

SECTION SEVEN ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING
New York State Public High School Athletic Association
October 5, 2023 9:30am High Peaks Resort

MINUTES

1. Call to order and attendance

- Officers: J. Barnhart, J. Dann, B. Norcross
- Staff: M. Walentuk
- MVAC: J. Siddon, A. Gonyo, C. Husson
- CVAC: J. Manchester, G. Myers, V. McMillan, W. Larrow
- Executive Committee: M. Graney, J. Harrica, K. McCoy
- Guests: T. Nelson, NYSPHSAA
- Absent Excused –S. Broadwell, J. Gardner
 - i. Proxies:
- R. McAuliffe for MVAC Boys Rep – **Dann, Myers**

APPROVED

2. Approval of September 14, 2023 Minutes – Harrica, Norcross

APPROVED

3. Financial Report

- Review of 2022-23 End of Year
 - i. Revenues exceeded expenses by around \$2,400.
 - ii. We have 30 coordinators and if we give them a \$100 increase, that would be an extra \$3000 of expense that has not been budgeted
- Review of Spring Sectionals Financials
 - i. We nearly broke even (~\$200 loss)
 - ii. Tennis gave us an additional expense of a port a john due to SUNY Plattsburgh's lack of nearby facilities.
 - iii. Look for locations that will not charge as much as for tennis sectionals.
- 23-24 Budget Update

4. Conference reports/concerns

- a. CVAC
- b. MVAC - The NFHS Network is not standing behind their product, not servicing it, updating it and terrible customer service. A letter will be sent to the NFHS network with our concerns.

5. Executive Director Report – Walentuk

- a. Consider approval of Combining of Schools: - **Harrica, Dann** **APPROVED**
 - Boys Ice Hockey – Beekmantown (host) w/ Chazy
 - Boys Ice Hockey – Saranac (host) w/ Peru
 - Girls Ice Hockey – Beekmantown (host) w/ Chazy, NCCS, PHS, Peru, Saranac

- Boys Swimming – AuSable Valley (host) w/ BCS and Keene
- Wrestling – Saranac (host) w/ Plattsburgh
- b. Actions of the Executive Committee – Nothing to report
- c. Fall Sectionals Update – Shared schedule
- d. 24-25 Enrollment Numbers – Will be finalized before Executive Committee meeting
- e. Section VII rep for the NYSPHSAA Foundation – Need to find someone to fill our vacancy.
- f. Start and End Dates for each season – Looking to formalize dates for the Section, specifically end dates in the least restrictive fashion.
- g. Old Business:
 - Off the Field Sports Player of the Game proposal
 - i. Motion was made to approve the Off the Field Sports player(s) of the game for each sport at their championship.
 - 1. **Myers, Harrica** **APPROVED**
 - Section VII social media – Joey LaFranca does an A+ job with this.
 - NFHS Network Cameras - Spoke to this with MVAC concern.
 - Section VII SAAC Committee – Will invite a member of the SAAC to all future athletic council meetings.
 - Spectator Sportsmanship Policy – No concerns from the group yet.
 - Coordinator Stipends
 - i. Motion was made to increase the stipend to \$200/season.
 - 1. **Harrica, Myers** **APPROVED**
- h. Important Dates:
 - October 11th – CVAC AD's Meeting, Peru HS
 - October 12th – MVAC AD's Meeting, Pitkins Restaurant – Schroon Lake
 - October 18th – NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting, Embassy Suites Saratoga
 - November 8th – Winter Pre-Season Coaches Meeting 7 PM
 - November 13th – Winter Sports Start Date

6. NYSPHSAA report

- a) NYSPHSAA Office Report – Gearing up for upcoming state championships. Discussed regional format. Section VII is in favor of only sending championship teams and not sending at-larges.
- b) Central Committee Report
- c) Committee Reports
 - i) Safety – Proposal to use Mylightningtracker app will be used in conjunction with current policy.
 - ii) Sportsmanship
 - iii) CAC – Heard several of the items going forward at the Executive Committee meeting.

d) Upcoming Executive Committee Informational Items

- i) Softball Venue Change to Martha Avenue Rec Park
- ii) Increase the base fee of NYSPSHAA Membership Dues by \$50 annually to address NYSPSHAA Strategic Plan priority
- iii) Increase Friend & Neighbor Fee to \$500
- iv) Do not count league semifinal/Finals in total number of games

e) Upcoming Executive Committee Action Items

- i) Consider approval of the following change to the combining of teams formula.
 - (1) Class D – 40%
 - (2) Class C – 50%
- ii) Consider approval to add a third class/division for individual sports at 601 or above to the NYSPSHAA Championship Philosophy. *(Pg.)*

<u>Number of Varsity Programs</u>	<u>Number of Allowable Championship Classes/Divisions</u>
24 – 300	1
301 – 600	2
601 – above	3

- iii) Consider approval to add a criteria for a fifth class/division for team/individual sports at 601 or above to the NYSPSHAA Championship Philosophy.

<u>Number of Varsity Programs</u>	<u>Number of Allowable Championship Classes/Divisions</u>
24 – 200	1
201 – 425	2
426 – 500	3
501 – 600	4
601 – above	5

iv) Consider waivers of the representation rule for various sections.

