

2024 SOSSA AGM - MINUTES

Blessed Trinity High School - 11:50 a.m. - Tuesday, June 27th

1. Call to order - Jamie Coull called the meeting to order and thanked Jim Whittard and Blessed Trinity for providing a host location while the Grimsby Peach King Centre was under renovations.

2. Financial Report - Brian Fuller, executive director provided the 2023-24 annual budget. There was a substantial increase in the cost of SOSSA awards for 2023-24. The primary reason being the stockpile of medals saved up through the Covid years had been deleted in 2022-23 and the full number of required awards had to be purchased. Moving forward we have found a new supplier and the cost of medals is expected to be about 25% less next year. OFSAA entry invoices remained relatively stable however, the cost of running SOSSA championships increased almost \$7000. SOSSA also had to cover the one time legal cost of updating our governing documents by the legal firm Sport Law to comply with Ontario government regulations.

In summary the annual budget for 2023-24 totalled a \$21 000 deficit. This is the primary reason for a motion on the Order Paper to increase membership fees.

3. 2024-25 convenor pages: - Web pages were reviewed for corrections/revisions and classification declarations for the fall season were accepted. Jill reminded all school reps that the OFSAA second entry forms will be due back to Kristina Alderdice by September 30th.

4. Association Business - Items for open discussion and/or future motions. There will be no further discussion on adjusting the threshold for A to AA junior team sports from 800 to 700. After a brief discussion and input from the SOSSA swimming conveners zone qualifying meets will remain in place for the foreseeable future.

SOSSA schools hosting OFSAA championships next year: Boys "AA" V-ball - Sir Winston Churchill zone 4, Boys and Girls "A" Soccer - Saint-Jean-de-Brebeuf, Boys "A/AA Field Lacrosse - Denis Morris.

The new SOSSA female rep to OFSAA will be Kristina Alderdice - congratulations. Once again next year may be the final for our Administrative Director.

5. Transfer Committee: The 2024-25 transfer report was provided by chair Jamie Coull. Future committee meetings will be virtual eliminating some mileage cost. 2024 -25 transfer committee zone representatives were identified for next year.

6. 2024-25 SOSSA Board of Directors and Officers: With our new governing documents in place the term executive has been eliminated and SOSSA will be governed by "the board". All positions on the new board were filled at the AGM.

7. OFSAA update: The OFSAA 75th celebrations were a great success throughout the province. OFSAA motions passed at their April AGM will be in place for the 2024-25 academic year.

8. Order Paper: The results of the SOSSA order paper are included on subsequent pages.

10. Retirements and Pete Beech Award.

We all congratulate this year's Pete Beach Award winner Andy Cecchini on both receiving the award and his retirement as of June 30th. Andy was a valued member of the SOSSA executive for many years and his experience and knowledge will be missed.

Also retiring and leaving very large shoes to fill is Jill Stiefelmeyer long time executive member and our SOSSA female rep to OFSAA.

SOSSA ORDER PAPER - 2024 AGM

1. SOSSA GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

Whereas: The new Ontario Government regulations for Non-for-profit Organizations comes into effect in the fall of 2024. The full SOSSA membership must vote to accept our new governing documents as prepared by Sport Law Inc.

Be it Resolved: SOSSA membership accepts the new governing documents coming into effect September 1st, 2024.

Mover and Seconder: SOSSA Executive

Result: **CARRIED**

2. BOYS FOOTBALL REGULATIONS

Whereas: The existing SOSSA boys football play-off structure will run its three year term in the fall of 2024 and therefore must either be replaced or extended for a period of three more years.

And Whereas: No alternative playoff structure has been submitted or discussed for consideration.

Be it Resolved: The existing boys football structure stay in place for a additional three years with the understanding it will be evaluated and reviewed for the 2029 fall season. Zone 3 & 4 will host SOSSA football in the fall of 2024 and as per existing playing regulations provide a second entry.

Mover and Seconder: SOSSA Executive

Result: **CARRIED**

3. Hockey Eligibility Motion to be become permanent.

Whereas: Existing SOSSA playing regulations did not match those of OFSAA regarding player eligibility.

And Whereas: SOSSA executive had to put in place a temporary motion to solve the issue for the SOSSA hockey championships ensuring that SOSSA regulations were not more punitive than OFSAA.

And Whereas: The full membership must vote to make the Executive temporary motion permanent.

Be it Resolved: The temporary executive motion on hockey eligibility be made permanent.

Mover and Seconder: SOSSA Executive

Result: CARRIED

4. SOSSA membership fees.

Whereas: SOSSA finances indicated an annual budget deficit in the 2023-24 school year.

And Whereas: The cost of officials, EMS, necessary facility rentals and the increased use of paid non board personnel in running major championships have all increased.

And Whereas: SOSSA executive believes a small fee increase to help keep pace with increasing cost would be advisable rather than a much more substantial increase at a later date.

Be it Resolved: The SOSSA "per student fee" which uses November 1st FTE numbers be increased from 75 cents to 90 cents per student beginning with the 2025-26 academic school year. The one year delay in implementing the fee increase will allow for a final review of the 2023-2024 annual finances to confirm the need for this change.

Mover and Seconder: SOSSA Executive

Result: CARRIED

5. Transfer Rule Appeal Cost

Whereas: The present cost to submit a SOSSA Transfer Appeal is \$100 with the funds used to subsidize mileage reimbursements to transfer committee members driving to meetings.

And Whereas: The majority of future SOSSA Transfer meetings will be accomplished virtually.

Be it Resolved: The cost of a submitting a SOSSA Transfer Appeal be reduced to \$50 beginning in September 2024.

Mover and Seconder: SOSSA Executive

Result: CARRIED