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

TO: MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FROM: STEVEN J. TIMKO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: MAY 14, 2014 MEETING

I. Steve Timko
   Welcome
   Review and Approval of October 16, 2013 minutes
   Motion to approved minutes: Unanimously approved

II. Contact Limitations
   a. Dorothy Bedford – Concussion Safety Advocate
      Ms. Bedford discussed concussion management and her efforts to require contact limitations for all sports. She reviewed her ppp with the Committee. She discussed the impact of absenteeism because of concussion injuries on students taking into consideration the tightness of the school calendar, citing testing dates, etc. The pros and cons of impact testing were discussed and it was the Committee’s determination that impact testing “was one tool in the tool box” with regard to concussions. Ms. Bedford also informed the Committee that the requirement by 6th graders in Princeton to wear soft helmets for girls LX was based on academic consideration, e.g., student attendance, not research.

   b. Dr. Tim Hosea
      Tim asked if the NJSIAA would be willing to endorse some sort of recommendation from the Medical Advisory Committee limiting contact. Steve Timko advised that Bob Colgate from the NFHS is forming a committee regarding limiting contact and the Medical Advisory Committee may want to wait and “piggyback” on NFHS’ recommendations. Jill Brooks expressed concerns about waiting for NFHS recommendations and would like to have some kind of recommendation in place for this coming school year. Dr. Brooks asked for volunteers to be part of a sub-committee. Tim Hosea, Rob Franks, Rob Monaco, Jim Baker and Kevin Briles will be part of this subcommittee.
Jack DuBois, NJSIAA Assistant Director, advised the Committee that there is a big difference between contact during football preseason practice and in season competition and any recommendations would have to cover both. Question: If recommendations are approved would they apply to all contact sports and what are the consequences if schools do not follow recommendations. The Committee strongly supports the NCAA recommendations, which will be posted June 30, 2014, but it was stated that the NCAA policy is driven by Risk Management Issues, threat of lawsuits. Damion Martins stated that there is no study confirming less contact results in fewer concussions. It was the consensus of the Committee that most high schools are already limiting contact.

III. Tony Masielli, AD, Montgomery
   a. Tony reviewed the required Participation Physical Evaluation (PPE) form and informed the Committee that this is a National form which came into effect May 1. Prior to May 1 the old form that was used will be good for 365 days. One concern about the new form is that there isn’t a separate section for head injuries.
   b. The Cardiac Care Professional Development Module is not ready and the roll out for the module may be in the Fall.
   c. The PPE form must be signed by the examining physician, no stamps. There is a document for each student/athlete that the school physician signs acknowledging that he/she has reviewed the information on the PPE. This document is supplied by the schools.
   d. Out of state doctors need to complete the Cardiac Assessment Professional Development Module. Question: How to monitor whether a physician has taken course. One suggestion is to have a certificate confirming that the physician took the course and this certificate be returned to the school along with the PPE.
   e. Tony also advised the Committee that an addendum can be added to the Health History Update Questionnaire with additional information, but nothing can be deleted.
   f. The Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes pamphlet was reviewed along with the Sign Off Sheet which must be completed by the student/athlete and parent and returned to the school.
IV. Football Update
The Committee was advised that the proposal for the new structure for football championships where teams would advance to Group State Championships was defeated by our member schools at our annual Business Meeting held on December 2, 2013.

V. Special Olympics
a. Dr. Levandowski updated the Committee on the New Jersey Special Olympics and the need for physician volunteers. Malpractice insurance will be provided for all physicians with the exception of chiropractors. A Plan of Care for Athletic Trainers will be provided.
b. Steve Timko advised the Committee that because of our relationships with Wilson Sports, all balls will be provided to the Special Olympics without cost.

VI. Supplements
a. Steve Timko and Tim Hosea addressed the issue of Supplements. The new banned substance form is listed by categories not substance.
b. Questions: How to address the issue of school districts that have multiple positive tests for steroids. The Committee suggested the NJSIAA contact the schools physician, athletic trainer and school nurse and Steve Timko will address this issue with our Legal Department because of the issue of confidentiality.
c. There is discussion with Drug Free Sport regarding setting up a hotline line for questions.

VII. Steve Timko advised the Committee that Janet’ Law is a school district issue not an athletic issue.

VIII. NFHS –SMAC
a. Football
There is no discussion at the National level regarding limiting contact for football.
b. Pole Vault
Steve Timko said the NJSIAA does not agree with the new NFHS ruling making the box smaller and the Committee concurred. The new NFHS rule will come into effect this year.
c. Officials Emergency Contact Card
The Committee will continue discussion regarding implementing the requirement for officials to carry emergency contact information
IX. Jack DuBois, NJSIAA Assistant Director
Ice Hockey
The NJSIAA Ice Hockey Rules Committee is considering multiple overtime periods to determine winner. The existing rule uses a shootout after one overtime. Safety issues were discussed regarding multiple overtime periods and it was the Committee’s consensus allowing multiple overtimes may lead to additional and more serious injuries due to fatigue.
A motion to approve multiple overtime periods to determine winner in ice hockey
Motion unanimously defeated
The Committee’s recommendation is to keep shootout rule after one overtime period to determine winner.

X. Review of winter season

XI. Budget
The Committee was advised the NJSIAA budget is in line with the districts with a 2% increase.

XII. Strategic Plan reviewed

XIII. Jack DuBois informed the Committee that there is an Athletic Trainers Workshop on May 21, 2014. Karen Manista, Athletic Trainer – Summit High School and Debbie Morante, ATC\L stated that they weren’t aware of this workshop. Steve Timko stated that this was announced at the League &Conference meetings and placed on the list serve. Both Athletic Trainers asked that ATNJ be notified of workshops.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:45.