

SECTION SEVEN ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING
New York State Public High School Athletic Association
October 26, 2020 9:30am Video Conference

MINUTES

1) Call to order and attendance

- a) Officers: B. Norcross, J. Barnhart, C. Mazzella, J. Dann
- b) Staff: M. Walentuk
- c) MVAC: M. Douglas, M. Mills, D. Snide,
- d) CVAC: V. McMillan, W. Larrow, G. Myers,
- e) Executive Committee: J. Harrica, M. Lawrence S. Broadwell, M. Graney
- f) Guests: R.McAuliffe – Boys Soccer Coordinator
- g) Proxies – L. Silvernail for A. Gonyo
C. Hartmann for J. Manchester
- h) Absent Excused – K. Lopez, T. Farrell, J. Manchester, A. Gonyo

2.) The reason for the meeting is for the Athletic Council to approve procedural changes to the Fall 2020 Sectionals.

Motion to approve the sports of Cross Country, Gymnastics, and Girls Swim to not hold Sectionals for Fall 2020. **Graney, Harrica** **RESCINDED**

Discussion

- Concern over inconsistency in handling of sports. Why would we have Sectionals in one sport and not in another? Concern from the CVAC over voting on this motion before talking about soccer.
- Many CVAC AD's sold the Fall Season to CSO's with no Sectionals.
- Question about the other sports?
 - Some schools are only playing schools within their County
 - Some schools are not competing in the sport
 - Want to limit the size of meets
 - Using "dual meet" format
- Were coordinators given the opportunity to come up with a Sectional schedule?
 - Yes
- Every sport has had the discussion about Sectionals or no Sectionals

3.) Discussion about Soccer Sectionals

- Rob McAullife, Boys Soccer Coordinator
 - Sectional schedule put together with assistance from Tim Mulligan and Mike Douglas
 - Changes include no neutral sites
 - Another option is a 3 pod system where they play somewhat in their classification and in their geographical region
 - Wanted to put together a proposal for schools
 - Sectionals would accommodate the schools that will not play outside of their County
 - Could put together a tournament in the Spring for the Fall 2 schools
 - Teams are playing during the week of 11/9 anyways
- Questions is there any strings attached to soccer schools with some schools not able to cross county lines?
 - In both proposals all the schools can play each other
- We can take the word “Sectionals” out of it and call it “Fall 1”
 - Do not want the schools that are not participating to not be in favor of this
- Why support the pod proposal and not the Sectional proposal?
- We have had a lot of success this Fall season
 - It doesn’t make the kids any less safe with Sectionals
 - Why would we cancel this for the kids?
 - Full Sectionals is in the best interest of the kids
- Not opposed to a culminating activity, need to keep the word “Sectionals” out of it.
 - Using the word “Sectionals” undermines the schools that chose not to play this Fall
- From the beginning of the season participation was the goal
- The fields are getting worse and the weather is getting worse
- Why are we having Sectionals if there are no regionals or States?
- The CVAC schools would support a pod but not Sectionals
- Is the pod going to be consider regular or post season?
- Historically Sectionals are played by every school in every sport, it’s important to have some sort of culminating activity but not called “Sectionals”
- Is the Section supporting Sectionals or not? We need to make a decision.
- The name makes a difference. We are fortunate to still be playing. It’s important to have a culminating event to build on the success of the season.

Motion: Section VII does not hold any fall Sectionals for this season. Harrica, Mills

Roll call vote :

APPROVED 12-3

(Yes – Myers, McMillan, Hartmann, Barnhart, Dann, Mazzella, Mills, Silvernail, Snide, Lawrence, Graney, Harrica) (No – Larrow, Douglas, Broadwell)

Discussion:

- If we have pods we will need to know who’s in and who’s out.

- Time's have changed since the beginning of the season. We didn't need to make the point on Sectionals, but now we can have that conversation. Feel that there is a misconception about Sectionals being cancelled. There's no reason not to have Sectionals.
- The discussion was about giving kids opportunity and there's no states so we don't need to worry about sectionals.
- Question how many teams are playing?
 - 13 girls and 12 boys. Typically there are 21-22 teams.
- There was never any formal vote on Sectionals until this point.
- Did the MVAC have a conversation about this?
 - Just talked to the 3 schools involved. They were in support of Sectionals.
- Point of clarity. Does it need to be called Sectionals? Does the pod need to be called Sectionals?
 - Pod seeding would be similar to Sectional seeding.
 - If teams play 16 regular season, then the pod would have to be post-season
 - Going to reach out to NYSPHSAA to see if we can call the pod tournament a post-season tournament.

Discussion: Pod Tournament

- Pod 1 – NCCS, PHS, BCS, PCS,
- Pod 2 – SCS, SLCS, LPCS, AVCS
- Pod 3 – CCRS, WCS, SET, BVCS, MCS (girls)
 - Semifinals/Finals – Higher seed would host each game
 - Seeded by Committee of Mulligan, McAuliffe, Walentuk
 - Can play Consolation game if so choose
 - Three tournaments, most require 2 dates
- We can have a post-season tournament in our Section without calling it Sectionals. The Athletic Council has to approve the pod-tournament to either regular season or post-season.
- We may need to switch the dates of the tournament based on logistics.

Motion: Section VII sponsors the pod post-season tournament in Soccer – Douglas, Myers

Roll Call Vote:

14-1 APPROVED

(Yes – Myers, McMillan, Hartmann, Larrow, Barnhart, Dann, Mazzella, Mills, Douglas, Silvernail, Snide, Lawrence, Graney, Broadwell) (No – Harrica)

Discussion:

- Is the CVAC in favor of this? Should we go back to the Conferences and ask?
 - All in favor except for 1. Maybe one school would back out
- Question on the Athletic Council sponsoring the pod tournament and Soccer.
 - The Section runs the soccer schedule. All other sports run league sports. This group sanctions and runs the Northern Soccer League.

- Post-season determination gives teams flexibility to schedule more games. Allows those teams that have 14-16 games not worried about exceeding 16 games during the regular season.
- Need to know from schools whether they are in or out.

Motion to Adjourn – Harrica, Myers

APPROVED