

SECTION SEVEN ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING
New York State Public High School Athletic Association

June 4, 2020 9:30am Videoconference

2020-2021 Athletic Council

Dates:

MINUTES

- *Thursday 10/8/20*
- *Thursday 12/10/20*
- *Thursday, 1/21/21*
- *Thursday, 4/29/21*
- *Thursday, 6/3/21*

1. Call to order and attendance
2. Approval of April 28, 2020 Minutes – Harrica, Curry **APPROVED**
3. **Financial Report** – Walentuk – Myers, McMillan **APPROVED**
 - a. 2019-20 Budget to Date
 - Revenues increased from Winter States
 - Expenses/Revenues are falling short for the year due to abrupt end of Winter Championships and Cancellation of Spring Sports.
 - We will host the same rotation in basketball and spring championships next year.
 - Question about Section/State meetings should it be bumped up?
 - i. The ski jumps where our meetings are held should cost less. Also with the NYSPHSAA meetings being held via videoconference, we should save during the 2020-21 fiscal year.
4. **Conference reports/concerns**
 - a. CVAC
 - Concern about individuals that broadcast Sectional events that are very passionate about our local sports, that post negative things on social media about our schools. Should the section reach out? Is a letter appropriate?
 - The schools should address the issues. Will reach out informally and have a discussion
 - Individual school concern about the tough budget year coming up. Question about the cost of the Interscholastics Coser. Coser is based on enrollment and large school pays a significant cost of this.
 - Recommendation on looking at how the Coser is funded.
 - Concern that Coser is considered mandatory.
 - Section VII went to the BOCES model when Section 2 had some issues.
 - Dues previously were based on a flat fee and a per student cost.
 - Similar to how the dues are structured now, but at a bigger scale.
 - Steve Broadwell worked to setup BOCES system based on RWADA.
 - The big increase for this year is due to the assignor.
 - The “mandatory” thing was a gentlemen’s agreement.
 - If someone does not join the Coser, then they would pay Section VII dues. If they don’t pay Section VII dues then they would not take part in any Sectional activities.

- This put us on a more professional level with other parts of the state.
- If schools cut athletics within their school systems, the need for the Executive Director will be greater.
- Reach out to J. Keleher about what happens if school does not pay Coser.
- All schools are facing some budgetary issues this year as school taxes may be accepted.
- Section VII can contribute the line for “Assignors” to CVES.
- The Section and the schools agreed to pay for this based on the approved funding mechanism.
- Why the increase in Coser costs over the years?
 - Health Insurance Increases.
 - Adding the Assignor working for CVES

b. MVAC

- Thanks to Steve and Matt for being on Task Force

5. **Executive Director Report** – Walentuk

a. NYSPHSAA Covid Task Force

- Recommend creation of Section VII Covid Task Force
 - Question about who is on this Task Force
 - Jen Drucker our Safety Committee member
 - Brian Norcross – incoming President
 - School Nurse representative
 - Transportation Supervisor
 - Set meeting dates – mission statement
 - Officials Organization member
 - A member from the task force from each county that Section VII encompasses. Franklin, Hamilton, Essex, Warren, Clinton
 - The information coming out of each county is different.
 - Motion to create CoVid Task Force Ad Hoc Committee to be appointed by B. Norcross & M. Walentuk –

- i. Staves, Mazzella **APPROVED**
- ii. Goal is to provide guidelines and best practices to schools to open up Sports.

b. NYSPHSAA has ordered medals for teams that were suspended during Winter championships.

- Beekmantown bowling
- Bolton, Schroon Lake, Northeastern Clinton and Saranac basketball teams.

c. NYSED update on physicals

- In R. Zayas state report.

d. NYSED update on CPR/1st Aid Certifications

- Guidance coming out soon from NYSED.

- e. OCF – “School Based Official” for sub-varsity contests
 - Someone in your school with the ability to officiate a mod/jv contests.
- f. Section VII Assignor Position Update
 - Waiting on CVES to post position
 - Ex. Director has final say in assignments
 - Motion for Section VII to contribute “Assignors” line \$5,900 to CVES for the 2020-2021 school year. – Harrica, Myers **APPROVED**
- g. Consider requests for Combining of Schools
- h. Discussion Items from April 28th
 - Nominating Committee for the 2020-21 officers of the Athletic Council
 - Brian Norcross – President
 - Jessica Barnhart – 1st Vice President
 - Josh Dann – 2nd Vice President
 - Chris Mazzella – Past President
 - 1. Motion – Curry, McMillan **APPROVED**
 - Girls Representative to the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee
 - Margaret Lawrence from Bolton – Myers, Farrell **APPROVED**
 - Superintendent Representative to the NYSPHSAA Central Committee
 - Mike Graney from Bolton – Myers, Farrell **APPROVED**
 - Executive Committee – Myers, Farrell **APPROVED**
 - Girls PE Representative – Margaret Lawrence
 - Boys PE Representative – Joshua Harrica
 - All new people will get invite to come to Summer Central Committee meeting.
 - Week “0” Football – Rule 10.08 A team is permitted for a total of 14 games for the season. – Myers, Mazzella **APPROVED**
- i. Other
- j. Important Dates:
 - Tuesday-Wednesday July 30-31st – NYSPHSAA Central Committee Mtg.
 - Monday, August 24th – Fall Sports Start Date
 - Monday, September 21st – NYSPHSAA Mandatory AD’s Meeting
 - Thursday, October 8th – Section VII Athletic Council Meeting

6. NYSPHSAA Reports

- a. NYSPHSAA Office Report – Robert Zayas
 - Planning to start fall sports on August 24th
 - We have to remain patient. There’s no certainty to this situation right now.
 - Created Covid-19 Task Force. S. Broadwell and M. Walentuk from Section VII are on this task force.
 - Not representing own Sections but everyone.
 - The Task Force has 0 regulatory ability. A recommending body only.

