

SPORTORIALS

For All IAABO Members, Coaches, Players and Fans



OFFICIALS

vs. Cancer

January 23 - January 29, 2017

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Volume 68, Number 449



2017 IAABO Spring Meeting

The 2017 IAABO Spring Meeting will be held at Foxwoods Casino and Resort in Connecticut, April 20-23, 2017. The meeting will be hosted by the Connecticut State Board No. 5, which includes all six Connecticut IAABO boards. They have put together a well-planned program, including golf at the Foxwoods course, Life Membership Luncheon, spouse's breakfast, access to the outlet stores, a spectacular hospitality suite with great food, and many other activities at the resort.

Hotel accommodations are first rate at Foxwoods Resort. It is important to note that Foxwoods has four hotels on its property. Our hotel is the Fox Tower Hotel. IAABO Room Prices: April 17-20 - \$149.00 per room; April 21 and 22 - \$199.00 per room. They will average the price if you are staying on dates with different prices. Please note that all room rates are single or double occupancy. A charge of \$25 per night will be added for each guest room over double occupancy. Room rates and resort fees are subject to a 15% MPT occupancy tax. Also, a \$9.95 resort fee will be added to each room per night and charged at checkout. Daily parking is free. Deadline to reserve with IAABO room price is: Sunday, April 2, 2017. On-



line Reservation Passkey: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/IAABO> Phone Reservations: 1-800-369-9663; ask for "IAABO" room code. The link can also be found on the IAABO website. All meetings and daily continental breakfast will take place in the Grand Pequot Tower Ballroom, not the Fox Tower. It is a 10-minute walk from the Fox Tower.

There will be much to do at this year's meeting starting with the primary purpose, which is to have delegates from all IAABO Boards elect a President, President-Elect, and a Vice President to serve the organization for 2017-2018. In addition, four of the 12 executive committee positions are open to serve three-year terms; these positions are for Regions: 3 - NJ, 4 - PA, 7 - MD, and 8 - CT. You must be a delegate or former delegate to the IAABO Spring Meeting to run for an executive committee position as stated in Article IX, section 1. The elections will be conducted on Sunday morning. See page 7 for a complete agenda and schedule of activities.

All the standing committees will meet over the course of the meeting, many of which have agendas where input from its members is extremely important. These include *(continued on page 3)*

Euro-Steppin'

The scenery might change - the game remains the same

While the game of basketball remains a constant throughout the world, officiating stands tall as the constant within the game. There's meaning to that "I" in IAABO, and it's more international than you might think.

American troops are stationed at posts and bases all around the world. Many of these establishments have a huge impact on their local towns and are almost like cities within themselves - with schools, markets, restaurants, and more. A large part of the local economy relies on these bases and posts, and the people around town play a large part in the military community. The blend from post to town is almost seamless - except for those big gates and guard posts of course.

When we were selected to present IAABO classes at U.S. Army Posts in Baumholder, Germany and Vicenza, Italy, we weren't 100 percent sure what to expect. Kelly had never been to Europe before, but had always dreamed of going. Layne had been to Europe, but never to those two countries. We've taught lots of IAABO classes, but what would it be like on a military post? How were we going to present everything IAABO had to offer in just a few days? With all the questions though came so much promise and excitement. The



opportunity to provide this service to our troops and represent the organization we love almost seemed too good to be true. In the end, it was all we had hoped for and more!

The people at the military posts couldn't have been nicer, more accommodating, or more eager to learn about officiating. The first day at USAG Rheinland-Pfalz, Baumholder, 19 people walked into the classroom with experience levels ranging from none (brand-new candidates) to over 40 years for one gentleman. There were men and women, active-duty military, retired military, civilian employees, and family of American service members. They came from all over Germany and from Belgium, some traveling over 6 hours to take part in the clinic.

The attendees participated in three 8-hour days of intensive classroom and on-court training before taking the IAABO exam - and all passed! On Saturday, we headed to the court all day for the practicum tournament. Teams from the Post's Unit League participated in some high-level games throughout the day, practicing their skills while our officials worked on their own skills and learned "the IAABO way."

We step on the basketball court and the *(continued on page 3)*

The Tip Off

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STATEMENT

The International Association of Approved Basketball Officials, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of basketball officiating, through the proper training of applicants by visual and written aids; constant supervision by board proctors and dissemination of rule changes and interpretations.

Director's Court

Thank you - Thank you to all our Secretaries and Interpreters for the great job they do at the local and International levels. The Secretary has many responsibilities and in many of our boards they are the Treasurer as well, so the duties are compounded a hundred-fold. We all know accountability increases when money is handled, and monetary records are no easy task -- they require detailed reports that are very important. Locally they are our contact and their responsibilities include: accuracy of the database, registering each member and keeping the records up to date so that members receive the years of service awards appropriately. They respond in a timely fashion to the many emails and directions that are exchanged regularly between them and the IAABO office. We salute you and thank you.



Where would a basketball official's organization be without an Interpreter? Interpreters spend hours in preparation so that they are accurate in presenting the rules and sharing these interpretations that we hope will make our officials the best they can be. Yes, IAABO provides the best instructional materials for their use, and the good Interpreter uses them. The Interpreter is the one that our potential new members meet first and it is important to make a positive impression so they are aware of their responsibilities in becoming a basketball official. We salute and thank you as well.

As the years go by it is important that there is someone in training to take your place in both of these critical positions so that there is a smooth turnover when retirement is on the horizon. Please keep this in mind as we go forward so that IAABO remains the largest and greatest basketball officiating organization in the world.

President's Corner



Did 2016 go as fast for everyone as it did for me? Maybe it's a function of age or how crazy busy everyone seems to be these days.

It's now 2017 and we are in the midst of conference play. Each week, games become more important to teams and coaches. While games in January are more important than nonconference games played in December, those of us who have been around for a while realize February is looming. While things heated up in January, February is synonymous with intensity, urgency, difficulty and significance.

Coaches require more of themselves and their players during February. We must require the same for ourselves. We need to be physically and mentally at our best every night, every possession and every play. As teams want play their best in February, we want to officiate our best in February. Make sure you eat right, get the proper rest and take care of your body.

Pregame conferences are at least as important as they were at the start of the season and one could argue more so at this point in the season. Make sure your pregames are thorough and discuss court coverage, PCAs, any rule questions, unique plays and game administration. The referee should lead the pregame but everyone on the crew should actively participate.

Everyone involved with the great game of high school basketball has the goal of making it to the postseason, officials included. While this is the goal, it may not happen despite our hard work. If you are selected to work, be grateful for the assignment you receive and work the game as if it were the most important game that day. It is for someone!

If you are not selected, accept that as a challenge to get better and most importantly be supportive and congratulatory to those that are selected. Celebrate not only your own successes but the successes of others.

I hope you are all taking part in our monthly health and wellness "challenges." If you haven't, make participating in them one of your New Year's resolutions. The challenges and a form you can submit to formally participate can be found on the IAABO website.

Let's raise the bar and have a great conference season!

IAABO Nominating Committee



Michael Churchill, Bd. 28 MA
 Member, Nominating Committee



Tom Reese, Bd. 244 MD
 Chairman, Nominating Committee



Orrin Barfield, Bd. 119 NY
 Member, Nominating Committee



Shawn Donovan, Bd. 9 CT
 Member, Nominating Committee

Letters of Nomination for the IAABO Executive Committee should be submitted to the Committee Chair, Tom Reese, 1825 Gablehammer Road, Westminster, MD 21157. 5 copies of each nomination and supporting documentation must be postmarked no later than Friday, March 24, 2017. Attention and consideration will be given only to those nominations that meet these practices and procedures.



Kelly Callahan, Bd. 11 DE
 Member, Nominating Committee

Euro-Steppin (continued from page 1)

game is the same. We forget for a while that we're in Germany on an army installation teaching basketball, thousands of miles away from where we normally do so. Then reality sets in. We're ready for our second game of the day and one team is missing. No one misses a step and other players fill in for the missing team. We ask why the team isn't there, trying to understand how a military team isn't on time, and then they tell us what it means – a special forces team is missing – a greater duty calls. It's at that moment when we remember where we are and what the people around us are sacrificing each and every day. We pause for a second and realize just how lucky we are to do what we do and then, it's back to the game.

After four great days teaching in Germany, we began our two-day drive to USAG Italy in Vicenza. The classes were a little different in Italy as those participants worked their real jobs throughout the day and attended the basketball clinic at night, over the course of four evenings. Given the evening classes and conflicts that some of the candidates had, our attendance varied each evening from six or seven to over fifteen. The participation was excellent every night with great questions and lots of interaction. At USAG Italy, it was a varied group in attendance ranging from new officials to those with over 10 years of experience in addition to their scorekeepers, who were required to take the full basketball clinic as well. The attendees were active-duty military, civilian employees and family members also. In the end, we were even successful in getting commitments from a couple of those scorers to join the on-court training for officials next season!

