

Lunch Breakouts at NASO Summit

Call it food and thought. Attendees at the NASO Summit will have their pick of four midday breakout sessions with a lunch provided. The breakouts are set for Tuesday, July 30, the first full day of Summit educational sessions.

"Sound Advice" features three attorneys — Alan Goldberger, Drew Smith and Don Collins. In this day and age, when officials, assigners and leaders are facing any number of legal issues, there will never be an easier time to ask tough questions.

"Legal answers will be on the menu," said Goldberger, the recognized expert on law related to and affecting sports officials. "Today more than ever, officiating leaders find themselves caught in the crosshairs

of legal matters. Liability for injuries, assaults, issues with officials associations, independent contractor concerns and numerous other aspects of officiating life are affected every day by the legal system."

"The Right Way: Assignments By Design" will be of special interest to those who assign officials. Iowa High School Association Executive Director Rick Wulkow and collegiate baseball assigner Rich Fetchiet will serve as moderators.

The breakout will result in development of a roadmap of best practices for assigners and assigning.

"As administrators and assigners, we must look three to five years in advance by bringing new officials onto the staff," Wulkow said. "Their success will be determined by the games they get assigned from the beginning as well as the officials they are assigned with. We must grow them as they see plays and experience veterans' pregames and calls made."

Another breakout option is "The Visual Official." Dr. Barry Seiller, a leading authority in the field of visual performance, and Vizual Official representatives will provide

a demonstration of their program, which combines advances in 3-D graphics technology with decades of advanced clinical research in sports vision.

Vizual Official has created exercises and assessment tools designed to identify and support aspects of visual performance that most need improvement. The company has also created exercises that will improve visual skills, balance, timing, decision-making and other critical visual functions.

The "State Association Annual Forum," a closed-door meeting for state office executives and staff, is also a breakout option. It is a chance for state association leaders to share best practices in a variety of categories, including online registration, training, recruiting and public relations.

The Summit is presented by NASO and the NFHS in conjunction with the Michigan High School Athletic Association. It is set for July 28-30 at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids, Mich. For more information or to register, go to sportsofficiatingssummit.com or call 262-632-5448. □

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The mission of NASO is to:

- Serve members by providing benefits and services.
- Improve officiating performance through educational programs.
- Advocate opportunities for officials and engage in programs to recruit and retain officials.
- Create alliances with organizations that benefit from healthy officiating programs.
- Enhance the image of officials.

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If your association is not a member of NASO-ON, it is missing

out. For only \$99 per year, NASO-ON members receive exclusive membership benefits. Here are some specifics.

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