Attendees –  
Dan Uszaki (BCSL)  
Sharon Hughes (BNC)  
Dave Albertson (CAL)  
Bud Kowal (CVC)  
Michael Pierson (HCIAL)  
Sean Dowling and Rob Haraka (NJAC)  
Stan Fryczynski (NJIC)  
Phil Smart, Brad Bauer, Louis Papa and Tim Walsh (OLY)  
Joe Piro and Steve Jenkins (SEC)  
Joe Montano and Rusty Todd (Shore)  
Al Stumpf and Carl Weigner (Skyland)  
Mike Clarke (TCC)  
Steve Yesinko and Gus Kalikas (UCC)

L&C OFFICERS’ CONCERNS/ DISCUSSIONS / ISSUES

1. BCSL (Dan Uszaki)

Why is the cut-off date for basketball 3 weeks before the start of the tourney when other sports are 1-2 weeks at most? – Steve asked that this question be placed on next month’s agenda for Larry White to answer (he was not present at today’s meeting.) It’s related to securing officials since NJSIAA assigns all tournament games for all rounds.

2. NJAC (Sean Dowling)

Field Hockey – Needs to be one overtime rule for the entire state – Sean requested that there be one universal field hockey overtime rule. It’s easier than coordinating with Athletic Directors what the plan should be for a potential tie game. Overtime is currently optional because many schools only have one field and overtime cuts into JV games, especially as the nights get darker earlier. It was expressed Varsity trumps JV. Kim will survey schools to determine the general feeling across the state and this can be revisited in Field Hockey Committee meeting. If change is agreed to, it cannot take place until the next field hockey season.

3. SEC (Steve Jenkins)

Discussion of the summer off-season period – Steve reported feeling summer guidelines should be changed because athletes still practice but in an unsafe environment. For example, he feels that it’s dangerous for kids to drive themselves to a sporting event, rather than travel on a
school-provided bus. Or there is the danger of kids practicing before getting physicals. Realistically he believes that illegal summer practices take place such as football 7 v 7 scrimmages so instead there should be a summer season, with guidelines. Don advised that there used to be summer regulations but they were thrown out by the court system. Discussion took place over the importance of administrators enforcing rules vs. the “antiquated” rules in place that are not adequately evolving with the direction of sports today. Steve was happy to report that he is reconvening the Public/Non-Public Committee, who will address issues of this nature. The 20-person committee will cover these areas and look for solutions, create a report by February, and if legislation is needed to correct things, it will be proposed to the Advisory Committee in April.

4. BNC (Sharon Hughes)

**Volleyball Warm-up Time** – A vote was taken to gauge the warm up time each conference utilizes in their regular season. NJSIAA’s tournament uses the 10-7-7 format. The volleyball committee wishes for the leagues to use the same structure as used for the NJSIAA tournament. All conferences that voted utilize the 10-7-7 format (BNC, NJAC, Skylands, HCIAL, UCC and SEC). Those that did not vote will contact Sharon Hughes directly with their structure.

**2015 Fall Start of Practice** – In fall 2015, the early fall practice start date waiver expires and the fall start practice date returns to the normal rule, which will be August 17th in 2015. The Big North plans to request another waiver for the fall season to open earlier. The request will be for practice to commence on August 10th and the regular season to begin on September 4th.

Also, Sharon shared that the Big North voted 32-3 in favor of a nine-day blackout period in summer.

5. CVC (Bud Kowal)

**Eyewear in Soccer** – There was an issue this past week where an official held up the start of a game for a lengthy time because he was not allowing two players wearing prescription glasses to play. The official was wrong since playing with prescription glasses is permissible. The state law, Chapter 5, deals with ASTM standard for eyewear and the law says the school and/or the official is not liable if the athlete gets hurt from wearing their glasses. An official can only bar the player from playing if his/her glasses have a protrusion on them that the official deems dangerous to others. Al Stumpf brought up the mask in field hockey. The NFHS allows the mask, but if the player wears goggles with it, the goggle manufacturer will not certify that the combo meets the safety standard. NJSIAA has asked the NFHS to not permit the face mask unless it meets a safety standard but this has not yet taken place.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OVERVIEW

STEVEN J. TIMKO REPORT

Early Basketball Opening Date Waiver Request (Tom DeMaio, Pasack Valley HS) – A one-year trial waiver that will allow schools to begin basketball practice the Monday – Wednesday before Thanksgivings for a tryout period/cuts was approved. Practices are still not allowed during the Thanksgiving break (Thursday – Sunday) and the practices that take place Mon – Wed do not count towards the six practices needed before the first scrimmage. The Executive Committee approved this 25-10. Wrestling and track were not included in this proposal because they do not tend to make cuts. If a school does not make cuts in basketball, they can use the extra days for practice, but those three practices still don’t count towards the six practices needed for the first scrimmage. This proposal opened up debate and good dialogue again about how sports are evolving and the process of the annual meeting vs. the Executive Committee making changes on behalf of the membership. Steve expressed the importance of contacting your Executive Committee representative for proper representation at the meeting. Exec agendas are posted in advance of the meeting and also sent to all L&C officers prior to the meeting. Debate also took place over allowing students to practice in their sport one season prior (example - baseball players can practice in winter with baseball coach). Arguments for and against were discussed.

