

SECTION SEVEN ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING
New York State Public High School Athletic Association
April 23, 2026 9:30am High Peaks Resort

MINUTES

- 1) Call to order and attendance – Harrica, Barnhart** **APPROVED**
- a) Officers: J. Dann, J. Gardner, J. Barnhart, J. Harrica
 - b) Staff: M. Walentuk, R. Lozier
 - c) MVAC: A. Gonyo, C. Husson, B. Norcross, R. McAuliffe
 - d) CVAC: B. Larrow, M. Berry
 - e) Executive Committee: K. McCoy, J. Harrica, J. Dann, M. Graney
 - f) Guests: L. Silvernail – MVAC, T. Nelson - NYSPHSAA
 - g) Absent Excused –S. Broadwell, V. McMillan, G. Myers
 - h) F. Morgan proxy for G. Myers, K. Patnode proxy for V. McMillan
- 2) Approval of January 29 Minutes – Graney, Larrow** **APPROVED**
- 3) Financial Report – Berry, Harrica** **APPROVED**
- a) 25-26 Budget Update
 - b) Review of Winter Sectionals
 - c) Proposed 26-27 Budget
- 4) Conference reports/concerns**
- a) CVAC
 - i) Looking for a consistent portal for game recaps
 - ii) Moving Golf to the Fall beginning in 2026
 - iii) Concerns over how all-stars are being recognized.
 - b) MVAC
 - i) Opening up the schools to join their Spring golf season
- 5) Executive Director Report**
- 6) Informational Items**
- a) 2026 NYSPHSAA Student Leadership Conference
 - b) Actions of the Executive Committee
 - i) Approved Spring combining of teams
 - ii) Approved Varsity NSL schedules
 - c) Conflict of Interest Form
- 7) Action/Discussion Items**
- a) (A) Consider approval of Combining of schools: **McAuliffe, Norcross** **APPROVED**
 - i) Johnsburg and Minerva – Boys Soccer/Mod Girls Soccer/B/G Basketball/Baseball/Softball

- ii) Johnsbury, Minerva, North Warren – Var Girls Soccer
 - b) (A) Sport Coordinator Openings
 - i) Boys Golf – Approved Karin Sherman and Ian Breen as co-coordinators
 - (1) **Norcross, Barnhart** **APPROVED**
 - c) (A) NSL Soccer Schedule – JV/MOD schedules – **Harrica, McCoy** **APPROVED**
 - d) (D) 2nd Vice President – Girls representative
 - i) Consider approval of Liz Garrand – **McAuliffe, Norcross** **APPROVED**
 - e) (D) NYSPHSAA Executive Committee representative
 - i) Will need to replace Josh Dann
 - f) (D) Oversight Committee Plan
 - i) Will use the current Section Classification Committee
 - g) (D) Sectional Seeding Processes
 - i) Motion: In the sports of soccer, basketball, and baseball/softball; seeding committees will meet in person to seed boys’ and girls’ sectionals in a uniform manner.
 - (1) **Norcross, Berry** **APPROVED**
 - h) Potential Dates of 2026-27 Athletic Council Meetings – **Harrica, McCoy** **APPROVED**
 - i) September – Thursday, 9/10 - Virtual 9:30 AM
 - ii) October – Thursday, 10/8 In-Person
 - iii) January – Thursday, 1/21 – In-Person
 - iv) April/May – Thursday, 4/29 – In-Person
 - v) June – Monday, 6/14 – Virtual 9:30 AM
 - i) NYSPHSAA Meeting Dates:
 - i) Wednesday, October 21st – Saratoga
 - ii) Wednesday, February 3rd – Saratoga
 - iii) Wednesday, May 5th – Saratoga
 - iv) Tuesday-Wednesday July 27-28 - Schenectady
 - j) Important Dates:
 - i) Wednesday, May 6th – NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting
 - ii) Thursday, May 7th – Mental Health Fair – Willsboro CSD – 12 PM
 - iii) Wednesday, May 13th – CVAC AD’s Meeting – Ticonderoga HS
 - iv) Monday, June 8th – Section VII Student Leadership Conference
 - v) Thursday, June 11th – MVAC AD’s Meeting – Pitkin’s Restaurant
- 8) **NYSPHSAA reports**
- a) NYSPHSAA Office Report
 - i) OCF will meet May 5th
 - b) SAAC Committee Report
 - i) Encouraged attendees of Leadership Conference to bring back a piece of that conference to their schools.
 - c) [Schools Without Boundaries Committee Report](#)

