

SECTION SEVEN ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING
New York State Public High School Athletic Association
January 29, 2026 9:30am High Peaks Resort

MINUTES

- 1) Call to order and attendance – McCoy, Norcross** **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: V. McMillan, W. Larrow, M. Berry
 - e) Executive Committee: K. McCoy, J. Harrica, J. Dann
 - f) Guests: L. Silvermail – MVAC, R. Zayas - NYSPHSAA
 - g) Absent Excused –S. Broadwell, M. Graney, G. Myers
 - h) F. Morgan proxy for G. Myers, S. Nephew proxy for M. Graney
- 2) Approval of October 9th Minutes - Harrica, McMillan** **APPROVED**
- 3) Financial Report – Barnhart, Berry** **APPROVED**
 - a) 25-26 Budget Update
 - b) Review of Fall 2025 Sectionals
 - i) Questions on the varying amount of personnel costs. Depends on site and number of games. All event staff paid same hourly rate.
- 4) Conference reports/concerns**
 - a) CVAC
 - i) Concerns with Division 1 NSL schools being able to fill their 16 game schedule.
Would like assistance from the sport coordinators to add non-league games.
 - b) MVAC
- 5) Executive Director Report**
- 6) Informational Items**
 - a) 2026-27 BEDS Numbers & Classifications
 - b) 2026 NYSPHSAA Student Leadership Conference
 - c) Actions of the Executive Committee
- 7) Action/Discussion Items**
 - a) (A) Consider approval of Combining of schools: - **Harrica, Norcross** **APPROVED**
 - i) Track & Field – Moriah and Boquet Valley (Mod/Var– B/G)
 - ii) Baseball – Schroon Lake and Newcomb (mod/Var)
 - iii) Tennis – Saranac Lake w/ Lake Placid (Var – B/G)
 - iv) Track & Field – Chazy w/ Beekmantown (Mod/Var– B/G)
 - v) Baseball – Willsboro w/ Boquet Valley (Mod/Var)
 - b) (A) Sport Coordinator Vacancies

- i) Motion to approve Calvin Hamel as golf coordinator – **Harrica, McMillan**

APPROVED

- c) (D) 2nd Vice President – Girls representative – Seeking interest from all school for the officer position starting 26-27 school year.

- d) (D) NYSPHSAA Executive Committee representative

- i) Motion to approve J. Harrica as Executive Committee representative – **McCoy, McMillan - APPROVED**

- e) Important Dates:

- i) Thursday, 1/29 – Athletic Council meeting – High Peaks Resort

- ii) Wednesday, 2/4 – NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting

- iii) Wednesday, 2/11 – CVAC AD's Meeting

- iv) **Thursday, 3/5** – Preseason Coaches Meeting, AuSable Valley 7 PM

- v) Monday, 3/9 – Spring Sports Start Date

- vi) Wednesday, 3/11 – CVAC AD's Meeting

- vii) Wed 3/18-Fri 3/20 – NYSAAA Conference – Saratoga Hilton – nysaaa.org

8) NYSPHSAA report

- a) NYSPHSAA Office Report

- i) Robert's report centered around the concerns from Section 1 and the Lower Hudson Superintendent's regarding the nonpublic's in our association.

- b) SAAC Committee Report

- c) CAC Report

- d) Modified Committee Report – Our promotion rule change is on as an action item at the February Executive Committee Meeting

- e) Handbook Committee Report

- f) **Upcoming Executive Committee Action Items**

- i) Consider approval to add language to the NYSPHSAA Representation rule so it reads, "A contestant or athletic team shall not represent a school in a game, contest, or scrimmage, except in conformance with all rules and regulations."

- ii) Consider approval to adopt the note under rule 9-10-art 1a which states, "By state association adoption, if utilizing the 35-second shot clock, players may dribble the ball for more than five seconds." - **Not in favor**

- iii) Bowling roster needs to have 5 individuals

- iv) Consider approval to revise the current NYSPHSAA Representation Rule for female wrestlers to participate in both male and female events during the regular season and then choose to participate in the female NYSPSHAA Championship.

- v) Consider approval to adopt the NFHS Rules for Flag Football with waivers.

- vi) Consider approval to add language to the NFHS Rules to require dead ball flag checks.

- vii) Consider approval of an onside play option (Girls Flag) – **Not in favor**

- viii) Consider approval of the Greece CSD (2027), and St. John Fisher/Pittsford Sutherland (2028 & 2029) (Section V) as the hosts of the NYSPHSAA Flag Football Championships.

- ix) Consider approval to set in place when using the super standard to qualify for the Outdoor Track/Field State Championship meet, an athlete must finish in the top five in the state qualifier met, effective 2026.
- x) Consider approval to not count performances using the super standards obtained after the state meet toward the entry into the Outdoor Track/Field State Championship meet.
- xi) Consider approval to utilize the three-year average for the formula for Outdoor Track/Field qualifying standards using the seed performances.
- xii) Consider approval of making it optional to utilize a double first base for the 2026 season (regular and postseason).
- xiii) Consider approval of revising the NYSPHSAA Promotion Rule to, "With Section approval, contestants may be promoted to a higher classification within the modified program or to a junior varsity or varsity team at any time." – **Our concern want to see this pass**
- xiv) Consider approval of the Binghamton Area (Section IV) as the host of the 2027-2029 NYSPHSAA Baseball Championships.

g) Upcoming Executive Committee Discussion Items

- i) 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.
- ii) Consider approval of Classification Cut-Off numbers for Competitive Cheerleading.
- iii) 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.

9) Fall Post-Season Reports

- a) Need to iron out the "team of 1" procedures in girls swimming.
- b) Mod volleyball season was too long.
- c) Low participation numbers in gymnastics.

10) Winter Pre-Season Plans

11) Officials' Report

12) Other

13) Adjournment

NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD, 2025