

Minutes of the Illinois Swimming Officials' Association Meeting

Saturday, November 16, 2024

FMC Natatorium, Westmont, Illinois

Call to Order at 8:30am.

- Those in attendance included: President Todd Gray, Vice-President Gwen VanSteen, Treasurer Fred Gafrick, Secretary Susan Mariottini, Member-at-large Steve Fedota, and approximately 35-40 members of the Association.

February 2024 Meeting Minutes:

- The minutes were posted on the ISOA website and sent out to all members with the meeting announcement.
- Dennis Yard moved that the minutes be approved as posted.
- Skip Yates seconded the motion.
- The motion carried without discussion.

Treasurer's Report – Fred Gafrick:

- Fred reported that the membership currently stands at 73 paid-in-full members.
- Account balance was \$2555.74 of February 25, 2024.
- Income for the period was \$1191.00.
- Expenses for the period totaled \$995.36. These included website maintenance fees, elections, shipping costs, ISDA donation, a memorial donation and stickers, executive board meeting, name tag production, and a Q&A session with a rules interpreter.
- The current balance is \$2751.38.
- Dennis Yard made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Gerry Cassioppi.
- Motion carried.

IHSA Report - Kraig Garber, IHSA Assistant Executive Director:

- Kraig expressed his appreciation for the members who volunteer their time to work at the State Meet. He stressed the importance of recruiting new officials. He said, "the ISOA plays a pivotal role in the recruitment and retention of officials."
- Kraig introduced Sandy Searcy, Director of Sports from the National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS). She mentioned that the NFHS Director of Officials is passionate about our "Why" such as why are we an official? She said that mentorship is valuable and that we (as officials) are "needed."
- Questions regarding assignments and communication between the IHSA and officials were asked during the discussion.

President's Report – Todd Gray

- Todd reported that the Q&A session with Mike Hutton on August 29 went well, and he hopes to continue to make this available to the membership.
- Todd attended the annual IHSA conference in Bloomington in July. He represented the ISOA. He attended a rules clinic, and he went to the awards dinner.
- Todd announced
 - The next ISOA meeting will be on March 1, 2025.
 - Boys' Sectionals are on February 21, and you must declare your intention to work the State series by December 7 on the Officials' Center.
- Todd recommended that we all check the Officials' Center weekly. We should check our ratings. We should also check the Schools' Center for the names and contacts information for coaches and athletic directors.

Old Business:

- None to discuss.

New Business:

- Tony Campo requested that we change our uniform to include black pants.
 - Todd reminded the membership that in the NFHS rules that officials' uniforms are specified by the state association and the IHSA states that we wear all white.
- Steve Fedota proposed an Amendment to the ISOA Bylaws regarding how to handle ties in the election of officers.
 - The Amendment was distributed to the tables for all to read and it calls out that in case of a tie, there would be one week open for campaigning, followed by a re-vote. If there is still a tie, the seated Board would decide.
 - There was a brief discussion regarding the wording of the amendment
 - A motion was made to accept the Amendment to the Bylaws with the amended language.
 - There was a second.
 - Motion carried.
- Officer Elections:
 - Three offices are up for election to a 2-year term beginning on April 1, 2025.
 1. President,
 2. Treasurer,
 3. Member-at-large.
 - The Nominating Committee will be chaired by Susan Mariottini, assisted by Skip Yates and Tom Strunk.
 - Todd announced that he will not be seeking the office of President for the next term and highly encouraged members of the Association to consider running for one of the three officer up for election.
- ISOA Annual Awards:
 - The committee will be chaired by Gwen VanSteen, assisted by Kathy McWhorter and Diane Ramoska.

Adjournment was at 9:22am.

- Janet Stern made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Dennis Yard seconded the motion.
- The motion carried.

“Our role on the deck is to provide an environment in which the swimmers can succeed.”

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Mariottini
ISOA Secretary