League/Conference Officers Meeting Summary
August 14, 2014

Attendees –
Daniel Uszaki (BCSL)
Sharon Hughes and Denis Nelson (Big North)
Dave Albertson (CAL)
Lou Raba (CC)
Bud Kowal (CVC)
Jeff DiCocco and Carl Buffalino (GMC)
Sean Dowling and Rob Haraka (NJAC)
Stan Fryczynski (NJIC)
Lou Papa and Brad Bauer (Olympic)
Lorenzo Sozio and Steve Jenkins (SEC)
Joe Montano and Rusty Todd (Shore)
Carl Weigner and Al Stumpf (Skyland)
Michael McAleer (TCC)
Gus Kalikas (UCC)

STEVEN J. TIMKO REPORT

New Jersey Stand Alone Component - DQ – In addition to the Coaching Fundamentals Course, disqualified coaches must take the free NJSIAA Rules and Regulations course, which focuses on NJ rules. This course is really the sixth unit of the NFHS Coaching Fundamentals Course, but is now a required standalone course to reinforce the info.

Wrestling – Moving to 5 Groups – This was a unanimous request of the Wrestling Committee so more teams can participate. Changing from four to five groups will require two more mats and two more locations. Only four mats will fit in Toms River so NJSIAA will have to look for a different site or hold the group finals over two days. It’s important to note that wrestling is different than football, and the 8th seed almost never beats the 1st seed. 1 v. 8 had been done before and the disparity was too great. Don offered that having five groups does help with group size disparities. Steve surveyed the conferences to feel if this proposal is favored and should be pushed forward to the Executive Committee. Not enough feedback was received but conferences will submit their schools’ votes on the matter by August 22nd.

Sectional Meeting Dates – The five sectional meeting dates are below. Rob Haraka made note that there may be low attendance for the North I meeting since schools may be off for the Jewish holiday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 17, 2014</td>
<td>NJSIAA</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>North II</td>
<td>Thursday, September 18, 2014</td>
<td>Millburn HS</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shore</td>
<td>Friday, September 19, 2014</td>
<td>Doubletree Hotel (Eatontown)</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
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Late Entries – Going forward, NJSIAA will seed based on all information received at cutoff. Last year in soccer, we had a problem because a few coaches hadn’t submitted scores prior to the cutoff. It was unfortunate and created an issue for the schools involved as well as NJSIAA. The NJSIAA followed the tournament regulations and seeded based on the power points at the time of the cutoff. Steve asked officers to reinforce to their schools the need to enter scores at njschoolsport asap after the contest, and both teams must report, not just the home team.

Emergency Action Plan – Most schools have one, but if your school does not, Steve strongly encouraged creating one because it saves lives. Steve also urged schools to discuss their plans prior to sporting events so everyone is prepared in case of emergency.

Early Winter Starting Date – Tom DiMaio, principal of Pascack Valley HS, will propose at the September Executive Committee meeting to change the winter start date to the Monday before Thanksgiving so schools can play Mon- Wednesday for tryouts, take Thanksgiving and the holiday weekend off, and then resume play the Monday after Thanksgiving. The advantage of this start date is to get tryouts out of the way before break, so practices can begin with the full team that made the cut once break is over. Discussion took place over whether this proposal was for winter sports or for basketball only. Steve was unsure if this proposal is a one-year waiver request or a permanent start date change.

Affidavits – These are due October 1st. NJSIAA is considering keeping schools out of tournaments if paperwork is not in. All conferences supported this move, except for the BCSL, who proposed a fine/late fee instead of punishing the kids for the errors of administrations. As of now, 37% of school dues are in. Of the 431 schools, 62 school affidavits, 44 coach’s affidavits, and 245 resolution cards have been received. Bud Kowal felt posting a spreadsheet outlining what paperwork has been received by NJSIAA is very helpful.

