

Officials Committee Meeting

June 7, 2007, 9:30 am, Sierra Dorm Rec Room, CSU Sacramento

Attendees: Jay Abbott, Michael Boot, Bruce Colman, Dr. Leon Glover, John Lilygren, John Murray, and Gail Wetzork.

No quorum, so not an official meeting.

Bruce Colman called the meeting to order. Minutes from the previous meeting were not available, so they could not be reviewed for approval.

Open Session:

Two main topics to discuss:

1. Officials training and clinic program
2. Increasing the use of electronics/cyberspace

1. On Officials Training and Clinics:

The Committee has been re-examining the program in terms of who teaches, what is taught, where, and how much top charge. A training subcommittee has been formed to address these matters and to arrive at ways to improve the program. Margaret Sheehan had sent out questionnaires and to date has received more than 50 responses, reflecting about 25% of the officials. On the reverse side of the Agenda was printed a chart detailing whom to contact regarding particular aspects of the program.

Gail Wetzork complimented the Officials Committee for implementing the clinics, saying that they help us officials a great deal. He thanked the Committee for doing this.

2. On Increasing the Use of Electronics/Cyberspace in Officiating

Jay Abbott presented the idea of using active.com (the webmaster used by Bay to Breakers, et. al.) to sign up for clinics and meets. Officials would pay only a transaction cost.

If meets could pay for the use of the website, we can attach a surcharge that would in turn finance signups for clinics. The website could include a link to the PAUSATF page describing how to become an official.

Comments:

Glover: The schools hosting the meet might not accept having to pay the website fees.

Colman: Some schools in remote locations might be willing to pay if they would otherwise attract few officials.

Lilygren: Maybe signing up for a meet online would lessen the burden on Margaret Sheehan and officials coordinators/meet directors. Also, it seems a good way to get the word out about how to become an official.

Abbott: It is an additional way of increasing communication among officials, and of getting funding.

There would be a monthly charge for the online service.

Officials will still pay for individual clinics.

Colman: It is likely that both the online active.com and the current system we have will parallel one another and operate concurrently. Also the Youth meets could use it to recruit officials.

Abbott: Who will really benefit? Schools, active.com,, officials?

Another topic for discussion was brought up by Dr. Glover.

3. Succession Plan

There should be ongoing discussion about how to attract and find younger people to take on apprenticeships and leadership capacities as the elders gradually retire.

Colman: We have to decide what certification level officials should have before taking this on.

Murray: Maybe we should issue a general invitation with information to the officials at large.

Colman: Let's plan to announce it at the Annual Meeting. We need to detail what everyone does as officials, and to write better job descriptions.

Glover: There is a sense that the Officials Committee doesn't represent officials as a group.

Murray: Can we get other places to hold our Executive Committee meetings?

Wetzork: The Reno officials tend to become isolated. We need to figure out how to make sure they can be included more easily. Wimbley and DesJardins travel a lot, but not others.

Bruce Colman adjourned the meeting at 10:00 am.

Minutes prepared by Michael Boot