

NHBUA

January 23, 2022, Executive Board meeting minutes

Officers present: Duane Welch, David Harrington, Jim Walsh, Brian Troupe, Gary Noyes, Alan Merrifield, Jeff Kleiner, Jim Fletcher, Terry Dostie, Bill Makarawicz, Adam Rozumek, Paul Viens, Ted Houlihan, Bob Skinner.

Location: Community Center at Ledgewood in Manchester

Secretary/Treasurer's report

- Minutes of the June 13, 2021 meeting approved.
- Delinquent dues payments discussed. Those members will be contacted again so they know that if they are not registered with the NHIAA and have paid dues to the NHBUA they will not be able to work games in 2022.
- Since there was no in-person annual meeting in 2021, (due to Covid) there were no service awards presented. This will be rectified at the next in-person annual meeting.
- Discussion was held about members who will decide not to work ballgames in 2022 due to Covid concerns. They should still make dues payments as inactive members.
- Report accepted

Assigning Chairman's Report

- Thanks to Bob Skinner for developing and distributing a letter for athletic directors noting how the assigning procedure will change in 2022. It was decided that regional assigners will send invoices to AD's as in the past and use a uniform invoice in the future.
- Bill is trying to work out a way to include teams in the Arbiter that are composed of multiple schools. The issue seems to be removing existing schools so the compound teams can be scheduled.
- Mak indicated that D1, D2, and D4 baseball schedules are pretty much set but D3 schools seem to be unorganized and are not ready for primetime. The new cycle of NHIAA matching teams for competition will start in 2023 and he expects regional assigners to be able to start enter schedules in September of 2023.
- Brian Troupe requested Bill Mak send reminders to members every two weeks via Arbiter to make sure their availability current.
- Regional assigners will make pending assignments on February 6, 2022 and publish on March 1, 2022.

Supervisor's Report

- Concerning schools black balling umpires: the NHIAA remains noncommittal and contends that our members are independent contractors. This will be something the NHBUA will have to deal with. Terry Dostie recommended that assigners speak with AD's and the umpire involved to try to work things out (more on this under New Business)
- Concerning the length of sub-varsity games: the NHIAA is unwilling to commit to a 2-hour limit, stipulating that this is not a rule in the Federation book.
- Concerning dugout behavior: the supervisor recommended restricting to the dugout, players in violation of good sportsmanship. Dostie and Fletcher will emphasize our mechanics on dealing with bench jockeying at the 2022 mechanics meetings. Dostie will also check with the National Federation to see if this has been discussed in other areas of the US.
- 2022 tournament dates:
preliminaries June 2 Thursday Home of higher seed
quarter-finals June 4 Saturday Home of higher seed
Semi-finals June 8 Wednesday D1-Holman stadium, D2-Memorial Field
Concord, D3-SNHU, D4- Robbie Mills Laconia
Finals June 11 Saturday Delta Dental Stadium D3-10 AM, D4-1PM,
D1-4PM, D2-7PM
The prelims will be worked under the 2-man system, \$100/official
All other rounds of the tournament will be the 3-man system at \$110/official
- The supervisor will meet with the baseball committee on March 1, 2022

Rules Interpreter's Report

- 2022 Interpretation/Mechanics meetings: Coaches interpretation will be at Pembroke High School on February 2, 2022 at 9 AM (Members mechanics to follow); a ZOOM meeting will be on March 13 @ 10 AM; our in-person annual meeting is on March 20, 2022 (Location is pending and is dependent on acceptable covid protocols). NHTI and Bow HS are being investigated as possible locations.
- The annual rules test will be published on Dragonfly on February 2, 2022. Members must have their test results published by April 3, 2022.
- There is one rule modification for the 2022 season, concerning the disposition of the pitcher as he acquires signals from the catcher or a coach.

BUD chairman's report

- New chairman Jeff Kleiner welcomed. He indicated that at least 20 candidates have confirmed their desire to join. All monies will be collected at the first meeting on February 2, 2022. It will be held at the Toyota dealership in Manchester. Future meeting locations TBA.
- There are an additional 6 candidates that are unconfirmed at this date. He expects more as we close in on the start of the class. There are 5 second year members that will attend at no charge.
- Jeff has commitments from the following members to help with the class: Kevin Bolduc, Greg Sarette, Matt Lemear, Alan Gorwitz, Dan Cofflin, Phil Levesque.

Performance Review Report

- Discussion, in absence of Chairman Miccuci, included regional assigners sending one or two names of members who have worked the lower tournament levels to the chair for evaluation.
- Further discussion concerned our ability to make payment to evaluators as our financial position is of concern. ???

Website Chairman's Report

- Chairman Viens will send the BUD and Interpretation clinic dates to our website facilitators
- President Houlihan asked all board members to look at the website and send Paul any edits.

Zoom Chairman's Report

- Temporary chairman Noyes was authorized to resubscribe our ZOOM subscription, anticipated to be \$200. This level of participation will suffice for all of our members.
- Assistant chairman Rozumek will assist in coordinating our March Zoom meeting.

Old Business

- The priority choice of the board for the annual meeting is to meet in-person. If that proves to be unsafe, given the pandemic levels in March, a ZOOM will be scheduled.
- Bill Dodd was the 2020 Desautel Award recipient, but the presentation has not taken place due to safety concerns. No other new awards (2021.2022) will be made until our financial situation improves.
- The 2020 Kleiner award will be presented to Rick Force at the next in-person meeting (as will the Hall of Fame presentations).
- A discussion followed concerning the delinquent unpaid dues. It was decided that board members would contact the delinquent members again and stress the importance of timely decisions for the upcoming season.

New Business

- Terry Dostie recommended that when a school asks to blackball an umpire, the athletic director should document the incident in writing. Regional assigners and the Supervisor of Officials will consider the request and respond appropriately. Furthermore, the umpire involved should be notified by the assigner or Supervisor.
- Elections for the 2022 annual meeting: Adam Rozumek was nominated for President Elect, by Jim Fletcher, and he accepted the proposal; Member-at-Large nominations are as follows, Alan Merrifield to renew his position until 2025, Kevin Drew was nominated by Lee Champagne to replace Rozumek until 2024. David Harrington's position will come up for voting in 2023. The board renewed their understanding that any member may be nominated for the Member-at-Large position during the annual meeting/ZOOM meeting. Jim Walsh will investigate the protocols required to vote during a ZOOM meeting
- Gary Noyes will investigate the requirements for member dues payments using the Arbiter. Paul Viens will discuss same with our website provider.
- BUD chairman Kleiner questions whether the association should allow members to wear shirts other than navy blue provided each man on the field is dressed in like uniform. He will present a formal motion at the annual meeting/ZOOM in March.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Skinner