

Good Morning to all. My name is Kevin Maes and I am seeking re election to one of the open seats on the council. First, let me congratulate you all for another season completed as a member of the NHFOA, for me it was my 37th . I point that out because over the course of those years I have had the opportunity to see and be a part of all of the changes that this organization has gone through. I have, what is characteristically called, Institutional Knowledge. This is not my first term on the council. I served years ago when we called it the Executive Board.

I have seen commissioners come and go and come back again. I have seen board and council members do the same. What I have been able to observe during all of these transitions was a genuine desire to serve the membership of our great organization. Some people have run because they are angry and been elected over single issue items, while others put themselves out there because of their genuine desire to be part of something bigger than themselves. I can tell you that the former don't pass the test of time while the latter go on to be very effective working for the betterment of the organization. That my fellow officials, is the benefit of Institutional Knowledge and observations.

Over the many years of participation at our end of year meeting/elections I noticed that attendance was always an issue. Weather was always a major factor and I remember many a night driving back to Rumney through a major snowstorm. Positions were won by the slimmest of margins due to attendance or lack of it most years. It was then that I thought that we should be able to vote electronically. I made this motion many times at our business meetings and came away frustrated. I continued making the same proposal until finally, when I was no longer on the Board, Dave Dickson, with a new Board in place, took up the mantle and it gained enough of a hold that it finally passed and now we have another tool to make our organization even better. Now, if you don't cast a ballot it is because you don't want to, not because you can't.

I bring that point up to illustrate that our Council is not stagnant, working in a vacuum. It seeks out solutions to real issues. Training and recruitment are but two of the issues the Council has worked to address by seeking information from the committees and its members and from the membership as well. The goal of

this association and the Council is to continue to put a competent, and qualified crew of officials on the field each game and we cannot stop, as this is an ongoing responsibility we have.

Come to the Council meetings.

I am seeking re election because I want to continue to uphold the high standards that this organization has, to respect the traditions set by those who came before us, and seek new ways to take us into the next generation of officiating. To do this we need your help. Stay active, find your voice, bring forward your ideas and work with the Council. You have the right and obligation to hold your Council accountable.

As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact me either by email: [kmcladdagh@aol.com](mailto:kmcladdagh@aol.com) or by telephone: (603)786-9705

I ask for your vote so that I may continue to serve you and our organization, the NHFOA, or as one of our newest members signs off his correspondence, For the love of the game!