Ice Hockey Cooperative Sports Waiver for Old Tappan HS / Hasbrouck Heights HS and Demarest HS – Three schools are not allowed to co-op together as one team, but a one-year waiver for the three schools was approved by the Executive Committee since the request was approved by the local conferences, the combined team will only roster 16 kids between all three schools, and it is not seen for competitive advantage but rather to help the student-athletes continue playing.

Wrestling Districts and Regions – Schools voted 203-104 in favor of going to five groups in wrestling. The Sun National Center will host instead of Tom Rivers. If the proposal to go from six teams to eight teams per group had been approved, that would have given 32 more schools a chance to make the tournament, but this chosen route, which also allows more schools to enter the tournament, makes the matches more competitive.

Steroid Protocols / Drug Free Sports / Steroid Final Report – Over the summer NJSIAA contracted again with Drug Free Sports to administer its steroid testing. Of the 495 athletes tested last year from 78 schools, there were three positive tests. Steve also discussed the problem with supplements. Athletes are going to local GMCs and purchasing supplements that may contain illegal substances without the athlete’s knowledge. To combat the problem, NJSIAA has set up a hotline with DrugFree Sports. If an athlete/parent/coach has a question about what an athlete is taking, they can email Drug Free Sports. Go to http://www.drugfreesport.com/rec/, choose the NJSIAA logo, then enter the password "njsports" to get to the inquiry page. Testing per sport is outlined below: It was noted that wrestling had not been tested but will be this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th># of Students Tested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Field Hockey</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Soccer</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys Soccer</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Track and Field</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys Basketball</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Basketball</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys Ice Hockey</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Lacrosse</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys Lacrosse</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fall Championship Sites** – Volleyball will be played at South Brunswick HS since William Paterson University is not available this year. The only caveat is if it rains Friday night, South Brunswick HS will have to host their rescheduled Friday night football game on Saturday, therefore the volleyball group finals will be postponed to Sunday.

**Fall Tournament Regulations Online** – All fall regulations were posted online before the first fall practice began on August 11th, with the exception of volleyball, which is now posted.

**Cooperative Sports Uniform** – A cooperative sports team can only have one school’s name on their jersey, not both, and it should be the LEA host school.

**Sectional Meetings** – Meetings are as follows:

- Central: Wednesday, September 17 @ NJSIAA 10:00am
- North II: Thursday, September 18 @ Millburn HS 10:00am
- Shore: Friday, September 19 @ Doubletree Hotel (Eatontown) 9:00am
- South: Tuesday, September 23 @ Washington Twp. HS 10:00am
- North I: Friday, September 26 @ Montclair HS 10:00am

**Update on Janet’s Law/AED** – Steve offered help to anyone looking for assistance creating emergency action plans and provided sample plans to take home. NJSIAA was fortunate enough to have a sponsor donate four AEDs for use in NJSIAA’s state tournaments.

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**KIM DEGRAW-COLE REPORT**

**Field Hockey** – Dates are set. The group finals will be played at Bordentown HS. The committee wanted the finals played at a college, but none was available so Bordentown HS was chosen for its high quality field. All Tournament of Champions games will be played at Rider. NJSIAA will no longer be at TCNJ since it has become cost prohibitive.

**Girls Soccer** – The finals will no longer be at the College of NJ for same reasons stated above. Instead, the public and non-public finals will be played at Kean University.

**Girls Tennis** – All sites remain the same as last year.

**Tournament Refusal Form** – This form may be interactive by the time fall tournaments begin but just in case it’s not, the refusal form was included in all fall tournament regulations. If it is functioning on the website properly, NJSIAA will accept the data either interactively or hard copy.
Non-Member Out-of-State Form – Though these are past due, it is never too late to hand them in.

Website – Kim and Don have been working on School Manager and the AD forum with the web developer on a daily basis. If you are having problems logging in, Don can walk you through the process. Submitting disqualifications online is almost ready. If your school principal information is not updated in School Manager, then your principal will not receive an email about the disqualification (though the AD will still receive a phone call from the official.) The deadline to terminate the list serve is September 30th. Kim and Don have been hearing the concerns regarding the forum and are working tirelessly with the developers to adjust it to meet the needs of the membership. There are design flaws with the School Manager and will be addressed but for now, Kim recommends typing a school name very slowly when doing a search so it comes up in the search bar.

WSI – WSI and Lifeguard certifications are still required. Kim recommended Athletic Directors reach out to their county superintendents regarding this issue.

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DON DANSER REPORT

Cross Country – The site for North II, Warinanco Park, is under construction, therefore unavailable. Instead, the North II sectionals will take place at Graystone Park, also known as Morris County Central Park.

