

# February 11, 2026, Board Meeting

## Quick recap

The board meeting focused on addressing concerns about game assignments, official attendance, and communication issues within the association. Frank highlighted the need to improve the assigning process, ensure proper game distribution, and address Arbiter-related problems. Adrian emphasized the importance of retaining new officials and increasing membership, while Art Martinez suggested organizing on-field clinics for new members. The board discussed the challenges of balancing game schedules with meeting attendance and agreed to explore solutions for new member engagement. Additionally, financial matters were addressed, including the need for an updated EIN number and the importance of timely invoice processing. The conversation ended with a motion to adjourn and a brief discussion about communication rules between coaches and catchers.

## Next steps

- Oscar: Contact the family of the McAllen Memorial student to determine the best time to deliver the \$500 donation check.
- Adrian: Provide Rolando with a list of officials who are not eligible for junior high, JV, or varsity games due to unmet requirements, and coordinate with Rolando on Sunday or Monday.
- Adrian: Update and share the running attendance sheet before every meeting, and coordinate with Oscar to receive and incorporate attendance data from meeting nights.
- Oscar: Cross-reference Arbiter membership data with the attendance sheet sent by Adrian to ensure all members are tracked.
- Frank and Adrian: Meet with Rolando to address issues with game assignments (e.g., honoring blocked dates, equitable game distribution, pairing new officials with veterans, and ensuring officials read and follow district rules).
- Art Martinez and Willie: Organize and schedule one or more on-field training/clinic sessions for new and rookie officials, targeting a weekend date in about two weeks, and report proposed dates to the board.
- Andy: Provide contact information to Jaime (or relevant party) to assist with obtaining or verifying the EIN number for 1099/IRS purposes.
- Frank: Ensure that if current EIN is not valid, a new EIN is obtained and communicated to the appropriate parties.
- 19569660612 (Jaime): Return the incompatible device to Best Buy and upgrade to a laptop compatible with QuickBooks.
- Frank: Inform Rolando to update scrimmage invoices with detailed game information (date, officials, etc.) for schools requiring itemized billing, and ensure invoices are sent out promptly.
- Adrian: Continue contacting veteran officials who scored 80 or below on their test and encourage them to retake and achieve a score above 90 for playoff eligibility.
- Willie and Art Martinez: Set a date for the on-field clinic and communicate it to the board for final scheduling.

## Summary

### Meeting Attendance and Quorum Discussion

The meeting began with Frank confirming attendance and noting the absence of several members, including Rolando and Art Martinez. The group discussed technical difficulties with the meeting link but resolved them. Frank mentioned that Jaime would be joining the meeting shortly, and the group agreed to proceed once a quorum was established. The meeting then opened with Frank introducing himself as the president and noting the absence of the assigning secretary, Orlando Garza Flores.

### **Board Meeting: Donations and Assignments**

The board meeting opened with a review and approval of previous meeting minutes, followed by a decision to table the discussion on evaluators for a future meeting. The board also discussed a \$500 donation to a student from McAllen Memorial, with Oscar agreeing to contact the family to arrange delivery of the check. Adrian reminded the board about an email containing attachments, including a list of 18 officials assigned to games that evening.

### **Attendance and Officials' Qualifications**

Adrian discussed updates to the attendance tracking system, explaining that he would maintain a simplified running sheet with names, ID numbers, and educational meeting details, which he would share before each meeting. Oscar was tasked with managing attendance at meetings and would provide updates to Adrian's sheet. Andy raised concerns about officials' eligibility for games, emphasizing the need for a clear list of those not qualified due to incomplete educational requirements. Art Magallan highlighted inconsistencies in officials being assigned to games repeatedly, while Art Martinez noted a new member's inability to attend the current meeting.

### **Attendance Protocols and Follow-ups**

Adrian confirmed to Andy that he would follow up with Rolando about a matter, likely related to attendance or membership protocols. Oscar requested information from Adrian to cross-reference with his own records for attendance tracking, and Adrian shared that he had already sent out an email with the most accurate list. Art Martinez raised concerns about a new member's consistent absences from meetings, emphasizing the need to enforce attendance protocols and potentially move such members to the bottom of the list. Adrian agreed to discuss this with Rolando.

### **Official Assignment Process Concerns**

Frank expressed concerns about the assigning process, highlighting issues such as double work, officials not being able to see their partners in Arbiter, and veteran officials not receiving games despite completing scrimmages. He plans to discuss these issues with Rolando and ensure that officials are spread out more evenly and have access to block dates. Frank also emphasized that in junior high or middle school games, the home team must bat, regardless of the score, and reminded officials to confirm district plans with coaches before games.

### **Game Management and Umpiring Concerns**

The meeting focused on addressing concerns about game management and umpiring decisions, particularly regarding run rules and batting out of order situations. Frank emphasized the importance of ensuring both teams agree to game rules before starting, while Andy discussed specific cases where umpires made correct calls and suggested allowing teams to continue playing when one team is significantly ahead. The group also addressed issues with the Arbiter system, noting that assigning umpires on blocked days needs to be avoided, and Frank mentioned plans to share these concerns with Orlando to implement improvements.

### **Addressing Official Meeting Absences**

The board discussed concerns about new officials missing meetings, particularly for middle school games. Frank explained plans to address this issue by sending a letter to coaches next

year, setting dates for meetings that cannot be used for games. The board agreed to be flexible with scheduling, allowing games to be postponed if necessary. Frank emphasized the importance of finding solutions and maintaining a positive attitude, stating that overall things were looking good for the board.

### **Enhancing Official Onboarding and Retention**

The meeting focused on addressing the challenges of onboarding new members and retaining officials, with Adrian highlighting the need to increase membership to improve operational efficiency. Frank and Willie agreed to organize an on-field training clinic for new and rookie officials, with a tentative date set for a Sunday in two weeks. The group also discussed the status of new applicants, confirming that the cutoff for joining is after the regional rules clinic, and Frank updated the team on scheduling for upcoming games and tournaments.

### **General Meeting Preparation and Tasks**

The meeting focused on preparing for an upcoming general meeting and addressing administrative tasks. Frank instructed attendees to type their names and IDs for attendance, and Willie suggested using a chat function for questions. Andy discussed the need for a new EIN number for tax purposes, and Frank advised checking if the current one is still valid. The group also addressed issues with invoicing schools for scrimmage fees and the importance of getting officials to score above 90 to meet playoff requirements. The conversation ended with a motion to end and transition to another Zoom meeting.