

**\MAOA Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 27, 2024**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**Jake's Stadium Pizza; Mankato**

1. Jed Falgren - Welcome & Opening Remarks
  - ***Jeff opened the meeting in Jed's absence, wishing Jed and his family well. Members introduced themselves.***
  
2. Jeff Wiechman-Secretary/Treasurer Reports
  - 2023-2024 Preseason Meeting Minutes
  - 2023-2024 Treasurer's Report (through 03.21.24)
  - Reimbursement Reminders (mentor program - \$40/game; summer camps - \$100 per attendee)
  - 2024-2025 dues (as decided upon in the meeting - see item 6 - and communication to ADs)
    - ***Jeff gave these reports and fielded questions from the membership.***
  
3. Tom Bromeland-Vice President report
  - ***Mentoring pods - opinions will be sought at item 10 on the agenda.***
  - ***MSHSL Registration for 24-25 was encouraged asap as fees will go up.***
  
4. Assignment secretary reports
  - Terry Reynolds: lower-level football
    - ***No report***
  - Rhiannon Gochenour: lower-level basketball
    - ***283 games***
    - ***24 officials***
    - ***1 issue with method of assignment - Many officials do not attend the pre-season meeting. In the past, paper-pencil sign-up had occurred. There was a conflict with the process this year. In the future, lower-level basketball assigning will occur ONLY through the Arbiter program. Officials will be responsible for managing their availability and accepting/declining assignments in that platform.***
  - Dave Bendix: varsity basketball
    - ***451 dates assigned, most JV/V combinations, just short of 900 games for 26 schools***
    - ***Looking at full/partial schedules for 28 schools next year (new: JWP and St. James).***
    - ***Reactions have been positive to this point.***
    - ***This process helps ensure our group is assigning our Mankato officials, helps manage conflicts, and weather dates easier.***
  
5. Game Fees: (these were approved for 2023-2024 at last year's meeting):

5-person crew - Varsity FB \$600	2-person crew - B-squad/Varsity BB \$280
3-person crew - Double Varsity BB \$450	2-person crew - Single Varsity BB \$280
3-person crew - B-squad/Varsity BB \$375	9th/10th (B) - \$65 (1 game) & \$100 (2 games)
3-person crew - Single Varsity BB \$375	7th/8th - \$50 (1 game) & \$80 (2 games) -
2-person crew - Double Varsity BB \$300	** if only 1 official, x1.5

  - No proposed changes for 2024-2025
  - Addition of lower-level football game fees: 3-person lower-level football games are \$240 (\$80 per official)
  - Mileage Rates:
    - 0-25 miles = \$10
    - 26-50 miles = \$20
    - 51+ miles = \$40
    - Every crew member receives this
    - One-way miles only (as indicated on Arbiter)
    - Lower level not included
  - Communicated ASAP to ADs