Programs – Please let parents know these are viewable/downloadable online. They are always posted on the home page during the tournament, then moved to individual sports pages. Sean Dowling questioned doing them if they are going to be incomplete.

Directory-School Manager / Constitution / Forum – Don knows the School Manager is not yet easy to operate, but it will be. A mobile app is also in the works, so it’s easy to use and access from cell phones. The Constitution is posted online. Don encouraged everyone to experiment on the new website. Some tips Don shared: 1 - if looking for a certain thread in the forum, just type keywords or a person’s name in the search bar. 2- if you want to follow a person’s post and be notified each time someone comments on that particular post, just click on the star button next to post, which turns the star solid gold. You have control over your own notifications. 3 - if you click on a person’s name in the forum, that allows you to send them a private message. 4- Please put your school name as the first part of your message title so other Athletic Directors know instantly if the message pertains to them or they can delete.

Classifications – All fall classifications are posted as are classifications for swimming and indoor track. Non-public track classifications cannot be posted until entries are in. Make sure to check both the men’s and women’s swim classifications because schools with programs for both genders can be in two different sections/groups.

Approval of Cooperative Sports Programs – The Executive Committee approved a co-ed swimming co-op between Glassboro HS and Clayton HS.
LARRY WHITE REPORT

Gymnastics – All sites remain the same. The five sectionals will take place at Ridgewood, Bishop Ahr, Hillsborough, Manalapan and Seneca. Both the team and individual finals are set for Montgomery HS on 11/13 and 11/15 respectively.

Officials’ Rules Meetings – The four regional rules interpretation meetings for football, soccer and volleyball took place at Williamstown HS, Brick Memorial HS, Bridgewater-Raritan HS and PCTI. These schools will also host the winter rules interpretation meetings, for which Larry was very thankful. These meetings are mandatory for officials, but coaches are welcome to attend.

DQ Report – Player disqualifications were down 94 last year, from 417 to 323. Before last year, the lowest amount of player dqs was 394. Coach disqualifications were up by two, from 34 to 36. Larry thinks the sportsmanship paragraph being read prior to every contest and announced over the PA system is a direct cause for the decrease. Of the 323 player disqualifications, only six were reported due to the verbal use of the six categories that were added last year (race, ethnicity, disability, gender, religious affiliation, and sexual orientation).

Foreign Exchange – Larry continues to check and approve foreign exchange student applications. NJSIAA receives 20 to 30 in the beginning of the year and then they trickle in during the year.

JACK DUBOIS REPORT

Football – NJSIAA is very happy to report that 10 championship games will be played at MetLife Stadium this year because both the Jets and Giants are away. The rest will be played at Rowan and Kean University. This year, there will not be any games at TCNJ.

Coach Education Update – Jack thanked the membership for helping these programs succeed. A 6th required component has been added for disqualified coaches. In addition to taking the Fundamentals of Coaching class, disqualified coaches are also required to take the NJ unit for DQ Coaches. There is no cost to take this additional module.

Clinic Updates – A few clinics are coming up, including bowling and two eligibility workshops.

ShopRite Cup Presentations – Jack has been attending the ceremonies to present schools with their ShopRite Cup award.

Corporate – There are a few lucrative potential sponsors in the works.
First, Steve introduced NJSIAA’s new Director of Finance. Colleen was a South Hunterdon HS athlete who played basketball on scholarship at George Washington University and was inducted into their Hall of Fame. Prior to coming to NJSIAA, Colleen worked at Commerce Bank/TD Bank in Cherry Hill. She’s a great addition to the NJSIAA family.

**FYE 06/30/14 Audit Report Status** – NJSIAA accrued a net income of $200,000 last year, vs. $30,000 the year before. This increase is only because NJSIAA stopped printing championship programs. This is not sustainable and is a one-time savings.

**2014-2015 Annual Dues** – 70% of schools paid their dues, which were due 9/1.

**Board Member Resolution Cards** – 70% of schools have turned in their resolution cards.

**Principal and Coaches Affidavits** – 25% and 30% of schools have handed in their principal and coaches affidavits respectively. Though they are not due until 10/1, NJSIAA struggles in collecting these. Discussion took place about consequences. It was agreed, that you are not considered a member until all these forms are turned in. After October 1st, principals will receive a warning that their school has not paid and their school is not eligible to enter NJSIAA tournaments until forms are received. Tennis is excluded since seeding takes place before the 10/1 deadline.

**Rooms in Atlantic City for 2015 Wrestling Tournament** – NJSIAA has secured 75 rooms at Bally’s at a reduced rate. It’ll cost $149 for a Friday night stay and $199 for Saturday night. To reserve a room from this room block, please call 888-516-2215 and refer to the NJSIAA Wrestling Tournament when making your reservation. NJSIAA is excited about this and are hoping that the block gets sold out quickly, so the block can be expanded.

**Next Meeting** – October 9, 2014