That Saturday, the Post hosted the Flag Football Championships and some of our officials were involved in that event, but a few were able to officiate scrimmage games involving the Post residents. This also gave us the chance to get on the court and work with our class members. Early in the scrimmage one of the players traveled while going to the basket. Just like in the U.S., he complained that it wasn't a travel and called the move he made a Euro-Step. We told him that even in Europe, he didn't execute a legal move and thus, he traveled. After a good laugh, we went on and had some more fun. A few short hours later, we realized that our IAABO Europe teaching experience was coming to a close. It was sad to see it end, but we were grateful for such a rewarding experience.

Outside our official IAABO duties, we also had time to sightsee. Traveling by car from Frankfurt to Baumholder to Vicenza and back provided the opportunity to see amazing sights along the way, and we took an extra few days to see some more. We visited Battle of the Bulge sites in Belgium, paid our respects at one of the many cemeteries honoring those who fought there, and then tried some famous Belgian fare like mussels and waffles. In Germany, we enjoyed time at a beer garden plus pretzels, schnitzel and other specialties before experiencing an incredibly moving visit to the Dachau Concentration Camp outside Munich. The Bergisel Ski Jump in Innsbruck, Austria provided amazing mountain views, and we had a wonderful outdoor dinner at the base of the Alps. Our time in Italy allowed us to visit many places, including a coliseum, museums, churches, the Grand Canal in Venice, and the beautiful Lake Como, all while eating some of the most fantastic food ever. Perhaps the most amazing journey was that towards Lauterbrunnen, Switzerland in the heart of the Swiss Alps, where the scenery nearly took our breath away every place we looked.

Our trip to Europe to teach IAABO in 2016 will go down as one of the greatest highlights of our lives. It was truly an honor to represent the best educational basketball organization in the world. We saw some incredible things and met some absolutely amazing people along the way. We flew thousands of miles, traveled across countries, and visited two military installations to learn that no matter where we are, we all have one common bond – IAABO ... and it's more international than we might even think.

Spring Meeting (continued from page 1)

constitutional changes, legal issues, audit and budget, official's education and development updates, board relations and polices, and the Women's Coordinating Committee.

The Secretary's roundtable will again be an important meeting with topics such as the database, membership, communication, the IAABO Handbook, Sportorials opt out, IAABO vendors, the IAABO website, and local board regulations.

Delegate registration: All delegates must be registered with the IAABO office. Delegate registrations must be made on-line via the IAABO website at www.iaabo.org All members of IAABO are encouraged to attend as there is no fee. IAABO is your organization and your voice should be heard. To register as a non-voting delegate please go to the IAABO website.

Highlighting the Spring Meeting will be Saturday's Life Membership Luncheon. This is IAABO'S highest award and presented once a year at the Spring Meeting. Six honorees will be presented with the beautifully detailed IAABO Life Membership Ring. This is IAABO'S Hall of Fame and there are many applications for this award with the award recipients limited to five per year along with the outgoing President. Honorees include, President David Smith, Bd 4 CO, Charles Ball Bd 134 MD, Tim McAleer, Bd 119 NY, Tim O'Brien Bd 44 MA, Walter Rusak, Bd 33 NJ, and Don Thorne Bd 210 ON. Luncheon tickets are available for \$35. Please complete the form on page 7 and mail it in to make a reservation.

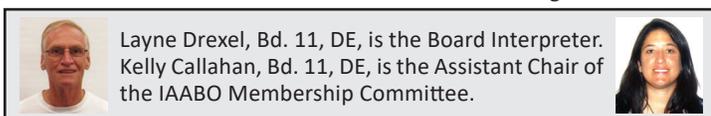
The elections will be conducted on Sunday morning along with the 50 year awards, announcement of the Handbook Dedication and other IAABO awards. We look forward to seeing all the Board Presidents and Secretaries for a most productive conference.

The first social event of the Spring Meeting will be the annual Pete Sheehan Golf outing Thursday, April 20, 2017, 8:30 AM shotgun start at the Lake of Isles North Course, which is the number 1 ranked course in Connecticut by Golf Week Magazine. Cost is \$150 and includes continental breakfast, lunch buffet, and a golf gift. Send check and form to: Peter Carroll, 721 Main St., Monroe, CT 06468. Deadline is April 1, 2017. The registration form can be found on page 7..

The spouse's breakfast will be held on Friday at 9 a.m.; there is no charge, but you must complete the registration form. Please complete the form on page 7 and mail it in to make a reservation.

Position Open Coordinator of Interpreters

The position of Coordinator of Interpreters will become vacant on July 1, 2017. Peter Webb, the current Coordinator of Interpreters has served in this position for over 10 years, has announced his retirement. Peter will be honored for his many year of faithful and selfless service to IAABO at the annual spring meeting scheduled to be held at Foxwood Casino and Resort in Connecticut on Saturday, April 22, 2017. More information related to this event will be published in the next issue of *Sportorials*. A job description will be provided to all interested individuals upon request. If interested please send an email to Tom Lopes, Executive Director, IAABO at tlfef@aol.com. Deadline for the submission of applications is March 1, 2017. Initial applicant interviews will take place via conference calls with final interviews taking place at the annual spring meeting at Foxwoods. The position is for a term of one year and includes a stipend. Individuals must be proficient in rules knowledge, Microsoft PowerPoint, editing video clips, writing officiating articles, and making presentations. Please contact Tom if you have any questions.



Layne Drexel, Bd. 11, DE, is the Board Interpreter.
Kelly Callahan, Bd. 11, DE, is the Assistant Chair of
the IAABO Membership Committee.

2017 Executive Committee Restructuring Amendments: Moving IAABO Forward

At the upcoming 2017 Annual Spring Meeting in Connecticut, delegates will vote on amendments that, if approved, will reshape the IAABO Executive Committee.

Since 1990 the IAABO Executive Committee has consisted of 12 Directors, each Director residing in one of the 12 geographical regions that cover the 50 states and all of Canada. Although each Director must reside in the region he or she is elected from, each Director serves and acts in the best interest of all of IAABO and not just the region where they reside.

One of the most important responsibilities of our IAABO Executive Committee is to constantly be thinking ahead-- what and where will IAABO be in 3 years? 5 years? What are our strengths and weaknesses? What should we do, as members and elected leaders of the association, to make sure IAABO continues to move forward as the number one source in amateur basketball officiating, education and training in the world, as it has been for the past 90 plus years?

With that in mind, an Ad Hoc Committee on Restructuring the Executive Committee was formed by then IAABO President Tom Reese in the spring of 2015. Duties of the committee included breaking down the present IAABO membership worldwide and evaluating the relevance and effectiveness of the Directors of the Executive Committee as related to those membership numbers. The Ad Hoc Committee consisted of Directors Sal Capitummino of New York, Dennis Murphy of New Hampshire, Don Thorne from Canada, Paul Spinelli from New Jersey and myself as Chairperson.

The committee began by compiling different comparison reports for the two membership time periods of 1990 and 2015. Reports included breaking down the comparison of membership by each state and province of Canada, showing the membership growth or decline of each. Also, reports compiled showed what the present 12 geographical regions looked like then and now. IAABO membership numbers worldwide in 1990 totaled 12,379. In August of 2015 worldwide membership totaled 16,322.

Results of the membership research showed where IAABO has grown its membership numbers in states and declined in others over the 25-year time period from 1990 to 2015. For instance, IAABO membership in 1990 showed 12,379 members were registered by chartered IAABO boards in 37 states as well as Canada, the District of Columbia and our overseas boards. In 2015, 16,322 members were registered by chartered IAABO boards in 24 states plus Canada, the District of Columbia and our overseas boards -- a net gain of 3,943 members, but a loss of 13 states that IAABO was represented in.

Membership numbers also show that the 3,943 members IAABO has added in the past 25 years have mostly come from our well-established larger member states and Canada. Membership numbers have declined most the last 25 years in states where IAABO has lost its role as the preferred 'teacher of the rules' of amateur basketball officiating. This includes some large states as well as many smaller states, especially in the southern and midwestern parts of the United States. It should be noted that this decline of membership in these states was mainly due to 'political' or other decisions made by the basketball governing body in those states to become the 'teacher of the rules.'

Progress has changed the world since IAABO came into existence over 90 years ago. IAABO has certainly made the necessary changes over that same time period to continue serving as the premier amateur basketball officiating association in the world. Over the last 10 years in particular, IAABO has made great strides and commitments to advance its technology in the areas of training and education and to seek new avenues of alliances. Without a doubt we are a more diverse association in many ways. IAABO is always working hard to 'spread the IAABO message' and look for opportunities to charter new district boards.

After nearly 12 months of research, the Ad Hoc Committee unanimously agreed that a restructuring of the Executive Committee at this time would benefit IAABO. It will allow more members, especially those in smaller membership areas, a clearer path to become part of the growth and leadership of IAABO, including serving on the Executive Committee.

