



EDDIE BONINE, M.ED., CAA
Executive Director

B.J. GUZZARDO, JR.
KEITH ALEXANDER
RONDA RICHARDSON
Assistant Executive Directors

To: Paul LaRosa / President / LHSOA
Keith Alexander / Assistant Executive Director / Officials
Re: Points of Emphasis /Position Statement / Official's Contract(s)
Date: June 23, 2015

Please accept this communication as one of "position" on the present LHSAA school membership and the LHSOA. I have over the course of my tenure as the LHSAA Executive Director, done as much research as possible to ensure I had enough historical perspective on what has transpired over the past twenty (20) plus years, but more importantly, the past seven (7) plus years. In my opinion, it is clear the lines of communication between our entities have been blurred, and depending with whom you speak, who is at fault. That said, I do not have the capabilities to change the past, but I do have the abilities to impact the future of our relationship, by ensuring clear, precise and manageable direction, addressing the following:

- Honest communication between this office the state Principal's Association, and the Official's organization.
- Assignment Secretary Duties and responsibilities as it pertains to:
 - Observations;
 - Grading
 - Number of evaluations
 - Competency for assignment

LHSAA... Beyond the Game

- Transparent “actions taken” when officials error on field, court and/or misapplication of rules, tardiness to events, inappropriate language, unprofessional attire/appearance
- Consistent criterion to establish official’s championship event assignments to ensure the best officials are selected from around the state... the “crew” piece eliminated in specific sports;
- Set policy for state official travel;
- Reduce testing for best officials annually;
 - Once every three (3) years
 - If official has above average and/or superior grade, testing and camps not required.
- LHSAA has more involvement administering camps:
 - Sanctioning
 - Adequate supervision
- Mandate coaches take same rules testing as officials with same passing score required for officials.
- Will put on the September 3, 2015 LHSAA Executive Committee meeting agenda to discuss and recommend reinstating the ½ game fee rule in baseball and softball

This said, I propose the LHSOA work the 2015-2016 sport seasons under the present fee structure as prescribed in the 2014-2015 LHSAA Handbook. In doing so, LHSAA Assistant Executive Director, Keith Alexander and I will continually assist and strongly promote in good faith the LHSOA recently proposed fee schedule for implementation, beginning in the *fall of 2016* and continuing through the 2020 school years.

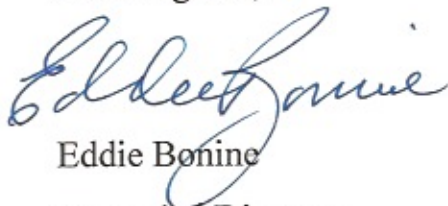
Keith and I will do so immediately by working diligently with the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents (*LASS*), Louisiana Association Principals (*LAP*), and the Louisiana High School Coaches Association (*LHSCA*).

As you are aware, Keith and I have recently already met with approximately 50% of (*LASS*) and initiated conversation on the potential financial implications on their high school (s) athletic and/or general school site fund budgets.

I presented the sports official's fee information knowing full well their FY 2015 Budget was probably in place and the estimated \$1,800 additional projected official's fee costs could/would be possibly accounted for in the FY 2016 Budget. I asked they request the actual cost analysis be done within their respective districts/member schools to get a more accurate estimate.

As I mentioned previously, I can't change the past, but what I can do is to ensure we do not make the same mistakes, we regain trust, processes and communications between entities without blurred lines. It is then my desire to move forward with the aforementioned, allowing for solid concentration on official's registration for the upcoming school sports seasons and eliminating in speculation that the seasons will be affected in anyway shape or form.

Best Regards, \

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eddie Bonine", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Eddie Bonine

Executive Director

LHSAA