

SOSSA EXECUTIVE MINUTES - Monday, December, 18th/2017 - Peach King Center

Present: Rob Desson, Scott Barr, Dino Germano, Bob Gardiner, Brad McPherson, Andy Cecchini, Rina Rode, Mike Grobe, Jill Stiefelmeyer, Brian Fuller.

1. Call to order - 6:45 p.m. Agenda and minutes from the September meeting were approved.
2. Business arising from the minutes. Representation on the executive was considered balanced even with a few extra reps from a couple of zones. No changes are forthcoming.
3. Championship and OFSAA reimbursement cheques were distributed. A small number of schools had not submitted membership fees. HWDSB schools are paid with one cheque through the board office - that payment is expected this week. All other schools involved have been notified and are expected to comply ASAP.
4. Website. Corrections and revisions to the winter championship convenors pages were identified and will be updated. Some individual sport playing regulations need to be brought up to date with OFSAA changes. The administrative director will get off his arse and get moving on this.
5. Fall season wrap-up/zone concerns. Zone 1 football coaches voiced their displeasure with the late season schedule adjustment necessary to qualify only one team for OFSAA football. Playing three games in ten days was a serious safety concern. It was noted again that SOSSA will only get one entry to next year's OFSAA football in Ottawa. Local league and playoff schedules must reflect this reality. Zone 2 had no concerns to report. Zone 3 is working on re-writing and creating an updated local constitution reflecting the creation of the new NCAA. Zone 4 will address their concerns in the agenda discussion items below.
6. Discussion items:
 - a) A Field Hockey motion giving preference to zones who can use artificial turf for SOSSA championships will be forthcoming this June. The executive will support the motion.
 - b) Classification balance for junior championships. In response to changing school enrollment numbers it was suggested our threshold of 800 students to designate junior team competition being either "A" or "AA" be examined. Executive felt they should wait for this year's October 31st ministry number to be published before moving forward with any changes. This issue will be tabled to next meeting.

c) With OFSAA running both a high school and open division for some individual sports, coaches coming to SOSSA championships must understand the new regs. The logical answer for golf was to have school coaches identify athletes on their eligibility sheets as either being a high school trained athlete or open (club trained) athlete. Specific criteria for the divisions can be found on the OFSAA website and will be added to the SOSSA regs.

d) Championship representation: *Special note to all convenors and zone co-ordinators.* Zone 2 will not have representation at any AAA senior and AA junior team championships. Therefore, hosting zones must provide second entries and challenge games may be needed. In addition, zone 1 will not have boys A/AA hockey representation.

e) Blow out games. Discussion arose due to a lopsided result in a SOSSA girls basketball final. The executive spent considerable time discussing the causes and possible strategies to address this issue moving forward. Executive did feel it was in their jurisdiction and would be wise to flood out a message to all schools reminding coaches of the OFSAA school sport philosophy and the SOSSA commitment to encourage sportsmanship among all member schools.

f) OFSAA report. Bob emphasised the importance of coaches knowing the new eligibility regulations separating athletes into high school and open divisions. There were issues at golf in the fall. All P.E. heads, teachers, and coaches are encouraged to visit the OFSAA website regularly for the many resources and opportunities available. Scott discussed the importance of input from local coaches on OFSAA motions to be communicated to our OFSAA reps so they can properly represent our association when voting.

g) Future football playoff structure. Changes could be on the horizon with zone 2 which could positively impact the timing and scheduling of SOSSA football. SOSSA will not be directly involved until a few local zone considerations are addressed. SOSSA executive supports zone 2 in this issue.

7. Transfer committee: Nothing out of the ordinary to report.

8. OFSAA report. Pete Beech candidates were discussed. Baillie has forwarded an OFSAA survey which they hope coaches and P.E. delegates can complete and return.

9. Classification declarations were identified and confirmed.

10. Future meeting dates:

- Monday, March 5th (tentative)
- Wednesday, May 23rd - meeting and social.
- AGM - Tuesday, June 26th - Peach King - 11:45 a.m.

11. Adjournment.