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# IOA FALL NEWSLETTER

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October 2002

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Welcome everyone to the 2002-03 officiating season. Here it is October already and the fall sports are well under way and officials are back to the grind of doing what they love to do.

As I enter my second year as President of this fine organization I was recently reminded by a fellow official that we have this avocation with many different agendas but we should all share the same common interest of developing friendships. When we all decide that we have had enough of travelling the highways, late night dinners and missed opportunities that we can sit back and dust off our plaques and pictures in our office that the item we still have for a lifetime will be a newfound friends. I have been very fortunate to develop many of these as an IHSAA official but my closest friends are my fellow members of this association.

As others try and replace us or copy us I am certain that the outstanding leaders that you choose to lead us are the best any organization could wish to have. I am certain that the IOA is strong enough to handle any and all items thrown at us and will respond professionally.

To all the current members I wish you the best of luck this fall season and look forward to hearing any thoughts or ideas that you may have to strengthen and improve this great collection of individuals known as "hey ref" to the student-athlete, parent and school administrator.

Good luck as always

Gary Hamilton, IOA President

## IOA OPEN HOUSE

On Thursday October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2002 the Indiana Officials Association will hold its first ever "OPEN HOUSE" at 7 PM at the Warren Central High School Auditorium. This event will allow all current IOA Members to ask questions, voice concerns and hear important issues regarding our association. This is to be a learning session for all of us to help improve and better our group of dedicated officials.

## SECRETARY NOTES

As we approach the end of football, volleyball, cross country and soccer seasons, I want to thank the officials who have helped out on short notice and have kept their cards and web sites up to date. Now it is time to turn in your sportsmanship cards.

Basketball and wrestling officials get ready, if you haven't had a physical think about getting one. Remember to keep your dates updated with me either by e-mail or in writing and to update your web site.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Basketball Rules Interpretation Meeting Lawrence Central HS October 9<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM
- Open House Warren Central HS Auditorium October 17<sup>th</sup> 7PM
- Certification Clinic Lawrence Central HS November 3<sup>rd</sup> 8:30 AM until 1:30 PM

Those officials who signed up for the assigning program, please bring \$10. cash to the rules meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Joe Gilliland will be passing out your schedules after the meeting for you to review and return to him no later than October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Klein, Executive Secretary

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# IOA Web Site Update

It is very important to keep your information up-to-date.

The Indiana Officials Association, Inc. is pleased to provide an addition to it's Web site. The IOA Forums enables members to interact with each other. There are many uses for a forum: from answering questions, telling something strange that happened during a game, ect. It is simple to use and easy to access. Below are some basic instructions.

To use the forums, you must be a member in good standing with the Indiana Officials Association. To access the forums go to [www.ioaofficials.com](http://www.ioaofficials.com) and log-in with your user ID and password. Then go to Member Services and click on IOA Forums. When you first open up the forum, you will not be able to access any of the forums until you register. It is a simple process and allows you to choose another username that is more understandable than your home telephone number. This username should be just letters. Usernames can include anything you want to be known by on the forums (i.e. jsmith, John, etc. ), but that is entirely up to you.

Once you have registered, you will need to log in. You log in by using the two boxes located on the upper right hand corner of your screen which say "**username**" and "**password**." Type in your username and password and click login. If you check the box that says "**save password**," it will remember you every time you visit the forums, and you will not have to retype in your username or password.

Now you are free to visit any of the forums. The forums are easy to navigate, you click the category you want to view (i.e. basketball); it will open up and show you all of the messages under that topic. If you want to read a certain message, click that message. If you want to reply to someone else's comment or question, click "**Reply to Topic.**" Next, type your message and click post. If you want to post an entirely new topic of your own then click "**New Post.**" Type in your subject and message and click "**Post.**" Keep checking back often to see if someone else has responded to your topic. To get back to the forum's home page, click the IOA forums logo in the upper left corner of your screen.

