

NAASE General Meeting

11:00 am, July 1, 2012 – San Francisco, CA

Attendance: Rob Simmons (President), Skip Sauer (President-elect), Victor Matheson (Secretary), John Solow (Treasurer), Ross Booth (VP), Stefan Syzmanski (VP), Mike Leeds (incoming President-elect), Brad Humphreys (incoming VP), Dennis Coates (incoming VP), Joe Price (VP)

Last year's minutes: Available on-line. Contact Victor Matheson if there is a problem.

Election results: Minutes and election results. Mike Leeds was chosen as President-elect. Brad Humphreys and Dennis Coates were chosen as vice presidents. Minutes from 2011 election will be available on the NAASE website shortly.

Secretary Report – Minutes and election results. Mike Leeds was chosen as President-elect. Brad Humphreys and Dennis Coates were chosen as vice presidents. Minutes from 2011 election will be available on the NAASE website shortly.

Treasurer Report - 126 members in good standing representing 14 countries. 170 persons have been members at one time or another. Current balance as of June 26, \$7,391.70. Current liabilities are not entirely clear since we owe \$5 per copy for each subscription into the future. As a rough guess we have maybe just north of \$3,000 in liabilities. Suggestion was made to include a 3-year option for membership.

Membership for ASSA.

Discussion of how to get to 300 members and our role at ASSA ensued.

Proposal on changing executive board composition of NAASE

Proposed by Brad Humphreys, seconded by John Solow

Article IV, Section 1 currently reads:

The Association shall have the following elected officers: a President, a President elect, and four Vice Presidents. The terms of the President and the President-elect shall each be one year, and the terms of office of the four Vice Presidents shall each be two years, with two of the four Vice Presidents' terms to expire each year.

Proposed amendment: Change Article IV, Section 1 to

The Association shall have the following elected officers: a President, a President elect, and four Executive Committee at-large members. The terms of the President and the President-elect shall

each be two years, and the terms of office of the four Executive Committee at-large members shall each be four years, with one Executive Committee at-large member's term expiring each year.

Article IV, Section 4 currently reads:

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, President-elect, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the ex-President who last held office, and the four Vice Presidents. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall not be entitled to vote in the Executive Committee's meetings.

Proposed amendment: Change Article IV, Section 4 to

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, President-elect, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the ex-President who last held office, and the four Executive Committee at-large members. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall not be entitled to vote in the Executive Committee's meetings.

Rationale

These changes provide continuity in the leadership of NAASE and foster a leadership group that takes a long run view of the organization and its goals.

Skip Sauer proposed to split vote into multiple parts for each change, second (John Solow), motion passed

Amendment to rename VPs to At-Large Executive Committee members and have them serve a 4-year term. Motion passed.

Amendment to have presidents serve a 2-year term as president elect and a 2-year term as president. Brad Humphreys proposed change , second (Skip), motion passes.

Change language to match in other areas (passed by general acclamation)

Articles VIII and IX currently read:

Article VIII. Ratification of this Constitution

The constitution will be considered ratified when 10 people have agreed to its terms, publicly expressing intent to join as regular members via the Sports Economics list server at: SPORTS-ECONOMICS-L@LISTSERV.UIUC.EDU.

Article IX. Initial Officers

Upon ratification, those having expressed intent to become regular members will decide upon a method of nomination and balloting for the initial set of officers of the Association.

Since neither of these serves any purpose now, I propose that they be dropped from the bylaws.

My second proposal is to add the following, which would become Article VIII:

Proposed Article VIII: Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

1. The Association will form a standing Sponsorship Committee whose members will seek and maintain outside funding sources for the organization. The committee will consist of a Chairman, and two of the Executive Board members, not including either the President or President-elect. The Association Treasurer will be an ex officio member of the committee. The Chairman is appointed by the Executive Board. There is no term limit for the Chairman of the Sponsorship Committee.

