

NASOA Membership Meeting 22 January 20118

President

Cedric Thomas opened the meeting at 6:00 PM at the First Christian Church, Huntsville. 37 members were present. Cedric encouraged all high school referees to take the test on Arbiter before the end of January. He encouraged members to prepare for the high school season by running outdoors.

Vice President

Tim Barron said our high school Assigner, Andy Dye was out of town due to illness in the family. Still all members are reminded to record Andy's contact information: Cell: 256-230-5425 Email:

andydye2@gmail.com.

Next: Take the high school test. If you fail on first try, contact a board member for help before retaking test. Try to take the test in one session.

Next: Attend District Camp on Saturday, 27 January at Athens High School 8:30 to 1:00. Confirm attendance with Richard Robinson and bring \$30 check.

Next: Attend Jamboree on Saturday, 3 February at Jack Allen Complex, Decatur from 8:00 to 3:00. There were few refs who had signed up for the Jamboree prior to the meeting. Tim passed around a sign up sheet for the Jamboree. Many attendees signed up. Others can register for the Jamboree by emailing Tim Barron at timmybarron44@gmail.com'

Tim then reviewed a change to high school rules:

The KO can be taken in any direction.

If kicker makes second touch, then IFK.

Tim proposed the Board provide t shirts for the participants in the Jamboree. The motion was put to a vote and was approved 27-2.

Board Member

Gene Uhl described the transition to the new web page. He asked members to suggest improvements.

SDI

Kris Bailey discussed ways to improve chances for selection to ref substate and final four games. She suggested contacting her or Klaus Staefe to request they observe your performance at a high level match.

Instructor

Daphne Brown reminded us that the entry level clinic will be held on 27 January at the First Christian Church and for members to encourage candidates to attend. There will also be entry level clinics in Birmingham on 3 and 10 February. Daphne will conduct the 10 February clinic.

President

Cedric Thomas followed up with additional lessons learned at the USSF Advanced Clinic held in Montgomery 13-14 January. He will distribute the "FIFA Consideration List" as a valuable tool for all referees. Cedric then conducted video training for "Challenges" at high level matches. He mentioned that physical contact at high level games even at high school competition, is rarely accidental. Club Players, teams with professional coaches, etc. are more than not pushing the envelope. Stepping on an opponent's foot, "cleats up" contact, can be a sending off offense at any level. Cedric cited a video which showed a defender stepping on an attacker's ankle after the ball was played away. He described the offense as "Violent Conduct" not "Serious Foul Play". Cedric will continue discussion of VC vs. SFP next week.

Instructor

Daphne Brown emphasized refs are not to make excuses for unskilled play. Intention should not be a factor, deal with the action, not intent. As always, take in the BIG PICTURE of the action in question.

USSF Representative, Assessor

Klaus Staefe explained there is a great difference in Alabama High School rules comparing VC and SFP. Referees are to write up the incident clearly describing circumstances to defend the decision to eject the player. A VC ejection is much more serious than a SFP ejection. Also a DOGSO is an SFP ejection.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.