

SOSSA EXECUTIVE MEETING Minutes - Monday, March 20th, 2023

Items identified by the executive which require action:

Draft letter to West Niagara regarding curling.

Contact swim conveners and coaches and organize a meeting to discuss future changes.

Draft letter to SWC regarding unprofessional behavior of community coach.

Bob will be working on SOSSA hockey regs. An AGM motion is expected.

The number of rugby teams in SOSSA needs clarification for championship planning.

Board coordinators will have a list of host conveners and schools for 2023-24 by May 1st.

Spread the message SOSSA needs a OFSAA boys rep. Need to know by the AGM.

Begin revisions to constitution required by ONCA. Fall 2023 deadline.

1. Call to Order: 6:45 Agenda was approved with Pete Beach item removed.

2. Winter Championships: SOSSA girls curling champions informed SOSSA they could not attend OFSAA. SOSSA convener, Jen, Sean and Brian searched for a replacement team and found 5th place SWC would agree to attend. This avoided a \$500 fine from OFSAA for not sending a rep. SOSSA will not be disciplining or sanctioning West Niagara but, a letter of concern will go to school regarding their late news of OFSAA non attendance.

Moving forward the executive feels SOSSA swimming may need to implement some changes. The need for qualifying meets, the financial cost and meet structure will be the main discussion items. SOSSA swim conveners past and present as well as interested swim coaches will need to come together with executive reps to work out a plan.

The email and social media fallout from the one game suspension and subsequent appeal of a SWC basketball player at the AA boys championship requires a response from the SOSSA executive. Our response to involved individuals will include the school administration and will stress the role of a coach in implementing the OFSAA philosophy of education through school sport and the need to conduct oneself in a professional manner.

Bob Gardiner will be revising and updating both the girls and boys SOSSA hockey regs. He will be looking for input from P.E. designates and hockey coaches. Inform your hockey people if they wish to be involved to contact Bob by email.

3 & 4. Spring Conveners and Zone Representation: Zone commitments to SOSSA spring championships were for the most part confirmed. Some questions remain around how many zones will be running rugby which will impact the need for a convener and the scheduling of championship games. We also identified which zones will require a second entry if they are hosting. This includes two entries for both girls and boys A soccer from zone #1, a second entry for lacrosse in both zones #2 and #4.

5. Spring championship medals were given to board athletic coordinators for distribution.

6. 2023-24 Championship Host by Zone: An updated summary of the 2023-24 host zones will be provided. As well as a list of championships which do not have a convener as of yet. Details regarding host conveners and schools will be collected for the May 1st executive meeting.

7. Financial: All membership fees were paid in a timely manner. The administrative director will bring forward a report on the annual budget towards the year's end. This will help the executive in future financial planning decisions.

8. Transfer committee report: Bob will be retiring at the end of the school year. This will require a new boys OFSAA rep - who also acts as SOSSA transfer chair. Please spread the word around your schools that the position is vacant and needs to be filled. A zone #1 question regarding local transfer decisions around non- OFSAA/SOSSA activities will require some more discussion beginning with how local leagues address these transfers.

9. OFSAA report - Scott Barr, Jill, Bob: With an influx of new coaches and P.E. designates it is important that individuals be encouraged to attend the OFSAA transfer clinics. These people are the front line of the transfer process and can solve issues before they become problems if they have the knowledge. SOSSA must begin revising the constitution to come in line with the government's new Non-for-Profit Corporation Act. It is time-consuming tedious work but, we do have a fall 2023 deadline we must meet.

10. HRTO Update: With a second mediation session being refused by the complainant it seems the case will at some point come to a hearing. OFSAA is also involved with the complainant in a separate but related case. Shamus at OFSAA has offered a short session with their lawyer when the hearing date is communicated to us.

11. Future Meetings: The next SOSSA executive meeting is scheduled for Monday May 1st and the SOSSA AGM will be at Blessed Trinity H.S. at noon on Tuesday, June 22nd.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.