JACK DUBOIS REPORT

90-Minute Contact in Football – The NFHS and Medical Advisory Committee are considering mandating this and NJSIAA expects this to be implemented next fall. The SEC is already engaging in this practice. Contact is clearly defined by the NFHS. Steve Jenkins can email the description of “contact” if anyone interested.

Football Cards / Six-Man Officiating Crews – Cards will be sent after Labor Day and are due 10/22. Consolation games can only be played on Thursdays or Saturdays since there is a limited amount of officials to cover all games on Friday nights. This option is indicated on the card. All tournament games will be played with six-man officiating crews, a practice recommended for regular season, but not required.

Blackout Periods – The Big North and SEC both instituted a blackout period this summer. In the Big North, schools had to submit a nine-day period where there would be no school-sponsored activities. This was advertised on the website so parents knew for planning vacations. Some coaches disapproved, and about six schools had appeals which were all handled. Overall, having a blackout period worked out well. In the future, the Big North will request their blackout
periods earlier. It was too difficult to coordinate the same week for all schools in the conference but the most popular weeks were the Fourth of July week and the week before fall practices began. The SEC said the blackout period was well received. The only change they would implement next year is choosing a different week for the blackout period. This past summer, they chose the week before fall practices begin, but doing so caused a paperwork nightmare. Note – using the weight room is part of the blackout and is off limits.

**Sportsmanship Banners** – Jack asked conferences to use discretion when creating criteria for the award so that it continues to be prestigious and not easy for every school to earn.

**NJSIAA Annual Awards and Bollinger HOF Nomination Forms** – Forms to nominate a coach or local news reporter were distributed and are due 10/1. In the past few years, NJSIAA has received very few nominations. Awards will be handed out at the NJSIAA Hall of Fame program on 12/1. The Hall of Fame Selection Committee meets in September so please submit this application as well.

**DAANJ/NJSIAA Workshop** – This combined workshop, geared towards new Athletic Directors, takes place on 8/20. The LTI Training Course 501 is offered in the afternoon session. In the morning, Kim and Don will navigate the new website for attendees.

**Athletic Trainers at State Tournaments** – In the football and soccer regulations, it states that all schools are required to bring their athletic trainer to games throughout the tournament. It’s never a problem in football, but in soccer, NJSIAA was hiring trainers, and so were both teams so it was extraneous. If a school cannot bring an athletic trainer, they just need to contact NJSIAA, who will then provide one.

**Soccer** – NJSIAA will assign three-man officiating teams from the State Sectional semifinals on. Schools are only responsible for the first two rounds. Eventually, NJSIAA will assign all games.

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**DON DANSER REPORT**

**New Proposals for Classification** – Don distributed a sample of what classification would look like if the proposal to base classification on grades 9-11 passes at the annual meeting. Only 27 schools will change, and it is a more realistic barometer of actual population.

**New Pole Vault Safety Pads** – These must be used for the upcoming winter track season, including during practices. M-F Athletic has them on sale for under $500. Track officials are well aware of the new requirement.

**RFPs for Track Sectional Sites** – RFPs are automatically sent to past sites but NJSIAA is very open to sending RFPs to new interested sites (site must have two pole vault pits). Nine sites are needed for Memorial Day weekend. Unfortunately, schools have to reapply each year and cannot use a past application but schools are able to keep concession. Don knows it’s a lot to ask and is very appreciative of all schools that offer to host. In Spring 2016, the Meet of Champions will be moved to Saturday.

**School Manager Database / AD Log-in** – Logging in to the website for the first time is the key to moving forward. The list serv will be replaced with the NJSIAA forum. Just as with the List
Serv, Athletic Directors will receive a message each time someone posts a message. The subject will be in the email and this new service will allow users to attach files, type web addresses, and limit the amount of emails you receive regarding a topic. There will also be access through mobile devices. For now, there will only be one log-in per school, but eventually it can be expanded to allow secretaries and Assistant ADs to log on. Eventually there will also be a coaches and officials forum. It is imperative that all sports offered by each school are listed under school manager to be part of the classification and to receive proper notifications/information related to that sport from NJSIAA.

