARD 152 – Scott Nichols, Keith Forker

BOARD 175 – Nick Castellone, Mark Assencoa, Thomas Lunder

BOARD 208 – Larry Machione, Rich Vitali, Babe Grady, Ron Martel

Secretary's Report – Secretary Churchill reported the checking account balance of \$15,124.81 and the Savings Maximizer Balance of \$ 10,013.37. There is one board that has still not submitted their dues for the 2021-2022 year and the Secretary will be reaching out to them. The minutes for the 10-2 meeting in Trumbull were distributed online as well as being posted to the MSBOA Website. A motion was made by Mike Hammond and seconded by Jay Horrigan to accept these minutes. The motion was passed unanimously.

Interpreter's Update – Dave Engelson attended the MIAA meeting in place of Bill who was on vacation last week. The MIAA met this past week and discussed the new tournament format. They are calling this a success as the strongest teams seem to be making it to the later rounds. We need to be aware that the formula for the power ratings has a component of scoring margin in it. This will lead teams to run up the score and may cause some hard feelings in games. The MIAA said that masks will currently still be required but normal whistles may be used under the mask. This will be revisited and potentially adjusted in early December.

There is also a proposal being sent forward for review to allow players on the floor, officials and head coach to be unmasked. This needs to go through the proper channels. Dave asked that we send a letter of support for this proposal. The use of locker rooms will be an individual decision for each school. Bill also mentioned that some schools may have stronger requirements than the MIAA minimum and we need to be prepared for that. There will also be no handshake again this year. There is no requirement for officials to be vaccinated at this time.

Mike Hammond suggested that we have Paul Halloran write the letter for us on our behalf. The group agreed and Bill will talk with Paul Halloran and get this letter created and over to the MIAA discussing our support for the proposal.

IAABO National Update – Ron reported that IAABO is working up a letter with our legal counsel, Alan Goldberger, in regard to his services being continued. The major question they are working out is if the compensation is a retainer or an hourly rate. There was a sense that our Fall seminar was a great success and excellent feedback was received.

Board Interpretation Meeting Dates – These have been on the MSBOA website and updated as changes occurred. There are two zoom interpretation sessions tonight, Board 28 at 5pm and Board 208 at 6:30pm. A link for both meetings will be emailed for distribution.

Special Olympics – Special Olympics still looking like they will have a tournament but not definite yet. More updates to follow. They have discussed doing some regional competitions in parts of the state, and those would be paid games. This is in the planning stages now.

Congratulations! – Dave Cady mentioned to the group that our President-Elect, Dave Engelson, has been selected as the 2020-2021 MIAA Basketball official of the year. Our congratulations on this achievement!

State Tournament Assigning – The MIAA is going to continue with the model of the local assignors doing the assigning until the Round of 8. All games from that point forward will be assigned by a tournament assignor that they are hiring. The MIAA is looking for someone who has a good feel for officials throughout the state, not just one local area. There were concerns about the fairness of tourney assignments due to each area doing their own methods (some areas only have one assignor, some have multiple). It will be on the officials to be willing to travel for these games and reach out to assignors to have their officials used. This is a situation that will be here to stay, so we will need to adapt to this new process. A very good conversation occurred around this issue.

Next Meeting Date and Location – Wednesday, December 8th at 7pm so we are prepared for the start of the season and this will be a Zoom meeting. The link will be sent out to the membership by email, as posting it online could lead us to having general public members joining in.

Adjournment – With no other business to be addressed, a motion was made by Dan Bryant and seconded by Rich Antonelli to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Churchill, Secretary-Treasurer
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