

# NASO Names Three New Board Members, Elects Officers

Three new members and a new slate of officers will be a part of the NASO board of directors following the July meeting that is held in conjunction with the NASO Summit in Minneapolis.



(From left) MLB Vice President of Umpiring **Mike Port**, Georgia High School Association (GHSA) Executive Director **Ralph Swearngin** and Women's Basketball Officiating Consortium (WBOC) Coordinator **Patty Broderick** are the newest members of the board.

They replace outgoing chair Sandy Hunt, Jack Bissell and secretary Tom Robinson, each of whom served two two-year terms. Bissell served part of a third term, having joined as a mid-term replacement.

Port took over his position with MLB in 2005 after being a team executive for more than 10 years.

"NASO has accelerated my officiating learning curve and I have been privileged to meet some of the best minds in officiating through my relationship with NASO," Port said. "I am honored to be afforded the opportunity to assist the organization and help it continue to serve and benefit all officials."

Swearngin served as an official before joining the GHSA staff and eventually becoming its executive director.

"It is always humbling for me to be in the midst of so many great minds in the world of officiating," he said. "I am pleased that NASO continues to keep a strong relationship with those of us who work with school-based athletics. I really do believe that officials working at different levels have a lot to teach one another."

Broderick founded the WBOC in 2002 and now is the coordinator for

eight leagues through the group.

"I'm really excited about the appointment and looking forward to working with a lot of the people that I've known for a long time," she said. "I have a passion for officiating and anything that I can do to give back to that and continue to be a part of that avocation is a good thing."

The new board members join current members Dale Kelley, Kathy Strahm, Patty Viverito, Rick Wulkow, Bill Kennedy, Steve Shaw and Don Collins. Barry Mano remains as the president; Bill Carollo remains as treasurer in a non-voting capacity and Ron Foxcroft continues as a special advisor to the board.

Wulkow replaces Hunt as the chair, while Strahm is the new vice-chair and Collins is the secretary.

"It's a great honor for me to receive the respect of the other board members and be able to serve as the chair for such a great organization," Wulkow said.

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## Fox 40 Extends NASO Sponsorship Three Years

NASO and Fox 40 International extended a longtime sponsorship/partnership in early April by three years. If Barry Mano and Ron Foxcroft have their way, the partnership between the two entities that are made for each other will continue for many years beyond 2012.

NASO and Fox 40 have been associated for the past 22 years, about the time that NASO was building its membership base and Foxcroft began to patent the world's most popular

whistle. Since then the partnership has solidified each year.

"It would be hard to overstate the importance of Fox 40 and Ron Foxcroft in NASO's history," said Mano, NASO president and founder. "There is no other single company that has provided the long-standing level of support that Ron and his team has. It is a heartwarming statement of Ron's passion for NASO and the good work it does as the leading advocate for sports officials. Ron served on the



NASO board and served as its chair. Today he continues to provide invaluable service to the board as a special advisor, a position that requires a board vote annually. That he continually gets reappointed to the

See "Fox 40" p. N2