Minutes of the NAFA Board of Directors – Telephonic Meeting – July 23, 2007

Present were:  Executive Director  Sam Ford

Board of Directors  Brian Fay,
Lee Heighton,
Todd Morningstar,
Dana Nichols,
Kris Pickering,
Lisa Peckham,
Dale Smith,
Mike Smith,
Scott Stein

Called to order at 8:16 PM Central Time on July 23, 2007 by Chairman Lee Heighton.

Approval of Non-Board Member Committee Assignment

The Board met via teleconference to review Chairman Lee Heighton’s appointment of Glenn Hamilton to the Rules Committee. Glenn had recently resigned from the Board of Directors. Lee appointed him as a non-Board member of the Rules Committee at the request of Rule Committee Chair Kris Pickering. There was not unanimous consent when Lee requested the approval via email, therefore this teleconference was convened.

Kris Pickering presented her reasons for requesting Glenn be appointed to the Rules Committee. Her reasons included:

1. Glenn has been the keeper of the NAFA Rulebook for many years. The Rulebook has evolved into a very complex Word document. Glenn was willing to serve on the Rules Committee to assure a correct and timely preparation of the FY2008 Rulebook without transition issues.
2. Glenn possesses an invaluable knowledge of the historical context of the rules and their evolution over the years
3. Adding Glenn as a member would give the Committee an odd number of members, which is helpful for voting purposes.
4. Although Glenn resigned from his position on the Board of Directors and as Secretary because of his increased job responsibilities, he would have adequate time to serve on the Rules Committee given the markedly smaller time commitment involved.
5. And, finally, all committee assignments, including the Rules Committee would be reassessed at the Annual General Meeting in December.

Lee clarified that non-Board members on committees have votes in that committee, but do not have a vote at the Board of Directors level if a proposal is passed out of committee and presented to the Board.

Kris Pickering moved to approve Lee’s appointment of Glenn Hamilton to the Rules Committee. Dana Nichols seconded the Motion.

The Motion was referred for discussion.

Kris Pickering asked that her earlier comments be considered part of the discussion as well.
Mike Smith expressed concerns about having a non-Board member as a part of this particular committee. He was in favor of input from outside the Board, but was uncomfortable with the idea of having any non-Board members serve on the Rules Committee due to the sensitive nature of the discussions.

Sam Ford asked for confirmation of who was currently in possession of the live document that comprises the Rulebook. Kris Pickering indicated that she has possession of the original source document as well as backup copies. She stated that in addition, both Dana Nichols and Dale Smith have backup copies.

Scott Stein inquired about the potential impact on Rules Committee discussions when issues originated from executive sessions. There was discussion about whether a non-Board member could be part of discussions about issues when they involved executive session matters. Kris indicated she did not believe they could be part of such discussions, but that this situation could arise on other committees as well. Scott stated that in his experience, the majority of issues that were referred to committee from executive session went to the Rules Committee and Disciplinary Committee, rather than other committees.

Sam Ford raised the issue that further redrafting of rules by the Rules Committee often happens at in person Board meetings where non-Board members are not always geographically able to be present. He was concerned that a non-Board member of the Rules Committee would not have as much input as the Board members who will be present at Board meetings. He cautioned that a minority view of a non-Board member might not be able to be defended as well as if that person isn’t present at Board meetings. He was also stated that their absence should not present a roadblock to implementing rule changes in an expeditious manner. He felt that the Rules Committee deals with issues that impact the sport in an immediate way and those rules should be able to be presented in a timely and thoughtful manner.

There was no further discussion.


Kris Pickering moved to adjourn the meeting. Todd Morningstar seconded. There was unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM Central Time on July 23, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Nichols, Secretary