- Working closely with NYSED. They are waiving pre-participatory physicals for the fall season if the student-athlete has had a physical within the last 2 years and they can provide a health history form for the Fall.
 - Working on extension of eligibility. The duration of competition rule would not allow for this as it stands. There is a bill in the legislature looking to get this passed for another year of eligibility for this years seniors. This does not have a Senate sponsor at this point. New Jersey is the only state with the additional year in the works, it has passed their Senate.
 - Engaging kids is our first priority. Very low on the list is hosting State Championships.
 - Concern expressed to R. Zayas – the mental health of our athletes and the ability to have local control.
 - Question to R. Zayas – is the governor going to provide guidance for youth sports? – R. Zayas answered that he has not heard of any.
- b. Highlights of February 7, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting – Curry/Walentuk
- c. CAC Report – Curry/Broadwell
- d. Sportsmanship Committee Report – Denis
- e. Safety Committee Report – Drucker
- Much discussion regarding the proposed changes to the Thunder and Lightning Policy.
 - It's dependent on where Weatherbug Stations are located.
 - The 30 minute rule is still in effect, but the 15 mile lightning strike can also be used.
 - Question on the cost of making your school a Weatherbug site.
 - We do not know the cost of this.
 - We currently use Weatherbug for Heat Index and Wind Chill
 - Peru set it up 15 years ago, does not think it's very costly.
 - If Weatherbug doesn't work then the 30 min policy would still be in effect.
 - Is a coach expected to be monitoring this during a game?
 - Todd Nelson said the local stations do not pick up lightning, but the software does. We still need clarification on this.
 - Jen Drucker will reach out to Todd with our questions/concerns.
 - Asked a question about Total Concussion Company that Todd Nelson mentioned in the Executive Committee.
- f. Student Athlete Development Committee - Douglas
- d. May 27th Executive Committee Meeting: Videoconference
- **Action Items:**
 1. Consider approval to add additional language when a team exceeds the maximum number of contests. **Yes**

2. Consider Approval to modify NYSPHSAA Player Sportsmanship Standard. **Yes**
3. Consider approval to revise Indoor Track & Field handbook language. **Yes**
4. Consider approval to expand Officials/Coaches Appreciation Days **Yes**
5. Consider approval to amend NYSPHSAA Thunder & Lightning Policy. **Need more information about how the software works.**
6. Consider approval of presentation of NYSPHSAA awards only during championships. **Yes**
7. Consider approval to amend Field Hockey Rule 4.22. **Yes**
8. Consider approval to on modification on the participation standard and the required nights rest in the sport of football. **Yes**
9. Consider approval to adopt 17-minute periods in Boys Ice Hockey. **No**
10. Consider approval to adopt 2 referee 1 linesman officiating system. **Will talk to CVAC schools. Looking like a no. Concern about increasing costs.**
11. Consider approval to utilize 13 wrestling weight classes. **Yes – would like to see 285lb class go to unlimited.**
12. Consider approval of changes to wrestling handbook. **Yes**
13. Consider approval to allow maximum of 1 relay team per school -Indoor Track. **Yes**
14. Consider approval to amend Bowling Rule #5.0.1. **Yes**
15. Consider approval to revise Baseball Pitch Count. **Yes – JV/Mod numbers will remain the same.**

- **Discussion Items:**

1. Consideration of approval of BOCES District Superintendents as Ex-Officio member. **Will have discussion when new Commissioner is in place.**

7. **Officials Report** – Walentuk

- A motion to pay Track & Field Assignor ½ fee and not pay Spring Assignors as no games were played. – Farrell, Harrica **APPROVED**

8. **Spring Post Season Reports:**

a. Baseball

- Make sure schools purchase NOCSAE approved baseballs and catchers equipment.
- New Pitch count in the works

b. Golf

- Same Sectional course rotation as this year. Saranac Inn – 2021, Ticonderoga – 2022

c. Softball

- All good

d. B & G Tennis

- CVAC issue on big teams and the ability to play more matches.

e. B & G Track & Field

- Concern about lack of officials.
- Concern about big school vs small school meets. Perhaps look at combining small schools.
- Track events used to run without officials.
- There's been issues with the big school vs. small school

9. Other

- President McDonald will be calling Dr. Mark Davey about the school concern.
- President McDonald thanks everyone for serving as president for the past 2 years.
- The Athletic Council may need to convene before our next scheduled meeting if something important materializes this summer. This will probably be done via videoconference.

10. Adjournment – Harrica, Barnhart

APPROVED

NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY OCTOBER 8TH, 2020