

Rochester Area Officials Association  
June 29, 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

The annual meeting of the Rochester Area Officials Association was called to order by President Tim Nicometo at 6:00 PM. The meeting was held at Rochester Mayo High School.

NEW BUSINESS:

Service awards for officials that retired in previous years were presented to Jon Fox, Pam Benson, Rick Schaber, and John Caldwell. Making the presentations were Marshall Behrens, Jeff Newton, Jared Butson, and Tristan Severson respectively. Recipients have the choice of a service plaque or RAOA clothing attire.

Vice Presidents presented RAOA's State Tournament officials from the 2022-2023 seasons. All were recognized and congratulated.

The 2023 meeting agenda, 2022 meeting minutes, and 2022-2023 financial report were read and approved as published.

The scheduling coordinator responsibilities will continue to be shared. The coordinators for 2023-2024 will be:

Football: Jared Butson	Basketball: Jared Butson
Volleyball: Jeff Newton	Baseball/Softball: Marshall Behrens/Jeff Newton

Vice President Reports were read.

Volleyball --	Jeff Newton (Carol Jaquith absent)
Football --	Eric Okstad
Basketball --	Eric Rain
Baseball --	Marshall Behrens (Jay Lonien absent)
Softball --	Ron Giles

The following new officials in each sport were accepted for membership after passing required criteria:

Football –	Zach Fuller Scott Patterson Jason Post	Basketball –	Nathan Gasner Kylie Lacey Ivan “Vanya” Schultz Bill Thompson
Baseball –	Kevin Fox Joey Leibl Jackson Lesmeister Andrew Simmons Eric Williams JJ Yochim	Volleyball –	Amy Moen Kate Stapleton
		Softball –	Steve Lewison Chad Schmitz Andrew Simmons

Dues for 2023-2024 will be structured as follows. Each official associated with RAOA will pay a base fee of \$36. This includes member officials, under-varsity only officials, and transfer officials. Any first-year official with RAOA and no prior varsity experience will pay a base fee of \$15. The base fee will be due by July 31, 2023.

RAOA will begin to offer a Student Officials Program. A Student Official is under the age of 18 years old. Base Dues will be \$15 for a Student Official. The Student Official will move to Regular Season Official once 18 years old. The Student Official will pay full base dues once 18 years old.

An option will be available to officials that want to donate to the Memorial Fund.

Emeritus Status dues for 2023-2024 will be \$10. Included is email communication and inclusion in all meetings of emeriti interest. This is a non-voting membership status for people who have retired from the court/field and would like to remain involved with RAOA's business and mentorship.

HUDL 2023 dues for varsity football crews will be billed at \$25 per crew.

Each official will also be billed for each RAOA event that they are scheduled for on Arbiter. An "event" could be a varsity game, an under-varsity game, or a volleyball tournament. The dues per event will be \$2 for an under-varsity event/game and \$3 for a varsity event/game. Volleyball tournaments (regardless of level and number of matches) are \$5 per day of matches worked. Officials will receive a reminder from the secretary regarding the due date following the completion of each sports season.

Due dates for the sport seasons will be:

Fall Sports -	November 15, 2023
Winter Sports -	March 15, 2024
Spring Sports -	June 15, 2024

A late fee of \$25 will apply for dues paid after the respective due dates. This applies to base dues and sports specific dues.

As a reminder, any member that is still delinquent on dues at the time of the next annual meeting is subject to removal from the RAOA roster. Dues must be paid on time to maintain good standing with RAOA.

Association Insurance will continue through NASO, each RAOA member is offered a NASO membership at an annual rate of \$89. This is a \$35 savings as a non-RAOA NASO membership is \$124. Payment must be made to RAOA by July 20, 2023 if interested.

Online Transactions via [www.raoamn.org](http://www.raoamn.org) will continue as the preferred method of making dues payments. A debit card is preferred vs. a credit card due to the lower cost of the interchange fee. Cash or check will still be accepted.

By-Law amendment to Article IV (Membership) was approved as presented.

