Principles of Officiating Course Instructions

Local associations are now responsible for providing the OAOA Principles of Officiating course to their officials in need of completing the requirement. The Principles of Officiating course is designed to assist new officials with general concepts such as creating an officiating philosophy, goal setting, ethics, conflict management and personal development.

The OSAA/OCEP requirement mandates that new officials shall complete the Principles of Officiating course within their first three years of officiating. Officials certified by the OSAA prior to the 2006-07 school year or transfer officials certified by a State High School governing body are exempt from this requirement. All playoff officials must be principles certified. This certification always allows the official to purchase an OSAA Gold Card.

Local Association responsibilities:

- Schedule the date, time and location for the class. (course takes about 2 ½ - 3 hours with breaks – can be divided into multiple dates).
- Print a copy of the Course Manual for, or email a copy to, each participant.
- Digital Projector and screen for the accompanying PowerPoint presentation. PowerPoint file attached to the covering email)
- Selection of instructors – leaders in your association
- Invite other associations in your area to send members will need this course.

At the completion of the course send your attendance roster to Debi for database input. Debi can assist in helping you determine who needs this certification.

It’s important to open your class to those from other associations as well. When you decide to offer a Principles class, invite other associations. Having officials (and instructors) from different sports makes the class more interesting and informative. Your OAOA Regional Representative can assist with contacting other associations in your area.

It’s also a good idea to think about asking a local coach to help teach or co-teach a lesson or two, especially the lessons on Communication Skills and Conflict Management. We’ve found that a coaching perspective really adds to these topics.

Remember, the requirement is an OSAA certification requirement to continue to officiate and to work playoffs.