

IOA NEWSLETTER

Winter 2009-10



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Halftime. The 2009-10 school year is at its mid-way point. Now is the time to take a moment to catch our breath, individually evaluate how our “first half” has progressed, and make any needed adjustments to prepare to finish strong in the “second half”. Halftime of the school year also coincides with the holiday season and the changing of our calendars. I hope every IOA member has taken time to be with family and friends during this time, and acknowledge their support of your passion for officiating. Take a moment right now to SAY THANKS to your loved ones for putting up with all the nights away from them!

The IOA banquet is scheduled for Monday, March 22, 2010 and will be celebrated again this year at Primo Banquet Hall, 2615 National Avenue, Indianapolis, IN. Every IOA member should make plans to attend this annual banquet - - your cost to attend is included in your annual membership dues, and there is just a small nominal fee to bring a guest to the banquet. It is a great opportunity to meet socially and casually with your officiating friends, and to establish and network with new officiating contacts. The banquet is also where we recognize our membership for their achievements of the previous 12 months, so mark the date and be sure to attend. We have invited an excellent guest speaker to this year’s banquet. Dan Dakich is the mid-day host at 1070 The Fan radio show and is well know to basketball fans throughout Indiana as a player and coach in NCAA Division 1 basketball. Mr. Dakich is an energetic speaker and radio host; it will be a great opportunity to hear him in person at our banquet.

The next two months are also an important time with regard to selecting the leadership positions within the IOA organization. This year the IOA membership will elect a President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two At-Large Members to the IOA Board of Directors. Your IOA board meets monthly to conduct business and to represent the membership of the IOA on matters pertaining to our status as an approved officials association of the IHSAA. These six positions are open to IOA members in good standing of the association who are willing to give a minimum two year commitment to the association, three years for some positions. If you are an IOA member in good standing, have an interest in serving your fellow IOA members in such a capacity, have been an IOA member for at least the same number of years as the term of office of the position in which you are interested, and are willing to commit yourself to serving the IOA for the next several years, please contact me. I will then provide you with information regarding the next steps in making your wishes known to the IOA Slating Committee comprised of past IOA board members.

And lastly, I want to ask all IOA members to reflect on the year that has passed. Take a moment to remember fellow officials and your friends who have passed during the last year and reach out to their loved ones. Reflect on how you can become a better IOA member, a better citizen of the sporting community that you serve as an official. Challenge yourself to become a better person in 2010 and strive to become a better official in the months ahead. Recommit yourself to becoming the best that you can become - - the student athletes and your fellow officials deserve your best.

Stu Casper, President
Indiana Officials Association

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FROM THE SECRETARY

I want to thank our IOA Board, Sports Chairmen, Sports Consultants, Committee Members, Instructors, and all IOA members in the recruitment of new members.

The scheduled sports meetings have all been excellent, especially in Football and Basketball. BUT we need better attendance at these meetings especially from our veteran officials. Veterans, it's give back time. It is expected that you will assist newer officials to grow, gain knowledgeable experience, and advance as you did.

REMINDER: If you have achieved Professional status in a sport, you must attend 50% of the association meetings in that sport to maintain your Professional official classification.

MEETING DATES

IOA meeting dates and announcements for all sports are posted on our website and are within the 2009-2010 Roster & Schedule Handbook. Go to the IOA website at <http://www.ioaofficials.com/sports.asp> to check for an upcoming meeting in your Winter and Spring sports.

Rules Interpretation Dates:

On-Line Rules Interpretation Meetings for officials in all sports effective 2009-10 are as follows:

Baseball – On-Line Meeting between March 8 – March 29.

One local rules meeting at Ben Davis on Thursday, March 18, 2010 @ 7:30pm

Softball – On-Line Meeting between March 1 – March 22

No local rules meeting this season!

Track & Field - On-Line Meeting between February 8 – March 1

On local rules meeting at Warren Central on Thursday, February 25, 2010 @ 7:30pm

Certification Clinic Dates:

The following sports have a certification clinic approaching for the 2009-10 season. Attendance is required for post-season tournament assignment and advancement:

Baseball –

Thursday, March 4, 2010

Indianapolis CYO Center

hosted by IOA

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Warren Central

hosted by Fall Creek, Crossroads

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SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The IOA Board of Directors would like to recognize the following:

State Final Officials:

The following IOA members worked the IHSAA State Finals in a 2009-10 fall sport:

<u>Football</u>	Dan Morgan, Kevin Moore, Jeff Curtis
<u>Boys Soccer</u>	Ryan Dunfee

Interscholastic Athletic Official Association, Award for Excellence:

Dan Cummins has been named the recipient of the 2009 Interscholastic Athletic Official Association Award for excellence in the sport of Cross Country. This recognition is a great honor. Congratulations, Dan.

