

SECTION SEVEN ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING
New York State Public High School Athletic Association
April 19, 2024 9:30am High Peaks Resort
MINUTES

1) Call to order and attendance

- a) Officers: J. Barnhart, B. Norcross, J. Gardner
- b) Staff: M. Walentuk
- c) MVAC: A. Gonyo, C. Husson, B. Norcross, R. McAuliffe
- d) CVAC: J. Manchester, V. McMillan, C. Hartmann
- e) Executive Committee: M. Graney, J. Harrica, K. McCoy, F. Morgan
- f) Guests: R. Zayas, NYSPHSAA, C. Racine, A. Pearl - SAAC
- g) Absent Excused –S. Broadwell, J. Dann, G. Myers, W. Larrow
- i) Proxies:

(1) Forrest Morgan for J. Dann

(2) Chris Hartmann for G. Myers **Graney, Harrica APPROVED**

2) Approval of January 19, 2024 Minutes – Gardner, Norcross APPROVED

3) Financial Report – Harrica, Norcross APPROVED

a) 23-24 Budget Update

- i) Expenses higher than income. Winter sectionals helped with more balance. Still too early to project how the end of year will fare.

b) Winter Sectionals Report

- i) Basketball and Ice hockey made nice profits. Indoor track and field continues to run a deficit yearly.

c) Proposed 2024-25 Budget – Graney, Harrica APPROVED

4) Conference reports/concerns

a) CVAC

- i) Concern with the lack of officials – specifically track and field. Concerned with the process of how officials are selected to go to State Championships. Concerned with the sportsmanship in baseball.

b) MVAC

- i) Concerned with the process of how the sport coordinators have to use the “Guiding Principles” to set regional rotations.

5) Executive Director Report – Walentuk

a) Consider approval of Combining of Schools:

b) Actions of the Executive Committee

- i) Approved Spring Combining of Teams

c) NSL Soccer Schedule – Harrica, McCoy APPROVED

d) Potential dates of 2024-2025 Athletic Council Meetings

- i) Thursday, 9/12/24 (virtual)
 - ii) Friday, 10/11/24
 - iii) Thursday, 1/23/25
 - iv) Thursday, 5/1/25
 - v) Friday, 6/13/25
- e) NYSPHSAA Mandatory Workshop – Monday - 9/16/24
- f) New Business
 - i) Cheerleading Sectionals
 - (1) Section VII will now be taking responsibility for planning the competition and will work with schools to ensure that we can procure the mats.
 - ii) Non-Preferred Status of Officials
 - (1) Will ask other sections how they handle this. Currently, the official is not notified if the school does not send notice.
 - iii) Home facility policies
 - (1) The Section and leagues have the authority to institute policies if visiting schools are not abiding by the policies of the home schools.
 - iv) 2nd Vice President
 - (1) Seeking nominations for the Boys Representative for officer of the Athletic Council. 8-year commitment, will work with Brian Norcross with this opening.
 - v) Softball Seeding
 - (1) Approved change to Softball seeding procedure:
 - (a) In regards to seeding the postseason tournament, the section's softball committee will consider a team's entire schedule to include league, non-league, and in-season tournament games. The committee will consider factors such as head-to-head results, strength of schedule, common opponents, and any other pertinent information the committee feels is relevant in fairly seeding the postseason tournament. – **Husson, Gonyo** **APPROVED**
- g) Old Business:
 - i) Section VII rep for the NYSPHSAA Foundation
 - ii) Coordinators – Track & Field and Basketball
 - (1) Chris Verkey and Brittany Schwartz – Co-Coordination for Boys Track & Field.
 - (a) **Harrica, Gardner** **APPROVED**
 - (2) Rob Witkiewicz – Girls Wrestling Coordinator
 - (a) **McCoy, Norcross** **APPROVED**
- h) Important Dates:
 - i) Tuesday, April 23 – MVAC AD's Meeting – Schroon Lake
 - ii) April 23-25 – Officials Appreciation
 - iii) April 29- May 3 – Mental Health Awareness Week
 - iv) Wednesday, May 1 – NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting
 - v) Wednesday, May 8 – CVAC AD's Meeting – Peru HS
 - vi) May 14-16 – Coaches Appreciation

6. NYSPHSAA report

a) NYSPHSAA Office Report

- i)** Concerns with private schools being part of the membership. Sponsorship budget concerns are now TPG's responsibility. Still many State Championships do not turn a profit. Looking to make everyone aware of limited video replay options and majority of appeals are not permissible. Working to update the transfer notification form and have it consistently used by each section with the goal to have this be digital in the future.

