



New Hampshire Softball Association

Executive Board Meeting, Oct. 6, 2024

Executive Board

x Beth Vacek	x Jim Charland	x John Simon	Terry Galley-Quinn
x Kristen Taylor	x Bob Thomas	x Adam Reitsma	Norm Lafrenier
x Billy Makarawicz	x Len Lavin	x Peter Perich	Rachel Mintz
			x Al Douglas

Meeting began 9:10am

1. Approve minutes of Annual EB meeting of June 23, 2024 – motion seconded and approved

2. Secretary/Treasure's Report –Beth

- Current balance as of September 30, 2024 - \$8559.86
- Received 501c3 designation from IRS
- Will be moving banking from Bank of America to Citizen's. If additional signature is needed, will move all necessary monies to Citizen and contact Bob to coordinate if necessary.
- Upon completion of bank move, will setup PayPal for next year's dues payments. Member will be able to pay dues via PayPal but will incur administrative fee to do so. Amount to be disclosed upon completion of setup.
- Arbiter payment for 2025 has been made and Billy Mak reimbursed for expense incurred.
- List of unpaid membership dues was sent out to EB for further review.
- Presented purchasing Zoom licensing for future use by EB for meetings and licenses will be distributed upon receipt for use by Assigning chair, Evaluator chair, Interpreter Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, Apprentice Chair, President and Supervisor of Umpires. All will be given generic log ins so that when position is vacated it can be handed down to the new receiptient. Since amount is below \$200 no motion to accept was needed
- Discussed contributing \$300 to PRHS Softball boosters club which would have been the expense paid to NHTI for yearly usage. Motion was made, seconded and accepted by members. Check will be presented to PRHS at annual meeting March 2, 2025.

3. Apprentice Report

- Currently have 8 individuals who have expressed interest in 2025 season
- Would like to have the first apprentice meeting in person to discuss items such as uniforms, hand-out manuals, etc.
- Request to purchase 25-30 Umpire Manuals for use with the 2025 class members. In addition, all EB members will receive a copy of the latest Umpire manual for use
- Discussion regarding transfers (i.e. Baseball / Softball)

- Persons will have option to attend apprentice classes
- Will be required to pass closed book test with other apprentices, however if they fail will receive 2nd chance to pass with open book test via Dragonfly
- Still required to attend mechanics training in order to be eligible for games
- Apprentices and Transfers will be evaluated based upon either JV or Varsity games, whichever is available

4. Evaluators Report

- Jim provided a list of the evaluations which were conducted during the 2024 season
- Members who received two evaluations – plate and base – the average of these two scores were used to determine rating (i.e. AA, A, B, C)
- Those members who only have a single score due to limitations (i.e. unable to due plate) will be graded based upon the single score. Regional assigners will be best to understand who these persons are so that when solicited for post season games, they can provide feedback to Supervisor of Umpires with details.
- Discussion was had to make a submission for a constitutional update to clearly define the evaluation process and the results of such
- Jim presented each regional assignor present with those members who were due for evaluation and whether or not they felt their member needed it. Additionally, assignors present were able to recommend a member for “moving up” in ratings and some took advantage of this option. Those selected were approved by the board
- Games have already started to be received and entered into Arbiter. The games will be made available to Jim to start assigning to those members who require an evaluation first. Jim will then notify Billy when to release the games to the assigners for regular assignments of the regional members. This will allow Jim to have the evaluations assigned first and not have double work to do after the fact.

5. Supervisor Report

- No report was supplied as Peter was not in attendance. Updates to be made at next meeting.

6. Chairman of Assignors report

- Billy reiterated the counts of the different ratings within the membership. See report from meeting minutes of June 23.
- To date we have 88 members who have also registered with NHIAA, this is out of the 172 members which are on our roster
- A suggestion was made with regards to those members who are utilizing Arbiter for middle school only games to be charged a fee of some kind. Discussions were made with regards to how much this should be. Since the members are only working middle school they should at least be charged the fee incurred for the Arbiter license. A suggestion was made with regards to if by using Arbiter and NHSUA assignors what, if any other resources are they receiving without fully compensating the board. Further review of insurance coverage will be reviewed and discussed at next meeting.
- Billy will send out final notice to all members indicating that any dues not yet paid will need to be postmarked by 10/31/24 or member will incur an additional \$25 late fee as per outlined in our constitution

7. Interpreters Report

- Proposed rule changes for 2025 were discussed
- Additional rules interpretation meetings will be held on March 12 and March 19 after the annual membership meeting scheduled for March 2, 2025
- Will get further information from USA Softball commissioner with regards to what will be made available to NHSUA for 3 man mechanics after the USA Softball Umpire mechanics class in February 2025

8. Web Master Report

- Adam submitted request to webmaster/hosting to have all invoices sent to new Secretary/Treasurer for payment

9. Presidents Report

- Discussed for all EB members to “have a plan B” in the event of an issue and someone needs to backfill the position. With regard to assigning John indicated Adam would be his designate in the event of an issue. It was determined Billy could “flip the switch” to modify Adam’s access in the event it becomes necessary
- There are currently 8 licenses in Arbiter which are assigned to the following EB members: Billy (assignor & chair); Region Assignors – Peter, Terry, John, Norm, Lenny; Evaluator – Jim; Rules Interpreter – Al. Al indicated he does not require/use his access so this will be moved to Beth to allow her to have access to the necessary details with regards to members and such for her role as Secretary/Treasurer. Billy will make this change

10. Report from each (6) Regional Assignors

- No further reports were necessary after other discussions were made. We were missing Terry, Norm and Peter for their regional input. Will discuss further at next EB meeting

11. Old Business

- Review what insurance coverage we have as an Executive Board and also who is covered with regards to our membership and whether or not middle school only members are covered. Beth to get a copy of our coverage from NHIAA and insurance carrier for review at next meeting

12. New Business

- Glen Colburn award nomination – Richard Judd and Frank Stevens
- Requested submissions for constitutional updates for Evaluations clarification both on rating structure and budget
- Next EB meeting to be held in January and will be virtual with new Zoom meeting process
- Annual meeting to be held March 2, 2025 at 10:00 with EB meeting prior at 8:00. Both will be held at Plymouth Regional High School. We will have the gym with a team to allow for live calls, the auditorium for membership meeting and two classrooms for apprentice testing and EB meeting

Meeting adjourned at 12:40pm