NIHOA
National Ice Hockey Officials Association

CHAPTERS
BERKSHIRE
CAPE COD
CENTRAL MASS.
CENTRAL N.Y.
CHAMPLAIN - ADIRONDACK
CONNECTICUT
EASTERN MASS.
EASTERN N.Y.
EASTERN PA. - N.J.
ILLINOIS
INDIANAPOLIS
IOWA
MAINE
METRO N.Y. - N.J.
MD.-RUTHER.
NEW HAMPSHIRE
NIAGARA FRONTIER
NORTHEAST OHIO
NORTHERN N.Y.
NORTH SHORE MASS.
RHODE ISLAND
SOUTHEASTERN N.Y.
SOUTHEASTERN U.S.
SOUTHERN N.Y.
SOUTH SHORE MASS.
SYRACUSE
VERMONT
WESTCHESTER
WESTERN MASS.
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MINUTES
ANNUAL DIRECTORS MEETING
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1990

CHAPTER
ATTENDEE(S)
Berkshire
Connie Boyle, Mark Ringie
Ed Buckler, Bob Levine, Dan O'Brien, Pat Twohig
Pete Glenville, Joe Jacobs, Dana Morrill
Lev Torgerson, Joe Albert
Ned Bunyon, Jim Doyle, John Gallagher
Bill Stewart, Brian Sullivan
Mike Whitehead, Fred Gray, Dennis Smith
Bert Belisle, Roland Chalifoux, Chip Kelley, Steven Lavigne, Dennis Leclair
Mike Nardello, Dick Theriault, Kevin Palanski
Bob Melanson, Mike Shanahan, John Robinson, Dave Belcher, Eugene Binda, Tom Lynch, Jim McKenzie, Bob Powers
Randy Viens
Paul Aspesi, Tim Clark
Greg Pytka, Bill Ryan, Richard Zanetti

Total 16

Guest
Charley Holden, NCAA Coordinator


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THE 1989 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT AND SECRETARY'S REPORT WERE EACH READ AND ACCEPTED. (Copies were distributed to attendees and were forwarded, on request, to Chapters not in attendance as noted in the March 12, 1990 Bulletin.)

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Bill Stewart reviewed the first year of his presidency. Bill noted that the increased speed of the game has initiated some movement, even among Division I college coaches, to consider going to the two referee-one linesman system of officiating. Bill noted the obvious economics involved in going to the two referee-one linesman system but indicated there was more than the financial aspects to be considered. Specifically, the need for the additional referee to better officiate the considerably faster game. Bill further addressed the needs of officials to follow the rule book, whichever rule book is being used in the game you are officiating. He stressed that officials should not be rewriting the rule book while on the ice. This is the job of the various rules committees. Bill further emphasized the need for each NIHOA chapter to develop young officials. Bill stressed the success of each chapter and NIHOA will be determined by the promotion of young qualified officials. Bill stated that this does not mean an official coming up through the organization "does not have to pay his dues" but it is the organization's responsibility to see that the qualified official is given the opportunities needed for advancement. Bill further stated we must continue to refine and define ourselves as referees.

CHARLEY HOLDEN, NCAA COORDINATOR OF OFFICIALS

Charley Holden was guest speaker at the meeting again this year. Charley commented the we must "bring the best" into NIHOA. He noted how the game is is constantly changing. How there is a need for better officiating. Charley stressed the need for all officials to fully comply with and enforce the Points of Emphasis. He noted that the Rules Committee (NCAA) wants the Points of Emphasis enforced because this is what they are being told is needed for a better game. Also, since the Points of Emphasis have been included in the rule book the game has improved and it is evident highlighting the Points of Emphasis in the rule book and having them enforced by the officials has worked. Charley also noted there is an NHL influence on the game. 22% of the players in the NHL are former college players. Charley further commented that officiating will also have to go forward with the game. There will be a continuing need for the best officials. He also noted the concern of the coaches for the need of officials to keep up with the game. NIHOA would be required to recruit qualified young officials and provide a feeder system for them to move up through the officiating ranks.

