

Ohio Water Polo Referees' Association Emergency Board of Directors Meeting:

Members involved in the electronic meeting were: Greg Sanchez, Pete Pappas & Mike Jones.

Discussion Point: Changing of OWPRA P&P. The specific change proposed was from:

1. Article 4. Membership

- 1.1. All members of OWPRA are independent contractors in their officiating capacities. They are not employees of OWPRA, and they are not employees of any officer of OWPRA or of any other person or entity for whom the members provide their services. All members of OWPRA recognize this status and understand that neither OWPRA nor its officers are employers, and therefore, the members may not collect worker's compensation from OWPRA or any other person or entity for injuries sustained while officiating.
- 1.2. To be eligible for membership in OWPRA, an individual must, prior to each season:
 - 1.2.1. Sign and return an OWPRA membership application form to the appropriate officer;
 - 1.2.2. Pay annual dues and/or such other amounts, such as a special assessment as may be designated from time to time by the Board;
 - 1.2.2.1. Dues for membership in OWPRA for each year shall be an amount determined by the Board. Annual dues may include, but are not limited to, payment for the rule book, insurance, observer fees, and supervisor fees;
 - 1.2.3. Act in accordance with the character and reputation consistent with OWPRA's function as the governing body for independently contracted water polo officials;
 - 1.2.4. Abide by and agree to the terms and conditions of the OWPRRA Code of Conduct (Article 10 of Bylaws);
 - 1.2.5. In order to be a level 2, level 3 or level 4 official (see Section 4.3, below), each member must take a rules test with a passing score of 75%, 80%, 90% respectively. The rules test is open book and members may take the test as many times as necessary to pass. The first score obtained will be used to determine the level of the official;
 - 1.2.5.1. This rules test shall be prepared and graded by OWPRA's Supervisor or his/her designee;
 - 1.2.5.2. The date for the distribution of the rules test, and the date on which the rules test is due, will be determined by the Board. These dates shall be made available to members and potential members of OWPRA as soon as they are available.
- 1.3. Membership status for each member of OWPRA shall be determined by the Supervisor or his/her designee(s). This status may be based on the individual's level of experience and expertise as a water polo referee, game evaluations, and performance on the annual rules test;

- 1.3.1. Level 1 - Active (dues paying) members who do not meet the criteria for Level 2. This level shall include those members who have not passed the annual rules test, but who may be eligible to officiate at the discretion of the Supervisor;
- 1.3.2. Level 2 - Active members who are developing their skills as officials and who have passed the annual rules test (score of at least 75% correct) or are exempt from the rules test. Typically, these are less experienced officials who are competent to officiate mid-level high school or age group competitions, when accompanied by a Level 3 (or higher) official;
- 1.3.3. Level 3 - Active members who have invested the time and dedication to advance their skills, who have passed the annual rules test (score of at least 80% correct) or are exempt from the rules test, and who are competent to officiate any level of high school or age group competition;
- 1.3.4. Level 4 - Active members who have demonstrated superior skill and judgment in the performance of their duties, who have passed the annual rules test (score of at least 90% correct) or are exempt from the rules test, and who are competent to officiate at the collegiate varsity or open age group level;
- 1.4. Officials may be exempted from the rules test at the Supervisor's discretion;
- 1.5. The term of membership for any member of OWPRA is January 1 through December 31, regardless of when during the calendar year the member joins (i.e., all memberships expire on December 31);

To

2. **Article 4. Membership**

- 2.1. All members of OWPRA are independent contractors in their officiating capacities. They are not employees of OWPRA, and they are not employees of any officer of OWPRA or of any other person or entity for whom the members provide their services. All members of OWPRA recognize this status and understand that neither OWPRA nor its officers are employers, and therefore, the members may not collect worker's compensation from OWPRA or any other person or entity for injuries sustained while officiating.
- 2.2. To be eligible for membership in OWPRA, an individual must, prior to each season:
 - 2.2.1. Sign and return an OWPRA membership application form to the appropriate officer;
 - 2.2.2. Pay annual dues and/or such other amounts, such as a special assessment as may be designated from time to time by the Board;
 - 2.2.2.1. Dues for membership in OWPRA for each year shall be an amount determined by the Board. Annual dues may include, but are not limited to, payment for the rule book, insurance, observer fees, and supervisor fees;

- 2.2.3. Act in accordance with the character and reputation consistent with OWPRA's function as the governing body for independently contracted water polo officials;
- 2.2.4. Abide by and agree to the terms and conditions of the OWPRRA Code of Conduct (Article 10 of Bylaws);
- 2.2.5. In order to be a level 2, level 3 or level 4 official (see Section 4.3, below), each member must take a rules test with a passing score of 75%, 80%, 90% respectively. The rules test is open book and members may take the test as many times as necessary to pass and become a level 2 official. The first score obtained will be used to determine eligibility for level 3 and level 4 officials;
 - 2.2.5.1. This rules test shall be prepared and graded by OWPRA's Supervisor or his/her designee;
 - 2.2.5.2. The date for the distribution of the rules test, and the date on which the rules test is due, will be determined by the Board. These dates shall be made available to members and potential members of OWPRA as soon as they are available.
- 2.3. Membership status for each member of OWPRA shall be determined by the Supervisor or his/her designee(s). This status may be based on the individual's level of experience and expertise as a water polo referee, game evaluations, and performance on the annual rules test and water polo training classes;
 - 2.3.1. Level 1 - Active (dues paying) members who do not meet the criteria for Level 2. This level shall include those members who have not passed the annual rules test, but who may be eligible to officiate at the discretion of the Supervisor;
 - 2.3.2. Level 2 - Active members who are developing their skills as officials and who have passed the annual rules test (score of at least 75% correct) or are exempt from the rules test. Typically, these are less experienced officials who are competent to officiate mid-level high school or age group competitions, when accompanied by a Level 3 (or higher) official;
 - 2.3.3. Level 3 - Active members who have invested the time and dedication to advance their skills as demonstrated by passing both of the minor fouls and major fouls courses (may also be taken as the combined review of fouls course) at www.waterpoloacademy.com AND passing the annual rules test (score of at least 80% correct) or are exempt from the rules test. The requirements must be completed within the calendar year;
 - 2.3.4. Level 4 - Active members who have demonstrated superior skill and judgment in the performance of their duties AND have passed the annual rules test (score of at least 90% correct) or are exempt from the rules test AND have passed or taught any advanced referee course at www.waterpoloacademy.com or have completed a FINA or USAWP referee school. The requirements must be completed within the calendar year;
- 2.4. Officials may be exempted from the rules test at the Supervisor's discretion;

- 2.5. The term of membership for any member of OWPRA is January 1 through December 31, regardless of when during the calendar year the member joins (i.e., all memberships expire on December 31);

Greg Sanchez, Pete Pappas and Mike Jones voted “YA” on this proposed change to the P&P. The proposed changes have been passed by a unanimous vote.

January 6th, 2010.

Written by: Greg Sanchez