

NASOA General Meeting – September 16, 2019

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

President

1. Motion was made by Cedric Thomas to approve the Minutes from September 4th as amended by discussion and 2nd by Chris Wiehe.
2. The next local recertification class is Oct. 12. There are presently only 6 who have signed up for the class. It is possible that this class may be canceled if more do not sign up to attend. At games, referees are encouraged to mention to their fellow crew members about signing up for a recertification class. You must first apply for a background check, which can potentially take up to 10 days to complete, before applying for a class. Then, the official needs to complete the various online assignments before attending the in-person class. Do not wait till the last minute.
3. Clarification was obtained from the state regarding the contradiction of youth heading brought up in the previous meeting. No deliberate heading is allowed in youth matches for 12U and below. **Do not allow a coach to talk you into allowing it by showing a document where it may mention 11U.** These documents are in the process of being updated to reflect the 12U decision.

Also, we were reminded how the recent change in Law #16 (with respect to goal kicks) affects the Build-Out Line (BOL) for 9U & 10U. The ball is in play once it is kicked and moves. The attacking team may cross the BOL at this time and do not need to wait for the ball to leave the penalty area.

4. Tim mentioned that he received an email from the Gadsden area apparently citing some Huntsville officials on allowing improper goal kick restarts. Some players were apparently “heading” the ball (while it was on the ground) to start the goal kick and then the keeper was picking it up to then release it. According to this email, some officials were letting this go. However, no names were mentioned in the email and no Huntsville officials could be found that had gone down to Gadsden during this timeframe. The moral of the story is, this is not a proper restart. The ball must be **kicked** and moves.
5. The subject of pets at fields was next brought up. As referees, it is not our job to enforce/police the rules of the park. However, if a pet becomes an issue, i.e. entering the field or affecting the players, then you can take action to have the pet removed from the field area. Huntsville Parks and Recreation personnel mentioned that they are working on adding signs to parks regarding pets.

No pets are allowed at HASL matches. Instead of confronting spectators with animals, it is suggested that officials mention to team captains/representatives to remind spectators to next time not bring their pets.

6. It has been previously mentioned that youth subs are encouraged to leave the field somewhere along the bench-side touchline when subbing out and not necessarily the closest boundary line. However, this is not meant to be taken as “forcing” them to leave the field on this side. Just mention to the coaches that they should remind the players this is what they should do but do not force them if they decide to leave the

field across a different boundary line unless the “temperature” of the game is high then it may be more appropriate for players to leave by a boundary line other than the spectator side.

7. For Premier HASL games, the 10 minute grace period is currently under review. Tim mentioned several teams that are consistently late in having a minimum number of players ready by kick-off time. Before a Premier game, be on the lookout for an email or text from Tim that may state that no grace period is to be allowed for that game.

Furthermore, for Premier HASL games, the player uniforms must match. The shirts must have a number, the shorts must match in color, and the socks must match. If a player does not match the rest of his team, he is not to play.

8. We were reminded that while officials are independent contractors and are free to travel to tournaments if so desired, they are however expected to be professional, responsible, and plan ahead. If you intend to work a tournament, set your blocks ahead of time so that you do not have to decline games and frustrate the assignors. Furthermore, if you have accepted games and then decide to bail in order to go work a tournament, it will be frowned upon and may influence future assignments.
9. As mentioned in the previous meeting, if there is a player/coach send-off or mass confrontation in a youth match a USSF supplemental report needs to be sent to Tom Lawson, Tim Barron, and Kris Rose (State Youth Coordinator) within 24 hours.
10. Tim mentioned that of the 21 new certified referees, only 8 have been actively officiating. The remainder have either not gotten their uniforms, created their Game Officials account, or been proactive in completing the necessary steps. It was suggest that HFC should be notified to see if they could follow up on their recruits so they could get a “return on their investment”.

Robert Sullivan asked if there was a way to provide feedback to someone on youths that have been officiating so that they could provide input to they’re progress. Tim said that is his working on assigning mentors to youths and that input/feedback could be sent to him or Cedric.

Treasurer

11. Kim mentioned that if anyone needs to be paid early (for games already done) they can send Kim an email.

Youth Assignor

12. Tom mentioned again that when setting blocks, it is important to set the times you are **not** available. While Game Officials allows one to set times that they are available, this method does not really help the assignor.

Motion was made by Cedric Thomas to adjourn and 2nd by Robert Sullivan. The meeting was adjourned at 18:59.

Attendees:

Tim Barron
Austin Holt
Colin Sullivan
Douglas Vechinski

James Farmer
Joseph Patterson
Robert Sullivan
Christopher Wiehe

Kim Hensley
Celeste Roberts
Cedric Thomas