

BGSR Executive Board Meeting

07/15/2025

Zoom Meeting

Meeting Started: 6:50 pm

Attendees:

Michael Schmidt, Jennifer Kotski, Igor Kaluzny, Brian Collins, Anthony Mazzatti, Nick Bricker, Tim Barnes and Jeff Horowitz (Jeff is the Group Manager w/o a right to vote).

Chapter Manager is appointed board member who provides the advisement and guidance to the board, who has to be an assignor, an instructor, or a mentor who is not currently on the board.

Topics Discussed:

- Bringing back Membership Dues

JH: Because our treasury is low - we could benefit from the money being brought in from member dues as it was decided last year. The amount of due proposed was \$10 per person.

Last year the deadline expired for that proposal to be sent to the state, so we want to be ahead this time.

So going into 2026, if we want to do more things down the line, if we want to create more expenses for ourselves in the future. For example, scholarships or something, we would have more money to do that. And that \$10 per person would go straight to us.

The vote for proposed \$10 per person annual Membership Dues was set in motion and it was passed unanimously (all 6 YES and none No)

Jen, Yes. Nick, Yes. Brian, Yes. Igor, Yes. Tim, Yes. Anthony, Yes.

We will move on with dues for the 2026 season at \$10 a person.

- BGSR Website

Tim B. and Michael S. have developed some edits and updates to the website. First, they have to review those edits before placing them on, then publish the pages to the website and updating a new BGSR logo.

The Board also discussed reintroducing monthly newsletter as a way to communicate with the organization. When Jeff was the Group's President he used to call it a newsletter, and if we want to add that to the website, we can do that too.

- Certified Mentors

We have two official mentors certified by Western New York and USSF in our area that will make a big difference when it comes to instruction mentoring assessment, developments, things like that, is a big deal for this area. So, thank you Brian and Tim, for taking the extra mile to do that and travel, to get that certification.

And next year, to follow on that, Brian and Tim both will probably be trying to set up classes for some of the new referees because NYS West will wave our fees for the certification if we perform a class next year. So, we will have a class and we'll have to go through some training for that purpose.

- BGSR Merchandise Apparel Store

Just as other Districts have done in the past, we would like to introduce some merchandise with the BGSR logo available for purchase to our members (to show up looking professionally before putting the referee shirt on). Portion of the proceeds will go to our account (which will be a small amount).

The motion was passed for a vote and passed unanimously.

Michael S. will look into that over the next couple days and will send out an email at some point.

- Discussion about having Beginning/End of the Season in-person Picnic/Meeting

At the end of the Spring BCSA season we were trying to organize an outdoor picnic on a short notice. At the time we haven't received sufficient feedback to have one scheduled. We will continue polling members interest/schedule to find out about best time and locations for our future meetings. Various outdoor venues were discussed. Arnold Park in

Vestal and BC United Pavilion were discussed among others. As the last resort, Jeff has offered his house/backyard which is near Vestal MS off African Road.

- Finances

Brian Collins presented financial situation.

- Conclusion

We would really appreciate assistance, making sure we touch base with some of the younger referees, try to encourage them to renew their certifications, especially once we hear when certification is going to be reopened. We don't want to have to scramble to try to get new referees, and we are planning to host at least one referee clinic in the area for new referees, but that might be in conjunction with Elmira and Ithaca.

Michael S. will follow up with the information and will set up a merchandise store to be used in the near future.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.