

South Carolina Football Officials Association  
July 30, 2021 Board Meeting  
SCHSL Office  
6:00 PM

Minutes

**Those present were:**

President: Doug Hudson  
Vice President: Tim Cahill  
Past President: Jeff Cockrell  
Secretary: Paul Pool  
Deputy Commissioner: Charlie Wentzky  
Officials Representative to the Executive Committee of SCHSL: Kyle Boczkowski

District 1: Gaines Massey  
District 2: Mike Cohen  
District 3: Brad Smith  
District 4: Dondi Brown  
District 5: Garrick Messer  
District 6: Darryl Jackson  
District 7: James Frederick proxy for Sam Felder\*  
District 8: Cary Collins  
District 9: Granderson James  
District 10: Greg Hawkins  
District 11: Keith Hajnal  
District 12: Ricky Robinson  
District 13: Brian Shealy

\*Reference email to President, advising of proxy from Sam Felder of July 19, 2021.

1. Call to Order: Doug Hudson
2. Invocation: Doug Hudson
3. Approval of Minutes: March 2021

**Motion by Brad Smith, Second by Mike Cohen: to approve March 29, 2021 minutes.  
Approved 16 yea – 0 nay.**

4. Committee Reports:

- a. Budget Committee: Doug Hudson: Shrine Bowl & All-Star game.

Discussion regarding allocating \$5,000 of SCFOA funds to the All-Star games.

**Motion by Brian Shealy, Second by Darryl Jackson to budget \$3,000 to the North/South All-Star game and \$2,000 to the Shrine Bowl should donations not be raised to cover expenses. Approved 16 yea – 0 nay.**

- b. Governance Committee: Ricky Robinson – no report.

c. Mechanics Committee: Tim Cahill: 7-man mechanics revisions.

Mechanics Committee proposed a change to release the deep wings (field judge and side judge) from the goal line to the end line once the football is touching the seven-yard line going in.

**Motion by Darryl Jackson, Second by Garrick Messer to accept the Mechanics Committee proposal. Approved 16 yea – 0 nay.**

d. Scholarship: Keith Hajnal

Scholarships were awarded to Dave Patterson's granddaughter Emily and Telford Jamison's son Abram.

e. Hall of Fame: Brian Shealy – no report.

f. All-Star Games Committee: Brian Shealy – no report.

g. Website: Ryan Smith (absent), Paul Pool

Paul advised there are webmaster hosting issues with the current website host and if they remain unresolved a new webmaster will be needed. A request for \$130 was made if the issues cannot be fixed.

**Motion by Keith Hajnal, Second by Mike Cohen to provisionally budget \$130 to switch webmasters if needed. Approved 16 yea – 0 nay.**

h. Review Committee: Jeff Nettles

Jeff presented the Board with guidelines for providing a Peer Rating for officials that are members of SCFOA that do not get varsity game assignments.

**Motion by Jeff Cockrell, Second by Brad Smith to accept the Review Board guidelines. Approved 16 yea – 0 nay.**

5. New Business/Proposals:

a. Review Budget Surplus: Garrick Messer

Garrick suggested a budget surplus of not more than 1.5 – 2 times expenses be maintained by SCFOA and that any surplus be used for additional scholarships, rebate, etc. It was decided to review the suggestion after the 2022 Hall of Fame Banquet. No motion was made, or vote taken.

b. Clinic items for Saturday review: Doug Hudson

Registration set up, Election for VP & President, Proctors, Service Awards, Reading Room, other items.

Doug went over the items mentioned above for the Clinic meeting that was to be held the following day.

c. Other new business:

Garrick requested a review of the scrimmage requirement in the SCHSL Rules and Regulations related to the minimum number of scrimmages an official is required to have. It is difficult to meet the requirement with teams having scrimmages in the mornings, Monday through Friday, and the limited number of jamborees, etc. It was requested Kyle bring up the requirement to the Executive Committee for revision.

Garrick requested information on the Certification Exam as posted on Arbiter.

