

Dear South Shore NIHOA Membership,

We hope that this email finds you and your family safe and healthy. We are all excited to be back to (hopefully) a more normal season. Thank you to those who were able to join us at the Irish Cultural Center for our pizza social. This email contains an update on the following items:

1. Dues
  2. Plan for Chapter Meetings
  3. Rule Books
  4. Scholarship Application
  5. Constitutional By-Law Change
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1. **2021-22 Registrations:** Registration is now open! To fully register and be a member in good standing you must register with the local Chapter, with NIHOA National, and the MIAA. In order to be eligible for the insurance coverage you must be registered with both the local Chapter and NIHOA National. **Please register ASAP if you plan on working this season. Multiple assignors have asked us to make sure we are timely with our registrations so that we know how big the officiating pool is going to be this season.**
    - a. South Shore Chapter Local Dues - \$40 – Can be paid using link on our homepage ([NIHOA SOUTH SHORE CHAPTER \(nihoamasssouthshorechapter.com\)](http://NIHOA SOUTH SHORE CHAPTER (nihoamasssouthshorechapter.com)))
    - b. NIHOA National Dues - \$45 – Done Through Arbiter
    - c. MIAA Dues - \$50 – Done Through Arbiter
  2. **Chapter Meetings:** Our plan this year is to conduct all meetings virtual. Below are the dates for our meetings. All meetings will be via Zoom and will start at 7pm. A link to the Zoom will be sent a few days before the meeting:
    - Monday 25 October
    - Monday 8 November - Test Night
    - Monday December 13
    - Monday 24 January
  3. **Rule Books** – Jim Lehan ordered Rule Books more than one month ago, unfortunately, they did not arrive before our Social Meeting. The Board will discuss and determine the best way to distribute rule books to those members that fully register. More information to come.
  4. **Scholarship Application:** Scholarship application link is below. Please fill out by 31 October 2021. The recipient must be a graduating High School senior or current college student. The recipient must be attending an accredited institution of higher learning on a full-time basis.

The recipient must be a child, step-child, or grandchild of an active member in good standing of the South Shore Chapter of NIHOA. [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSccG3Wp65cwUn2lGrAc8HqM1Gza4AO6XfAEZFdM1tTDcCv8Dw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSccG3Wp65cwUn2lGrAc8HqM1Gza4AO6XfAEZFdM1tTDcCv8Dw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

5. **Constitutional By-Law Change:** A proposal has been brought forth as stated below. Per Section XIX of our Constitution “The Association's Constitution may be amended by an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of the active members at a meeting of the Association.”

**PROPOSED CHANGE:** Remove the following under Section V *Board of Directors* Article 1: “The Board of Directors shall consist often (10) active members and the President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. The immediate past president will be an ex officio (non-voting) member of the Board.” Replace it with the following: “The Board of Directors shall consist often (7) active members and the President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and immediate past president.”

**RATIONALE:** At one point our Chapter had 200+ officials. As of the 2020-2021 Season (the last full season pre-COVID) our Chapter had ~130 members in good standing. In recent years the number of active members in good standing has steadily declined. By reducing the number of members the executive board will be more effective in governing the Association and will be more consistent with the decline in the size of membership.

6. **Executive Board Voting:** At our first meeting we will be taking nominations and voting to fill the vacancy/vacancies on the Board.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this information. In the meantime, if you have specific questions, please contact a board member. Steven Riley, President, can be reached at [president-sshorema@nihoa.com](mailto:president-sshorema@nihoa.com). Steve Drain, Vice President, can be reached at [vp-sshorema@nihoa.com](mailto:vp-sshorema@nihoa.com). Jim Lehan, Secretary/Treasurer, can be reached at [jlehannihoa@aol.com](mailto:jlehannihoa@aol.com).

Stay safe and be well.

In Solidarity,

The South Shore NIHOA Executive Board