

**NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
1161 Route 130 North, P.O. Box 487 Robbinsville, New Jersey 08691**

**Girls Volleyball Committee
January 9, 2012
10:00 A.M.
Minutes**

1. Welcome: Larry White opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and asking that everyone identify who they are and their position.
2. Members Present: Sharon Hughes, Girls Tournament Director; Helen Antzoulides, Rutherford HS; Maria Nolan, coach of IHA; Brad DiRupo, Bogota High School (guest); Tom Hennessy, Colonia High School; Howard Weshnak, North 13th Street High School, and Tom Armour, NJSCA representative
3. Invited Guests:
 Mr. Brad DiRupo, AD and varsity girls' volleyball coach, Bogota HS
4. Review Tournament of 2011: At this point the committee was asked to make comments about the tournament. For the most part everyone felt that the tournament was successful and there were no real problems and/or issues of major proportions. The seeding committee and who serves on it was discussed as there were some members on the committee that did not show and have retired or are no longer coaching. The committee agreed that those vacancies need to be filled with coaches that are committed to the process and will show up. The entire process of the seeding committee was explained to the new members of the volleyball committee.
5. Tournament Regulations for 2012: The changes for the 2012 Tournament Regulations, dates and changes to the script, were handed out to the committee members. We went through the 2011 Tournament Regulations and checked to see if the 2012 changes were accurate. As the meeting went on and discussions about things happened, "new" changes to the 2012 Tournament Regulations were added. For the most part all of the changes that were provided by the liaison were accurate.
6. Discussion Items:
 - a. 2012 Legends Program: This item was tabled after a preliminary discussion that included the ideas of honoring the selections with certificates that could be mounted on a plaque, possible sponsors for the T

of C luncheon, and perhaps the Coaches Association and the Volleyball Officials' Associations could finance the Legends Program. The liaison was charged with getting the dollar amounts for the plaques and the luncheon. The committee unanimously agreed that there was to be no MVP trophy.

- b. At this point, the committee agreed that the order of the discussion items needed to be modified and we took up the issue of the North/South Separation and the Non-Public bracket being divided into North/South sections as are the public brackets. The committee discussed the current format and agreed that North/South split does not benefit the sport, in that the two best teams in the specific group has not met in the Group finals in the past two years due to the North/South split. Understanding that upsets occur and that there is never a guarantee that the seeding will follow perfectly, the committee decided on the following combination of modifications. The Groups, Pubic and Non-Public, will be seeded from 1 to 32, with less than .500 teams filling the bracket(s) where applicable. This would require an Intent Form to be added to the Tournament Regulations with the two choices as in previous other sport regulations. Sharon Hughes made the motion for this proposal and it was seconded by Tom Hennessy. It carried as a unanimous vote. The 32-team bracket would be divided into a Section A (top part of the bracket) and a Section B (bottom part of the bracket) and the winner of these sections will be crowned as a Sectional champion. (This would require two more sectional trophies for the Non-Public bracket). This proposal was moved by Maria Nolan and seconded by Tom Armour. It passed in a 3-2 vote. Both of these proposal will need to go to the Program Review Committee in February.
 - c. In conjunction with the above, Brad proposed that if the above is enacted, the highest remaining seed in the 32 team bracket host the two "sectional final" matches, which follows the model as is done with other sports, i.e. basketball, baseball, softball, etc. The committee felt that this very well would lead to greater attendance at the sectional final matches and would not require the NJSIAA liaison to procure predetermined sites.
 - d. The committee felt that the out-bracket match should still be played on the T of C Semifinals day.
 - e. The last discussion item was brought up by the liaison. In light of the importance of all rounds of the tournament, it does not seem fair or right that students are used to call lines in the first 3 rounds of the tournament. No other sport has non-playing student athletes to call lines. The committee unanimously agreed that all rounds of the tournament will be officiated by certified officials. The fee for the line judges will be \$55.00 per line judge. The home team will bear the cost of the officials to offset the traveling costs of the visiting team.
7. Good of the Order: The last item that was discussed was the seeding of the T of C part of the tournament. The committee felt that more coaches are needed

to be at the Group Finals all day and watch the games, seed the T of C so that it is more objective than the few people who perform that task now. The committee was charged to talk to their constituents about this, especially some recently retired volleyball coaches that still know the game and possibly have the time to do so. If there is volleyball coaches clinic in the spring, this topic will be addressed.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry L. White
Girls' Volleyball Liaison

Post script: The day after the meeting, Tom Armour, NJSCA representative, informed the liaison that the NJSCA agreed to pay for the Legends of the Game coaches and players' plaques for the 2012-2013 school year.

NJSIAA will ask the 3 volleyball officials' associations if they will pay for the official's representative plaque to the 2012-2013 Legends of the Game.