- i) After seeking input from every CSO across Section VII, Option 1 was the most selected. They will meet tomorrow to report to the committee.
- d) Combining of Teams Committee Report
 - i) Asking for Sections to come forward w/ concerns (complete school mergers)
- e) CAC Report
 - i) Was not in favor of Boys Soccer Regional Rotation Change
 - ii) Supported Track and Field Championship site change due to Olympic Trials
- f) Modified Committee Report
- g) DEI Committee Report
- h) Upcoming Executive Committee Action Items – **SUPPORT ALL**
 - i) Consider approval of Joshua Dann as the next NYSPHSAA Officer
 - ii) Consider approval of the NYSPHSAA 2026-27 Budget
 - iii) Consider approval of a two-year pilot program to allow 9 vs 9 players at the JV and/or Modified level using a regulation field with adjusted rules in the sport of Field Hockey.
 - iv) Consider approval of Classification Cut-Off numbers for Competitive Cheerleading.
 - v) Consider approval of Cortland as the host of the 2027-2029 Girls Soccer Championships.
 - vi) Consider approval for the sport of softball to adopt a standardized pregame timeline and protocol for all regular season contests to start at the scheduled time for that game.
 - vii)
- i) Upcoming Executive Committee Discussion Items
 - i) Consider approval of the NYSPHSAA Officials Fees & Policies for Fall 2026-27.
 - ii) Consider approval of lopsided score recommendation.
 - iii) Consider approval to change the time between modified wrestling matches from 30 to 20 minutes.
 - iv) Consider approval to revise the regional rotation for Class D for 2026 season in Boys Soccer.
 - v) Consider approval of the Football Classification Cut-Off numbers for Fall 2027 and 2028.
 - vi) Consider approval for a waiver of the NCAA bench protocols for 2026, if the NCAA adopts this rule in the spring in the sport of Girls Volleyball.
 - vii) Consider approval to waive the NCAA penalty, administrative red card, for having a non-compliant uniform in the sport of Girls Volleyball.
 - viii) Consider approval to revise the classification cut-off formula for Girls Volleyball to the top 70 teams in the Class AAA, the bottom 90 teams in Class D and equally dividing the rest of the classes.
 - ix) Consider approval of the Boys Swimming/Diving Qualifying Standards for the 26-27 school year.
 - x) Consider approval of a scoring change for beam in the Gymnastics Technical Handbook to “No 0.3 deduction off the start value for lack of a dismount.”
 - xi) Consider approval to increase the maximum daily game limitation from six (6) games to ten (10) games for post-season events in the sport of Boys/Girls Bowling.
 - xii) Consider approval to amend the format of the NYSPHSAA Boys/Girls Individual Bowling Championship from its current six (6) game total-pinfall format to a two-phase competition.
 - xiii) Consider approval to waive the NCAA Girls Basketball Court dimensions.

- xiv) Consider approval of a waiver of all NCAA uniform rules for sub-varsity only in the sport of Girls Basketball.
- xv) Consider approval of changing the 30 second timeout to a full timeout in overtime in the sport of Girls Basketball.
- xvi) Consider approval to use USA Junior Weight Classes in Girls Wrestling. 13-15
- xvii) Consider approval to increase percent body fat on weight certifications formula from 14% to 17% in the sport of Girls Wrestling.

9) Winter Post-Season Reports

10) Spring Pre-Season Plans

11) Officials' Report

- a) Would like to see CVAC and MVAC schedule opposite genders in basketball on the same day to best utilize all officials.
- b) Concern over Officials organizations territorial rights such as Tupper Lake baseball/softball, Johnsbury has Section 2 officials in basketball.

12) Other

13) Adjournment - Harrica, Gardner

APPROVED

NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 15TH – 9:30 AM - VIRTUAL