Attendees – Daniel Uszaki (BCSL)
   Sharon Hughes (Big North)
   Dave Albertson (CAL)
   Matt Sheehan (Colonial)
   Bud Kowal and John Costantino (CVC)
   Jeff DiCocco (GMC)
   Michael Pierson (HCIAL)
   Rob Haraka and Sean Dowling (NJAC)
   Stan Fryczynski (NJIC)
   Tim Walsh, Louis Papa, and Brad Bauer (OLY)
   Lorenzo Sozio, Joe Piro and Steve Jenkins (SEC)
   Joe Montano and Rusty Todd (Shore)
   Carl Weigner and Al Stumpf (Skyland)
   Mike Clarke and Andrea Bramante (TCC)
   Steve Yesinko and Gus Kalikas (UCC)

L&C OFFICERS’ CONCERNS/ DISCUSSIONS / ISSUES

1. Skyland (Al Stumpf)

Early Fall Start Date – Al questioned the fall start date, which was changed in the October Executive Committee meeting. There will no longer be an optional early opening date for fall sports. Only those schools that opened their football season on zero week this past year have the option to open up their football season one week earlier next year. To clarify, fall dates are as follows for next year:

   Practice Begins For All Sports* – August 17th
   Tennis Opening Day – September 8th
   Gymnastics/Cross Country/Volleyball/Field Hockey and Soccer Opening Day – September 10th
   Football Opening Day** - September 11th

*Schools that played a football game on zero week in 2014 can begin FOOTBALL practice August 10th in 2015
** Schools that played a football game on zero week in 2014 can play first football game on September 4th in 2015

Discussion took place over the two proposals presented at the Executive Committee meeting, one by the Big North and the other from the TCC. The Big North proposal was strongly supported at the North I sectional meeting, while the South strongly favored the TCC proposal. The Executive
Committee was just as divided. After an hour-long debate, the committee voted 16-14 in support of the TCC proposal to allow only those schools who opened up on zero week this year to open up again early next year, in football only. After this year, if an early opening day is sought, it must go through a legislative change, not a waiver.

2. **NJAC (Rob Haraka)**

**Early Winter Start Date** – It was questioned why fencing was not included when the early practice date for wrestling and track was approved. The answer was no one had proposed it.

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**STEVEN J. TIMKO REPORT**

**FYE 2014 Financial Audit Report** – The association reported a $200,000 surplus but only because the association ceased printing programs, which was a one-time cost savings. If the programs were not factored in, there would have been a $30,000 surplus, which is not a big cushion on a 5.2 million budget, but Steve is happy it’s on the positive side. Kudos were given to Colleen and the directors for their assistance in the audit and for keeping costs down.

**Legislative Update** – Paul Anzano, NJSIAA’s lobbyist, offers a monthly legislative update on bills in the legislature. Two key bills discussed were:

1. **Bill A3373** would require NJSIAA to regulate cheerleading. Steve Jenkins supports this bill as he feels it would be safer for athletes. A survey is on the forum right now to gauge interest whether the membership supports this bill and wants NJSIAA to oversee cheerleading. Only about 100 schools have answered so far.

2. **Bill A2699**, which proposes giving NJSIAA $45,000 more in funding to perform year-round steroid testing instead of just during the championship events, was being voted on at the same time as this meeting. Steve favors this bill because currently teams that know they won’t make the championships are never tested. Lorenzo Sozio requested more publicity about the positive tests so it serves as a deterrent for students. There are privacy laws but the amount of positive tests each year are reported to the Executive Committee in September, and then to L&C officers the following day. If there is a positive finding, doctors always call parents to find out if there is a medical reason for their child to have steroids in their system. If no, then a second sample is tested to make sure the first test was not a mistake. Students have the right to appeal if the second sample is positive. The penalty for a positive test is a one-year suspension.

**Sectional Meetings** – All five meetings have taken place.

**Public/Non-Public Committee Meeting** – All 20 people asked to serve have accepted. The first meeting is scheduled for the end of October. The list of topics on the agenda is constantly growing.

**Surveying of Schools – Passed Legislation** – The Executive Committee passed two legislative changes over the past year. Under the NJSIAA Constitution, any legislation approved by the Executive Committee shall be forwarded to the membership and the membership shall be polled. If a majority of the membership casts ballots, the ballots shall be official and the majority of the votes cast shall decide the issue; if less than a majority of member schools respond, the position
of the Executive Committee is sustained. Both pieces of legislation have passed. See polling results below:

**BALLOT #1 - SECTION 14. VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING.**

The approved change to Section 14 was as follows (material deleted is **struck through**; material added is **underlined**):

Section 14. Videotaping and Filming. Electronic Communication equipment, including but not limited to computer, film, television and videotape is permissible, but may not be used for coaching purposes during the game or between periods. Videotaping of scrimmages is a local option.

