

Annual Meeting Minutes of VHSSUA 3/17/19

Meeting called to order by President Richard Long

-Pledge and observance of officials who have passed

Minutes of 2018 annual meeting -Motion to Accept: Leon Johnson Second: Carleton
Passed Voice vote

Secretary/Treasurer's Report -Motion to Accept: Joel Bouvier Second: Rob Black

Passed Voice vote

Old Business: None

New Business:

President's Report: Discussion:

Motion to Accept: Steve Marro Second: Leon Johnson

Passed Voice vote

Proposed By-Law Revision:

A. Proposal for membership to consider in March would change language from "Delineation of Districts for the purposes of membership and scheduling, the state shall be divided into seven districts as follows" [list of seven districts] to "Delineation of Districts for the purposes of scheduling, the state shall be divided into districts as defined by the Board" [removal of list of seven districts].

Motion to Accept: Carleton Laird Second: Craig Pettis

Jeff Reed regarding evaluations, wanting to make sure that officials receive information

Joel Bouvier regarding number of districts, Addison County not excited about the possible change

Carleton Laird spoke about the need to maintain representation

Budgetary restraints and concern about board representation

CG Powers: Consider membership districts vs assigning districts to help maintain representation

Rob Black Consider districts 3/7 not just 3

Steve Marro: Mileage would be improved because an official has flexibility of going to schools closer to him

Dave St Amour: Concern about sub-varsity official availability

Don Taylor: Spoke about the flexibility of having umpires in other districts cover

Leon Johnson: Called the question

Physical Vote Passed 63 to 16

B. Article III language change : "Failure of a member to attend a NFHS clinic results in that member being ineligible for varsity games." to "Failure of a member to attend a NFHS clinic or get a waiver from the Board results in that member being ineligible for varsity games."

Motion to Accept: Walter Earle Second: Leon Johnson They each accept the proposed change

Pat Roach: Language recommendation "in that season" to clarify time period

Tim Hess: Should not be for 1st year officials

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Discussion: Bylaw change does not override NFHS/VPA requirement

Passed Voice vote for amendment

Passed Voice vote for article B

C. Article III language change: "... clinic as required by the VPA, provided they maintain Federation insurance. Any member who umpires games without appropriate insurance..." to "... clinic as required by the VPA. Any member who umpires games without NFHS or NASO Insurance in that season"

Motion to Accept: Joel Bouvier Second: Craig Pettis

Leon Johnson add: "In that Season" Second: William Van Fossen

Passed Voice vote amendment

Passed Voice vote for article C

D. Note for language change in By-Laws from "ASA" to "USA Softball"

Motion to Accept: Jeff Reed Second: Carleton Laird

Passed Voice vote

E. Section 4

Responsibilities language change from "It is the responsibility of each member to fill out a rating form for their partner after each game and submit them to their assignor prior to Memorial Day." to "It is the responsibility of each member to fill out an electronic rating form for their partner after each game and submit it prior to Memorial Day."

Motion to Accept: Bill Va Second: Todd Sanderson

Passed Voice vote

F. Add: The assignor for a district should hold membership, active or inactive, of the VHSSUA."

Motion to Accept: Walter Earle Second: Rob Black Accept amendment change

Discussion: RB change "should" to 'shall'

Motion: Carleton Laird Second; CG Powers

Passed Voice vote

This would become Article 11

Mike Thompson requested that with the updated by-Laws the date be included

VPA Softball Guide

Test procedure: Deadline April 1, 2019

Game Fees stay at \$75/game. Finals to be held at Castleton State

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North/South games: Contact Carleton Laird if you have an interest in officiating. Games to be played at Castleton. Reminder that you can put your game fee toward your annual dues if you'd like.

Ratings Review: The Ratings Form seemed to be pretty well received. There were 744 responses submitted. Several officials contacted MGM directly to get their ratings comments as there did seem to be a communication breakdown between officials and assignors. New this year is the ability to input mileage to make collecting mileage information easier for assignors. You must sign in to the VHSSUA website to fill out the form. Username and Password information is on the business meeting

Tentative Clinic Dates and Locations:

4/6/19: Missisquoi UHS in Swanton 8am Will have regardless rain/shine

4/6/19: Poultney HS 9am

Recognition of Rod Conley for services rendered to the organization.

Interpreter's Report: Dave Christiansen and Carleton Laird

- Media shall be prohibited from being in live-ball areas. The home team or game management may designate an area for media in dead-ball area
- Adjustable knob from manufacturer
- Plastic eye shield" Clear w/100% allowable light transmission, constructed of a molded, rigid material
- When an illegal pitch is declared by the umpire, the batter is awarded a ball. RUNNERS DO NOT ADVANCE
- Illegal pitch remains a delayed dead-ball. If a runner reaches base safely the pitch is nullified. Ask coach if they want the result of the play or the penalty. If runner is thrown out, then the coach can accept the penalty against the pitcher of the ball on the batter and the runner returns to their initial base. Casebook 6-1-1, 6-2-2
- Hit by illegal pitch...runners only advance if forced
- Intentional walk is same as a pitch...but ball is dead until batter arrives at 1st
- 6-1-2a/b Clarifies when the pitcher's hands are separated after they have come together while the pivot foot is on/partially on the plate.
- New Appendix in book (pg 95) regarding DP/Flex...Please look at it!!!!
- Pitcher must simulate taking a sign prior to pitching

Rules and Mechanics Presentation

NFHS Videos shown specifically addressing illegal pitches: Crow hop, Leap, Sidearm release
If pitching lane lines are in the circle, they should be removed as they are not NFHS approved

Motion made to adjourn the meeting: Craig Pettis

Second: Rob Black

Passed Voice vote

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Three and Four person mechanics clinic for any umpire interested in being considered to work the semi-finals and finals will be immediately following annual mechanics clinic

The next annual meeting is scheduled for 3/15/20 at 10am at Spaulding High School in Barre