

VHSSUA Annual Meeting

March 18, 2018 10am

Spaulding High School

Call meeting to order at 10 AM.

Meeting opens with Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence

-2018 VHSSUA Meeting Packets contents

Minutes of 2017 annual meeting

Motion to approve-Steve Marro; 2<sup>nd</sup> Walter Earle Pass

Treasurer's Report

Motion to approve-Jeff Reed; 2<sup>nd</sup> Leon Johnson Pass

Old business: Insurance Requirement- Viable email address required by NFHS.

-Question regarding when cards go out from NFHS and coverage; as long as money is received by NFHS, coverage is valid.

- Richard Long attended VPA softball meeting; From Bob Johnson: We are asked to umpire softball games and to respect an individual's religious preference (i.e. head scarves)

-Brief discussion ensued about specific situation and understanding situation

New Business: No new business was addressed.

VPA 2018 Softball guide-Will be discussed in more depth with Carleton Laird's presentation

Test procedure: Test is online and must be taken online by April 4<sup>th</sup>

-Motion made by Tom Blackbird starting in the 2019 that rule books be mailed to officials. Ray Fish 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion: You can check everything online, is this necessary?The estimated cost to mail is about \$400.00. After much discussion, the motion failed by voice vote.

-Question was asked if the annual meeting could be held earlier in the year. This would require a bylaw change. The Board took this under advisement and will discuss this fall at the Board meeting.

Game fees, playoff information.

Finals to be held at Castleton University, 2018 and 2019

North/South games: Contact Carleton Laird if you have an interest in officiating. Games to be played at Castleton University.

Ratings: Mari Miller, VHSSUA Secretary-Treasurer, presentation.

Presentation began at 10:55 after districts voted who their reps to the board would be.

Mari gave an introduction to the website and how to access the ratings form. This form is an online form and anything with an asterisk must be answered. This data will be compiled into a Google spreadsheet that will be shared with district assignors. Questions ensued. Discussion ended at 11:22

Field clinics dates and locations: April 7, 2018 at Poultney, VT 9 AM

April 7, 2018 at Missisquoi Valley Union, Swanton, VT

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Interpreter's report: 2018 Dave Christiansen and Carleton Laird, Co-Interpreters

- Intentional walk...same as baseball: Ball is dead
  - Playcard/wristband is equipment, worn on non-throwing arm, single color
  - No longer need to inspect equipment, confirm at plate meeting. If it happens during the game, a player/coach needs to approach umpire to ask them to check it. Same penalty, batter out, warning to team
  - Charged conferences 3-7-1, pitcher removed, umpire not required to give warmups
  - Clarification on 6-1-2b Pitcher step back...step back may end before or after hands come together
  - 6-2-5: Reminder, a minute between innings. If teams insist on meeting at beginning of each half-inning, let coach know pitcher may not get warm-up pitches
  - Hit by pitch: Batter not required to move if pitch is in batter's box, but must make an effort to move all balls not in the batter's box. No base will be awarded unless batter attempts to move or ball 4
  - 8-1-2 Batter's hands are not part of the bat
- Pitcher courtesy runner

FYI-Spring time in VT is cold...use common sense. Sweatshirts/coats in field, but not at plate unless correct # is visible on the sweatshirt.

One Coach allowed outside the dugout on defense in VT. Respond "no/false" on test as VPA does not match NFHS

Face masks recommended on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and pitcher

Double 1<sup>st</sup> base required

Double Headers are 7 innings

Notes from RL: Membership not getting any younger and we need officials

-Thanks to Mari Miller, Craig Pettis, and Dave Christiansen for serving as interim interpreters last year

Boys get four umpires at baseball semis and girls do not...Title IX issue?

-Clinic on 3 man included in play date

Motion Joe Bouvier 2<sup>nd</sup> Wayne Straiton to Strongly recommend to the VPA that from the quarter-finals on a 3 umpire crew be used to officiate. This would align softball with baseball for playoff official assignments. Passed

Rules/mechanics presentation: 5 stations

Date of the next next annual meeting March 17, 2019 @ 10:00 AM, @ Spaulding High School, Barre, VT

11:50 am Carleton Laird move to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff Reed Passed