**SUBURBAN OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION**

**SUBURBAN OFFICIALS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**June 10, 2019**

**2018-2019 Annual Meeting**

The Suburban Officials Association annual meeting was called to order by President Andrew Aller on June 10th, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

After the SOA Boards approval of the 2018-2019 financials during a Board review, the financial report

was read and accepted.

**Sport Reports**

**FOOTBALL ANNUAL REPORT**

We have 128 members. Eighteen full-time crews and two swing crews worked high school

varsity games in 2018

• SOA assigned varsity games to 42 schools, primarily working in the (fka) South Suburban,

Minnesota River, Big Nine, and Metro West Conferences.

• Tom Wollan was the Assignment Secretary for the 2018 season and played a key role in contract

negotiations for the 2019 season. Tom is also the Rules Clinician representing SOA at MSHSL

meetings

• Most of our crews work at least one opening round section play-off game.

• The following crews officiated in the 2018 MSHSL State Tournament

o 5A Quarterfinal – Brent Dack, Jeron Schmidt, Phil Ayeni, Kelly Ternes, Cory Lorenzon

o 6A Quarterfinal – Ryan Gunderson, Eric Gardner, Dave Darr, Greg Westerman, Todd

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o 5A Quarterfinal – Rick Hardy, Jim Fancher, Dennis Ward, Kevin Mann, Mike Maddio

(Dave Schultz substituted for Jim Fancher)

o 2A Quarterfinal – Seth Rourke, Don Zeyen, Erik Christensen, Adam Churchill, Luke Teske

o 2A Quarterfinal – Paul Vizina, Paul Harris, Kelly McCrary, Fred Bock, Steve Fager

o 5A Semifinal – Gordy Mroz, Aaron Turner, Paul Drake, Mary Pekarna, Tim Pekarna

o 2A Prep Bowl - Brent Dack, Jeron Schmidt, Phil Ayeni, Kelly Ternes, Cory Lorenzon

o Ryan Gunderson, Rick Hardy, and Gordy Mroz worked as sideline replay officials during

quarterfinal and semifinal games.

• Ten crews were observed by the MSHSL in 2018.

• Ed Kees assumed the white position on Chuck Shoenrock’s former crew.

• Kevin Dather’s crew joined SOA from the Rochester Officials Association.

• For 2019, we have 18 crews scheduled to work

• Dave Schultz will be a new white hat in 2019.

• Daryl Sanborn and Jerry Tiegs retired after long and distinguished football officiating careers.

• The crew of Bill Eads, John Kerkow, Randy Johnston, Russ Zabel, and Dan Feine are moving Gopher Officials Association

• SOA Football Meetings:

o Rules discussion meetings were held the last Sunday of each month in January, February

and March. On average 30-35 officials attended. The February meeting had lower

attendance because of a snowstorm the previous day.

o One discussion was held in July 2018, and two discussions in August 2018.

o The Sunday night white-hat call-in averaged 8 crews each week. At mid-season, all crew

members were invited to listen in.

o Thank you to Sandra Setter-Larsen, Activities Director at Eagan High School for allowing

us to use the facilities for SOA meetings.

• A survey of white hats was conducted. Fifteen responded. Many of the questions were around

the crew exchange. While six white hats would prefer not to do it again, we will continue in

2019 and try to define better the expectations. The MSHSL supports this practice.

• Recruitment and retention of officials is at a critical state not at the MSHSL level but also with

SOA. In the white hat survey, two white hats plan on officiating for 1-3 more years, and five for

4-7 more years.

• From 2017 to 2019, we moved from Got Officials to RefView to Arbiter for game assignments.

With Arbiter, we are aligned with the MSHSL and many other sports that officials work.

• SOA has completed the necessary requirements to be listed as a Legacy Association with the

MSHSL.

• We assigned crews to officiate pre-season scrimmages at Lakeville South, Farmington,

Bloomington Jefferson, Minnetonka, Park Cottage Grove and Burnsville High Schools. Thanks to

Ryan Gunderson, John Dorfner, Jerry Tiegs, Tom Tucker, Matt Jurewicz, Greg Westerman, Jeron

Schmidt, Nate LeFebvre, and Dave Darr for their assistance as clinicians with new officials.

• HUDL participation allowed for sharing a number of game films from participating schools. The

number of SOA crews receiving films and the number of high schools sharing game films has

increased. Game films of about 70% of games done by SOA officials were shared with the

crews. It will continue to increase and is a vital method of training for officials. Thanks to Jeron

Schmidt and Michael Heifort for assistance during the 2018 season.

