

NHFOA Annual Winter Business Meeting

Saturday, December 5, 2015

Elks Lodge, Nashua, NH

- 1) **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by President Tod Trask at 9:36 AM.
- 2) **Minutes of the July 2015 Meeting** – The minutes have not been posted yet for member review, we will plan to approve them, along with these minutes at the July 19, 2016 meeting.
- 3) **Finance Report** – Treasurer Jim Presher distributed copies of the 2015 NHFOA Financial Report for member review. The Report showed that income exceeded expenses and that once again the association operated under the budget established by the Executive Council at the beginning of the year. Jim feels that from a financial point of view the NHFOA is doing a good job and is in good shape. A motion to accept this report (Driscoll motion, Sevigny second) was approved.
- 4) **Correspondence** – Commissioner Ernie Clark read correspondence from councilor Rick Zecha that he would be stepping down from his position on the council. Rick spoke to the membership explaining his reason for this decision but noted that he will still remain active within the NHFOA and help out wherever and whenever he can.
- 5) **Executive Council Chair Report** – Executive Council Chairman Paul Page reported on the activities of the council in 2015. The Council met every month and also involved a large portion of the membership in committee and subcommittee meetings during the 2015 off-season to help drive changes to improve the NHFOA. Page thanked the council members and all participants in the subcommittees for their efforts and encouraged the membership to take advantage of opportunities to get involved to help improve the organization when they present themselves.
- 6) **Commissioner's Report**- Commissioner Ernie Clark opened his report by announcing the names of the officials who worked the three division finals and reminded the membership that we, through our ratings, choose the officials who work in the post season and not the NHIAA. In order to maintain this level of sovereignty we need to make sure that we give serious thought to the people that we elect into leadership positions as character in these positions is important in helping the NHFOA continuing to drive to improve our service to the schools and to continue to train and sustain an excellent board of officials. The Commissioner closed by thanking all who volunteered their time on Championship Sunday and to all members for doing a great job on and off the field which resulted in a great and successful 2015 football season.
- 7) **Old Business – Curriculum Committee** – The committee is working on video for the 2016 season and is considering films from NH games if we can invest in a program such as Huddle to help break them down. This will be discussed by the committee during the off-season with the hope of having a film option ready for distribution with the packets that go to the local coordinators in July 2016. **Ref Pay** – Member John Andrick spoke about Ref Pay and concerns with it that he thinks the NHFOA should be aware of due to Arbiter's lack of security and the potential SS

number needs that Ref Pay would require. Right now the NHFOA views payment as a deal between the official and school and is not taking a position on this other than to advise caution with putting info, such as an SS number, on Arbiter.. The NHIAA does not have a position on it at this time either. This will be discussed more when and if it becomes an issue but at this point we do not see this as something anyone is going to have to use in the immediate future.

- 8) **New Business – Apprentice Report** – Apprentice Chair Shaun Bean nominated and welcomed Marc Craigue, Gary Finkle, Joe George, Ernie Rehrig, Barry Reynolds and Adam Young as new members for the 2016 season in his report. Steve Hall made a motion to accept Shawn’s report and recommendations, Mike Lafond seconded and the membership unanimously approved and welcomed them aboard. Congratulations gentlemen! **Mechanics Report** – Supervisor Bill Main presented his report for the 2015 season. He is hoping to be able to organize a mechanics evaluation for next season to supplement the mechanics clinic/requirement and continues to welcome suggestions and comments from the membership. **NHFOA 2015 Special Recognition Awards** – Commissioner Clark presented recognition awards to Kevin Bolduc, Mike Parkin, Mike Viveiros and Jim Presher for their contributions above and beyond to the NHFOA during the 2015 season. The Commissioner also recognized long-time member, super official and hell of a guy Mike Blaze for his many contributions to the NHFOA. Mike was presented with the coveted box of maple squares award at a remote location after the meeting. The Commissioner closed remembering Min Valavane, Gerry Rochette, Chet Swiesz and Glenn Colburn who have passed in recent years but whose contributions to the NHFOA are not forgotten. **Joe Yukica Official of the Year** – President Tod Trask announced that Richard Driscoll was the 2015 winner of this award. **Announcement of the 2016 Shrine Officials** – President Trask announced that Shaun Bean, Harry Hansen and Fred Russell will represent the NHFOA at this year’s game with Ryan Glass serving as the alternate. **Chad Game Officials** – President Trask announced the officials for the 2016 Chad Game. They are John Reardon. Paul Hickey, Kevin Staniels, Mark Cherbonneau, Gerry Robichaud, Tim Begley and John Barry. **Member Service Awards** – Introductions of the classes of 1975, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 took place. Twenty-five year sweaters were presented to class of 1990 members Moe Bilodeau, Steve Hall, Jeff Jousset, Butch Munce, Kevin Staniels and Jan Gruzcka. **2015 Administration and Sportsmanship Awards** – President Trask announced that Alvirne, Milford and Stevens would be receiving the 2015 NHFOA Administration Awards and that Exeter, Sanborn and Newport would be receiving the 2015 NHFOA Sportsmanship Awards. **Special Recognition and Service**, – Chairman Paul Page presented outgoing Council Member Steve Hall with an award recognizing his outstanding service and contributions to the NHFOA. **Election Results** – Chairman Page announced that Mike Grondin, Steve Bracci and Ron Sevigny had been elected to the open council seats. **President Trask’s Closing Comments** – President Trask thanked all members for a good meeting and a good season. He applauded the membership for their hard work and ability to adapt to change and assured all that the council would continue to work hard to vet all ideas and to continue to hear and react to the voices of the membership. He also reminded the membership that we are all a part of and must do our part in regards to upholding standards and supporting the mission of the NHFOA. Football changes as do other things in life but we must keep our focus on our mission and keep it as our #1 priority. He also reminded us that our solidarity was

important, it is important to stay together and not be splintered as we move forward so we can continue to be the best officiating organization in the State of NH. Tod closed by wishing all happy holidays and encouraged all to enjoy the off season with family, friends and other priorities but to start preparing for the new season in June and to get involved with the NHFOA where ever you can.

- 9) **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 10:48 AM.