

NHBUA Executive Committee minutes of 1/26/14 meeting
Recorded by Bob Skinner for Duane Welch

Attendance; Champagne, Walsh, Fletcher, Turgeon, Fischer, Makarawicz, Hoolihan, Skinner, Micucci, Dostie, Troupe, Desautel, Force, Durrance, Viens

1. Minutes of the Oct meeting approved without discussion.
2. Discussion concerning the format of the pending executive sessions. It was agreed that while the reinstatement member was in the room we will not discuss a decision. They will be thanked for attending and that they will receive a letter from the Secretary regarding the decision of the executive committee and any instructions thereupon.
3. Secretary report was read by Skinner and accepted. Troupe reported that Bill Jennings will go inactive. Desautel reported that Charlie Driscoll will go inactive. Bill Mak reported that Ken Lacoille has resigned.
4. Executive session to discuss reinstatement of member at 9 AM. *
5. Interpreter Dostie reported that he is working on the questions for the mechanics portion of the annual rules test. The 2014 Coaches meeting will be held at Pembroke Academy but the date is TBD. He wants to order the 2014 rules newsletter for the membership and BUD candidates. This was agreed to by the committee.
The annual rules interpretation and mechanics update schedule; Annual meeting on March 9, at Pinkerton Academy on March 17 at 7 PM, at Somersworth HS on March 12 at 6:30 PM, at Holderness School on March 15 at 10 AM.
His annual rule webinar yielded no significant rules changes. Points of Emphasis topics will include the hybrid pitching stance, batter interference on the back swing, coaches uniforms and malicious contact. Terry will send clarification of the hybrid stance and backswing interference enforcement to Jim Fletcher for dissemination to the baseball coaches.
6. Assigner Makarawicz reported that his Arbiter experience this year has been very confusing and has been in contact with the NHIAA numerous times concerning registration of members. Half of the varsity schedules are in the software as of this date and will require another month to be completed. Furthermore, he reported that we have about 170 members that will work ball games. This is a problem because that is not enough umpires to cover games on the busy days. Force suggested we have a certification track for sub-varsity members in an effort to eliminate the registration hassle with the NHIAA for this level of ball. Discussion yielded no clear results.
He also reported that the NHIAA is considering increasing the enrollment fee from \$30 to between \$45 and \$60. No decision reported from them as of this date. Further, the NHIAA ends up with \$8 of the \$30 fee. The rest of the money is used for insurance. First round assignments will be sent to regional assigners on February 15. Members will receive their schedules by March 1 and will have to be accepted by March 15.
7. Supervisor Fletcher reported that he was unable to attend the last NHIAA Baseball Committee meeting. Jeff Delois was in attendance so he will communicate with Jeff to clarify the discussion about our enforcement of the short sleeve coaches shell. The next baseball committee meeting will be March 4th so he will report on that at the March meeting.

He is working on the mechanics questions for the annual test and will have the test posted by February 21. The tests will have to be completed by the end of the day on April 1. Website Chairman Viens will send the questions to Sullivan and Wolf for the website. The Baseball committee will open evaluation of umpires to all varsity coaches. A discussion followed about the relevancy of the results given the history of their test last year.

8. BUD Chairman Fischer reported that he has about 60 inquiries and one payment for the 2014 class. Classes will be held at Laconia HS starting at 1 PM on the following dates; March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13 and 27. The annual Hopkinton scrimmage will be on April 5.

A discussion followed his comments on the process of accepting out of state transfers into the NHBUA. It was agreed that candidates requesting transfer for membership will contact the BUD chairman and follow his instructions to achieve membership. The discussion resulted from his experiences when candidates asked him to come to their location to be observed working a ball game or take the rules test.

9. Performance Review Coordinator Micucci reported that there will be no peer evaluations in 2014. There have been 92 evaluations completed to date. (about 60 remain) He requested the regional assigners send him names of members for continued evaluation on the plate and bases.

Our evaluation instrument will be tweaked so the results will be based on a percentage formula rather than addition of raw scores. He continues to edit the form so it reflects the needs of the association and reminds us that it is a fluid tool. The form will be placed on the NHBUA website as an interactive instrument so evaluators can submit results directly to his email. Discussion followed in which we all agreed that any instrument we use is for the continuing educational value of our membership, ie., training.

10. Executive session to discuss reinstatement of member at 11 AM. **

11. A discussion followed about moving the due date for dues to May 15. The thought was to move the due date to a time when the membership is in the high school season so members had the funds on hand to make dues payments. Motion to accept did not pass.

12 Website Chairman Viens was welcomed to the Ex Committee with a rousing cheer. Paul indicated he had spoken with past chair Jennings about the job. Apparently Bill is recovering from skin cancer treatment and his wife Libby was in the hospital with pneumonia so Paul has not completed his interview with Bill. His job description was discussed (no change from past). He was instructed to contact Sullivan and Wolf with all dates and forms discussed in this meeting for inclusion to the site.

13. Old Business...

A lengthy editing of the proposed Policies and Procedures package followed. Jim Walsh recorded the edits and will distribute the edited package to the executive committee by Monday AM and Paul Viens will send it to S&W for inclusion to the website. Members are encouraged to review and comment on the package at the March 9th meeting.

Bob Skinner mentioned that he had a discussion with Jack Batchelder, chairman of the RVYSF golf tournament. Our support for the foundation was discussed and details will be forth coming at the March meeting.

14. New Business...

The Sportsmanship Award discussion was postponed to the March meeting. Discussion included queries relative to the direction of the award. Should it be for a school or an

individual? (generally agreed that it should be for a school) Should we have an award for a school in each division? (agreed that one in each division was appropriate) How will the voting take place given that no umpire works all of the schools?

President Force asked committee members to send nominations for the Kliener Award to Secretary Welch.

Vote to adjourn at 12:25

Respectfully submitted by Bob Skinner