
Kingston Football Officials Association



MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 25, 2008
1412 Princess Street, Kingston, ON

- PRESENT:** Fred Berry, Rob Bruce, Marc Burelle, Rob Christian, Bruce Currie, Scott Davis, Graeme Fraser, Eric Jonsson, Robert Langevin, John Lowen, Dave Mallory, Bill Miklas, Ron Morris, Brian Mortimer, Jim Neeson, Don Newton, Joe Pacheco, Deryck Perault, Ray Piper, Doug Priestly, Frank Pryal, Dave Ruttle, Gerry Shewchuk, Gary Steen, Mark Stevens
- REGRETS:** Don Fields, Dave Kingston, Mike Koshowski

The meeting was called to order by Gary Steen at 8:05 p.m.

1. **Minutes of the 2007 AGM**

It was **MOVED** by Rob Bruce **SECONDED** by Gary Steen that the Minutes of the AGM held on November 27th, 2007, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

2. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no new business noted by the Membership arising from the Minutes.

3. **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence presented before the Membership at the AGM.

4. **Amendments to the Constitution and By-laws**

The suggested amendments were provided to the Secretary the required two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. All amendments had been distributed prior to the AGM.

The membership started the process by first examining the proposed change to **ARTICLE 10 - Absentee Voting**.

A concern was raised that the suggested amendment only covered situations involving the election of Officers. Voting on other items including constitutional amendments was not included in the proposed amendment.

A friendly amendment was suggested that would make the Constitutional amendment read:

ARTICLE 10 - Absentee Voting

- 10.1 *Voting in one's absence shall be limited to matters before the Annual General Meeting of the Association or an Extraordinary' General meeting. In such case, it shall be available when the absent 'member in good standing' has granted such authorization in writing (proxy) to an eligible voter who shall be present at the meeting to exercise this privilege. Such privilege will be limited to all matters with the exception of the election of Officers.*
- 10.2 *With respect to the election of Officers, any 'member in good standing' has the option to seal their ballot without identification and return it to the Secretary prior to the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting. The Secretary will compile a list of member(s) who have submitted early ballots. All completed ballots will then be brought forward to the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting where they will be counted without identification with other cast votes.*

It was MOVED by Bill Miklas SECONDED by Gerry Shewchuk that the proposed amendment to the Constitution with the friendly amendment be adopted.

CARRIED

The discussion then switched to the proposed amendment to **Article 4 – Officers**. This amendment, if passed, would eliminate any motions from the floor at the AGM for election to the Executive.

The proposed new **Article 4.1** before the membership states:

The Secretary will garner from the Membership prospective candidates for election to the Executive positions – candidates must be members in good standing by the time of the Annual General Meeting of the Association. The complete list of candidates will be finalized at the Association's last scheduled meeting in October. The final slate of candidates must be provided to the General Membership at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Given that the Association routinely has meetings in November prior to the Annual General Meeting and given that the final meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting is normally held at least two weeks in advance of the Annual General Meeting, a friendly amendment was made that would make the amendment read as follows:

The Secretary will garner from the Membership prospective candidates for election to the Executive positions – candidates must be members in good

*standing by the time of the Annual General Meeting of the Association. The complete list of candidates will be finalized at the Association's last **scheduled meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting.** The final slate of candidates must be provided to the General Membership at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.*

It was MOVED by Joe Pacheco SECONDED by Brian Mortimer that the proposed amendment to the Constitution with the friendly amendment be adopted.

CARRIED

The other clauses of Article 4 will be renumbered.

It was made known that if an Executive position was not filled during this process, that the position be filled for the remainder of the term by a 'member in good standing' of the Association appointed by the remaining members of the Executive.

The final proposed amendment to the Constitution dealt with Membership fees paid by members who officiate only a few games.

It was MOVED by Frank Pryal SECONDED by Rob Christian that an Article 3.7 be inserted into the Constitution that reads:

Membership fees, paid by members who officiate no more than ten games in a calendar year, will be a nominal amount to cover Provincial Association fees only.

It was clarified that the current Provincial Association fee is thirty dollars (\$30.00). The current Membership fee is fifty dollars (\$50.00).

The rationale for the motion is to keep members involved with the Association and one way would be to reduce the Membership fee paid by officials who do not have a lot of games for whatever reason. The amount of money lost to the Association is insignificant.

The proposed amendment to the Constitution would also have to cover the individuals that handle the timing and scoring at Queen's games.

It was suggested that instead of a Constitutional amendment, that this issue be dealt with through a motion on the floor. A motion to rebate a portion of the Membership fees to officials who officiate less than ten games in a calendar year will be made at the first meeting in the spring.

The motion to amend the Constitution was withdrawn.

The membership then focused on the suggested amendment to the By-laws. The amendment dealt with officials dress during inclement weather. The amendment read as follows:

All members must conform to uniform dress as required: black / white vertically striped shirt, black shorts / white long pants, white socks with horizontally black top stripes, black hat with white piping (Linesmen and Umpires), white hat with black piping (Head Referee), and black shoes with white laces. During occasions of inclement weather, the crew chief can decide that the crew will wear Association approved standard black wind pants instead of the white long pants.

The rationale for the amendment is in an effort to ensure that the elements (rain, snow, and extreme cold) not hinder the job performance of KFOA officials. This proposed modification to the dress code would provide protection from the weather conditions for KFOA officials.

