MTSOA Meeting minutes for 3-8-2020

63 referees attended the online meeting

**Marco**- Talked about the weather policy. You can view the policy and rules at the bottom of the minutes. Remember if you see lightning or hear thunder then you shall move to shelter and apply the 30 minute rule.

Policy dealing with spectators: Officials will only have contact with the Game Administer and Police/Security, or Coach if GA or Police not present when dealing with any actions involving parents, spectators, students, etc.

Also talked about difference between NFHS vs USSF with the drop ball. Remember with NFHS there is no limit on how many players can be involved with the drop ball. You can find the other changes on the mtsoasoccer.com website, look under the “news” tab and click “read more” under the NFHS logo for the preseason guide.

***\*\*\*\*If you have any questions about rules interpretations or policies please contact the MTSOA Board of Control first before contacting TSSAA.***

**Coz**- Make sure your schedules are up to date and please keep in contact with coaches and crew. Remember to keep e-mail everybody before the game to see if any changes have occurred

**Tim**- Remember that the official that is listed first is the only official that can file the game report. You must be in the MTSOA tab and must click the save button afterward. If everybody for the month of March files their report as they are supposed to, 24 hours after the game ended, then everybody will get one free meeting as attended.

**Tony**- 3/8/2020 Current Balance = $3685.36

Dues income since last report = $2950.00

Expenses

Banquet caterer = $1,691.00

Table cover & Décor = $154.48

Referee of the year awards = $70.53

Website hosting $75.94

Total Expenses = $1,991.95

Next meeting date is scheduled to be online through Zoom on 4-5-2020 starting at 6:00

What is thunder? Thunder is caused by lightning. When a lightning bolt travels from the cloud to the ground it actually opens up a little hole in the air, called a channel. Once then light is gone the air collapses back in and creates a sound wave that we hear as thunder. The reason we see lightning before we hear thunder is because light travels faster than sound!

Heat Lightning The term heat lightning is commonly used to describe lightning from a distant thunderstorm just too far away to see the actual cloud-to-ground flash or to hear the accompanying thunder. While many people incorrectly think that heat lightning is a specific type of lightning, it is simply the light produced by a distant thunderstorm. Often, mountains, hills, trees or just the curvature of the earth prevent the observer from seeing the actual lightning flash. Instead, the faint flash seen by the observer is light being reflected off higher-level clouds. Also, the sound of thunder can only be heard for about 10 miles from a flash.

NFHS/TSSAA Guidelines on Handling Contests During Lightning or Thunder Disturbances

A. When thunder is heard, or lightning is seen\*, the leading edge of the thunderstorm is

close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play for at least thirty

minutes and vacate the outdoor activity to the previously designated safer location

immediately.

B. Thirty-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard, or lightning is witnessed\* prior to resuming play.  
C. Any subsequent thunder or lightning\* after the beginning of the 30-minute count will reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.   
D. When lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are available, this technology could be used to assist in making a decision to suspend play if a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event location. However, you should never depend on the reliability of these devices and thus, hearing thunder or seeing lightning\* should always take precedence over information from a mobile app or lightning-detection device.

\* - At night, under certain atmospheric conditions, lightning flashes may be seen from distant storms. In these cases, it may be safe to continue an event. If no thunder can be heard and the flashes are low on the horizon, the storm may not pose a threat. Independently verified lightning detection information would help eliminate any uncertainty.