- **ACTION ITEM:** Vote on Dues/Rates for 2025-2026 for more timely communication.
    - **The membership present made, seconded, and approved a motion to increase all game fees by \$10 per official effective 2025-2026. As the association communicates this with local ADs, the association will note the need for an additional \$5 when JV games are bumped from 14- to 16-minute halves. This increase would last for 25-26 and 26-27.**
    - **All rates listed above for 2023-2024 will stay in effect for 2024-2025.**
    - **Mileage rates listed above will also remain the same.**
6. Suggested MAOA Dues Structure for 2024-2025
- \$60 (first-time officials \$30) -
    - No change proposed at this time.
    - **ACTION ITEM:** \$30 late fee for dues not paid by December 1
      - **The association moved, seconded, and approved a motion to assess this late fee. Officials not paid will be removed from lower-level games (not JV/V) until dues are up to date.**
      - **The association agreed to leave its base dues the same at \$60 for returning officials and \$30 for new officials.**
    - **IDEA REQUIRING FURTHER STUDY:** \$2/game assigned
      - Requires comparative analysis and study of current Constitution & By-Laws
      - The board suggests this be studied/proposed next year.
        - **Dave explained the above concept to the members present and the math required to work out what the association would need to make ends meet.**
        - **The membership present made, seconded, and approved a motion to study this for future reporting and potential implementation.**
  - Assigning Dues for High Schools: Currently \$100/school depending on # of games assigned
    - **ACTION ITEM:** Proposed change to \$125 for 2024-2025
    - The idea is to have assigning fees and game fees/mileage rates adjusted in opposite years.
      - **The association approved this assigning fee rate increase.**
7. Recognition of State Tournament Officials (**\*first-time recognition and plaque recipient**):
- 2023 Football - **\*Zach Dahl**, Richard DeBlois, Brian Donahue, Scott Haefner, Jordan Voss
- 2024 Boys' Basketball - **\*Justin Schmidt** (2nd appearance; 1st w/ MAOA)
- 2024 Girls' Basketball - Tim Bass, Tom Bromeland, **\*Zach Dahl**, **\*Jed Falgren**, Justin Kaus, Dave Krzmarzick, Tony Malwitz, Jordan Voss, Jeff Wiechman
- **The members present recognized these officials with a round of applause. They will all be recognized at the Annual Banquet on April 7. First-time state tournament officials will also receive commemorative plaques at the April 7 banquet.**
8. Reclassification of reserve members to regular status (Tom Bromeland)
- **IDEA REQUIRING FURTHER STUDY:** What is the association's feeling about removing the "reserve" status?
    - Is there a need for this status designation moving forward? Does it have anything to do with the mentoring program and ideas mentioned below for continuing education and member accountability?
    - If not needed, this would require by-law updates.
    - The board suggests this be studied/proposed next year.
    - **The members present discussed this and unanimously approved a motion to study our regular/reserve status, how it relates to existing mentoring opportunities and any constitution and bylaw changes that might be necessary.**
9. Elections/Appointments of Officers, Board Members, Assigners, Charter Clinicians
- Officers: Falgren (Pres), Bromeland (VP), and Wiechman (Sec/Treas) completed the first year of their 2-yr term (elections in odd-numbered years)
    - Elections required in March 2025

- At Large Members: Michael Fixen, Tim Hinkelday (Reserve Rep), Ben Scheevel (filling out remaining 1-yr of Craig Schumacher term), Scott Haefner, and Justin Kaus have completed the second year of a 2-year term (elections in even-numbered years).
  - **ACTION ITEM:** Elections required March 2024
  - All current members have agreed to run again. Nominations can be made from the floor.
  - **All members listed above were re-elected to another 2-year term.**
- Assignors are to be elected in odd-numbered years. Rhiannon Gochenour (lower level basketball), David Bendix (varsity basketball), and Terry Reynolds (football) have completed the first year of their latest 2-year terms
  - All positions next up for re-election in March 2025
- Charter Clinicians: Charter Clinicians need to be appointed by the President for basketball and for football each year.
  - Tom Bromeland (football) and Dave Bendix (basketball) are finishing their one-year appointments in 2023-2024
  - **ACTION ITEM:** Presidential appointments are required at this meeting for 2024-2025.
  - **It was announced the President Falgren had reappointed both existing charter clinicians for the upcoming seasons in 2024-2025.**

## 10. Other business

- Ongoing
  - Assignment secretary stipends
    - Currently \$400 for football and \$1000 each for basketball
    - The board proposes no changes at this time.
  - BLC/CAL tournament assignments
    - **Dave B. and Terry R. will continue to work with Art W. for the BLC Tournament**
    - **The CAL tournament did not take place this year. Future tournaments are TBD.**
  - Summer golf outing
    - The board has tabled this idea in lieu of inviting the ADs to the annual banquet.
- New
  - Social media presence for MAOA - Ben Scheevel has begun this work on behalf of the MAOA.
  - **IDEAS REQUIRING FURTHER STUDY:**
    - Membership requirements
      - Continuing education, evaluations of lower-level and new officials, and member accountability language could all be addressed in the MAOA Constitution and By-Laws
    - Mentor group engagement
      - How do we grow this idea to be as beneficial as possible for new/young officials?
    - **The membership present unanimously agreed to a motion to study the items above as they also relate to the regular/reserve conversation listed in item #8 of the agenda.**
  - Annual Banquet
    - Date/Time/Location: Sunday, April 7, 6:00 P.M. @ Ten20 Tavern, Mankato
    - Please RSVP via Jeff's emails and Google Form link no later than April 1.
    - Guests: 1 guest per member; ADs (+1)

## 11. Closing