The Ad Hoc Committee recognized that the proposed restructuring of the Executive Committee is not the only answer to the future growth of

IAABO. However, it is a first step to show our present and future members that IAABO is committed to progress.

At the 2016 Annual Spring Meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the entire Executive Committee. After discussion and some revisions over the next few months, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to send the amendments to the Constitution Committee for approval per our Constitution. At the September 2016 meetings in Gettysburg, PA, the Constitution Committee unanimously approved the amendments. On December 18, 2016, the Executive Committee formally approved the amendments to be presented to the delegates at the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Below I have listed 8 questions, along with the answers, that provide some of the details about the restructuring amendments:

1. Will the number of elected Directors remain the same from its present number of 12? Yes, there will continue to be 12 elected Directors.

2. How often will election of Directors occur? We will continue to elect four Directors at each Annual Meeting.

3. Will there continue to be 12 geographical regions? No, the new Executive Committee structure would consist of 10 geographical regions plus two At Large Director positions. Each At Large Director would be an eligible member who does not reside within any of the 10 geographical regions. Similar to the geographical regions, only one At Large Director can come from any state which falls into the At Large Director eligibility.

4. If we are reducing the geographical regions from 12 to 10, which two regions are being removed and what will happen to those states in those regions? Present Regions 6 and 12 will be removed. The states in those regions will either be moved to one of the 10 remaining geographical regions or will now fall into eligibility for either of the two At Large Director positions. The District of Columbia will also now fall into eligibility for either of the two At Large Director positions.

5. How will the restructuring affect the 10 remaining geographical regions? Regions 4, 5, 7 and 8 will see a change. Some states will stay in those regions and some will now fall into eligibility for either of the two At Large Director positions.

6. Are the terms, duties and responsibilities of the two At Large Director positions the same as the Directors elected from the 10 geographical regions? Yes. Each of the 12 elected Directors share the same duties and responsibilities, serve a 3-year term, and have the same voting privileges on the Executive Committee.

7. If the amendments are approved at the 2017 Annual Meeting, when would they go into effect? The amendments would go into effect with the elections at the Annual Meetings of 2018 and 2019. At each of the 2018 and 2019 Annual Meetings, elections will take place for the 3 geographical regions up for election and one At Large Director position.

8. Are we electing either At Large Director position in April of 2017 at the Annual Meeting? No, we are not. The only Director positions up for election in 2017 are present Regions 3, 4, 7 and 8.

The proposed Executive Committee restructuring amendments on page five are shown in detail. Once you review the amendments, you may have additional questions not specifically covered in the 8 questions above, please feel free to contact me directly at jgintoli@aol.com and I will do my best to answer those questions.

In closing, I want to extend a big 'Thank You' to all the members of the Ad Hoc Committee, Sal Capitummino, Dennis Murphy, Don Thorne and Paul Spinelli for their most valuable input and untiring efforts. It was a long 12 months of research, conference calls, and revisions. But the end result was certainly worth the effort.

It is my sincere hope as your President-Elect that all delegates to the 2017 Annual Spring Meeting will support these restructuring amendments. By doing so we will take an important step to help IAABO continue to grow, and continue to move IAABO forward.

Joe Gintoli, Bd. 9, CT, is the President-Elect of IAABO, Inc. He is also the former Board Secretary-Treasurer for Board 9.



Notice of Proposed Amendments to IAABO Constitution

The below amendment, following presentation by the Executive Committee to the Constitution Committee, was approved by the Constitution Committee at the Fall Meeting in Gettysburg. Following discussion and anticipated approval by the Executive Committee at the conference call on December 18, 2016, the amendment will be published in Sportorials and presented to the International Assembly at the Spring Meeting on April 23, 2017, in Mashantucket, CT.

Art. IX – Executive Committee

Sec. 1 – Members of Executive Committee

Presently reads:

The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed under the direction of a board of directors hereinafter known and referred to as the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of sixteen (16) Directors (hereinafter referred to as “Director” or “member of the Executive Committee”) as follows: the officers of the Association together with twelve (12) Directors elected in accordance with Section 2 of this Article. Only delegates or former delegates to the International Assembly shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee. Four (4) Directors shall be elected at each annual meeting to serve three (3) year terms. Directors may succeed themselves. All former Past Presidents shall be honorary non-voting members of the Executive Committee and serve in an advisory capacity. Expenses will be paid only if such member is the chairperson of a standing committee and/or his or her presence is required at the meeting.

Art. IX – Executive Committee

Sec. 2. Qualifications

Presently reads:

Exclusive of the Officers, not more than one of the twelve members elected to the Executive Committee shall represent any one geographical region. The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill a vacancy thereon until the first annual meeting following such appointment.

The geographic regions are as follows:

1. State of New York
2. Commonwealth of Massachusetts
3. State of New Jersey
4. Northeast Central United States: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin
5. States West of Mississippi River: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming
6. District of Columbia, States of Virginia and West Virginia
7. States of Maryland and Delaware
8. States of Connecticut and Rhode Island
9. All Provinces of Canada
10. State of Maine
11. States of New Hampshire and Vermont
12. Southeast and South Central United States: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas

Proposed Amendment

Art. IX – Executive Committee

Sec. 1 – Members of Executive Committee

The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed under the direction of a board of directors hereinafter known and referred to as the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of

sixteen (16) Directors (hereinafter referred to as “Director” or “member of the Executive Committee”) as follows: the officers of the Association together with twelve (12) Directors elected in accordance with Section 2 of this Article. Only delegates or former delegates to the International Assembly shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee. Four (4) Directors shall be elected at each annual meeting to serve three (3) year terms. Directors may succeed themselves subject to the limitations set forth in Section 2 of this Article. All former Past Presidents shall be honorary non-voting members of the Executive Committee and serve in an advisory capacity. Expenses will be paid only if such member is the chairperson of a standing committee and/or his or her presence is required at the meeting.

Section 2. Qualifications

In addition to the officers, twelve (12) members of the Association shall be elected to the Executive Committee, subject to the requirements set forth in Section 1 of this Article as follows: (1) One (1) member shall be elected from each of the ten (10) geographical regions set forth below; (2) Two “At Large Members” shall be elected as follows: One (1) At Large Member shall be elected at the 2018 International Assembly meeting – designated “At Large A”; and One (1) At Large Member shall be elected at the 2019 International Assembly meeting – designated “At Large B”. NOTE: An “At Large Member” means a member who does not reside within any of the ten (10) Geographical Regions.

All members of the Executive Committee at the close of the International Assembly in 2017 shall remain in office for the duration of their terms; provided, however, that any member of the Executive Committee not in attendance at two consecutive meetings without cause shall be replaced (by election) at the next meeting of the International Assembly. Any member of the Executive Committee not in attendance at two consecutive meetings without cause, shall forfeit his membership and a successor shall be selected to fill his vacancy.

The geographic regions are as follows:

1. State of New York
2. Commonwealth of Massachusetts
3. State of New Jersey
4. Commonwealths of Pennsylvania and Virginia
5. State of Colorado
6. States of New Hampshire and Vermont
7. State of Maryland (except Montgomery County)
8. State of Connecticut
9. All Provinces and Territories of Canada
10. State of Maine

Proviso: This Amendment shall take effect at the close of the International Assembly at which it is adopted.

Rationale:

To restructure the geographic regions represented on the Executive Committee to reflect the changed membership demographics of the Association since the implementation in 1990 of representation on the Executive Committee based on geographic regions. To create two “At Large” Executive Committee positions, thus enabling eligible members not residing within one of the designated geographic regions to seek a position on the Executive Committee. Note: The last sentence of the second paragraph of Sec. 2 was inadvertently omitted in the amendment approved by the International Assembly at the Spring Meeting in Orlando in April 2016.

Steven Ellinger is the chair of the IAABO Constitution Committee and the secretary-treasurer of Houston Board 205 (TX).



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 Tel: 716.298.1129 Fax: 716.298.1204

2017 Spring Meeting Forms

18th Annual

**IAABO Life Membership Luncheon
Saturday, April 22, 2017 - 12 Noon
Grand Pequot Tower Ballroom**

No. of registrant(s) @ \$35/person = _____

Name of Registrant(s) _____

LIFE MEMBER

Board No. _____

Send check and form to: IAABO, P.O. Box 355, Carlisle, PA 17013-0355
Make check payable to: IAABO, Registration Deadline: April 1, 2017

Spouse/ Guest Breakfast Friday, April 21, 2017, 9 AM

Name: _____

Board Number: _____

Number of Guests: _____

Note: Each IAABO members is entitled to one guest (spouse/significant other). Additional guests are invited at a cost of \$25.00 each.

