

New Hampshire Baseball Umpires Association

June 13, 2021 – Minutes Executive Board Meeting

Interim President Jim Walsh called the meeting to order at 1:30.

- 1) Secretary/Treasurer Report. Minutes of the 3/14/2021 meeting were accepted. Duane made a motion, that was approved, that the mileage fee paid for these meetings be re-instated – Approved. He expects \$14,737 in dues for the year 2022 if the following collections are received from our membership as of June 10, 2021. They are as follows;
 - 143 Active Members at \$90.00 each.
 - 22 Inactive Members at \$45.00 each.
 - 39 25year Members at \$22.50 each.

- 2) Supervisor, Jim Fletcher, specified the following about the past season:
 - 21 disqualifications (4 Head Coaches)
 - 12 restrictions
 - 2 Protests....neither upheld.Jim is in the process of dealing with members who worked preliminary games but only received an \$88.00 fee. He will work to increase that to \$98.00. He meets with the NHIAA Baseball Committee on 6/14/2021. He will make an effort to speak with the NHIAA to be able to see the Tournament availabilities on their website. It was decided that NHBUA Members who did not work games in 2021 would be required to pay 2022 dues, attend an interpretation and take the NFHS Test in order to work games in 2022. Gary Noyes volunteered to arrange for jackets for first time umpires who worked in the finals.

- 3) Baseball Umpire Development Chairman, Gary Noyes, reported that the class had six candidates, 5 of which passed the mechanics and will take years test #1. This year's field test was rained out. Gary thanked this year's BUD trainers. Gary also resigned as BUD Chairman and recommended Jeff Kliener to replace him. The Board decided to ask President Houlihan to publicize the opening to the membership via email and our website. He suggested that the membership be reminded that they can request an evaluation.

- 4) Performance Review Evaluator, Don Micucci, stated there were no evaluations this year due to NHBUA budgetary restraints. He recommended that in 2022 we observe and evaluate those members that are close to working into tournament assignments. The treasurer suggested we could afford to spend \$2500 on evaluations in 2022.
- 5) Website Supervisor, Paul Viens, commended the folks at Sullivan & Wolf for treating us right.
- 6) Rules Interpreter, Terry Dostie, sent a letter detailing his report as he was unable to attend specifying the following:
 - No protests during the regular season, 2 during the playoffs.
 - The DH Rule did not produce any problem
 - Lack of enforcement of the jewelry and dugout rules a concern.
 - Bench conduct during games needs to be addressed.
 - Concern about the restriction of a head coach... the Assistant can coach the bases.

Discussion concerning schools blackballing umpires, limiting the length of sub-varsity games and dugout behavior by players... Supervisor Fletcher will discuss with the baseball committee.

- 7) Assigning Chairman, Bill Makarawicz, reported the NHIAA has lost faith in the Arbiter so a software package called Dragonfly may be in our future. There were 1244 games this season, some with one official, some with no umpire... turn backs continue to be a problem. About membership numbers; there are 201 members on the Arbiter, 191 are active while only 156 worked games. Seventy worked 15+ games. Discussion about middle school games being included on our Arbiter and the inclusion of softball related information in emails for Bill was introduced by Brian Troupe. It was decided that only baseball related emails should come to members from the Assigning Chairman. Also, middle school games will be restricted from our accounts. Gary Noyes agreed to allow sub-assignors on his middle school account to cover those games. President Houlihan's proposal to redesign the assigning system resulted in the following:
 - Chairman Mak will coordinate assigners and act to resolve issues that may arise during the year. He will not be the primary contact for AD's in the future.
 - The primary contact for the AD's will be the regional assigners who will identify themselves as such at the start of the new school year and again in January. At this time they will specify the change in our assigning system. President Houlihan will construct a communication for the assigners to send to schools so our message is a united front.

- An invoice will be designed by the regional assigners and used to paper the schools for payment of services.
- Billy Mak agreed to speak with Don Strohmeier about his willingness to continue as assignor in his region. A discussion was held concerning the number of regions.

8) Old Business

Hall of Fame installations will occur at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

The HOF Committee will look into future inductees for the 2023 meeting.

Supervisor Jim Fletcher announced that he has ordered the rule books for the 2022 season. The Treasurer indicated that we should be financially solvent so Jim can order the case books as well.

9) New Business

The Treasurer moved to reinstate stipend payments as of this meeting.

Motion was seconded and passed.

Interim President adjourned the meeting at 3:40.

In attendance:

Gary Noyes, Duane Welch, Jim Fletcher, Paul Viens, Alan Merrifield, Tom Fischer, Brian Troupe, Bill Makarawicz, Jim Walsh, Don Micucci and Bob Skinner.

Not in attendance:

Don Strohmeier, Ted Houlihan, Dave Harrington, Lee Champagne and Adam Rozumek.