

SECTION SEVEN ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING
New York State Public High School Athletic Association
December 13, 2018 9:30am Baxter Mountain Inn

MINUTES

1. Call to order and attendance
 - Guests: Robert Zayas – NYSPHSAA Executive Director
 - Officers: J. McDonald, B. Norcross, C. Mazzella, J. Barnhart
 - Staff: M. Walentuk
 - MVAC: M. Mills, J. Toney, M. Douglas, D. Snide
 - CVAC: V. McMillan, G. Myers, W. Larrow, J. Harrica
 - Executive Committee: S. Broadwell, C. Staves, P. Curry, T. Farrell
 - CVAC Executive Secretary: M. Farmer
 - MVAC Executive Secretary: R. McAuliffe
 - Absent Excused: K. Lopez
 - Staves, Myers
2. Approval of October 4, 2018 Minutes – Curry, Staves
3. Financial Report – Walentuk – Myers, Harrica
 - a. Review of Fall Championships
 - Overall it was a down year due to bad weather and lack of regionals in football.
 - Gymnastics expense for gym rental.
 - Football – Bad weather Saturday for Finals. A big thank you to PHS for hosting Regional game on very short notice. We will definitely have 2 regional games, 3 weeks of championship revenue next year.
 - Cross Country – eliminated Glen Wolin’s expense, but picked up Fieldhouse expense. Coaches have great, efficient scoring system.
 - Soccer – Good year, we make more \$ when have more diversity in finals
 - Volleyball – We did not host a regional, but will host one next year.
 - b. 2018-19 Budget to Date
 - NYSPHAA Insurance went up due to the adding an Active Shooter Insurance Policy.
 - Still settling up XC and Girls Swim states. Trying to get correct receipts from hotels.
 - c. Finance Committee
 - The finance committee will meet at 9 AM prior to the January 24th meeting.
4. Conference reports/concerns
 - CVAC- Would like the Section to consider compensating school athletic directors more for hosting Sectional events.

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- AD of event may not be site coordinator and does not get compensation.
 - Some of schools charge a building use fee and others do not.
 - The building use fee does not go back to AD.
 - Same ADs hosting the same events season after season and year after year, while others never have to host.
 - MVAC
 - Concern with First Aid/CPR.
 - Sectional championship trophies falling apart. The medal insignia is falling off trophy. There's also a concern with the shape of the trophy.
 - Will investigate other options for the future.
5. Executive Director Report – Walentuk
- a. Actions of the Appeals Committee
 - Approved Hardship Transfer for student attending Plattsburgh
 - Denied Hardship Transfer for student attending Seton Catholic
 - Approved Mixed Competition Requests for 4 males to compete in competitive cheer for Northern Adirondack.
 - b. NFHS Network coverage of Fall Sectionals
 - Calvin Castine and Steve Criss did a great job. It's going to get better. Pleased with the professionalism of the whole process and the access that everyone has now.
 - Section X had no commentary and other sections just streamed the game. We had 3 people on site for all 3 volleyball matches.
 - All contests are archived – you can go back and watch with subscription. After 72 hours after that anyone can go back and watch this.
 - c. Discussion Items from October 4th
 - Southern Basketball Assigning
 - Steve Stahl agreed, trained, and is using rschooltoday to assign.
 - Question – does the assignor see all changes in rschooltoday?
 - Will check with rschooltoday support.
 - A superintendent posed the question could there be the potential to assign out of the Section office.
 - Section VII Negotiating Committee for Officials Contract
 - Negotiating team will consist of J. McDonald, S. Broadwell, C. Mazzella, M. Douglas, M. Berry, and B. Denis.
 - Motion to consider Weight Throw to be a scoring event at Indoor Track & Field Sectionals. – Staves, Harrica - **APPROVED**
 - CVAC has approved this as a scoring event
 - Girls Golf Potential