Send check and form to: Hank Luzzi, 434 Thompson Ave., East Haven, CT 06512
Make check payable to: IAABO, Registration Deadline: April 1, 2017

Golf Registration

**Thursday, April 20, 2017 - 8:00 AM Registration
8:30 AM Shotgun Start
Lake of Isles North Course**

<http://www.lakeofisles.com/north-course.html>

\$150/Golfer - includes continental breakfast, lunch buffet, and a golf gift

Foursomes who wish to play together should be specified on the registration form. Make full payment for the foursome listed below:

Name: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

List Members of Foursome:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Send check and form to: Peter Carroll, 721 Main St, Monroe, CT 06468
Make check payable to: CONN STATE BOARD 5
Registration Deadline: April 1, 2017

2017 Annual Spring Meeting Schedule Foxwoods, CT

Thursday, April 20, 2017

6:00 p.m. Executive Committee (Closed Session)

Friday, April 21, 2017

8:15 a.m. Welcome

8:30 a.m. Audit and Budget Committee

9:15 a.m. Rules and Examination Committee

10:00 a.m. Constitution Committee

11:00 a.m. Nomination Committee

1:00 p.m. Officials' Education and Development Committee

1:30 p.m. Women's Coordinating Committee

2:00 p.m. Board Secretaries Roundtable (Insurance Matters, Data Base, Membership, etc – Q&A)

3:30 p.m. Board Relations & Policy Committee

4:00 p.m. IAABO Foundation Meeting

Saturday, April 22, 2017

7:30 a.m. Executive Committee (Closed - If Necessary)

8:30 a.m. Executive Committee (Open)

9:00 a.m. Membership Committee

9:30 a.m. Defending Your Officials - A Practical Guide for IAABO Boards - Alan Goldberger

10:30 a.m. Life Membership Committee

12:15 p.m. Life Membership Luncheon

Sunday, April 23, 2017

8:30 a.m. General Assembly Meeting, Elections, Awards

Most Missed Exam Questions

Shown below are the five most missed questions on the 2016 IAABO Refresher Exam.

17. While A-1's free throw is in flight, B-1 breaks the plane of the 3-point line. A-1 then commits a free throw violation. The official rules a double free-throw violation. Is the official correct?

17. Yes 9-1-3f, Penalties 4b

26. A-1's throw-in is caught by A-2 while A-2 has one foot touching the floor in the frontcourt. A-2 then places the other foot down in the backcourt. The official rules a backcourt violation. Is the official correct?

26. Yes 4-4-2, 4-4-1, 9-9-1

37. As A-6 enters the game, the official notices a manufacturer's logo on the sleeve of the undershirt. The official rules this illegal. Is the official correct?

37. No 3-6-1

32. Jumper A-1 taps the ball which hits the floor and then A-1 catches it. The official rules a violation. Is the official correct?

32. No 4-28-2, 6-3-8

12. During A-1's interrupted dribble, the official continues the 5-second, closely-guarded count. Is the official correct?

12. No 4-15-6a

Energy and Enthusiasm at All Levels

Speaking with many interpreters last fall, I asked if they saw a different level of officiating when observing officials at the High School varsity level compared to the Junior Varsity level, the elementary level or recreational and church leagues. First, I was amazed that there are so many games at these lower levels compared to the average of about 12 home games at the High School Varsity and JV level. We decided to get an idea of the effort and enthusiasm of the officials as they officiated the level of games previously described.

It was reported that there was a great amount of enthusiasm, hustle and an effort to use the appropriate signals and mechanics during the High School games. Most officials had a good knowledge of the rules and were accurate with a high percentage of correct rulings.

Interestingly, the reports indicated that the level of officiating deteriorated as the level of the game went down. Officials at the recreational and similar levels worked as many as six to eight games in a day. That's not bad at a game fee of \$40 per game or more. Many of the officials on the game were older officials who also may be out of shape -- the reports indicated that many officials never made it to the division line, or never reached the end line to observe play in the front court.

Other reports stated that officials were talking to fans in the stands while play continued down the floor. It was also noted that when newer officials were officiating these games, they hustled and it looked like they actually wanted to be there. I know you won't believe this, but there was even a report of an official going up and down the court while talking on the phone. The person reporting to me started to laugh about this and made me laugh as well. That's when we stopped and looked at each other and acknowledged that this is actually a serious situation that needed to be addressed.

We are not the officiating police; however, we can make suggestions to our boards in hopes of improving our image and the image of officiating throughout our local area. Those rec (and similar-type) games present a great opportunity for continued training for the newer officials -- hooking them up with a veteran who is interested in paying it forward. I have often said that there is no greater thrill in officiating than watching someone you mentored receive their first big assignment and be successful; you have played a part in that success.

So, take a look around your board and see how you can be an agent of change; how can we have our members respect each and every assignment they receive no matter the level? Give 100 percent every time you walk on the floor.

I am reminded of an experience that happened while officiating a High School game in the late 1960's (you know, when you had beer on ice in car for the ride home). One team was leading by 30 points with 15 seconds to play and a player drove in and got knocked to the floor, with no ruling from me. He got up and asked me "wasn't that a foul?" I replied, "Yes, but you are winning by 30, the game is just about over and my beer is getting warm." He said, "Mr. Ref, I only get to play when we are 30 points up or down and I thought I could get to play tonight so I brought my girlfriend to try an impress her."

That says it all. The game is never about us it is about the young people who perform in the contest. Put forth the effort on every game.

If you take the check do the job!



Tom Lopes is the Executive Director, IAABO, Inc. and a member of IAABO Board No. 194, NJ. He is a former Division I Basketball Official.

Summary of Penalties for Fouls (Excepting Bench Personnel Leaving Bench)

The offended player or team is awarded the following:

1. No free throws:
 - a. For each common foul before the bonus rule is in effect.
 - b. For a player-control foul or team-control foul.
 - c. For double personal or technical fouls (point of interruption).
 - d. For simultaneous personal or simultaneous technical fouls by opponents (point of interruption).
 - e. After time has expired for the fourth quarter (or extra period), unless the point(s) would affect the outcome of the game.

Note: If one or both fouls of a double foul are flagrant, no free throws are awarded. Any player who commits a flagrant foul is disqualified.

2. One free throw if fouled in the act of shooting and two-point or three-point try or tap is successful.

3. Bonus free throw:
 - a. For seventh, eighth and ninth team foul each half, if first free throw is successful.
 - b. Beginning with 10th team foul each half whether or not first free throw is successful.

4. Two free throws if intentional or flagrant, plus the ball for throw-in.

5. Fouled in the act of shooting and try of tap is unsuccessful:
 - a. Two free throws on two-point try or tap.
 - b. Three free throws on three-point try or tap.

Plus, ball for throw-in if intentional or flagrant.

6. Multiple Foul:
 - a. One free throw for each foul:
 - (1) No try involved.
 - (2) Successful or unsuccessful two-point try or tap.
 - (3) Successful three-point try or tap.
 - b. Two free throws for each foul:
 - (1) Intentional or flagrant foul.
 - (2) Unsuccessful three-point try or tap.

Plus ball for throw-in if intentional or flagrant.

7. In case of a false double foul or a false multiple foul, each foul carries its own penalty. Administer in the order in which fouls occur.

8. Fighting:
 - a. Players on the court:
 - (1) Corresponding number from each team – double flagrant fouls, all participants are disqualified, no free throws are awarded, ball is put in play at point of interruption.
 - (2) Numbers of participants are not corresponding – Flagrant fouls and disqualification for all participants, two free throws are awarded for the offended team for each additional player, offended team awarded a division line throw-in.

Note: If one or both fouls of a multiple foul are flagrant, two free throws are awarded for each flagrant foul. Any player who commits a flagrant foul is disqualified.

9. In case of a false double foul or a false multiple foul, each foul carries its own penalty. Administer in the order in which fouls occur.

10. Fighting:
 - a. Players on the court:
 - (1) Corresponding number from each team – double flagrant fouls, all participants are disqualified, no free throws are awarded, ball is put in play at point of interruption.
 - (2) Numbers of participants are not corresponding – Flagrant fouls and disqualification for all participants, two free throws are awarded for the offended team for each additional player, offended team awarded a division line throw-in.

Note: All fouls (except an indirect technical foul charged to the head coach) count toward the team's foul count in the half.

11. In case of a false double foul or a false multiple foul, each foul carries its own penalty. Administer in the order in which fouls occur.

12. Fighting:
 - a. Players on the court:
 - (1) Corresponding number from each team – double flagrant fouls, all participants are disqualified, no free throws are awarded, ball is put in play at point of interruption.
 - (2) Numbers of participants are not corresponding – Flagrant fouls and disqualification for all participants, two free throws are awarded for the offended team for each additional player, offended team awarded a division line throw-in.

Note: All fouls (except an indirect technical foul charged to the head coach) count toward the team's foul count in the half.

13. In case of a false double foul or a false multiple foul, each foul carries its own penalty. Administer in the order in which fouls occur.

14. Fighting:
 - a. Players on the court:
 - (1) Corresponding number from each team – double flagrant fouls, all participants are disqualified, no free throws are awarded, ball is put in play at point of interruption.
 - (2) Numbers of participants are not corresponding – Flagrant fouls and disqualification for all participants, two free throws are awarded for the offended team for each additional player, offended team awarded a division line throw-in.