b) Central Committee Report

c) Committee Reports

i) Safety

ii) Sportsmanship

iii) CAC – Supported proposals, but not all unanimously.

iv) SAAC

- (1) Had a strong presence on Section VII Social Media with the Student Section Contest.
- (2) Encouraging rising male sophomores to apply for the State SAAC.
- (3) Mental Health awareness week is April 29th – May 3rd
- (4) Section VII Student Leadership Conference will be held in Schroon Lake, late May early June.

d) Upcoming Executive Committee Informational Items

i) Boys/Girls Swimming & Diving Qualifying Standards 2024-2025.

ii) Increase the base fee of NYSPHSAA Membership Dues by \$50 annually to address NYSPHSAA Strategic Plan priority.

iii) Increase NYSPHSAA Friend & Neighbor fee to \$500.

e) Upcoming Executive Committee Action Items

i) Consider approval to permanently use the standby official (6th Official) at the semifinal and final games as an on-field working official in the sport of Football.

ii) Consider approval to revise the NYSPHSAA Drone Policy to address law enforcement.

iii) Consider approval to revise the NYSPHSAA Appeal procedures to address when the committee meets and to clarify the use of video is not permissible

iv) Consider approval to revise the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Rule to read, "Spectators and/or anyone involved in interscholastic athletics shall not be permitted to use vulgar/offensive or racially/culturally insensitive language or engage in any racially/culturally insensitive action. NYSPHSAA Sections may sanction, censure or place schools on probation that fail to address derogatory or inappropriate behavior deemed harmful to physical or mental well-being for those involved in interscholastic activities.

v) Consider approval of adding a SAAC student to every NYSPHSAA Standing Committee.

vi) Consider approval for Spring Sports to start on Week #36

- vii) Consider approval to allow NYSPHSAA member Football programs to start practice on the Wednesday of Week #7.
- viii) Consider approval to modify combined practice requirement in the sport of Football - "F. 11-man football may conduct 11-on-11 drills for a maximum of 10 offensive and 10 defensive plays. **NO**
- ix) Consider approval of revisions to the Hall of Fame Policies and Operating Procedures.
- x) Consider approval to adopt a Three-Day State Tournament in Girls Volleyball
- xi) Consider approval to change the Skiing Representation Rule to from 6 to 3.
- xii) Consider approval of Middletown High School as the host of the NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer Championships (2025-2027).
- xiii) Consider approval to establish an At-Large Rotation to fill pacer team. **NO**
- xiv) Consider approval to allow athletes to compete in both the Composite/School.
- xv) Consider approval of a new Regional Rotation due to Section V addition of teams.
- xvi) Consider approval for Softball to adopt NFHS Rules with waivers. **Concerns on what waivers will be in place if change happens.**
- xvii) Consider approval of Boys Lacrosse Classification Cut-off numbers for 2025.
- xviii) Consider approval of the USTA National Tennis Center as the host of the Boys & Girls Individual and Team Championships for Fall 2024 - Spring 2028.

a) **Upcoming Executive Committee Discussion Items**

- i) Regional Rotations for all fall team sports.
- ii) Consider approval of pool play at the NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Championships.
- iii) Consider approval of Football regional rotations.
- iv) Consider approval of sportsmanship ejection...to be reviewed by Sportsmanship.
- v) Consider approval to move the 8-Man Football Regional Championship to Week #22 at Dome and Regional Rotations.
- vi) Consider approval of the Football Regional Rotations for 2024-2029.
- vii) Consider approval of early certification date in Boys Wrestling.
- viii) Consider approval of automatic qualifiers for the 2025 Girls Wrestling States
- ix) Consider approval of amending the representation rule for Girls Wrestling to
- x) approval to continue the waiver of the 6 max tournament rule in Girls Wrestling.
- xi) Consider approval to waive the NFHS 1.5% weight loss plan for Girls Wrestling
- xii) Consider approval to use the USA Wrestling Junior Rules for Freestyle wrestling in Girls Wrestling.
- xiii) Consider approval to remove penalty for delay of game for a goalie change in Boys Ice Hockey.
- xiv) Consider approval to change regular season overtime procedure when a winner is necessary.
- xv) Consider approval of adding a second division to both boys and girls Composite Bowling Championships.
- xvi) Consider approval 6-man format for School Divisions in B/G Bowling.
- xvii) Consider approval of Classification Cut-off Numbers for Outdoor Track/Field

xviii)

7. Winter Post-Season Reports

a) Brian Cross – Boys Basketball and Shawn Farrell – Boys Swim are not returning as coordinators.

8. Officials Report

9. Other

10. Adjournment – Harrica, Gardner

APPROVED

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 6TH, 2024