- Several schools have female golfers. An action item for January meeting will come forward to approve a girls' golf state qualifier that takes place on the second day of golf sectionals.
- Sport Coordinators
 - Indoor Track
 - Motion to approve Chris Verkey (boys) and Sean Ganter (girls) as Indoor Track & Field Coordinators –
Harrica, McMillan - **APPROVED**
 - Tennis – Seth Spoor and Chuck Ko from Beekmantown have expressed interest.
- d. Maximum Number of Contests – Do we support an increase to the numbers prior to 2009-10?
 - Dr. Rabey, CSO wrote a letter to Robert Zayas in September, page 29-30 in packet.
 - For past 6 years this is discussed. For the last 6 years the CSO's have said now is not the time.
 - For the first time this September the CSO's have said it is time to start talking about it.
 - Robert Zayas will bring back in February NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting
 - Discussion
 - Think that this should be brought up.
 - Was an optics thing. The decrease was a PR move. It is necessary to review this and bring this back. So that Central Committee can discuss this in July.
 - Robert has no issue moving this forward.
 - We are losing kids to club sports.
 - When that reduction took place how much money was truly being saved?
 - Would we want limit scrimmages to bring back the games?
 - It was about equity so it was fair across the board.
 - Advocating for waiting until the July Central Committee meeting.
 - Discussion that teams will need to be able to play back-back and on Saturdays if maximum amount of games are increased.
- e. First Aid/CPR
 - Having conversations about how to increase number of facilitators that can provide this service.
- f. Transfer Rule
 - Carl Normandin has a proposal that has a graduated percentage of the % that a student who is subject to the transfer rule sits.

- Robert Zayas has a proposal: to permit students who are ineligible as per the NYSPHSAA Transfer Rule to practice and participate at the sub-varsity level during their period of ineligibility.
- M. Walentuk mentioned the possibility of allowing one free transfer during a student's high school career.
- Discussion
 - One free transfer would give an advantage to open enrollment schools.
 - Karen used to be inundated with transfers.
 - Carl is a progressive thinker. It's very interesting; this does have some positives benefits.
 - Cheaters will cheat and will beat the system, the naïve will get caught. That used to take place 25-30 years ago.
 - Have to look globally about this, how is going to impact us in other sports
 - Sub-varsity level no impact
 - Recruiting done before 9th grade level

g. Consider approval of Combining of Schools: - Staves, Mills **APPROVED**

- Boys/Girls Indoor Track – Moriah and Westport
- Competitive Cheer – Peru and AuSable Valley
- Baseball (all levels) – Schroon Lake and Bolton
- Softball (all levels) – Schroon Lake and Bolton
- Boys/Girls Track & Field – AuSable Valley and Willsboro

h. Other

- Motion to reimburse Jen Drucker \$25/year for the Ray Holmes Physical Education award – Staves, Norcross **APPROVED**

i. Important Dates:

- January 24th – Section VII Athletic Council Meeting
- February 1st – NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting

6. NYSPHSAA Reports

a. NYSPHSAA Office Report – Robert Zayas

- Goal to have 100% of State events on NFHS Network.
- You can enroll your school into school broadcast program.
- Season length proposal:
 - Use the standardized calendar
 - Fall – Change start date from week 7 to 8
 - Push back football to move back one week - committee not in favor
 - Push back winter one week.
 - Push back spring and baseball/softball to have regional finals/ state semis on week 49 and week 50 – committee not in favor

- When would this start – next school year? R. Zayas is opposed for 19-20 but would rather see it introduced in 20-21.
 - Change in practice requirements – Standardize practices to 6 except for football, baseball, gymnastics, wrestling
 - Action item to add to transfer rule – eligibility is determined at time of registration.
 - There is proposal to look at 6 class criteria.
- b. Highlights October 16, 2018 NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting
- c. Modified Committee Report – McMillan
- d. CAC Report – Curry/Broadwell
 - Meeting 12/19
- e. SAAC Report – Douglas
- f. Other
- g. February 1, 2018 Executive Committee Meeting: Embassy Suites, Saratoga Springs
 - **Action Items:**
 - Consideration to revise NYSPHSAA Amateur Rule for clarity.
 - Consideration to revise the NYSPHSAA Transfer Rule by adding: “Note: a student’s Eligibility is determined by the situation/facts that exists at the time of registration.”
 - Are we superseding superintendent’s declaration of residency? No, the Supt can say ok, but the two are not tied together.
 - Question about a home that is in closing during a transfer – it’s ok.
 - Consider approval to support NYSPHSAA schools to have full-time access or coverage of a Certified Athletic Trainer. –
 - Budgetary, it will be very difficult.
 - Access, finance, availability an issue.
 - Even if it is a suggestion and we don’t do it. It’s going to be litigated.
 - Consider waivers of the representation rule for various Sections.
 - Complete Cheer from 2-1
 - Consideration of revision to the classifications to allow six classifications for sports with more than 500 schools participating at the NYSPHSAA Championships.
 - Consideration of a proposal to address receivership situations or similar NYSED situations that affect enrollment numbers.
 - **Consideration approval to issue referendum vote to use NFHS Playing Rules when available or take action at May 3rd Executive Committee Meeting.**
 - **Motion** –to let the Executive Committee proceed with this item-Larrow, Myers – **APPROVED**
 - The precedent is for Executive Committee to vote, a referendum vote may undermine our current process.

