

SUMMARY
Northern Assigners Work Session for Fall Sports
Friday May 2, 2008

Present: Section 6- Tom Cowan, Cindy Szczesny
NFL- Jim Walker
NO-Jim Conley
MM-Brian Kiszewski
ECIC- Greg Kaszubski, Beth Coe, Leane Moore
Absent: Buffalo- Dave Thomas

1. Draft soccer schedules were reviewed for overbooked dates. The leagues made changes to certain game dates to prevent shortage of officials.
2. The order of central assigning by the Section 6 office for fall sports will be:
field hockey, girls soccer, boys soccer, boys volleyball, girls volleyball, XC, girls swim
This order is the same as 2007 except for boys and girls volleyball are reversed for 2008
3. Travel distance vs best available: With rising fuel costs, mileage is an issue. The following was agreed upon:
 - a) Auto-assign runs should be made reducing mileage. However schools in outlying areas need quality officials. To resolve this: The first auto-assign run for each sport will use the parameters of max miles=65 and max # games=2. This will give the outlying schools an equal opportunity at the best available officials and will also give each official two distant games. Runs after that will be made beginning with 20 miles and increasing mileage only as necessary to fill open slots.
 - b) League assigners will identify officials that can travel together to certain locations and make changes at the Round Table to accommodate those situations..
4. Dual certified officials (B&G): As was done for soccer in 2007, organizations will be allowed to identify 5 dual certified officials. They will be limited to 5 games in the first-run sport in the auto-assign (girls) leaving them available for the second run sport (boys).
5. Modified contests will be assigned as soon as possible after all varsity and JV contest slots are filled. League assigners will notify the Section office when this is accomplished.
6. Strength of team/ Priority games: It was agreed by all league assigners that strength of team would not be used. All preferred to give all teams equal opportunity to top officials. Adjustments to assignments for contests needing stronger officials will be made at the Round Table if necessary . It was agreed by all parties that serious attention be paid to the ranking of officials in thearbiter. T.Cowan will create an agenda to re-work the rankings
7. ECIC agreed to pre-assign 3 officials, Bill Boyer, Tom Bruno, Joe Carucci, who live in the STier but are members of the northern Girls Volleyball association, to 10 games each in the north. Due to mileage limitations used in the auto-assign, these officials would not receive any northern contests.
8. Permission to soccer sub-assigners Bill Helwig (boys) and Ken Lindstrom (girls): It was agreed that the sub-assigners mentioned will be allowed to view the schedule on thearbiter to become aware of any open slots for contests within the next 24 hours. They will be allowed to assign these open slots in an emergency (still open 24 hours prior to the contest) with the following stipulations:
 - a) The sub-assigner must contact the league assigner first.
 - b) If the league assigner cannot be reached, the sub-assigner can assign the slot verbally to an official on thearbiter roster.
 - c) The sub-assigner must notify the league assigner (email or voice mail) so the assignment can be entered into thearbiter the next day.
 - d) The sub-assigner cannot accept any turnbacks. All turnbacks must be made to the league assigner.