Election of officers was held, President, VP's for volleyball and basketball and the new executive committee is:

Past President:	Tim Nicometo	(term ends June 2024)
President:	Eric Rain	(term ends June 2024)
Secretary/Treasurer:	Jared Butson	(term ends June 2026)
VP-Volleyball:	Darci Meyer	(term ends June 2025)
VP-Football:	Eric Okstad	(term ends June 2024)
VP-Basketball:	Jesse Kralewski	(term ends June 2025)
VP-Baseball:	Jay Lonien	(term ends June 2024)
VP-Softball:	Ron Giles	(term ends June 2024)

Charter Clinicians for the 2023-2024 season. Four-year term elected June 2020.

Volleyball –	Tyler Kiel	(term ends June 2024)
Football –	Royce Ruter	(term ends June 2024)
Basketball –	Tristan Severson	(term ends June 2024)
Baseball –	Chris Zollner	(term ends June 2024)
Softball –	Jeff Newton	(term ends June 2024)

Jeff Newton and Mj Wagenson will take the lead on getting together another RAOA apparel order. Look for this in July 2023 with shipment by mid-August.

Eric Rain will fill the position of a newly created position called Recruitment Coordinator. The focus of this position will be to assist new officials with MSHSL registration, RAOA application, RAOA base dues, communication with Vice Presidents on new officials specific to their sport, connecting the new official to a mentor, etc. The position will pay a \$100 stipend.

The future sport of Boys Volleyball was discussed. MSHSL is still deciding what season the sport will play in. We are uncertain how many schools in SE MN will field a team at this point. Once more information is learned it will be conveyed.

A recommendation was brought forward to have a chart going back at least 5 years to see game fee increases for each sport, mileage and member dues. This will be presented at the June 2024 Annual Meeting.

## RAOA – Mileage Payment for Officials

The following mileage chart will be used. Each official sent to officiate a contest will be paid mileage individually. The mileage will be figured from the official's home zip code to the school zip code. The schools should use the miles listed in the Arbiter Entry where the officials are assigned. Another option is Google Maps if Arbiter is inaccurate.

The following RAOA sports will use the below table when figuring mileage:

- Football – under-varsity only
- Volleyball – all levels
- Basketball – all levels
- Softball – all levels
- Baseball – all levels

Varsity Football will **NOT** use this method to pay the officials mileage. The Varsity Football game fee will be a flat fee for the fall of 2023. See the game fees below.

Mileage Chart for the 2023-24 School year:

Miles – Figured One Way	Payment for each official (Using current Federal rate of .655)
0 – 15	\$10
16 - 30	\$16
31 - 45	\$25
46 - 60	\$35
61 - 75	\$45
76 - 90	\$55
91 - 105	\$65
106 - 150	\$80

Notes:

1. Mileage payment will be paid to each official.
2. The mileage used will be the mileage that is in the Arbiter entry where officials are assigned. Another option is Google Maps if Arbiter is inaccurate.
3. Athletic Directors will need to look at the Arbiter entry when figuring official payments.
4. This chart will be reviewed yearly at the RAOA Annual meeting to accommodate any changes to the Federal rate.

## RAOA Game Fees 2023-24

The following game fees for each sport were discussed and approved for the 2023-24 seasons. Each sport is reviewed yearly at the Annual Meeting in June. The next review will occur in June 2024.

### Volleyball Game Fees

<b><u>Volleyball with 2 officials</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>
• Varsity Only match	\$80
• Varsity plus 1 UV match	\$120
• Varsity plus 2 UV matches	\$150
<b><u>Volleyball with 1 official</u></b>	
• 1 UV match	\$50
• 2 UV matches	\$80
<b><u>Volleyball Tournament with 2 officials</u></b>	
• Varsity (best 2 of 3)	\$36
• Varsity (2 game pool play)	\$36
• Varsity (Mandatory 3 sets (3 <sup>rd</sup> to 15))	\$45
• Varsity (Mandatory 3 sets (3 <sup>rd</sup> to 25))	\$55
<b><u>Volleyball Tournament with 1 official</u></b>	
• Under-Varsity (best 2 of 3)	\$36
• Under-Varsity (2 game pool play)	\$36
• Under-Varsity (Mandatory 3 sets (3 <sup>rd</sup> to 15))	\$45
• Under-Varsity (Mandatory 3 sets (3 <sup>rd</sup> to 25))	\$55

### Notes:

1. All game fees are paid per official plus mileage to each official per mileage chart.
2. UV = Under-Varsity. Under-Varsity entails (JV, B-squad, C-Squad, and/or 9<sup>th</sup> grade)
3. Not going to differentiate between if officials are split or not split
4. JV match is best 2 out of 3
5. No 7<sup>th</sup> and/or 8<sup>th</sup> grade matches are assigned by RAOA in Volleyball.