- In the past the Section has voted in favor of the moving to vote Girls Basketball to NFHS Rulebook in the past
- Ralph Cross - Softball
 - Document passed out –listing a number of significant rule changes.
 - USA vs Federation – for 10 years the committee has supported USA rules.
 - 10 items of rationale.
 - USA used to be ASA
 - Biggest changes - pitching, bunting, double 1st base.
 - All rules can be addressed in waivers.
 - Ralph has been on committee for 20 years, waivers not typically a problem to get passed.
 - Ralph surveyed all Section VII coaches – they were unanimous in wanting to stay with current rulebook.
 - Our role – when topic of making changes is brought up, hope is that it will benefit athletes. If it's made the committee will do its job. The committee doesn't see how this benefits the girls playing softball.
 - Cathy Allen, NYSPHSAA Softball Chair, spoke at the October Executive Committee meeting.
 - Which ones make the biggest difference – pitching issue - 30 years ago could take step back, now they can't, this would be the biggest change.
 - Pitching dominance has been counteracted with bat technology. The step back would help with the pitcher.
 - Bunting difference a big deal with the rule book.
 - Not a lot of other major differences.
 - Concern is – changing pitchers from their style, pitchers can gain an advantage. In our area would make a difference.
 - Modified rule 40 feet instead of 43 for pitching rubber.
 - Joe Staves – concern – we are a HS association and should use HS rulebooks. If we went to NFHS how difficult will it be to get a waiver?
 - Ralph does not think it will be difficult to get a waiver
 - If it were to pass, would there be support for the softball committees' waivers? We would need 1 full school year or 2 to get athletes and coaches officials trained. If approved until May 2019 would be implemented in 20-21 or 21-22 school year.
 - R. Zayas is taking a step back and not influencing membership.
 - Retaining officials and increasing participation most important.

- In favor of Executive Committee vote and let's make a decision.
 - Joe would be in favor of support for the pitching issue. This is the biggest issue of the CVAC and MVAC conferences.
 - Massachusetts plays by NFHS rules and uses ASA pitching rules.
- Vicki McMillan – Volleyball
 - NCAA rules are not geared to HS kids.
 - Coaches are pushing not to change.
 - NCCAA rules are all Vickie has ever known.
 - When you ask coaches what is the difference, they don't know, they have never played with them.
 - What she's getting is it is a lot about losing officials. The differences only confuses people are not big.
 - The biggest concern is that we are going to lose officials.
 - We are paying \$100/game to officials.
 - Other areas see that threat
 - Of 9 current coaches, 4 are veterans, 5 are brand new – all they have ever known is NCAA
 - Biggest rule difference is a team can drop to 5 players that you can still play NFHS, the game is over in NCAA
 - Whatever we need to switch we can get waivers
- Girls Basketball - Matt Walentuk on behalf of Greg Waters
 - Showed old girls basketball sign of the old uniforms and discussed the old offense/defense players that could not cross half court.
 - Coaches do not want to see the game going backwards.
 - They feel that the NCAA is a progressive rulebook
 - Stopped clock under a minute left in the game on a made basket.
 - Ability to advance the ball with a timeout.
 - Post play – forearm and one hand allowed.
 - Of the 547 schools polled, 95% of coaches voted in favor of continuing to use the NCAA rulebook.
 - Ultimately if the NFHS rulebook is used, the Girls' Basketball Committee would want the ability for input to introduce waivers.
 - Discussion
 - We are the only state using NCAA basketball rules
 - Basketball is king in New Mexico - 16,000 attended State Championships using NFHS rule books
- Gymnastics – Matt Walentuk for Janice Trudeau

- The main thing is that the rules are not only obsolete, none of our judges are trained to use these.
 - We have just recently updated our NYSHSAA technical book (this year!) and judges are easily able to adapt any modifications for high school because our rules in the technical handbook still follow USAG guidelines.
 - NFHS rules are so outdated it is what I went by when I was in high school - that's OLD!
 - It is the feeling of the entire NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Committee that being forced to use NFHS rules would be detrimental to our sport!
 - I know there are only 3 schools for gymnastics in Section VII but these rules would leave us with no officials.
 - Gymnastics is against changing to NFHS rules
 - Discussion:
 - We have used technical rulebook in NYS with our own rules created by judges for 20+ years.
 - The rulebook is copyrighted from 20 years and is in current discussions.
 - The NFHS rules are outdated. The only way to change is to have a seat at the table.
 - If we don't have those rules, we can't voice our opinions. We don't use them we don't participate. We are at the mercy of officials' organizations.
 - We draw from Vermont and Saratoga for officials.
 - One thing R. Zayas has heard is that we won't have officials.
 - We could give ourselves time to implement.
 - We want to give our coaches time especially with the change.
 - What's going to happen with USAG and how is that going to impact us?
 - Going back to leagues and having them vote on this. Will discuss and vote.
- Consideration to revise the Fall, Winter & Spring Sport Season lengths.
 - Consideration to revise the Practice Requirements for all Sports.
 - Consideration of the Section IX Girls Wrestling Proposal regarding the NYSPHSAA Representation Rule.
 - Consideration of approval of the NFHS Baseball Rule 3-1-4 Pitcher / Designated Hitter Rule
 - Consider approval of Glens Fall Civic Center/Hudson Valley CC to host boys/girls basketball championships 2020-2022.
 - Consider approval to adopt a video replay protocol for Boys Ice Hockey.