Note: All fouls (except an indirect technical foul charged to the head coach) count toward the team's foul count in the half.

15. In case of a false double foul or a false multiple foul, each foul carries its own penalty. Administer in the order in which fouls occur.

16. Fighting:
 - a. Players on the court:
 - (1) Corresponding number from each team – double flagrant fouls, all participants are disqualified, no free throws are awarded, ball is put in play at point of interruption.
 - (2) Numbers of participants are not corresponding – Flagrant fouls and disqualification for all participants, two free throws are awarded for the offended team for each additional player, offended team awarded a division line throw-in.

Note: All fouls (except an indirect technical foul charged to the head coach) count toward the team's foul count in the half.

17. In case of a false double foul or a false multiple foul, each foul carries its own penalty. Administer in the order in which fouls occur.

18. Fighting:
 - a. Players on the court:
 - (1) Corresponding number from each team – double flagrant fouls, all participants are disqualified, no free throws are awarded, ball is put in play at point of interruption.
 - (2) Numbers of participants are not corresponding – Flagrant fouls and disqualification for all participants, two free throws are awarded for the offended team for each additional player, offended team awarded a division line throw-in.

Note: All fouls (except an indirect technical foul charged to the head coach) count toward the team's foul count in the half.



Past President, Peter Webb, Bd. 111, ME, is the Coordinator of Interpreters for IAABO. Peter is responsible for providing guidance, clarifying basketball issues, and conducting online discussion groups with all IAABO Interpreters.

IAABO Executive Committee Approves Life Membership Inductees for 2017

Six candidates were presented to the Executive Committee for Honorary Life Membership at the fall seminar, held at the Wyndham Hotel and Conference Center in Gettysburg, Pa. They unanimously approved and will bestow Life Membership status on these individuals at the 2017 spign meeting to be held at the Foxwoods Casino & Resort, Ct.



Charles Ball

Charles became a member of IAABO in 1977, joining Board No. 134 Maryland. He was the Vice-President from 1996-1998 and served on the Board of Directors from 1996 until 2014. He was also Member at Large for 15 years to the Executive Board. Charles served as the Co-Chairman for the Boards' Christmas Tournament for 12 years.

Charles has officiated several Maryland State Championship games, and he also established himself as a Div. 1 Collegiate Women's Official. He currently serves on IAABO's Board relations and Policy Committee, the Constitution Committee, and the Rules Examination Committee.



Tim McAleer

Tim is a 47 year member of New York Board No. 119, and was the President of the Board from 1979-81. He served as the Assistant Interpreter for 20 years. He began a tournament for new officials in which High School Varsity and College Officials would observe them. This tournament is still in existence.

Tim enjoyed a very successful officiating career and was able to elevate himself to the D1 Men's Collegiate level. He is a CBOA John Nucatola and Russ Beisswanger award winner, and is currently the Coordinator of Officials for CACC and the ECC Men's Div. 2 Basketball.



Tim O'Brien

Tim joined Massachusetts Board No. 44 in 1972 and served as the President on two occasions. He was the assistant to the interpreter for 26 years, and now serves as the interpreter for Board No. 44. He was the Secretary-Treasurer for the Mass. State Board No. 15 from 2010-2016. He is currently the liaison for Board No. 44 and the Special Olympics

Tim became a Collegiate Official in 1984 and in 2011 was a CBOA John Nucatola award winner. He has been an observer at several IAABO officials' schools and currently works for the Ivy/Patriot and NEC in the same capacity.



Walter Rusak

Walter is a 43 year member of New Jersey Board No. 33, and has served as its Vice-President, and President. Walter is currently the Board Secretary-Treasurer. He has mentored over 25 officials in his career, and has officiated in the Special Olympics from 1980 until the present.

Walter has served as the Vice President and President of New Jersey's State Board No. 1. He is currently a member of IAABO's Constitution, and Rules Committees. Walter was the recipient of Board No. 33's highest honor, the Frank C. Corrigan Memorial Award.



Dave Smith

Began officiating in 1971 as a college student in Austin, Texas. Joined Colorado Board No. 4 in 1980 and has been the rules interpreter since 1993. Officiated high school basketball from 1980 through 2000 and was assigned to numerous state tournaments and four state championship games. Officiated at the NCAA Division II level for 12 years. Worked multiple conference and

Division II regional tournaments including one regional final. David was a Division II officiating coordinator for 12 years and is now part of the Division I Western Officiating Consortium leadership team with responsibilities for men's basketball officiating in the Big Sky conference.

As a member of Board No. 4 he is the recipient of the two annual statewide awards for off the court contributions to the board for exhibiting unquestioned integrity and highest accomplishment in his or her profession, community, church and to the board. In 1996 he received a NFOA award for merit to those who have exhibited extensive achievement in the game of basketball as an official.



Don Thorne

Don is a 30 year member of Ontario, Canada's Board No. 210. He has served as the President, Treasurer and is currently the Board's Interpreter. On the Provincial or State Level, Don is currently the Secretary-Treasurer of Canada's Board No. 102, and is credited with revamping the entire budgetary system. Don is an observer for Ontario University Athletics Basketball.

Don has been a member of IAABO's Executive Committee from 2012 to the present serving as the Region 9 Representative. He is also on the Constitution Committee and the Membership Development Committee.

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November Pants, December Pants, January Pants, February Pants

Larry Machione likes to tell people he weighs in the neighborhood of 240 pounds (it is a big neighborhood), but as he puts it, "I haven't seen 240 in a LONG time." At 6'3" and 285-290 pounds, Machione is realistic about his size and what it means to his basketball officiating pants. He has to make sure there's an expandable waistline, take extra care to ensure if his pants split, that there's no embarrassment (cue: wear black under garments underneath – a tip he gives officials he mentors), and bring extra pants to games.

There are several reasons to bring the extra pants. One, of course, is in case something happens to your regular pair, so you have a backup (i.e., split a seam or bust a zipper -- both of which have happened to him). But, like many other officials, Machione loses weight during the season and finds he actually must downsize. His pants to start the season in November are not the pants he uses to finish the season in late February or early March. The waist size decreases as the season progresses.

"If I was in peak physical condition, I'd be 185," Larry said, laughing. "The last time I saw 185 was when I was a freshman in college." At the time, Machione snapped ligaments and tendons in an ankle and was put in a cast. Weight has been a battle ever since. His body "expanded" while the cast was on, due to the sedentary state he was in (crutches and unable to exercise for 5-6 months) while attending classes. "I've never seen the south side of 200 since then," he observed.

Now going into his 20th year as an IAABO official with Central Massachusetts Board 208, Machione got his start officiating basketball during intramurals in college and dorm games. He went onto practice law and continued to play basketball, but found he was getting stress fractures in his feet, and shifted over to officiating. Emilio Diotalevi mentored Larry early on in his officiating career. When Larry became an IAABO official, his weight was in the neighborhood of 240 lbs.

His weight has fluctuated since then, with the "highest weight recorded in mankind for Larry Machione" according to his wife, at 296 pounds. He tends to lose 8-15 lbs. during the season, but finds himself battling his love for food and friendship when it comes to keeping his weight in line.

Industrial Pants

Machione, like most big men who officiate, gets "industrial size" pants. "Those are the pants that won't split – black vendor pants." He has a seamstress reinforce the seams for him. He tells the members of his cadet class to wear black undergarments in case of a pant breach, because it's something "you'd never forget." He also purchases pants with an expandable waistline to adjust to his changing girth in the course of the season.

Machione likes to catch up with his officiating colleagues after games for food, drink and conversation, and that tends to mitigate the exercise just-finished on the court. "Some guys may slack off when they go up and down the court, meandering along, particularly if they do a number of games in a row." Machione gives it his all on the court, but finds he has a propensity to gain a few back afterwards.

He has multiple pairs of pants. His early season pair is a 44-inch waistline. His mid-season pair (before the Christmas-New Year's holiday) is a 40-42. Post-holiday he is back up to a 44. "I'm not going down after the holidays," he said with a chuckle. Starting out officiating, Larry had a 36-inch waist. "I hope to get back into them or get buried in them," he laughed. "Unfortunately, those 36's don't get a lot of wear and tear now."

Larry checks his pants closely for stress. One practice is to look carefully at the pockets and see how tight they get. Like many basketball officials, he uses separate pockets to place a whistle indicating which team has the ball under the alternating possession rule. If the pants are getting too tight, he can see the whites of the pockets and he knows it's time to either retire the pants or "push away from the hamburgers and start going to salads."

Bad Habits

Machione fully recognizes he has some bad habits. He loves a fully loaded hamburger with fries or onion rings. And when he joins his colleagues after he games, he will enjoy an adult beverage. Combined, those habits led to a case of kidney stones several years ago. He had them blasted out. Unfortunately, Machione explained, he lost no weight, but his urologist advised Larry to drink a bottle of water with any bottle of beer to ensure hydration. His urologist knows Machione likes to take things to the limits, so he made it clear the ways Larry needed to back off to improve his health.

