

KSHSAA Official Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2012 – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Bob Benoit, Jeff Freeman, Ron Haag, Gerald Henderson, Jim Knight, Klaus Kollmai, Tom Price, Vicki Raines, Polly Schroeder, Perry Warden. Absent: Robb Ross; Kurt McAfee; Lane Green

Staff Present: Cheryl Gleason, David Cherry, Francine Martin, Mark Lentz

Mr. Musselman started the meeting by welcoming the committee and expressing his appreciation for their work during the year. He also commended them for having some good proposals for the Executive Board to consider and adopt.

Following introductions the KSHSAA staff updated the committee on the recommendations sent to the Executive Board. In March the Board voted to adopt the following recommendations:

- Only officials that have completed the requirements to work post season will be listed for schools to submit as possible post season officials. Since the idea is for officials listed to work post-season schools wasted recommendations if they submit someone who is not qualified. Requirements include: Attending the officials face to face meeting or online meeting depending on the year for each sport; score 90% or better on the open book NFHS Test I; Attend the required number of area meetings (2 in FB, VB, BB, WR) (1 in BSB and SB) (0 in soccer and track & field)
- Football officials will be allowed to wear black pants rather than white knickers. Information about this will be provided at the football officials meeting.
- Officials selected to work state tournaments will be allowed to have one other person attend the tournament without paying admission.
- Schools will be allowed to recommend 15 officials in football.

With the change in recommendation procedure it will be very important that officials attend the area meetings since the only officials that will be listed to receive recommendations will be those completing the requirements before the KSHSAA makes the recommendation list available to schools. There will be very few make up opportunities because of the short turnaround time between when meetings are over and when recommendations must be submitted. Officials can check their official page to see if the requirements have been met and are encouraged to do so shortly after the last area meeting is completed.

Each member of the committee was asked to take the NFHS **FREE** online officials course available at [nfhsofficials.com](http://nfhsofficials.com) – the class is called “Interscholastic Officiating”. At the next meeting the committee will discuss whether this class should be a requirement for all registered officials. Any official currently registered with the KSHSAA may log on the [nfhsofficials.com](http://nfhsofficials.com) site and complete the course free of charge.

The current pamphlet the KSHSAA provides to schools on “Hosting Officials-A School’s Responsibilities” was discussed. The committee recommended in addition to sending it to Athletic Directors it also be sent to Superintendents, handed out at KIAAA and sent to commissioners so they could discuss it at their league meetings.

The committee also recommended that League Commissioners attend the face to face official meetings and introduce themselves to officials and say a few words about getting contests in their area.

OVER

The committee spent considerable time discussing their number one concern, recruiting and retention of officials. Ideas to work on include:

- Booths on officiating at HS games with officials being there to discuss the rewards and hardships of being an official.
- Booths at career fairs, the state fair, Riverfest, back to school nights, etc.
- Public Service Announcements – we already have some of these on the radio created by the Student Advisory team.
- College Intramural Programs
- Have a session at Coaching School about officiating.
- Coaches encouraging former players to officiate and realizing that if they act poorly toward officials chances are the player isn't going to be interested.

Other topics discussed included possible evaluation of officials by coaches after each contest and developing an observer program. The committee feels at this point concentration needs to be on recruitment and retention of officials. Perry Warden is going to work on putting together a recruitment night in the Wichita area with hopes of having a similar presentation in other parts of the state.

The committee was also made aware of two other changes the Executive Board made in June. They approved a 14 foot coaching box for basketball with the stipulation that officials enforce it. School administrators who observe and official not enforcing the coaching box properly are to notify the KSHSAA. In addition the Board voted to have all Class 1A games at the primary host site. This will allow for three person crews in the Monday/Tuesday games, they will work two games a night on Monday and Tuesday at the primary site.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2013. This was the last meeting for Jim Knight, Gerald Henderson and Lane Green as they will rotate off the committee. New members will be appointed this fall. The KSHSAA appreciates the insight and ideas shared by these committee members during their tenure.