EQUIPMENT REVIEW

A detailed discussion on the previous season's facemask situations focussed on the fact that the Federation Rules permitted the Pro Tech 950 mask while the HECC (Hockey Equipment Certification Committee) and the NCAA Lists showed the masks to be illegal. The consensus was that under NCAA rules only those masks approved by HECC could be used and the rule must be complied with completely. It was also noted that efforts should be
made to assure that coaches provide an equipment compliance form at the beginning of each game. This form is required at all ECAC games but is not always provided. It was stated that the requirement should be enforced at the college level and should also be introduced at the high school level. Use of the equipment compliance form at these levels would lead to a more stricter enforcement of the required equipment rules.

FEDERATION RULES

Discussion further centered on the difference between the Federation and NCAA rules as evidence in the previous discussion on the difference in facemask regulations. Further differences were noted as was evident in the comparison of rules included in the NIHOA Directory. The need for uniformity in the rules is apparent. The seven Massachusetts NIHOA Chapters through their High School Interscholastic Athletic Association representative and the Massachusetts High School Hockey Coaches Association have petitioned to have the high school return to an NCAA based rules. The high school player moving on to the college level would benefit from uniformity and consistency in the playing rules.

ECAC FEE AGREEMENT

Copies of the data sheet summarizing the input from the various chapters, the ECAC and NIHOA fee proposals, the agreement letter and other correspondence were distributed to the directors. President Stewart recapped how the new ECAC Commissioner had requested NIHOA to submit a 3-year fee schedule for the three levels of ECAC hockey. Bill noted how the negotiating committee was formed and reviewed the schedule that was agreed to by NIHOA and ECAC. This schedule did not include any fees for travel, per diem, etc. It was for officiating fees only. The ECAC stated that any changes in any of the other fees would automatically be granted to all official's groups.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominated and re-elected were John Robinson, Southeastern U.S. Chapter to a one-year term as 2nd Vice President and Tom Lynch, South Shore Massachusetts Chapter to a 3-year term as Secretary-Treasurer.

TRAINING MANUAL

President Stewart proposed the development of a training manual to assist the chapters in standard methods of developing officials and continue to provide a feeder system of officials for the various levels of hockey, particularly the higher levels. Bill advised he had been in discussions with 1st Vice President Bill Ryan on a proposed manual and they would have information distributed to the Chapters. The Chapters would be prime sources of the needs for training officials which could be included in the manual.
PROPOSED 1990-1991 BUDGET

Two proposed budget plans were considered for the year 1990-1991. Plan I reflected a $2.00 dues increase and Plan II a $4.00 dues increase. Total expenditures for the year 1989-1990 by $4,580. Although there was a significant increase in membership (over 50 due to the addition of the Iowa Chapter and the expansion of the Southeastern Chapter into the Southern) revenues underrun expenses by $3700. Most of this was due to significant increases in printing costs and purchasing patches at higher costs. Plan I, the $2.00 increase, included $1500 to start developing a manual but provided no funds to consider reissuing the constitution and would again underrun expected revenues by over $1500. Plan II, as proposed would provide funding to initiate activity on both the constitution and the manual but even with a proposed $4.00 dues increase would significantly underrun proposed revenues by over $3500. The directors voted to increase the dues by $5.00. This would meet most of the proposals in Plan II, increase the Secretary-Treasurers fee by $500 and bring total expenses in line with expected revenues. This would also avoid resorting to the savings account to meet expenditures.

OTHER ITEMS

Again this year time did not permit Chapters to review their summaries of activities during the meeting. Many Chapters turned in their written summaries, as requested. (Ed. Note. A review of these summaries indicated they would be most helpful in the development of a training manual. All Chapters are encouraged to provide written summaries of their activities.)

EIGHTH ANNUAL NIHOA LUNCHEON

Over 50 attended the Eighth Annual NIHOA Luncheon. The attendees included the Directors, various Chapter members and their guests. Bryan Lewis, Supervisor of Officials for the National Hockey League was the featured speaker.

OTHER MEETING NOTES

The scheduled "Hockeyfest" at the Boston Garden, the proposed combined ECAC/HockeyEast Playoffs was cancelled due to a measles breakout at the University of Maine Campus. Many who had attended the meeting and the luncheon were able to attend the ECAC Playoffs which were played at the Boston Garden.

Tom Lynch
Secretary-Treasurer