"I didn't eat greens. I love appetizers and anything fried. If I started a church, it would be the Church of Anything Fried," he laughed. "I'm a big fan of buffets,

too. My parents told me not to waste food when I was growing up, so I feel like I should eat everything on my plate. One good thing is I'm not a fan of sweets."

He's been known to have a pizza, then follow it up later with a sandwich. Particularly when he meets up with the guys at different restaurants post-game, he finds he over-indulges. But he loves the camaraderie and the "good times hanging out. It's unfortunate that the result is the expanding waistline."

Bringing Weight in Line

Machione has several basic tips to keep weight in line. He continues to struggle, but has proven to himself that the following tips are useful and attainable goals:

- Eat a salad with at least one meal a day. "You can do it for lunch OR dinner, but it's hard having a salad for breakfast," he laughed.
- Limit your carbs (bread). "This one is really hard for me because I have an Italian background and bread is our snack before meals and goes with meatballs and sausage. We have a passion for food," he observed.
- Restrict your portions.
- Don't eat after 8 p.m. "After a varsity game, I try not to eat afterwards. I'll have a light meal before the game," he said.

Because he often works on law briefs/documents at home after games, Machione can be up until the early morning hours. That's another challenge he sometimes faces – fighting the urge to eat later at night while working.

As his son moved into JV and now varsity high school basketball the past two years, Larry has dialed back his high school schedule and focused on middle school games. That's freed him up to watch his son, and opened up his schedule in a way that helps him with his diet and avoid eating later at night. He also moderates his food intake on weekends.

Now 56-years-old, Machione would like to continue officiating into his 60's, and he knows that means he must be able to get up and down the floor with the players. One tip he shares with other officials is to switch shoes after every game to keep your feet fresh.

In general, Larry has been fortunate to avoid on-the-court injuries, though he did twist his back a number of years ago during a court case. That gave him a wake-up call, as it took three months of therapy and medication to recover.

240 or 260 Pounds?

"I've given up hope on getting down to 240 pounds," Machione laughed. "It's a pipe dream." Getting down to 260 is his laudable goal.

He began an off-season exercise routine 4-5 years ago, focusing on power walking. He began after his back issue surfaced. "I'm not a fan of running, so I do as much walking as I can on the high school track."

He starts out at a mile, and works his way up from there, varying the distance and pace, using a stop watch to motivate and regulate his actions. He would like to get to 3-5 miles per day at least five days a week, and has a goal to do three miles walking at a speed under 14 minutes per mile.

He avoids elevators, instead taking the stairs for exercise, when it's appropriate.

"You Must Have Great Eating Habits!"

"You *must* have great eating habits and be disciplined," Machione advised other basketball officials to keep their weight in check. "It's too easy to go down the slippery slope to fast food."

He also encourages officials to eat lightly after games and avoid eating anything heavy. "Get a good regime for eating. It's like a good pre-game. Stretching is also incredibly important."

Once the season is over, be careful during the banquet circuit, Machione advised. You visit with other IAABO boards and go to their banquets and "the food is good and plentiful," he chuckled.

Machione has a joke about on-court appearances: You start out officiating basketball thinking you're svelte. Then you become known as portly. That can lead to the rotund look. At the end of your officiating days, "you don't want to be known as the jolly robust official," he laughed.

Though Machione shifts from November pants to December pants to January pants, and then February pants, there's another solution instead of carrying extra pairs: "I like the expandable pants," he laughed.

Dave Simon is entering his 30th year as an IAABO member. He has written for Sportorials for over 20 years, and currently lives in Grapevine, TX. You can reach him through his awesome Web site at www.justwrite15.com



The Post Game: A Sportorials Roundup Interview

(Editor's note: "Post-Game" is a new feature in each edition of Sportorials that will spotlight an IAABO official. The interviews will be short, with personal and officiating questions, helping IAABO members get to know officials from other boards. If you'd like to submit a name for an interview, please contact Donnie Eppley at eppleyd@comcast.net.

This issue we feature Jason Howie, a member of the Windsor and District Referees' Association (IAABO Board 207), who has officiated for 10 years. His background in basketball is modest -- growing up, his parents told him he could play only one sport at a time. Despite his Canadian heritage, he picked basketball over hockey. He started to play at age 10 and continued to the junior high school basket team. Back in his school days, high school extended to Grade 13 so it was hard to make it to the senior basketball team; the coach was able to select athletes from Grades 11 – 13. Howie was cut in Grade 11, and recognized a better future studying in the library. You won't see his name on any plaque in the athletic hallways. Now he is a full-time divorce lawyer.

He loves the fact that officials represent the integrity of the sport. "It is our job to make sure that the game is played fairly and within the rules," he said.

Sportorials: How did you get your start officiating basketball and find out about IAABO?

Howie: I took a bit of a different route. My two children were ages 14 and 12. They were developing their own sense of independence and were a little beyond the "needy" stage. (If you have children under this age, hang in there, it will get better!) I felt a need to give back to the community. I wanted to do something that had nothing to do with my full-time job. My wife and I had done the "youth group thing" at our church for a few years and that was getting a little stale. Then a funny thing happened in 2006. My mom passed away, leaving my dad (Ian Howie) alone. At the funeral, a series of older gentleman came to pay their respects, including several I didn't recognize. I asked my dad, "Who are those guys?" He said, "Oh, those were guys that I officiated with." Then I asked, "But when did you stop officiating?" "Sometime in the mid-1960s," he said. Question: "Dad have you seen these guys since then?" "Not really" was the response.

While I knew my dad was a former well-respected official, I was struck by the fact that there was a brotherhood (personhood?) that was so tight that people came to pay their respects when they hadn't seen my dad in over 30 years. I thought to myself that this was a group that I want to get involved with.

There was another reason. My only brother moved out of the city and my father's brother moved to Kalamazoo Michigan, some three hours away. My parents had been married for 54 years. My dad was now alone. He suffered a stroke before my mom passed away and while he recovered well, he was living in an assisted living facility. But he was all alone. My dad was a very quiet guy (unlike me) and kept to himself. So I thought to myself, if I referee a game or two a week, I can pick up my dad and he can come to the game. It will give us something to talk about. It will get him out of the house.

Over the next 10 years, my dad came to 95 percent of my games. He was still driving and sometimes he came to my office and we would drive together. Being a punctual guy, it was a running joke at work that my dad would be at my office at least 45 minutes before we had to leave. He was just excited to go.

Our board covers about 15 or so high schools, so it is a pretty small community. After a while, whenever a parent or coach would see me walk in, he or she would go and get a chair for my dad (the bleachers were a little hard on this back). He would sit and watch the game, and rarely say a word. (Although there was one exception. There was one fan



Jason Howie (left) with his dad, Ian

at a game who sat behind him and repeatedly called, "That was travelling, that was travelling." My dad turned to him and said, "Do you know why it wasn't travelling?" "Why?" "Because the referee didn't call it. Now just watch the game and enjoy yourself.")

The members of my board were very respectful of my dad. Before the start of the game, he or she would go over, shake his hand and engage in some small talk. While he never said it, I am sure that he loved being recognized.

I started to referee basketball when I was 45-years-old, having been absent from the game for nearly 30 years. I had some catch-up to do. I heard about camps and studied the referee school online.

I am proud to say that I brought a motion before our board mandating that every member of the board be a member in good standing of IAABO, as opposed to joining on a voluntary basis.

Sportorials: Describe your biggest game. What happened?

Howie: First of all, I am a journeyman official. I do my best every game. But it is not like I am selected to do the very "top" games and I understand that. I am assigned to the games that I am capable of doing and I am proud of my effort.

That leads me to two games I remember -- my first high school assignment. My initial goal was to become a competent high school referee. So this was my chance. My partner was our association President, Paul Carter. Paul has a real presence on the court and I fully admit that I was intimidated. I remember his words to me: "Keep it simple and let the game come to you." Unfortunately, there was a snowstorm that evening and my dad was unable to make the game. Had he been there, he probably would have reminded me to close my car door in the parking lot before the game. We did the game, and nobody was killed. I sighed in relief and walked out to the parking lot where the angle of the parking lot was exactly perpendicular to the wind, sleet, ice and snow. I had 4 inches of snow in my car.

The second game that I remember was my first college assignment. My assignor had the foresight to team me up with two very experienced officials. To this day, I don't remember who played or even the final score or even one particular play. I do remember, however, that with about 30 seconds left, the game was over, effectively, and I made an out-of-bounds call about 5 feet away from my dad, who was sitting in the front row. We made eye contact, and he winked. He and I both thought the same thing: I did it.

Sportorials: What tips do you have for beginning officials?

Howie: I have a few. Interestingly, they mirror what I tell new lawyers.

