Washington Officials Association
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Minutes of the
WOA Executive Board Meeting
January 7-8, 2024
WIAA Office

In Attendance Sunday/Monday, January 7/8, 2024
President Dean Corcoran called the meeting to order at 6:11pm. The following Board Members were present:

Board Member	WOA Region
Dean Corcoran (President)	Region 1 Associations
Jeff Mattson	Region 1 Boards
John Lindsey	Region 2 Association
Salima Kanji	Region 2 Boards
Terry Beckstead	Region 3 Associations
Dave Paul	Region 3 Boards
Bryan Keatley	Region 4 Associations
Tyler Trimble	Region 4 Boards
Steve Simonson (Vice President)	Region 5 Associations
Dave Van Laar	Region 5 Boards
Karl Johanson	Region 6 Associations
Heide Wehr	Region 6 Boards
Brian Armes	Soccer
Dani Yorkston	Spirit

WOA Staff Present: Todd Stordahl, WOA Executive Director and Kerri Stordahl, WOA Director of Operations.

Approval of Agenda
Tyler Trimble/Steve Simonson moved to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion Passed.**

Approval of Minutes
Brian Armes/Salima Kanji moved to approve the minutes. **Motion Passed.**

Reports from Regions

Region 1: **Dean Corcoran/Jeff Mattson** reported that Snohomish County Basketball fired their assigner 12/31/2023. The Washington State Legislature has dropped 2 new bills for the 2024 regular session. These bills are improved from last year's attempt to protect sports officials and we should know within the next 3 weeks if they will receive a hearing. From the representatives these will be reviewed through a different committee, so they feel the changes are better.

Region 2: **John Lindsey/Salima Kanji** reported that the sportsmanship report has helped identify the problem schools for fall and winter sports. Training is a challenge for some groups once the season starts or if officials join late. There have been issues with the Arbiter app, officials cannot see pending games and is challenging to utilize at some gyms.

Region 3: **Terry Beckstead/Dave Paul** reported concerns from their region over the length of Wrestling tournaments. Tournaments are going 10-12 hours and even longer at times. With officials doing matches most days of the week and then long hours for tournaments, this will only incur burnout, injuries and officials leaving the ranks. We need to find a workable solution for all.

Region 4: **Bryan Keatley/Tyler Trimble** - no report.

Region 5: **Steve Simonson**/**Dave Van Laar -** no report.

Region 6: **Karl Johanson**/**Heide Wehr** reported on issues that were brought to their attention included reimbursement for long distance travel, changing the processes for registration/certification/observation, reciprocity between WA/OR, and WA/ID and DEI training.

Soccer: **Brian Armes -** no report.

Spirit: **Dani Yorkston** reported the two spirit associations, cheer and dance drill, plan to meet in the new year to compare structures and mutual improvement. This type of meeting tends to happen every two or three years to touch base and regroup. This was a change year for cheerleading scoring, which occurs every three years. Officials undergo more intense training on the rule changes, and there are usually more questions, concerns, and inconsistencies in officiating across the state. Cheer state is right around the corner, and we are working hard to get ahead of the complaints that always surround the officials chosen for cheer state and their perceived conflicts of interest.

Gymnastics: **Dean Ratliff** reported they are still down more officials than we would like. However, the assigners and the schools have been very accommodating towards each other to schedule when we can assure that there will be officials available.

WIAA Report

Mick Hoffman reported there are 28 amendments up for vote this year. A major one concerns eligibility rules. Another concerns mastery education. Restructuring of districts will happen next year. Thank you for work on contest interruptions. Schools are behind it and looking for solutions to bad behavior. Looking to create resources for schools to be proactive on discriminatory behavior. Other states do not have statewide agreement, thankful we don't have to deal with bidding wars etc. Will start working on football state site for next year, hoping to have agreement in place next month.

Sport Committees Update

Todd Stordahl/**Brian Armes**/**Dean Corcoran** reported that the plan is to contract with someone to be in charge and oversee the committees. Will work within the existing budget. Will start in the spring as a trial. (Tests/clinic/training etc.) Some changes in football – revamp observation program and requirements for post season and focus on training.

Fall Tournament Report

Todd Stordahl reported that there were some issues with the slowpitch tournament. Volleyball schedule changed and went smoothly. Soccer had two new sites that were fantastic. Had great feedback from the football officials working UW.

NASO Update

Ken Koester reported NASO is doing a lot behind the scenes – the survey went better than expected. In the process of putting together a WA specific report. We had over 600 officials respond. MICP program calls were up almost 10 times from last year. A positive that people are aware and using. Continue work with NFHS mechanics book – they are manuals now and WA specific. Feature story on bodycams when we have more data. Industry is changing a little bit – more competition than ever before. What's next? More people in pipeline – next year's summit in Atlanta. People better prepared to make a difference in associations more quickly. More insurance claims than ever before, companies trying to reclaim revenue.

Shirts Across America
Randy/Delano gave presentation and discussed next steps in the DEI education for officials.

WOA Conference Report
Kerri Stordahl reported that we are looking at staying at a different hotel this year. Also have a lead on a potential speaker. (Dean will not be able to be there)

2023 – 24 Fall Membership Breakdown
Todd Stordahl reported on the membership breakdown and answered questions.

Executive Board Meeting Follow-up
No report

Requests for Action
50 Year Recognition – Dave Paul spoke to the request from his area. **Terry Beckstead/Dave Paul** made a motion to approve the request. Motion to present award, cover conference cost and recognize via presentation. **Motion Failed**.

Executive Board Policy Manual – Karl Johanson presented and spoke to updated copy of manual. **Brian Armes/Dani Yorkston** moved to approve. **Motion Passed.**

Sports Committee Update – during succession planning meeting, an outcome was to parcel out oversight/management of sports committees to a contractor. (done within line item of budget) Tim Lewis has accepted the job. Will start in the spring. Committees focus will shift to training.

Financial Report –

A. 2022-2023 Financial Review – **Todd Stordahl** answered questions on handout. **Steve Simonson/Dani Yorkston** moved to reflect that report was received. **Motion Passed**.
B. 2023-24 Year to Date – **Todd Stordahl** reported on enclosure. **Steve Simonson/Karl Johanson** moved to reflect that report was received. **Motion Passed**.

Bryan Keatley/Tyler Trimble moved to go into executive session. **Motion Passed.**
Steve Simonson/Brian Armes moved to go out of executive session. **Motion Passed.**

Executive Director's Report
Legal Report – No Report

Central Hub/Property Update/Regional Meetings – Please confirm with staff for regional meeting dates.

Heide Wehr/Salima Kanji moved to adjourn meeting**. Motion Passed.**

Respectfully submitted,
Kerri Stordahl, WOA Director of Operations
Next Meeting Date – May 5-6, 2024, WIAA Office