

WIAA/WOA RTO Advisory Meeting

1-25-18

Next meeting: May 30, 2018

Group Members:

Tim Thomsen, WIAA Executive Board, Sumner School District AD

Jim Piccolo, District 1 Director

Terry Beckstead, WOA Executive Board, Region 3

Tyler Trimble, WOA Executive Board, Region 4

Nick Reydahl, AWMLP, WIAA Honorary Board, AP & AD

Todd Stordahl, WOA Executive Director

Joe Keller, District 3 Director

Brian Smith, WIAA Staff

Present: Tim Thomsen, Terry Beckstead, Todd Stordahl, Jim Piccolo, Nick Reydahl, Joe Keller, and Brian Smith

Group reviewed the following foundational group agreements.

Belief Statement: The WIAA/WOA RTO Advisory Committee believes the RTO program is essential to improving the quality of officiating and increasing the number of officials which in turn has a great effect on the games, coaches, schools, communities, and the educational culture.

Goal: This group will serve as a steering committee using feedback from both associations to guide improvements of the level of officiating by the increase of accountability for all involved with the program.

Task: RTO-AC will help guide the program by monitoring the process and progress of its implementation and performance. The RTO-AC tasks include building relationships between both associations and throughout the WOA, setting measurable goals, creating proper procedures, development of a monitoring plan, and improve communication by continually educating all parties that are involved.

The RTO program has made a major shift around the state and has proven to show its effectiveness when all parties have bought in. We have certainly have seen a change in attitude but still see the need to build relationships and promote communications at all levels.

1. Review of Sports RTO requirements and tasks (Fall and Winter)
 - A. A review by sport showed the basic requirements for certification and the RTO requirements for officials to be eligible for post season.

1. Football showed to have approximately 98% and volleyball was 97% of the registered officials reached the certified level.
 2. Football showed to have approximately 46% and volleyball had 48% of the registered officials reach the RTO required level for post season.
 3. 46% is more than what is needed for post season and shows the numbers of officials utilizing the educational program.
 - B. An example RTO quiz for wrestling was reviewed and impressed the committee in that any official participating in the program will grow from the experience.
 - C. The Rubric continues to be a tool for growth at all levels of officiating. Clearly defining expectations provide officials with reflective growth opportunities. Schools and officials associations should be aware of them understand the strength of the tool.
 - D. A list of RTO certified officials can be accessed through each assignor. Post season assignments will be drawn from this pool.
2. Post-game/event official's survey draft was reviewed and commended by the group in fact we already have two leagues utilizing the form. An example can be accessed on the WIAA RTO website under WOA/WIAA Programs.
 - A. Articles, scripts, and other successful documents will be posted in this section.
 - B. The group will be developing additional items that include:
 1. 10 best practices for AD's for Officials
 2. 6 things officials want from schools
 3. How to form a Track Officials Association within the WOA.
 - A. The WOA has already approved to have this group join. The change would need to come from the WIAA.
 1. Language on basic requirements for meets will need to discussed and approved.
 4. Softball – slow-pitch has seen an increase in school participation. To the point that a sanctioned state tournament may occur within the next few years.

- A. Consideration for officials includes both certification process implementation and seasonal effects on other sports officials association's numbers.
- 5. Improved communications with officials/schools/associations
 - A. Any hope to recruit and retain officials is also dependent on fair pay that happens in a timely process.
 - B. Delinquent schools do not help with the over goals in building relationships between the two associations.
- 6. Any requests to have more officials would need to happen at the local level if different than the state wide agreement.
- 7. Violent conduct and abusive language were discussed and the group supports a restorative return to play within the process that utilizes WOA and WIAA input.
- 8. Next meeting on May 30 will include the review of the WIAA State Expectations for each sport as well as the RTO COMMITTEE Measurable RTO Goals.