Nothing beats going to games. And if you can, go to games refereed by well-respected referees in your area. Want to do college games? Go watch the college games. I think there is a tendency for new officials to watch games at the level that they are officiating, which is understandable. Same with lawyers: They go to court to watch other lawyers who have the same experience that they do. That's a mistake. Watch the best.

I am a huge, and I mean huge, believer in camps. I have been to camps in Ontario, Pennsylvania and Michigan. I think a good camp equates to several years of experience.

Talk to experienced referees. Sometimes I think new officials don't like to approach the experienced officials, feeling a little sheepish. Sometimes I think the experienced officials interpret this as complacency. But I have never heard of an official who would not like to discuss a game with the newer official. Ever.

Lastly, remember that nobody is there to watch us. In a perfectly refereed game, nobody will ever mention us or remember who the referees were.

Post Game

Sportorials: What are your top officiating goals?

Howie: Not to wax philosophical, but I can only control what I can control. My officiating goal is to improve each and every game. What games are assigned to me is somebody else's decision that I don't control. I do think too much emphasis is made trying to become a "panel"(university) official. We are all officials. When the ball goes up we are all the same. We are our only friends for the next hour or so.

My second goal is an extension of the first: I want to become the official that other officials enjoy doing a game with.

Sportorials: Who is your hero?

Howie: Okay, I have mentioned my dad. But this is the reason why. In the early 1960s, my dad was at the top of his game and he was the "go to" official for the big games. Back in those days, the athletic directors picked the referees and I understand that my dad was on the top of the list for most ADs. Not that he ever told me this; I was told by others. But then he did something that is unusual. He had two boys at home to raise. He had a full-time job. As a converted Catholic, he was a fixture at church. So he quit refereeing. He had other priorities. His family came first.

This really came to light when I brought my father to watch a university game a few years ago. There was a group of men sitting in the "old-timers section." My dad didn't want to sit with them. As I said, he had a stroke earlier and it was hard for him to navigate the stairs. So we sat in the front row. One of the former coaches of the University of Windsor (Paul Thomas) saw my dad and passed a black and white photo down. It was a picture of my dad before the start of the game. Think Norman Rockwell meet James Naismith - short shorts, short haircuts. Anyway, I asked my dad what the picture was. He said, "Oh, it's just a picture of me giving the captain's instructions at the start of the first university championship game." (Before then, there were no playoffs and the championship went to the team with the best record.) So I asked him, "You did the very first championship university game?" "I guess so," he responded. He had never mentioned this before.

There was only one piece of advice that my father ever gave me: The game is not about us. I thought he lived that motto.

Over the years, after the games, we went out for dinner, typically. And we would talk. He liked to tell stories about his games. The time at Western Ontario when a boot was thrown at his head as he was walking off the court. The time, before set game fees, he went out of town to do a game, took a train so he wouldn't be tired, and was handed an envelope after the game by the AD which was \$10 less than his train ticket. The time that the basketball officials went on strike to be paid the same as the volleyball officials (they got \$2 a game more!)

What did we never talk about? -- his big games, his big calls. The game was never about him.

Sportorials: Who's on your dream officiating crew?

Howie: I work with many hard-working and solid partners. It's hard for me to limit it to a particular crew.

I will say this: The officials I most enjoy working with are excellent communicators, have enthusiasm for what they do and always, always, have my back.

Sportorials: What's the toughest call to make?

Howie: Of course, we all know that it is travelling.

But another aspect of the game that is difficult, in my mind, is to take a measure of the "temperature" of the game. I do all levels. Some games are competitive, and many are not. And we have varying degrees of abilities and skill levels. It is hard, for me at least, to make the initial adjustment at the beginning of the game to officiate at the proper level. And once the initial adjustment is made, it has to be monitored depending upon the flow and action of the players.

Editor's Footnote: Footnote: Ian Howie passed away in March 2016, following a brief illness. He left behind four wonderful grandchildren. Jason Howie keeps his mass card in the back pocket of his referee pants. When things get tough, he taps his pocket and asks for his dad's help. "He still comes to my games and we still talk after," Jason said.

A Brand New Season

A brand new season is ready to begin, before we blame others take a minute to look at yourself and the work we are about to undertake. Here are just some of the questions each of us needs to answer:

1. Are my expectations realistic or am I just kidding myself? Am I trying to advance too fast or hang on too long?
2. Do I look like a real pro when I walk on the court or are my pants a little wrinkled and my stomach a little big? Am I on time?
3. Do I take the trouble to have a good pre-game with my partner, to instruct the scorer and timer every game, to look each coach in the eye and give him/her equal time, or do I just pay lip service to preparation and teamwork?
4. Do I hustle every game like it was the best on my schedule or do I get bored, distracted and impatient sometimes (or often)?
5. Do I get my hand up on every whistle and are my signals sharp, or do I figure I can ease up a little because it is a poorly played game?
6. Are my partner and I a team out there, or am I trying to look better than him/her?
7. Can rational people approach me and be treated professionally, or do I feel I have to set them straight in a hurry? Am I human? Am I enjoying the game?
8. Do I always keep thinking, anticipating the play, being ahead of the situation, or am I often surprised? Do I find myself guessing a lot?
9. Do I call things consistently throughout the contest? Do I want that tough call near the end or do I hide?
10. Am I always trying to be fair, or do I let my emotions (anger or fear) get in the way?
11. When I make a call, does it look like I believe it or do I hesitate or sound unsure?
12. Do I realize that it is up to me personally to get people to trust me, or do I think that a striped shirt and a whistle make me something special?

It is time to take stock, look yourself in the mirror, reassure that you are ready, that you care about the game and that you will put forth 100% effort each and every time you walk on the court. Remember every game is important to someone. Make this year your best ever.

Rules Questions for the IAABO Interpreter

1. Team A is granted 60-second a time-out. After approximately 20 seconds of the time-out has elapsed, both Team A and Team B take positions and appear to resume play? The official rules that that play cannot begin. Is the ruling correct?
2. Team A is granted a 60-second time-out. After approximately 20 seconds of the time-out has elapsed, Team A comes back on the court and is ready to play while the Team B players remain at their bench area. The official orders the Timer to sound the horn to end the time-out. Is the official's ruling correct?
3. Team A is charged with a Technical Foul prior to the start of the game. Following the first free throw by B-1, Team B requests a time-out. The official grants the request and charges Team B with a time-out. Is the ruling correct?
4. Team A is awarded a sideline throw-in. Thrower-in A-1 is located approximately five feet from the end line. As time is running out on the 5-second count, A-1 throws a pass toward A-5, who is located across the court and directly opposite A-1. As the ball passes above the basket ring, B-2 bats the ball away. The official rules defensive basket interference and awards Team A a two point goal. Is the official's ruling correct.
5. Following the expiration of time for the first extra period, the coach of Team B is charged with a technical foul. Team B requests a time-out before the free throws are administered to start the second extra period. The time-out is correctly granted. Thereafter, the official administers the first free throw to A-1. Following the free throw attempt, Team B requests a time-out. The official rules the time-out may not be granted. Is the official's ruling correct?

Answers can be found on page 15

There is Contact! Legal or Illegal? That is the Question.

How often have you been officiating a game, when a guard or a post player drives to the basket, creates contact and misses the lay-up, followed by the coach screaming “That’s a foul! There was lots of contact on that play!” This has now become a typical scene at all levels of basketball ranging from elementary to elite level basketball. Great officiating begins with the understanding that mere contact does not equate to a foul. I am often surprised that when I use the word “legal contact” to give explanations to coaches for why the whistle was not blown on the contact play, they are surprised by the term. Some even tell me that they have never heard the term “legal contact” before. As officials we must use basketball terminology, supported by the rule book, to give explanations to coaches to help them better understand the game and the intent of the rules.

Under FIBA rules and criteria for judging contact, as officials, we must first determine if contact is legal or illegal. If contact is legal, the whistle should not be blown.

Article 34.1 Definition of a Personal Foul

A personal foul is a player’s illegal contact with an opponent, whether the ball is live or dead.

Key word is illegal contact!

The rule book provides a literal interpretation of where to start. Importantly, the context and result of the contact, not just the literal writing of the rule, determines whether the contact is to be judged illegal or not.

The criteria for judging contact is supported in the FIBA rulebook by the following sections:

Article 47.3 Officials Duties and Powers

When deciding on a personal contact or violation, the officials shall, in each instance, have regard to and weigh up the following fundamental principles:

- The spirit and intent of the rules and the need to uphold the integrity of the game.
- Consistency in application of the concept of ‘advantage/disadvantage’. The officials should not seek to interrupt the flow of the game unnecessarily in order to penalise incidental personal contact which does not give the player responsible an advantage nor place his opponent at a disadvantage.
- Consistency in the application of common sense to each game, bearing in mind the abilities of the players concerned and their attitude and conduct during the game.
- Consistency in the maintenance of a balance between game control and game flow, having a ‘feeling’ for what the participants are trying to do and calling what is right for the game.