- (1) Girls Tennis 6-0
- (2) Wrestling 6-3
- (3) Skiing 6-4
- (4) Boys Swimming 6-4
- v) Consider approval of the 2024-2025 School Enrollment Numbers.
- vi) Consider approval of the 6 class sport classification cutoff numbers.
- vii) Consider approval of changes to the scoring and deduction sheets for Game Day and Competitive Cheerleading
- viii) **Consider approval of OT procedures for Girls Ice Hockey.**
- ix) Consider approval of updates to the state standards for the first non-qualifier to advance to the NYSPSHAA Indoor Track State Championships.

- x) Consider approval of rescinding the pound allowance for any wrestler participating in Division 1 or Division 2 Wrestling Dual Meet Championship, if a female wrestler that participates in the NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Invitational the day before and weighs-in for the dual meet championship the next day.
- xi) Consider approval of SRC Arena – OCC (Syracuse) as the 2025-2027 Wrestling Dual Meet Championships.
- xii) Consider approval for NYSPHSAA girls to wrestle freestyle.
- xiii) Consider approval of the following rule changes to girls wrestling to help transition to freestyle.
 - (1) Each period would begin in the neutral position
 - (2) Out of Bounds – would be brought back to the center in the neutral position.
- xiv) Consider approval to conduct a NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling State Championship on Week #34 in conjunction with the NYSPHSAA Boys Wrestling Individual State Championship. **Thursday before only would affect boys practice by a few hours.**
- xv) Consider approval of a new Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 with six (6) classes starting in 2024 in the sport of Girls Basketball.
- xvi) Consider approval of Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC) as the host of the 2025-2027 Girls Basketball Championships.
- xvii) Consider approval of a new Regional Rotation for 2024-28 with six (6) classes starting in March 2024 in the sport of Boys Basketball.
- xviii) Consider approval of Harborcenter as the host of the 2025-2027 Boys Ice Hockey Championships.
- xix) Consider approval to allow each girls flag football team to have two timeouts per half (timeouts would not carryover).
- xx) Consider approval of the following situations being added to the NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football rules to stop the clock during the running clock period of the games.
 - (1) Administration of a penalty
 - (2) Team score
 - (3) Extra point be an untimed down
 - (4) Change of possession
- xxi) Consider approval of the following language to be added to the NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football rules regarding punts.
 - (1) *The receiving team may advance the ball if caught by the receiving team. The play is dead at the point the ball contacts the ground or crosses out of bounds.*
- xxii) Consider approval of Cortland HS and Homer HS as the host of the 2024-2026 NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Championships.
- xxiii) Consider approval of a new Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 with six (6) classes starting in 2024 in the sport of Softball

- xxiv)** Consider approval to compete the Division 1 team tournament as a 3-4 format (3 singles and 4 doubles) for the team tennis championships beginning in the Spring 2024 for a two-year pilot (2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school year).
- xxv)** Consider approval to compete the Division 2 team tournament as a 2-3 format (2 singles and 3 doubles) for the team tennis championships beginning in the spring of 2024 for a two-year pilot (2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school year).
 - (1) **Concern with title IX and sending more males than females to states.**
- xxvi)** Consider approval to seed the state tournament final four teams in each of the divisions (Division 1 and Division 2) using strength of team criteria via Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) system.
- xxvii)** Approval of a “Battery Week” to allow pitchers and catcher to start one week earlier than players who do not pitch or catch. **Not in support.**
- xxviii)** Consider approval of Wildwood (Section V) as the host of the 2025-2027 Girls Golf Championships.

a) Upcoming Executive Committee Discussion Items

- i)** Consider approval of Girls Basketball Officials Fees & Policies change for 2024 season only.
- ii)** Consider approval of Girls Flag Football Officials Fees & Policies.
- iii)** Consider approval to add the use of *My Lightning Tracker App* to the NYSPHSAA Thunder & Lightning Policy.
- iv)** Consider approval of removing language regarding one-arm swings in Boys Lacrosse.
- v)** Consider approval of removing language prohibiting metal cleats in Softball.
- vi)** Consider approval of Cathleen Dnyprowsy as Modified Volleyball Coordinator.
- vii)** Consider approval to waive the NYSPHSAA Representation Rule to allow Unified athletes to compete in tow seasons in the same sport.
- viii)** Consider approval to revise the state tournament format (Boys Volleyball) to include all sections in the state tournament and increase the length of competition to two days.
- ix)** Consider approval to add a second division for the 4 x 200, 4 x 400 and 4 x 800 relays at the State Championships (does not include intersectional relay).

- x) Consider approval to permit Boys Lacrosse to request an experiment for a shot clock to the NFHS.
- xi) Consider approval of establishing a 3rd Class in Outdoor Track & Field.
- xii) Consider approval to adopt the NFHS suggested speed up rules permitting courtesy runners as written in the NFHS rule book.
- xiii) Consider approval adding the following language to the NYSPHSAA Flag Football Rules regarding flag belts.
 - (1) The “pop” type flag belts will be used by all schools.
 - (2) All flag belts will have a minimum of two flags on the belt.
- xiv) Consider approval of the 2024 Flag Football Classification Cut-Off Numbers.
- xv) Consider approval of the 2024 Flag Football Regional Assignments/Rotations.

7. Spring Post-Season Reports –

- a. Concern in boys golf that a coach did not attend states with their athlete.

8. Officials Report -

9. Other

10. Adjournment – Dann, Harrica

APPROVED

NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19TH, 2024