

# Minutes of MSBOA State Board Meeting

10-2-2021, Trumbull, CT

**Call to Order** – President John Rafferty called the meeting to order at 2:54PM. The members in attendance introduced themselves. A moment of silence was held for those who have passed away since our last meeting.

## Attendance

**BOARD 25** – None

**BOARD 26** – None

**BOARD 27** – Tom O’Connor, Jack Doyle, Mike Hammond, Bob Sterling, Rich Collins, Jim Grady

**BOARD 28** – Mike Churchill, Mike Volpe

**BOARD 30** – Jay Horrigan, Bruce Anderson

**BOARD 31** – None

**BOARD 44** – Dave Cady, Tim O’Brien

**BOARD 54** – Derek Ferguson

**BOARD 95** – John Rafferty

**BOARD 130** – Bill Boutilier

**BOARD 152** – Steve Pothier

**BOARD 175** – None

**BOARD 208** – Loretta Donohue, Kathy Brady, Ron Martel

**Interpreter’s Update** – MSBOA Interpreter Bill Boutilier reported the MIAA will be meeting on 10/13 in-person to discuss any game modifications. The current thought is that the MIAA will follow DESE guidelines, however individual cities and towns may impose their own rules. Officials should be prepared for both scenarios and we should make sure to bring this to our official’s attention. Regular whistles may be allowed under a mask for the upcoming season but this has not yet been clarified.

Bill also noted the accepted MIAA game rules changes for this year will include: No 5 second count while dribbling the ball in the front court, all games will have a 10 second backcourt count, and a secondary shot clock reset on violations, where if shot clock is below 14 it will go to 15 and above 15 will stay. Shot clock is being allowed for next year by NFHS but the length of the shot clock is under review (may be 35, not 30 and reset may be 20 not 15). The shot clock may cause an issue because the ten second backcourt starts on catch of the ball, not first touch. NFHS uses a visible count even though college doesn’t and these are points that still need to be ironed out.

Bill and Jay Horrigan also discussed the fact that the MIAA is no longer using state tournament assignors. The tourney assigner for the home team will be responsible for assigning the officials for the game. This appears to be their methodology going forward and a discussion followed about some of the potential issues that this could raise.

**IAABO National Update** – Ron Martel provided the update in Larry’s absence. Some things in process at national level. Audit statements were completed this summer and everything was in order. Some boards are struggling with the new roster system and getting their dues paid, but this is not the case in Massachusetts. Donnie is chasing these as without dues paid, you do not receive your rule books, exams and insurance.

IAABO and NFHS are in negotiations currently, as the right to print the rulebooks is costing us around \$60K each year. NFHS is looking to increase that cost possibly as they have new leadership that is doing cost analysis on their products. The cost increase could be exponential, and is a concern for IAABO. NFHS additionally requires members in compliant states to hold an NFHS membership for all sports, so that has to be paid by the individual official. They are pushing for this in CT and NH now, and those states are pushing back. Further negotiations are in progress regarding this issue.

Additionally, this summer the leadership of IAABO is working on developing an onboarding manual for new members who move onto the Executive Committee to help define their roles and responsibilities. The last key item they are working on are vendor contracts, specifically those that involve legal support.

John asked Ron if there is any conversation in regards to the running of the Fox Clinics at this time. Ron reported that it is something that can be looked into and there is always a willingness to run these, if an area is interested.

**Life Membership Committee Report** – Mike Hammond reported that two applications were received by the deadline. The committee forwarded the recommendation for Bob Sterling, Board 27 to IAABO. Mike recommended that if Bob does not pass through this time, we should resubmit him for next year as we did for some other officials previously. Tim reported that the votes for Life Membership will most likely be tabulated by Mid-January at the IAABO level. The hope is that this will get us back on track.

Tim also reported that the CBOA Board 800 sent an application for Tom O'Connor for Life Membership, even though he is also a dual member of Board 27 for IAABO. This creates a delicate situation as we have always prioritized our applications when they are submitted. The situation has been addressed at the National level at this point and is expected to be a more fluid process in the future.

**Board Interpretation Meeting Dates** – Mike mentioned that we need to put together a list of the interpretation meetings to send out to all boards and to publish on the website. This process was delayed last year and created some issues, so all interpreters were asked to provide this information ASAP.

**Any and All** – No items brought forward.

**Next Meeting Date and Location** – November 21<sup>st</sup> (tentatively if needed) at 10AM in Auburn, MA.

**Adjournment** – With no other business to be addressed, a motion was made by Derek Ferguson and seconded by Ron Martel to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Churchill, Secretary-Treasurer  
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