Contact is thus judged based on advantage/disadvantage, game control, game flow, integrity of the game, consistency in application, and use of common sense all within the context of the abilities of the players, their attitude and conduct during the game, and the skill level of game.

It is important that we have a pre-game with our partner(s) to make sure we are on the same page as a crew in relation to how we are going to judge contact. This will assist us as a crew in being consistent with our contact rulings on both ends of the floor, as what often gets coaches upset is when they feel that the calls are being inconsistent.

To help us as officials and as a crew to judge contact as legal or illegal consistently we must familiarize ourselves with the following FIBA key-principles and terminology related to contact:

33.1 Cylinder Principle

33.2 Principle of Verticality

33.3 Legal Guarding Position

33.1 Cylinder principle is defined as the space within an imaginary



cylinder occupied by a player on the floor. It includes the space above the player. The hands and arms may be extended in front of the torso no further than the position of the feet, with the arms bent at the elbows so that the forearms and hands are raised.

33.2 During the game, each player has the right to occupy any position (cylinder) on the playing court not already occupied by an opponent. This principle protects the space on the floor which he occupies and the space above him when he jumps vertically within that space.

The offensive player, whether on the floor or airborne, shall not cause contact with the defensive player in a legal guarding position by spreading his legs or arms to cause contact during or immediately after a shot for a field goal.

33.3 A defensive player has established an initial legal guarding position when:

- He is facing his opponent, and
- He has both feet on the floor.

The legal guarding position extends vertically above him (cylinder) from the floor to the ceiling. He may raise his arms and hands above his head or jump vertically but he must maintain them in a vertical position inside the imaginary cylinder.

A common play would be an offensive player who shoots the ball and goes into the hands of a defensive player who has jumped vertically straight up from a legal guarding position. Yes there is contact, but if the shooter creates the contact and goes into the hands of the defensive player, then the whistle should not be blown, or in some cases an offensive foul can be called depending on the outcome of the contact created by the offense (e.g. crash or bodies on the floor). Therefore, we must always referee the defense as this helps us make the correct ruling on whether the contact is legal or illegal, and whether a call is needed on the play.

33.4 Guarding a player who controls the ball

Referee the defense and ask yourself: Who got there first? Legal guarding position or not?

When guarding a player who controls (holding or dribbling) the ball, the elements of time and distance do not apply.

The defensive player may remain stationary, jump vertically, move laterally or backwards in order to maintain the initial legal guarding position. Hence, you are allowed to move in any direction other than forward, as long as you get there first, even if it’s a split second!

A common play these days is a defensive player who establishes a legal guarding position and attempts to take a charge; If the defensive player starts falling too early, the contact often occurs on the knees and/or legs and therefore a block should be called, because according to the rules contact must occur on the torso in order for it to be a charge on the offensive player.

33.5 Guarding a player who does not control the ball

Referee the defense and ask yourself: Does the player have freedom of movement?

A player who does not control the ball is entitled to move freely on the playing court and take any position not already occupied by another player.

When guarding a player who does not control the ball, the elements of time and distance shall apply.

A defensive player cannot take a position so near and/or so quickly in the path of a moving opponent that the latter does not have sufficient time or distance either to stop or change direction. The distance is directly proportional to the speed of the opponent, but never less than 1 normal step.

We, as officials, do a great job for most parts of applying this rule to

Contact

on-ball and off-ball screens, yet I find that we don't apply the rule as consistently when a defensive player is guarding a cutter off-ball.

.According to the rules, once a defensive player has established an initial legal guarding position, he may move to guard his opponent. He may not prevent him from passing by extending his arms, shoulders, hips or legs in his path. In other words, the offensive player is entitled to freedom of movement.

A common defensive tactic used by coaches is sending a defensive player to guard the offensive player off ball very tight in their space. This tactic is often used to guard a sharp shooter so they are denied receiving the ball. The defensive player can shadow the offensive player and go wherever he goes, but cannot continuously get in his space (less than 1 normal step) and bump him as he tries to cut and get open. We must do a better job of picking up these off-ball fouls as it helps control the game and avoids an increase in the temperature of the game. More and more coaches are now teaching their players to "bump the cutter". When explaining our ruling to the coaches about why it is a foul on the defensive player, we should be using the terminology that the offensive player's freedom of movement is violated.

This is supported in the FIBA rule book under the following sections:

33.11 Contacting an opponent with the hand(s) and/or arm(s)

The touching of an opponent with a hand(s) is, in itself, not necessarily a foul. The officials shall decide whether the player who caused the contact has gained an advantage. If contact caused by a player in any way restricts the freedom of movement of an opponent, such contact is a foul.

Overall, I hope reading this article clarified the notion that mere contact does not equate to a foul. We must hustle as officials to put ourselves in the right position to get an open angle on plays, so that we can referee the defense and making a correct ruling on whether the contact is legal or illegal.

Next time a coach yells at you that you missed a call because there was contact on the play to the basket by his team, you can turn around and say, "Yes coach, I agree with you that there was contact, but it was legal contact".



Ardavan Eizadirad is a member of Board 107. You can contact him at aeizadirad@gmail.com if you have any comments, feedback, or questions.

Answers to Questions

(From Page 13)

1. No - The game will resume as soon as both teams are ready to play. 5.11.2
2. No - The time-out period will continue as only one team is ready to play. 5.11.2
3. Yes - The game must be started with the ball becoming live or by a violation or foul prior to this before a time-out request can be granted. The ball became live when it was at the disposal of the free thrower. 5.11.5
4. Yes - When any part of a live ball is touched within the imaginary cylinder which has the basket ring as its lower base, basket interference has occurred. 4.6.2 & 6.1.2b
5. Yes - The request, whether by Team A or Team B, cannot be granted, as it would be considered a successive time-out. The fact that the ball did become live between the two requests has no bearing on the ruling. Another time-out request by either team cannot be granted until after clock has started in the second extra period. 4.43.2 & 5.11.7

Ontario Hall of Fame

Ontario Basketball (OBA) recently announced that the 2016 Ontario Basketball Hall of Fame inductees includes Official Patricia (Pat) Laing, IAABO Board 202ONT.

Every two years, OBA accepts nominations for the Ontario Basketball Hall of Fame to honour individuals and teams who have attained incredible success and made outstanding contributions to the sport of basketball in Ontario. Candidates are nominated by their peers and the Hall of Fame Selection Committee votes to determine the inductees in each bi-annual class.



Pat Laing (Official)

Legendary basketball official, Pat Laing, had an impressive 42-year officiating career. Laing first picked up a whistle in 1958, and by 1964 she was selected to referee the Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Union (WIAU) Basketball Championships. Laing officiated the championships until 1972.

Shortly after beginning as an official, Laing began to get involved in the administrative aspects of officiating, starting at the local level as Chair of the London Board of Women Officials from 1961-63 and then the Niagara District of Women Officials from 1965-66, and moving to the regional level with the District Committee of Officials Rating Board from 1968-74. Laing later served as Vice-President of the Ontario Association of Basketball Officials (OABO) from 1983-85 before being elected as President in 1985. At the international level, Laing has held numerous roles with the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials (IAABO) since 1972, including Women's Coordinating Committee Chair (1972-77) and Executive Committee Member (1977-83). She is currently a member of the Constitution and Women's Coordinating Committees.

Like many officials, Laing's basketball career began as a player. As an undergraduate student in the Department of Physical Health and Recreation Education at Western University (BA '54), Laing played for Western's intercollegiate and intermediate basketball teams for two years each. After completing her undergraduate degree, she attended the Ontario College of Education at the University of Toronto. Upon graduation, Laing taught and coached at Whitby District High School (now Henry Street High School) for two years before returning to Western as an instructor and women's basketball coach from 1957-59. Under Laing's leadership, the women's team won the WIAU Championships in both 1958 and 1959 for which the team was awarded the original Bronze Baby trophy.

Laing has previously received a host of awards to recognize her achievements from numerous organizations, including officiating organizations from the local to international levels, Ontario Basketball, Western University and the Province of Ontario. She has been a Life Member of IAABO since 2002 and Niagara District Basketball Referees' Association since 1987 and a Honourary Member of OABO since 2002. The Canadian Association of Basketball Officials presented Laing with the Ted Earley Memorial Award in 1991, and Ontario Basketball honoured Laing with a Recognition Award in 2002. Additionally, Laing was the inaugural recipient of Women's Athletic Alumnae Award from Western in 1989. The same year, Laing received a Special Achievement Award for basketball from the Province of Ontario.

Laing retired from active officiating in 2001, but she continued her involvement in the sport as secretary for the Niagara District Basketball Referees' Association until 2013. She also helped train the Board's new officials every fall, and she currently remains an active member of various IAABO committees.

Laing's contributions to sport in the province extend beyond the basketball court to the volleyball court as well. She had a similar 41-year career as a volleyball official from 1959 to 2001 that also involved administrative positions with the Niagara District Board of Volleyball Officials, who recognized her as Life Member in 2005.

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 January/February 2017

Periodicals

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IAABO Lines

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