The Board was advised by Charlie Wentzky:

- The test was written by a group hired by Arbiter
- SCHSL is responsible for certification of officials
- There was a time crunch around the April time frame to provide a test since we could not use the NFHS exam (part 1 or part 2).
- People in a similar position to him wrote the Arbiter test.
- Officials would also be certified if they failed the certification test but pass the ratings test.
- If there were questions to contact him about the certification exam.
- What was agreed to by his predecessor did not carry over and the decision on what certification test to use was his.

6. Old Business: None.

7. Deputy Commissioner's Report: Charlie Wentzky

- Get information to Jan for Arbiter entry.
- Director SCHSL passes to be digital or hard copy, decision not made.
- Challenge Board to recruit: Board responsibility is to recruit, train and retain officials.
- Membership is down and that is a reflection on all of us. May not have enough officials for 2021 season. Varsity games may have to be moved to other nights than Friday.
- Focus on recruiting and training, not on the test, ratings, etc.
- Recognized Mike Cohen for increasing the membership in D2. Nearly doubling in 4 years.

8. Adjourn:

**Motion by Tim Cahill, Second by Cary Collins to adjourn. Approved 16 yea – 0 nay.  
Adjourn.**



Paul R. Pool, SCFOA Secretary

10-25-2021

Date



SOUTH CAROLINA FOOTBALL OFFICIAL'S ASSOCIATION  
STATE REVIEW BOARD RATING FOR NEW OFFICIALS PROCEDURE

The following is an explanation of the grading process for new officials that join the South Carolina Football Officials Association.

These are presented as guidelines in writing to confirm unwritten guidelines that have been in place prior to these guidelines being put in print. We know there are parts of the state that it will take a couple years to get on field assignments, therefore; we set these standards for NEW officials until they are able to acquire a peer rating from on field work.

In the official's first year of work, a new official will be given a rating of 20 to start the year. After completion of the officials first year of work, and that official was unable to accumulate enough games/ peer ratings to acquire an end of year rating, then his/her rating to begin his second year of membership in the association will be a 21.

If after the officials second year of membership, the official still does not have enough on field assignments to qualify for a rating from their peers, then at end of this season his rating will be a 22 to start the third season of membership.

If after the officials third year of membership, the official still has not completed enough games on field to acquire a rating from their peers, then after this season and any season going forward then his rating will be 23 up and until he has worked enough Varsity on field contest to acquire a peer rating.

If at any time during these first three seasons, the official works enough games to acquire a peer rating via on field work, then his rating will revert to the rating he received from his peers on those games.

This will be the standard for all INCOMING NEW officials joining South Carolina Football Officials Association with no prior experience.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jeff Nettles, Chairman Review Board



To: SCFOA Directors

From: Tim Cahill, Chairman, Mechanics Committee

Re: Proposed Mechanics Change, 7-Man Mechanics

Directors:

On behalf of the SCFOA Mechanics Committee, we provide you with a proposed change to our 7-man mechanics:

**Proposal on the 7 man mechanics:**

Allow the deep wing to release from the goal line to the back of the end zone once the ball is at the 7-yard line going in. In the 7-man now, we can have the L or LJ at the 6-yard line or 5-yard line, and the deep wings are on the goal line. Essentially two guys covering 5 yards.

**Current language:**

- "If ball is snapped outside B's 5-yard line, Side Judge and Field Judge are responsible for goal line coverage. Linesman and Line Judge cover runner to the 2 yard line and release him.
- If ball is snapped on or inside 5-yard line, the Linesman and Line Judge are responsible for goal line coverage. Linesman and Line Judge use normal goal line coverage mechanics.
- If ball is snapped on or inside 5-yard line, the Side Judge and Field Judge position on the end zone corner pylon."

**Rationale:**

- This is how most crews officiate this play now.
- It is hard for a wing official, who is to cover the runner "to the two and release him", to actually do that. It is only practical for the wing official to continue to follow the runner to the goal line, and almost impossible for him or her to stop on a dime and release the runner. It is easier to expect the deep wing to get out of the way of the wing official than to expect the wing official to stop.
- A ball snapped at the six or seven creates a situation whereby the four wing officials are bunched up together.