

NJFOA SHORE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
February 1st, 2023

Location: Monmouth Regional High School

Present: Bill Van Schoick, Jim Foligno, Chris Schalnat, Andrew Rosenbloom, Brian Fyfe, Mike Kilmurray, Javier Campos, Rob Boyle, Steve Ramseur

Absent: Bill Surdovel, Dick Amdur

Meeting called to order by President Van Schoick at 7:00 PM.

President Van Schoick opened the meeting by renominating Tom Barlow as cadet supervisor, unanimously approved.

Van Schoick then discussed the appointment of attorney. Dick Amdur is beginning to wind down and the board will begin to explore options for an attorney in the future in the event Amdur stops practicing. Appointment of Amdur, unanimously approved.

Van Schoick moved to opening comments, beginning with a discussion of game fees. Van Schoick received an email stating the Shore Conference is adopting state fees for football officials as follows: Varsity - \$120, Clock Operator - \$80, JV/Freshman - \$67, Chains - \$67. Several board members expressed a desire to raise the sub-varsity fee and the difficulty officiating these games with only three officials. There does not appear to room for discussion as the fees were adopted across the state in all conferences without input from the organization. The fees were established based on time spent and energy expended at an event.

Van Schoick asked the board to consider an additional white hat class and to begin thinking about members who should be nominated. Campos recommended each crew have someone to be able to take over the crew in an emergency.

Van Schoick reviewed committee assignments; committee chairs are listed. Chairs were given a list of members who expressed an interest on serving on committees and will be reaching out to develop their committee.

Attendance: Boyle

Audit: Campos

Awards: Rosenbloom

Cadet: Barlow

CBL: Schalnat

Ethics/Discipline: Ramseur (Chair), Campos, Boyle

Facilities & Meetings: Boyle

Game Fee: Van Schoick, Foligno

Information & Technology: Boyle (Chair), Schalnat, Rosenbloom

Nominating: Kilmurray

Official Evaluation/Rating: Foligno, Van Schoick

Recruitment: Ramseur

Rules/Mechanics: Surdovel (Co-Chair), Schalnat (Co-Chair)

Treasury: Fyfe

Wellness/Welfare: Fyfe

Van Schoick & Foligno gave an update on Gary Rosenberg. Several members met with Gary via Zoom who was very appreciative of the visit. The organization also sent a restaurant gift card.

Foligno delivered the assignor's report, 660 games were assigned. Members on average saved \$54 in assignor fees, there were 330 declines and turnbacks. Preliminary schedule for next year shows several Friday nights with 20 and 21 games. There are currently 17 crews. Board will explore the possibility of a new crew and Foligno will reach out to the ADs to ask them to move some games off Friday night. Foligno hopes to have varsity schedules out by May and sub varsity by July. Rosenbloom mentioned an idea about Freshman/JV doubleheaders, this will be brought up during spring meeting with ADs.

Foligno gave NJFOA report. Mike Bartram (state interpreter) will be sending out a weekly rules bulletin. Off season zoom meetings have begun. There were 77 cadets across the state last year, the state will be reimbursing cadets \$300 this year. The breakdown of crews for the 7 group finals were: 3 North, 2 South, 1 Central and 1 South which Mark Bitar (state assignor) said was based on the percentage of members. There will be a statewide clinic again this year on August 5th at Sayreville High School. New mechanics manuals will be printed with each chapter supplementing part of the cost (\$2.50 each). Van Schoick expressed concerns with state assigning and decrease in games assigned for Shore Conference officials.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Fyfe. Starting balance: \$23,986.48 (10/12/22), Ending Balance: \$26,212.91 (2/1/23), unanimously approved with one abstention (Fyfe). Fyfe has spoken with an outside accountant regarding with the organization's federal non-profit status.

Rosenbloom went through crew changes. There was a lengthy discussion regarding crew changes. Van Schoick expressed issues with crew purging and some crews getting stronger and stronger. Schalnath recommended a more regulated protocol for crew changes. Kilmurray spoke against council going through crew changes and potential conflict of interest. There were many concerns with the current system of establishing a new crew, taking over crews, and requesting crew changes. Council will continue to explore options for crew changes and requests. All crew change requests unanimously approved with the exception of Sandidge crew (1 abstention – Rosenbloom), and Larkin crew tabled (unanimously) till next meeting pending reinstatement of two members.

Foligno brought up meeting location and dates for the upcoming season. Council did not feel Brick Memorial was a suitable option again this year and unanimously approved moving in-person meetings to the Manasquan Elks on Tuesday nights. Council approved the following tentative meeting dates: 8/15 (Interpretation/Mechanics), 8/29, 9/12 (Zoom), 9/19, 10/3 (Zoom), 10/17. If needed another meeting may be added after 10/17.

Ramseur discussed the mentor program and having the mentee work as many sub varsity and chain games with crew members as possible. Foligno and Barlow stated there were some issues with availability with mentor and mentee availability, but they will continue to try to pair mentors and mentees together and felt the program was much more successful than in years past. Barlow mentioned there are 31 cadet applications of which 15 have already paid.

Ramseur spoke about crew ratings and evaluations. Foligno distributed crew assignments for the season. Ramseur mentioned a potential committee for assignments and evaluations and more transparency with where each crew stands and their rating. Council members felt the outside crew evaluations were very successful. Van Schoick said only 3 crews completed self-evaluations last year.

Fyfe spoke about the importance of using evaluation to improve each crew individually. Rosenbloom did not feel a crew ranking should be publicized and recommended a uniform evaluation form for the outside evaluators which included a scoring or assessment system. Van Schoick said he can meet with evaluators to discuss a new form. Campos raised the importance of crews knowing where they stand during the season and more transparency. Crew evaluations were given to Foligno, Van Schoick and the crew chief last year. Kilmurray commended the outside evaluators and recommended letting membership know how many crews were evaluated each week to be more transparent. As a whole the board felt their needs to be a scoring/rating element to evaluations which will continue to be developed as a part of the evaluation form.

Council unanimously approved purchasing Redding Books for cadets.

Next meeting scheduled for March 14th.

Motion to adjourn, 9:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Rosenbloom
2nd Vice President/Secretary