It was MOVED by Joe Pacheco SECONDED by Brian Mortimer that the proposed amendment to the By-laws respecting dress be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Reports of the Executive

All reports of the Executive were made available to the Membership prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Ray Piper thanked all officials for their hard work in making the Kingston Association a brand that has a solid reputation.

It was brought to the attention of the Membership that revenue of \$200 was not included in the financial statement. The Association is waiting for Queen's University contribution to the Wayne Norris Award.

6. Setting of Membership fees, Official's fees, travel fees and Assignor rates

a) Compensation for the Assignor: There was a concern raised regarding the 4.5% Assignor fee – the matter being that this might be excessive. It was commented that other sports in Kingston have a higher rate for the Assignor and in fact take it off of fees paid to officials. KFOA does not take the Assignor fee from amounts paid to officials but instead invoices this amount to the various leagues.

The Assignor fee was as high as 6% but was reduced to 4.5% a few years back. The leagues are still charged 6% with the remaining 1.5% granted to the Association reserves. Historically, the Assignor fee was greater than the current amount. It was argued, that if

anything, the fee is a bargain for the work involved and when compared to other Associations.

b) Compensation for the Web Master: This compensation, which has been determined for the current year, will be a year to year item for discussion.

7. Unfinished business and general new Business

a) It was MOVED by Frank Pryal SECONDED by Rob Christian that Rob Bruce be provided with sixty dollars (\$60.00) to cover his transportation cost to the 2008 OFOA AGM in Kitchener.

CARRIED

b) Guidelines for assigning officials: It was recommended that the Assignor for the upcoming year only assign officials at two to three week intervals. Given that availabilities change, some officials were of the opinion that scheduling for the entire season does not provide the necessary flexibility.

c) 2009 OFOA Conference and AGM: The Membership was made aware that the 2009 conference and AGM will take place in Ottawa from March 27 - 29.

d) Pre-season football Day: Joe Pacheco has discussed the idea with Rubin Burnett at LaSalle of hosting pre-season exhibition games. LaSalle and Frontenac have in the past expended significant funds to play exhibition games out of town. The suggestion was for KFOA and LaSalle to co-sponsor an exhibition football day. This would be an opportunity to raise funds and perform evaluations of officials. This is an occasion for teams to play against opponents they won't see during the regular season. LaSalle has two to three fields available for the event.

There is much work to perform before this event can happen. A sub-committee of Joe Pacheco, Rob Christian, Graeme Fraser, Bruce Currie and Frank Pryal will work to further develop the initiative.

e) Thank you from Derek Morris: This year's Wayne Norris Award winner expressed his appreciation to the Association for the selection. Derek's letter was read to the Membership.

It was further recommended that an actual plaque be award to the Wayne Norris Award recipient.

8. Election of the Executive

a) President: It was **MOVED** by Gary Steen **SECONDED** by Fred Berry that Ray Piper be nominated as President.

MOVED by Joe Pacheco that nominations now close. Ray Piper was acclaimed as President.

b) Assignor: It was MOVED by Deryck Perault SECONDED by Ron Morris that Graeme Fraser be nominated as Assignor.

It was MOVED by Rob Bruce SECONDED by Bruce Currie that Frank Pryal be nominated as Assignor.

It was MOVED by Ray Piper SECONDED by Graeme Fraser that Brian Mortimer be nominated as Assignor.

At this point in the proceedings, Graeme Fraser removed his name from nomination.

MOVED by Joe Pacheco that nominations now close.

Following a vote by secret ballot, Brian Mortimer was elected Assignor.

c) Referee-in-Chief: It was MOVED by Dave Ruttle SECONDED by Brian Mortimer that the Rob Bruce be nominated as Referee-in-Chief.

It was MOVED by Gary Steen SECONDED by Dave Ruttle that the Marc Burelle be nominated as Referee-in-Chief. Marc respectfully declined the nomination.

MOVED by Graeme Fraser that nominations now close.

Rob Bruce was acclaimed as Referee-in-Chief.

d) Treasurer: It was MOVED by Rob Bruce SECONDED by Bruce Currie that Fred Berry be nominated as Treasurer.

It was MOVED by Dave Ruttle SECONDED by Ron Morris that Graeme Fraser be nominated as Treasurer.

MOVED by Joe Pacheco that nominations now close.

Following a vote by secret ballot, Fred Berry was elected Treasurer.

e) Secretary: It was MOVED by Fred Berry SECONDED by Ray Piper that Rob Christian be nominated as Secretary.

MOVED by Rob Bruce that nominations now close.

Rob Christian was acclaimed as Secretary.

9. **Other Items**

a) **Polar Fleeces:** Ray Piper brought a selection of fleece tops that can accommodate the Associations logo. Members were encouraged to try them on for size and order if so desired.

b) **December 3rd Bowl Games:** KFOA has nominated Bill Miklas to work an OFSAA Bowl game with Marc Burelle nominated as the lottery selection for one of the games. Both men were congratulated for their selections.

10. **Adjournment**

MOVED by Gary Steen at 10:05 p.m. that the meeting does now adjourn.

CARRIED

**Next Meeting
Spring 2009
Time, date and Location
To Be Determined**