

**NHFOA Executive Council  
Meeting Agenda  
January 28, 2016  
Bow High School**

Meeting called to order at 6:20 p.m.

**In Attendance:**

President Tod Trask, President-Elect Jeff Delois, Commissioner Ernie Clark, Secretary Jason Patch, Treasurer Jim Presher, Chairman Paul Page, Councilor Chuck Robert, Councilor Jay Kelly, Councilor Bob Krupicka, Councilor Mike Grondin, Councilor Mike Lafond, Councilor Ron Sevigny and Councilor Steve Bracci.

- 1) A welcome was extended by Chairman Page to new NHFOA council members Mike Grondin and Steve Bracci along with returning member Ron Sevigny.
- 2) *A motion was made by Councilor Sevigny to approve the minutes from the 7/21/15 meeting held at Pinkerton Academy. This motion was seconded by Councilor Lafond and it passed unanimously.*
- 3) *A motion was made by Councilor Lafond to approve the minutes from the 11/30/15 council meeting. This motion was seconded by Councilor Sevigny and it passed unanimously.*
- 4) *A motion was made by Councilor Lafond to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. This motion was seconded by Councilor Krupicka and it passed unanimously.* We are still waiting for a bill for the online voting and testing. A detailed analysis of the actual 2015 income and expenses was presented by Treasurer Presher in comparison with the approved budget. At year-end, the NHFOA had received \$15,351.00 in income and incurred \$13,531.84 in expenses. The 2016 budget is going to be worked on by Treasurer Presher and President Trask prior to the February 25, 2016 council meeting.
- 5) Correspondence:  
We received a written request from Bill Makarawicz for inactive status for the 2016 season. We also received a "thank you" from the American Cancer Society for our donation.
- 6) **Commissioner's Report, 2015 Season Review:**  
A discussion took place in which Commissioner Clark outlined the 23 members of the NHFOA with outstanding dues. This is a bigger issue this year than it has been in prior seasons.

The NHIAA fee schedule was discussed with respect to sub-varsity games. There is discussion that for this year they may recommend that four officials be used. Some

schools still pay for just three officials at the sub-varsity level. If this ultimately passes, it is likely that next year the NHIAA will require schools to pay for four sub-varsity officials and strongly recommend a fifth.

Councilor Bracci asked about mentor crews and Commissioner Clark said that they weren't used to the extent that they were in the past. He started to set it up last year but travel and overall distance became an issue. This year he would like the mentor crews to come from the Apprentice Chair.

The NHIAA guidelines were read with respect to conducting background checks on officials. We are going to look into redrafting this so that it includes NHFOA language. This will pertain to currently enrolled officials and indictment on offenses involving drug use or crimes against minors. There was a recommendation that we perform sex offender background checks at the time that availability is entered into the Arbiter. This should be done on an annual basis in order to protect ourselves. Secretary Patch is offering to set us up with Lexis Nexis as we can secure national background checks for \$1.50 each. We would draft a policy regarding confidentiality should something be found on a member of our association.

***A motion was made by President Trask to have an exploratory group look into the conducting of background checks. This was seconded by Councilor Kelly and it passed unanimously.***

All ejections should be reported to Commissioner Clark whether he assigns the game or not. There have been issues with non-patched officials working games not assigned by NHFOA. There is also concern that it creates a potential conflict of interest for officials to be working with just a handful of schools at the sub-varsity level. A situation was discussed from last season where a player was ejected in a game not assigned by Commissioner Clark. This was not reported to him and he found out about it after the fact. This was the only ejection that he was aware of in over 15 years at the sub-varsity level in a game that he did not assign. This tells us that ejections are likely not being reported to the NHIAA in these games. As such, players are treated differently in these circumstances based on who assigned the game and the potential penalties are not on the same playing field.

NHIAA currently has no mandate that NHFOA officials need to be assigned for sub-varsity games. Councilor Sevigny felt that the only remedy at this time would be to go to the NHIAA directly to see if they would mandate this. Commissioner Clark feels that all high schools should go through NHFOA for assigning at all levels to allow for better supervision of the officials.

Right now there is nothing that we can do other than to reach out to the schools individually to see why they aren't going through the NHFOA. We could also approach the NHIAA to see if they could send out a notice to the schools that the NHFOA needs to assign games at the sub-varsity level. We also should send out a reminder to our membership that **any and all** issues need to be addressed with Commissioner Clark and

all communication with athletic directors should come through him. Councilor Krupicka would like to see the entire schedule placed on self-assign but there was concern about this because there would be no way of monitoring the experience level in a given game.

A proposal is going to be drafted by Councilor Bracci and sent to the NHIAA requesting that all schools utilize the NHFOA assigner. This will be approved by Commissioner Clark and the council before it is sent out.

An issue was discussed regarding an official turning back a playoff assignment last season. The official turned the game back because he didn't feel that his rating warranted the assignment that he was given. The council felt that this was not an acceptable reason to turn back a playoff assignment and it ultimately sends the wrong message to the membership and his crewmates. ***President Trask made a motion to invite the official in question to the next council meeting to explain his actions. Councilor Grondin seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.***

Chairman Page will reach out to this official to invite him to the 2/25/16 council meeting.

7) New Business:

- a) The 2016 NHFOA calendar was reviewed. ***President Trask made a motion to accept the calendar as drafted. This was seconded by Councilor Krupicka and it passed unanimously.*** We would like to invite Mechanics Supervisor Bill Main to the 2/25/16 meeting and Apprentice Chair Shaun Bean to the one being held on 4/28/16.
- b) The next meeting will be held at Newmarket Housing Authority on 2/25/16 at 6:00.

8) ***A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilor Grondin and seconded by Councilor Kelly. This motion passed unanimously.***

Meeting adjourned at 9:06p.m.