## **Football Game Fees**

<b>Football with 5 officials</b>	<b>2023</b>
• Varsity game	\$120
<b>Football with 3 or 4 officials</b>	
• 9th grade, B, or JV	\$80
• Junior High - normal timing	\$70
• Junior High - running time	\$50

### **Notes:**

1. All game fees are paid per official.
2. Varsity rate is a flat fee. No mileage.
3. Under-Varsity rates plus mileage to each official per mileage chart

## **Basketball Game Fees**

<b>Basketball with 3 officials</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
• Varsity only game	\$85
• B or JV and Varsity game	\$125
• Double Varsity games	\$170
<b>Basketball with 2 officials</b>	
• Varsity only game	\$90
• B or JV and Varsity game	\$140
• Double Varsity games	\$180
• Single B or JV game	\$55
• Single 9th grade game	\$55
• Single Junior High game	\$40

### **Notes:**

1. All game fees are paid per official plus mileage to each official per mileage chart.

## **Baseball Game Fees**

<b><u>Baseball with 2 Umpires</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>
• 1 Varsity game	\$100
• 1 Varsity game and 1 UV game	\$180
• 2 Varsity games (Doubleheader)	\$200
• 2 UV games (Doubleheader (7 innings))	\$180
• 2 UV games (Doubleheader (5 innings))	\$160
<b><u>Baseball with 1 Umpire</u></b>	
• 1 UV game (7 innings)	\$100
• 1 UV game (5 innings)	\$80
• 2 UV games (Doubleheader 2 – 7 innings)	\$200
• 2 UV games (Doubleheader 2 – 5 innings)	\$160

## **Softball Game Fees**

<b><u>Softball with 2 Umpires</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>
• 1 Varsity game	\$85
• 1 Varsity game and 1 UV game	\$155
• 2 Varsity games (Doubleheader)	\$170
• 2 UV games (Doubleheader (7 innings))	\$170
• 2 UV games (Doubleheader (5 innings))	\$140
<b><u>Softball with 1 Umpire</u></b>	
• 1 UV game (7 innings)	\$85
• 1 UV games (5 innings)	\$70
• 2 UV games (Doubleheader 2 – 7 innings)	\$170
• 2 UV games (Doubleheader 2 – 5 innings)	\$140

### **Notes for both Baseball and Softball:**

1. All game fees are paid per official plus mileage to each official per mileage chart.
2. UV = Under-Varsity. Under-Varsity entails (JV, B-squad, C-Squad, and/or 9<sup>th</sup> grade)
3. UV game before or after Varsity game with Varsity umpires.
  - 70 minute game (no inning starts after time) or 5 innings
  - 4-runs allowed per inning
  - Open substitution and no batting restrictions

## **RAOA Game Called Off/Postponement Compensation Protocol:**

1. Called off before on the road—nothing.
2. On the road, phone call and called off—nothing.
3. Arrive at site and never start the contest—half game fee and mileage.
4. Start contest—full game fee and mileage.
5. Contest is rescheduled to another date—full game fee and mileage.
6. Baseball/Softball only: If rescheduled game is added onto another previously scheduled game, then each umpire is compensated \$10/inning played, maxing out at full game fee.

## **RAOA Assigning Fee to Schools:**

Beginning in the 2021-2022 academic year and continuing going forward, schools will be billed \$125 for RAOA assignments if the following criteria is met.

1. Any school that RAOA provides varsity scheduling services.
2. Any school that RAOA schedules 10 or more Arbiter varsity games in an academic year.
3. Schools will be assessed a \$125 fee April 1, 2024 payable by May 1, 2024.

How will the monies collected be used?

1. 60% will be divided pro-rated among all sport schedulers.
2. 30% will be used for educational purposes which will include marketing for recruitment and retention, training, observer's stipend and travel reimbursement.
3. 10% will go towards Secretary-Treasurer administrative stipend.

Please note that officials already pay dues at the end of each sport season and base dues. Sport season dues go towards the scheduler of said sport. Base dues cover education, Arbiter, insurance, and the administrative cost of the business of RAOA.

No further business, meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted----Jared Butson, Secretary/Treasurer