2. The Association, acting through the Executive Board, can form Ad Hoc Committees as needed.

The rationale for this is two-fold. First, the existing bylaws don't seem to allow for creation of committees. I know Brad had tried to create an ad hoc sponsorship committee but without any luck. I think such a committee might be useful as a standing committee simply because ongoing funding of the organization could be less precarious. The second rationale is to have a more intentional outreach and search for additional funding. A more substantial and consistent flow of funds would allow us to engage in more activities. For example, we have talked about giving support to graduate students doing sports economics, but we have no funds for doing so. Conferences I have attended in Europe have had substantial support from sports organizations. Having a committee working toward those goals seems a worthy effort and one that ought to be a permanent structure of the organization.

Friendly amendment to not drop articles VIII and IX for potential legal reasons. (accepted)

Passed as amended

Mike Leeds will move forward with graduate student prize.

John Solow –

NAASE Meetings Proposal:

In 2005, the last time the WEAI Meetings were hosted in San Francisco, there were 9 ad hoc sports economics sessions involving the presentation of roughly 35 papers. Seven years later, the sessions now organized by the North American Association of Sports Economists (“NAASE”) have grown to 19 sessions and 2 symposia, including over 75 papers. To date, the task of organizing these sessions has fallen to a very short list of volunteers, and the task has become increasingly onerous. Therefore, I propose the adoption of a more defined structure for organizing the NAASE program at the WEAI Meetings.

The purpose of this memo is to start the discussion, not necessarily to adopt the proposal as presented. Parts of the proposal are deliberately left vague, particularly the deadlines for the organizational timeline, so that the NAASE Executive Committee can make decisions before bringing the proposal to the membership, should it choose to do so. As an intermediate step, I would suggest that we organize some smaller number of sessions (say, 10) for the 2013 Meetings using this protocol as a trial run, in order to work out the details of the procedures and see whether the protocol is an improvement.

Proposal:

1. For each Meeting, there will be a three-member Program Committee, consisting of the President-Elect and two members appointed by the Executive Committee.
2. The Program Committee’s responsibility is (1) to provide liaison with the Western Economic Association and (2) to choose session chairs and in some instances session topics.
 - a. Volunteer Chairs – people may suggest session topics that they would like to chair.
 - b. Recruited Chairs – the Program Committee will invite people to chair sessions.
3. Move control of sessions into hands of session chairs. Give session chairs responsibility for (1) choosing papers for session; (2) finding discussants; (3) leaning on presenters to get papers to discussants on time.
4. Papers for sessions
 - a. Volunteer Chairs may invite a set of authors to present papers on a specific topic that they would like to put together as a session.
 - b. Volunteer Chairs may also take papers from the list of contributed papers.
 - c. Recruited Chairs may take papers the list of contributed papers.
 - d. Contributors may suggest sessions in which they would like to present their papers, but decisions rest with the Chairs.
5. Types of sessions

- a. Topical sessions (e.g., “Competitive Balance in Cricket”, “Economics of Baseball I”, Labor Issues in Sports”, etc.)
 - b. New Directions in Sports Economics – for papers that don’t fit nicely into Topical Sessions
 - c. Student Session(s) – maybe graduate and undergraduate, maybe just undergraduate
 - d. Miscellaneous Sessions – for papers for which there is no room in Topical Sessions
6. Submissions and Deadlines
- a. Paper submissions must include title, author contact information, and an abstract, by specified date.
 - b. Paper submission may include suggestions for session.
 - c. Draft to Session Chair by June 1.
7. Timeline
- a. Call for papers and session proposals – date?
 - b. Program Committee selects number of sessions, session titles and session chairs – date?
 - c. Proposals for papers due – date?
 - d. List of contributed papers to session chairs – date?
 - e. Chairs select papers – unselected papers go to Miscellaneous Sessions – date?
 - f. Draft papers to session chairs, who will distribute to discussants – June 1.

Began with 9 sessions and 35 papers, now we have 19 sessions, 2 panels, and 75 papers. Suggestion to have a program committee. President elect and 2 members. Consider a more structured and controlled issue. Volunteer sessions and organized sessions. Screening? Thanks offered to Dave, Brad, and Tony.

Discussion ensued.

Adjournment