

MTSOA Meeting minutes for August 1, 2025

Location: Hendersonville High School

49 Members in Attendance

Board Members in Attendance:

Marco Lee – Supervisor

Coz Minetos - Assignor

Tony Sheets - Treasurer

Jess Erickson - Secretary

Glen Garrett - Member at Large

Meeting Commenced at 7:24PM

1. Opening Remarks - Marco Lee

- Reminder that high school soccer has a different atmosphere from college or professional levels — our focus is the student-athletes.
- Officials must maintain professionalism, fairness, and consistency.
- Approach each match with the mindset of serving the educational and developmental mission of high school athletics.

2. Preseason Guidance & NFHS Rules

- Misconduct and points of emphasis in Preseason: Perfect time to set the standard.
- Safety Standards:
 - Shin guards must meet NFHS specifications and be appropriate size for player with the (NOCSAE) seal/symbol.
 - No dangerous behavior or unsporting conduct tolerated.
 - Concussion Protocol: Follow state-mandated procedures. No changes to policy — continue to be vigilant.
- Coaches are responsible for the conduct and safety of their players and staff.

3. Technical Area & Bench Conduct

- Pre-match introductions should clearly set expectations.
- Head coach is responsible for all individuals in the team area.
- Unsporting conduct from bench personnel MAY result in the head coach being sanctioned - but is NOT mandatory - manage it.
- Use early warnings when needed; escalate to cautions or send-offs when appropriate.

4. Weather Delays & Suspensions

- No fixed NFHS time requirement for weather delays — use judgment in consultation with school administrators.

5. Association Elections & Treasurer Vacancy

- November In-Person Meeting: Elections for Assignor and Secretary positions.
- Special election for Treasurer due to current Treasurer's relocation to Cookeville.
- Treasurer duties include tracking dues and following up with unpaid members (~40 outstanding for 2025).

6. In Memoriam

- Recognition of the passing of longtime member Sean McCarthy — remembered for his dedication and kindness within the soccer community.

7. Health & Hydration

- Prehydrate well before matches — particularly in hot conditions.
- Water breaks approximately every 20 minutes in extreme heat, consistent with NFHS and TSSAA guidance.

8. Game Reports & Disciplinary Reports

- Complete game reports in Arbiter before leaving the venue whenever possible.
- Due by 8–10 AM the following morning.
- Use the correct online drop-down menu for “Unusual Occurrence” or “Disqualification” reports.
- If a different official needs to be designated as the referee of record for reporting, contact the assignor immediately.
- Failure to submit required reports may result in loss of future assignments.

9. Meeting Schedule Changes

- Beginning next season:
 - Less in-person meetings per year (January banquet, elections and preseason).
 - Remaining updates and announcements will be sent via email on regular basis.
- Elections will still require in-person attendance; no proxy voting.

10. Treasurer's Report - Tony Sheets

- Balance: \$6,635.43.
- Recent expenditures:
 - \$1,545 — mentoring fees for three officials.
 - \$151 — preseason Executive Committee meeting (Chef's Market).
- Total expenditures since last meeting: \$1,696.

11. Assignments & Arbiter Tips

- Keep your home location updated in Arbiter to avoid excessive travel assignments.
- Notify assignors of travel preferences and availability.
- Turnbacks are acceptable with advance notice — contact the assignor as soon as possible.
- Contact crew members before match day; arrive at least 30 minutes early.

- Email coaches in advance to confirm match details.

12. Post-Match Procedures

- Leave the field promptly after the match; avoid lingering or discussing the game in public areas.
- Walk out with an administrator or security when possible.
- Do not enter team areas after the match.
- Maintain a professional image — leave your bags in the car.

13. Uniforms & Equipment

- NFHS referee uniforms with association patch required.
- New patches have been sent to officials after registration.
- Older patches may be worn if still in good condition.
- Additional patches may be made available for purchase later in the season.

14. Closing Remarks

- Appreciation expressed to all officials for professionalism, travel flexibility, and commitment to the sport.
- More matches being posted — keep your availability current.

Meeting Adjourned – 7:46 PM