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NASOA General Meeting – August 14, 2019

Meeting opened at 18:00 CDT at Merrimack Soccer Complex.

- 1. Tim Barron welcomed everyone back and introduced the new board members who had been elected by the membership the previous meeting in June 2019. Also, Tom Lawson was mentioned for becoming the new assignor for youth games.
- 2. The first topic of importance was with respect to the number of declined game assignments that had occurred recently. For August, there were 50 youth games (139 slots) to be assigned. 106 of these had been declined (with \sim 50% of these autodeclined by not being accepted before the time-out period). 104 refs were assigned slots and 57 had declined. Tim reminded those present that part of our duty is to be responsible and set out blocks at least 3 weeks out to help reduce the decline rate. Two-way communication is needed between the officials and the assignors.
- 3. Local in-person recertification clinics are scheduled to be held on Sept. 7 @ 09:00, Oct. 12 @ 09:00, and Nov. 9 @ 09:00. For each of these dates, two clinics will be held, one for Grassroots referees and another for Regional referees.
- 4. With respect to the new background checks that are required for officials, Kris Baily mentioned that the website should be functional within a week or two.
- 5. Tim mentioned that the NASOA website (<u>www.nasoa.org</u>) has been updated and contains the current schedule for future membership meetings. Also, the new pay rates will be uploaded to the website soon. It was also mentioned that games for the North Alabama Youth Soccer League (NAYSL) are to be paid on the field.
- 6. Tim mentioned that Craig Knight is heading up a recruiting effort at Alabama A&M and UAH and presented some flyers developed by Jackie Svehlak that are planned on being handed out. These flyers contain a QR code that can direct them to the NASOA website. Celeste Roberts will be representing NASOA at the Alabama A&M effort and Austin Holt will be the representative at the UAH effort.
- 7. Regarding the upcoming Labor Day Cup tournament being held at Jack Allen Complex, Cedric Thomas mentioned that officials need to sign up through GotSoccer if they plan on helping out with this tournament.
- 8. Next, Tim requested approval from the membership to purchase a new projector for NASOA to be used at general meetings. A motion was made and approved overwhelmingly by the membership.
- 9. A presentation was next given by Kris Baily going over the recent (and numerous) changes by IFAB to the Laws Of The Game.
- 10. Regarding HASL. Tim mentioned that referees do not need to require substituted players to leave the field at the nearest boundary line. (The recent law change is meant for professional leagues where only a few subs occur.) Also, the games in the women's league are now to be 90 minutes in length. Finally, if there is no player photo present on the game day roster then that player is not to be allowed to play.

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- 11. AHSAA plaques were then presented to recognized Cedric Thomas and Diego Chulan for their participation in the Final Four Alabama High School finals in May.
- 12. Tom Lawson mentioned that the Florence area association is requesting help with some of their games and will provide travel pay. Those interested should let Tom know. Also, a large number of games are needing to be covered on Sept. 21st & 22nd and was asking to keep your blocks open if possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:40.

Attendees:

Abdallah Abuspetani Howard Blevins Anna Butler Bill Der Kim Hensley Austin Holt Tom Lawson Claudiu Muntele Walner Nelson Kim Khoon Ong Celeste Roberts Hannah Smid Robert Sullivan Cedric Thomas Douglas Vechinski David Barreto Christian Boyer Diego Chulan Sophie Floyd Brian Hernandez Tim Holt Christopher McCleskey Cuauhtemoc Navarrete Hudson O'Neill Todd Owen Joe Roberts Michael Smid Jackie Svehlak Gene Uhl Kaitie Wayne Tim Barron Wes Brown Dan Cutshall Connie Geary Alan J (AJ) Hicks Luke Lamonte Mike Moran Ian Navarrete Shane O'Neill Bill Pottratz Darrell Schmidt Bill Steely Wallace Tate Calvin Vechinski