



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 7, 2021

GRALOA Board Members Present: Scott Alferink (Treasurer), Luke Griemsman (Vice-President), Kyle Smoes (President), Mike VanLaan (At-Large)

Other attendees: Scott Knoop (attending beginning with item #2 of these meeting minutes)

1. The "Assigner Interview Team" of Scott A., Luke G., Kyle S., and Mike V. conducted interviews for the GRALOA Assigner position.
 - a. Three GRALOA members applied for the Assigner position. One candidate decided to not interview.
 - b. We interviewed Brett Svacha and Scott Knoop.
 - c. The Interview Team reviewed and discussed the desired criteria for the position and how each candidate matched up to that criteria.
 - d. We unanimously agreed that the first choice for the GRALOA Assigner position was Scott Knoop.
2. Kyle, on behalf of the Assigner Interview Team, offered the Assigner appointment to Scott Knoop.
 - a. Scott submitted his resignation as the GRALOA Secretary (since the Assigner cannot be a GRALOA board member). The board accepted Scott's resignation, effective immediately.
 - b. Scott accepted the appointment of the GRALOA Assigner position. Ratification to occur at the annual membership meeting.
3. Mike VanLaan was appointed as the new GRALOA Secretary, effective immediately.
4. The individual communications regarding the appointment of the Assigner position will be done by Kyle and will take place on June 10, 2021. After Kyle's communications are completed, Mike will send out a communication to the membership.
5. The Board agreed to change the number of At-Large board members from two to one. This will give the board an odd number of voting members and, for the size of our organization, makes more sense.
 - a. We now have an open At-Large position.
 - b. We unanimously agreed that Rodney Suggs would be offered an appointment to the open At-Large position, to complete the term vacated by Mike VanLaan's appointment to the Secretary position.
 - c. Kyle will contact Rodney regarding this offer.
6. The MHSAA Officials Guidebook (2021-2022 version) specifies that boys lacrosse officials working high school and junior-high/middle-school games for schools that are MHSAA member schools MUST be MHSAA registered. This would include, probably, every school that we officiate in the Grand Rapids area. The exact wording from the Officials Guidebook is:

Michigan High School Athletic Association Handbook Regulation II, Section 7 (high schools) and Regulation IV, Section 7 (junior high/middle schools) requires the use of MHSAA registered officials in all interscholastic contests involving member schools.

Therefore, we decided that MHSAA registration will now be required for all GRALOA assigned games for 7th/8th grade and for 5th/6th grade games assigned by the GRALOA assigner during the regular season. Mike will include this information in the registration communications.



7. We discussed the upcoming need to begin the GRALOA registration process for the 2021-2022 year. MHSAA registration is currently open and we are aligned with the same registration time frame. Mike will work on a form to use for our process. Scott A. will work on the online payment process.
8. Kyle will complete the GRALOA registration process (paperwork and payment) to the MHSAA. There is a meeting at the MHSAA for Assigners and Associations on July 17 (either in-person or online). Mike is available to attend in-person, if needed.
9. There was an informal discussion about priorities and projects for the GRALOA Board for the upcoming year. The following items were briefly discussed, to possibly be acted on at a later date:
 - a. Association By-laws update.
 - b. Rating/ranking system for officials, using a three-tier system.
 - c. On-field evaluations.
 - d. Training programs for new officials, to include mentoring.
10. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike VanLaan
GRALOA Secretary