**Legislation Concerning AEDs and Cardiac Arrest Prevention** – These new laws will be included in the 2014-2015 Constitution as a reference but NJSIAA does not interpret them. The Department of Education must do that.

**Cross Country** – Warinico Park is under construction so North II will use Greystone Park (also known as Morris County Central Park) as their sectional site. Discussion took place over applying Janet’s Law for cross country. Jeff DiCocco was asking for advice/guidance for dual or tri meets.

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**KIM DEGRAW-COLE REPORT**

**Rep to Serve on Sports Committee** – There is only one conference outstanding so Kim will reach out for a new rep to serve if HCIAL does not have one to serve on the lacrosse committees. The name of the GMC representative was incorrect so Kim asked the conference to send the correct name to Jewel Sellers.

**Non-Member/Out-of-State Opponent Tournament Reporting Form** – No changes here but a new form must be filled out for each sport.

**Tournament Sites** – Field Hockey is the only sport with unconfirmed championship sites, but Kim is in the process of securing.

**Tournament Refusal Form** – The hope is that these forms will be interactive, but all tournament regulations contain the paper version just in case.

**Website** – On the Resources tab on the NJSIAA website, if you click on the actual word “Resources” there is a lot of valuable information there for Athletic Directors. Rules Committee minutes are posted online and they also contain helpful information to prepare what is coming down the pike.

**Swimming** – The legislation that passed last year now allows more teams in the public tournament with a A, B AND C group. Seeds 1 & 2 will get byes in the first two rounds and go right to the sectional finals, Seeds 3&4 get a first round bye, while Seeds 5&8 swim to compete against Seed 4 and Seed 6&7 swim to compete against Seed 3. Classification will also be different and co-ed teams will now be part of the boys’ classification only, not girls. Last, Kim is looking for information on schools’ home pool sites to find out if the pool is meter or yards and how many lanes there are.
Field Hockey Ties in Regulation Games – Kim requested that all schools notify her by 10/15 if they are concerned about the quality of a school’s field so NJSIAA can send someone out to look at it. Many FH committee members want to play on only turf or better quality fields. The sectional final games must be played on turf fields. The committee also wants to look at power points seeding. Reminder about ties: A tie in regulation play is acceptable. If both teams wish to play overtime, teams cannot create their own structure, but rather can participate in one 7v7 ten-minute sudden-death time period. ADs must determine prior to the match if an overtime will be played in case of tie so officials know in advance. This is not a coaching decision, but rather an AD one. The Group Finals will be 11/15 or 11/16. Kim was charged with finding a college venue but since none are available, she is looking for a suitable site.

Tennis – There’s a new Challenge Match statement, contained in the Rules and Regulations. Please review. Also, please review the new statement about playing a state match if the home court has less than five courts. Classification is sport and gender specific. For the first time ever in the singles and doubles tournament, entries will be allowed to submit flight tournament results if the match is played best of 3 and a certified tennis official is present. Last, brackets are being expanded in the doubles tournament.

Volleyball – William Paterson University changed their start date to 11/15 so they can no longer host. South Brunswick has been used for boys and is a good site.

BCSL (Daniel Uszaki)
Termination of the AD List Serve

Concerns were expressed about the new forums replacing the list serve. Daniel Uszaki is concerned that he can no longer forward an email and now have to copy/paste information in to an email. This will be addressed.

Things that will be a change (and a positive change!):
  1. Users no longer receive every response to a post (only the original post) but you have the option to subscribe to a post, should you want to see every response.
  2. There is capability for links and attachments.
  3. There is no character limit on messages.

Things to keep in mind: the forum cannot be directly accessed on mobile phones yet, but will be. And the current version can always be massaged and changed to fit the needs of the membership. It’s not a static product.

Things that stayed the same – if there are two ADS, each can access to the forums.

Next Meeting – September 11, 2014