- Consider approval of SUNY Cortland as the host of 2020-2022 Girls Lacrosse Championships.
- Consider approval of Section XI as the host of the 2020-2022 Softball Championships.
- **Discussion Items:**
 - Consideration of revision to the jewelry rule to include practice.
 - Consideration to revise the amount allotted in the NYSPHSAA Amateur Rule to \$500.
 - Currently \$250
 - Consideration to allow for permanent approval of a merged team, rather than annual approval.
 - Out of Section 6
 - Consideration of the future implementation/exploration of e-sports.
 - Consideration of updates to NYSPHSAA Media Policies & Procedures.
 - Consideration of Football 6-year regional rotation inclusive of At-large teams to fill byes.
 - Consideration of Girls/Boys Swimming & Diving qualifying standards.
 - Consideration of the use of bipods in the sport of Rifle.

7. Officials Report – Walentuk

- Winter Assignors:

Julie Dandrow	Boys Swim	dpi2@verizon.net
Paul Spilman	BB North	paspilman@gmail.com
Steve Stahl	BB South	stvstahl@yahoo.com
Phalon Miner	Wresting	dminer2176@aol.com
Mark Stata	Ice Hockey	statamp@hotmail.com
Bill Wrisley	Indoor T & F	wrizzz@wriznet.us
- Assignor End of Year Reports
 - Football – Concern over fan abuse and lack of officials
 - Are they following 5 point system?. Patricia will bring it up with OCF

8. Fall Post-Season Reports:

- Volleyball
 - An issue with leaky roof in Saranac forced finals to be moved to BCS
 - We will have a sub-regional next year
- Football
 - a. Lower numbers of participants
 - b. Low number of officials

- Boys Soccer
 - a. Congrats to Chazy, State Champions!
- Girls Soccer
- Gymnastics
 - a. Good season.
 - b. Did schedule coach bus for their States
- Girls Swimming
 - a. Broken hand at States
 - b. Due to multiple schools attending, we may want to look at transporting as 1 group. There was a minor accident with our swimmers in a personal vehicle.
- d. Cross Country
 - State Champs – Saranac Lake Boys!
 - We are hosting State meet next year. Brian has been working for the past 2 years on this.
 - The pre-season invite will have a large amount of entries. Looking for volunteers for both

9. Winter Pre-Season Plans

- a. Girls Hockey
 - Finals 2/3 at 12:30 PM
 - States in Buffalo
- b. Boys Hockey
 - Period lengths increased to 17 mins and minor penalties are 2 mins
 - Finals 2/26
- c. Boys Basketball
 - Last year of State Finals in Binghamton
 - C Regionals will be held at Beekmantown
- e. Girls Basketball
 - Moriah and Lake Placid moved up to Class C's.
- f. Indoor Track
 - 2/9 Sectionals at the Fieldhouse
 - 2/16 State Quals
- g. Boys Swimming
 - Combined with Section X, sectional meet will be 2/9 @ SUNY Potsdam (Maxcy Hall)
- h. Competitive Cheer
 - Looking for Sectionals 2/13-2/15.
 - Fieldhouse will cost over \$1,300
 - Clinton Community won't open up gyms on weeknights

- 2 potential MVAC schools
 - i. Ski
 - Alpine 2/12 & 2/13
 - Nordic 2/12 & 2/14
 - States 2/25-26 at Gore Mountain
 - j. Bowling
 - Sectionals 2/9
 - States now 3 day tourney and we will bowl in composite 3/9 and div. 2 on 3/10 awards ceremonies to follow each event
 - k. Wrestling
 - Team Duals – 1/26 in Syracuse
 - Sectionals 2/9 at AuSable Valley
10. Other
11. Adjournment – Curry, Mazzella

APPROVED

NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24TH, 2019