• Pre-Season Training-Officials not on a varsity crew worked pre-season games in August of 2018

at Burnsville High Schools. Thanks to Jeff Marshall, Activities Director at Burnsville High School

as well as their coaching staffs for their support. These games involved 5-person crews of

experienced officials working alongside the newer officials.

• Mentoring of officials continued with new officials are paired with a veteran official on their first

varsity games and then again at the end of the year. This process is meant to encourage frank

and honest feedback and suggestions on how to continue to improve as an official.

• High School students were assigned youth games with the hope that a percentage of them will

continue officiating.

• The following SOA members are on MIAC, UMAC, WIAC or NSIC NCAA conference rosters for the

2018 season—Roy Artis, Jerry Tiegs, Brian Shreve, Gordy Hanson, Steve Wolvin, Phil Worm, Nick

Worm, Marty Pekarna, Jason Berg, Josh Schoaf, Dominic Howard, Randy Hanson, Fred Bock,

Ryan Kees, Joe Wollan, Kelly Ternes, Seth Rourke, Kelly McCrary, Jeron Schmidt, Cory Lorenzen,

Tom Odegard and Tom Wollan.

**BASKETBALL ANNUAL REPORT**

First off- I would like to thank Ron Hamann for stepping up during a difficult season. Our assignor stepped down one month before the season with little to no games assigned. Ron stepped up and did a wonderful job piecing the season together. Thanks Ron.

Secondly want to thank all the basketball officials through multiple transitions the past few seasons our amazing group of officials have remained professional and no matter what the situation have stepped up and helped our association when needed.

Despite a difficult season we had 15 officials work in the State Tournament and over 30 work playoff games. Also because of Ron and all of our officials we had little to no missed games and were able to serve our conferences and schools to the best of our ability.

With the ever changing landscape of high school basketball and basketball officiating as of today no basketball dues are required. The board is to meet to discuss how we will move forward with basketball assignments and will be getting back to the group shortly.

* + **Josh Schoaf**

**SOFTBALL ANNUAL REPORT**

This season we were fortunate enough to send twelve umpires on to the MSHSL State Softball Tournament.

Of these 12, two of our umpires were selected to umpire in the 2019 Championship games.

* Mark Oelfke – 4A Championship.  Dallas Apfelbacher 3A Championship.

With such a shortened season – primarily due to snow and rain, our assignor, Ron Hamman, did an exceptional job in shuffling and securing umpires for all of the rescheduled games.  Communication from some of the AD’s was short and at times nonexistent, but Ron was proactive in seeking out the updated schedules on a daily basis, to insure that we had all of the games covered for the schools that were work with.

Our association was represented in the following sectional playoffs due to Ron’s professionalism and history with the Section Directors – 3AAA, 3AAAA, 6AAAA, 2AA, 2AAAA.

Thanks to Ron’s hard work and diligence, the 2019 season was a success for the Suburban Officials Association and i’s umpires.

Secondly –

It is with great regret that I have chosen not to continue as the VP of Softball for the Suburban Officials Association. Unfortunately, when my predecessor moved out of state, I was placed in this position.  With my current and future travel schedule for NCAA softball, I do not feel that I can provide the association the attention that it deserves for this position. When I take on a task, my goal is to perform at the highest level, regardless of the task. I am aware that for the VP position, many things were lacking, primarily due to my other time commitments with the sport.

Items that truly need to be addressed are training, recruiting, communication to officials, and evaluating of staff.  I know that I am not currently able to address these things, and will be stepping down as the VP of Softball.

Thank you all for your commitment to our organization, and I look forward to working with each of you in the future.

* + **Dallas Apfelbacher**

**New Business**

Dallas Apfelbacher resigning resulted in the nomination and seconded motion to appoint Mark Oelfke as VP of Softball.

**ELECTIONS**

* **President**
	+ **Andrew Aller**- Unopposed
* **Secretary/Treasurer**
	+ **Seth Rourke**-Unopposed
* **Football Assignment Secretary**
	+ **Tom Wollan**-Unopposed
* **Basketball Assignment Secretary**
	+ **Ron Hamman**-Unopposed
* **Softball Assignment Secretary**
	+ **Ron Hamman**-Unopposed
* **Football Vice President**
	+ **Rick Hardy-** Unopposed
* **Softball Vice President**
	+ **Mark Oelfke…**by appointment
		- Term-6/11/2019-5/31/2021

Tom Wollan shared an update regarding the contract negotiations with the AD’s and MSHSL. Negotiations progressing with an increased emphasis on sportsmanship to support ongoing recruitment efforts of new officials. It is anticipated that an agreement will soon be reached on the next contract terms.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:20**