2010 IOA ANNUAL BANQUET

IOA Awards and Recognition Banquet:

The 2010 IOA Awards and Recognition Banquet will be held on **Monday, March 22, 2010** at Primo Banquet Hall, 2615 National Avenue, Indianapolis, IN.

Election of Officers:

Election of IOA Officers for 2010-2011 will be for the following positions: President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two At-Large Board Members. If you are interested in serving as an officer contact IOA President Stu Casper at sdcasper@sbcglobal.net.

Scholarship Award:

The IOA will award two \$1000 scholarships at its annual awards banquet in March of 2010. This award is given to a son or daughter whose parent is a member in good standing of the IOA for three consecutive years prior to the application date. Application is available by following this link <http://www.ioaofficials.com/acrobat/ScholarshipProgram.pdf>, and completed applications are due to any Scholarship Committee member by February 1, 2010. Contact Lee Thompson, Scholarship Committee Chairman, at 317-888-4925 for more information.

Service Awards:

If you believe that you are due a Service Award for 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 years (or more!) at the banquet this year, contact Secretary Don Nester at donioa@sbcglobal.net.

IOA Sportsmanship Award:

IMPORTANT, MAIL SPORTSMANSHIP CARDS! At this time I have not received very many sportsmanship cards. It is important to our association that we receive your input. The card is on the IOA web-site at <http://www.ioaofficials.com/acrobat/sportsmanshipaward.pdf> for your convenience to print off and mail. I must have all cards returned to me by MARCH 1, 2010.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Professional Status – Members seeking to obtain IHSAA Professional status for a specific sport must complete an application and submit to the respective Sport Chairperson. Requirements and the application are on the IOA Website at <http://www.ioaofficials.com/acrobat/AppforProStatus.pdf>.

Note: Professional status in one sport does not mean you wear the patch for all sports you work.

Sportsmanship Award Cards – This is a voting process by IOA members for the schools they officiate during this season. You can print off sportsmanship cards from our website and return to Secretary Don Nester. PLEASE FILLOUT SPORTSMANSHIP CARDS FOR ALL GAMES OFFICIATED!!!

Softball Class – IOA members David Bogard and Jim Fish of the Central Indiana Softball Officials Association will conduct a softball officials class beginning **JANUARY 5, 2010**, and running for five consecutive Tuesdays, finishing with the licensing exam on **February 2, 2010**. Contact Dave at cisoa@sbcglobal.net or Jim at j.kingfish@juno.com for additional information.

Baseball News - Robert Cass is the new IOA baseball chairperson, replacing Danny Jimenez who has moved into the role of baseball assigner for the IOA via the Indianapolis Umpires Association (IUA). There will be a baseball officials class for persons interested in becoming a licensed baseball umpire. The IOA is fortunate to be affiliated with the IUA, the best baseball training organization in Indiana. Contact Robert for additional information at rcass42@comcast.net if you are interested in becoming a baseball umpire.

TOURNAMENT ADVANCEMENT

If you advanced a level in the state tournament series (example: first sectional; from sectional to first regional, from regional to first semi-state) or officiated the state finals in your sport(s) please contact your sports consultant or Don Nester at donioa@sbcglobal.net to ensure that our records are accurate.

2010 IOA CHARITY GOLF OUTING

Time to make your plans to attend the **2010 IOA Charity Golf Outing** which will be held at Ironwood Golf Club in Fishers, IN on July 16, 2010. Contact Kevin Lewis 317-514-6248 or send an e-mail to kevinlewis6@comcast.net for more information. If you know of potential hole sponsors, prize donors, or can assist with planning and running the event, please contact Kevin ASAP!!!

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CONCERNING THE IOA ROSTER AND SCHEDULE HANDBOOK:

Please update your website personal information. **To update:**

- 1) Go into the IOA website at: www.ioaofficials.com
- 2) Then go to *Member Services*, then *Your Account*.
- 3) Make the proper changes into your profile.
- 4) When you have completed those changes click on **Update** button.

Pay special attention to your **email address, phone numbers and the sport(s) you officiate**. Click into the proper box those sports you officiate, the level, and the status you officiate in that sport. If you are not a Certified official, make sure you change the status information to Registered. Also, notify Don Nester at donioa@sbcglobal.net or 466-0092 on any email address, home address and phone number changes.

REMINDER: Update your OPEN DATES and current contact information on the Website! All contact information in the handbook is provided by the members from the directory on the Website.

Don Nester, Secretary
Indiana Officials Association