Section 14. Video and Audio Recording. Video and audio recording of interscholastic competition may only occur as permitted by NFHS rules for the sport in question. Video and audio recording of scrimmages is local option. No video or audio recording may be used to review or challenge the decision of a sport official.

**Final Vote:**  Yes-184;  No-9;  Abstain-0.

**BALLOT #2 - BYLAW ARTICLE III, SECTION 10.B – CO-OP AMENDMENT**

The following was added to bylaw Article III, Section 10.B:

(7) The restrictions set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection B shall not apply to Cooperative Sports Programs in the sport of ice hockey. A Cooperative Sports Program in the sport of ice hockey may be formed between schools of any Group, as long as the program meets all other requirements of the Bylaws and the Guidelines for Cooperative Sports Programs and the program will not diminish the playing opportunities for student-athletes of the two schools or adversely affect competitive balance.

**Final Vote:**  Yes-175;  No-15;  Abstain-2.

**NFHS Section I Meeting** – This took place in Maine. The two main topics of discussion were sportsmanship and social media policies. Al Stumpf is a good person to talk to if you have not yet created a policy dealing with social media.

**NJSIAA Bollinger HOF – Class of 2014** – The following people will be inducted into the NJSIAA Bollinger HOF on 12/1/14:

William "Billy" Austin, Miller Bugliari, Gil Chapman, Jessica Michelle Galli, Rich Giallella, Gilbert J. Gibbs, Jr., Joseph Hartmann, and Bruce Taylor.

**Fall Ticket Price Submissions** – Price requests were submitted. NJSIAA is waiting on the Department of Education to approve NJSIAA’s recommended ticket prices.
KIM DEGRAW-COLE REPORT

Girls Tennis – October 11 is both an SAT date and the date for the women’s tennis 3rd/4th Round Singles/2nd Round Doubles. Athletes participating in the tournament can sign up to take the SATs on Sunday, 10/12. There is a $150 fine for entering the tournament, and then backing out.

Field Hockey – Cutoff is 10/21 and seeding will be 10/23.

Soccer – Cutoff is 10/25 and seeding will be 10/29. Waivers to wear pink have been granted as long as opponents agree. Officials just need to be notified in advance. If your team wears pink to support breast cancer, email pictures of this event to Kim so she can post on NJSIAA’s website.

National High School Activities Month – Kim distributed different weekly national activity week suggestions for the month of October.

Website Update –

1. School Manager – It is imperative that sports and contact information be updated in the school manager, which is the NJSIAA database. If there is not a coach listed under a sport, the school does not show up in the report when Don does the classification. Don has had to constantly rework the classifications (and post a revised version) because of this issue. Also, disqualifications are now electronic. Principals are notified via a generated email letter. If there is no principal in school manager, your principal will not receive the notice.

2. AD Forum – This is a work in progress but is getting better. Kim thanked Athletic Directors for cooperating by putting their school name and their geographical region (North, South, etc) in the email title to make it easier for colleagues to sift through emails. There are two fixes on the top of the priority list that will be corrected in the near future: 1- there will be a forwarding capability so ADs can forward messages and 2 –The forum will be mobile-friendly.

3. Programs – Will be posted on the NJSIAA homepage until the championships are complete, and then are moved to the individual sports pages under the Sports tab. Kim again, urged all ADs to encourage coaches to update njschoolsports.com with their rosters for printing in the program.

4. Tournament Refusal Forms – These will not be interactive until winter so for fall season, these should be filled out the old standard way (print out, fill in and fax back).

Sean Dowling asked if NJSIAA can print a report of all schools who have not yet logged in so officers can go back to their conferences and urge those schools to log in. Kim will look into this request.

National Girls and Women in Sports Day – This will be 2/1/15 at Seton Hall University. Honorees are invited to attend the Seton Hall vs. St. John’s women’s basketball game, following the event.
Swimming Classifications – Make sure to check these carefully because men’s and women’s teams can be classified in different groups due to the legislation passed last year.

NJ.COM and Posts/Comments – Thanks to Lorenzo, any high school sports article published on nj.com that receives negative posts can be flagged and removed.

DON DANSER REPORT

Cross Country – Sectionals will take place on 11/8, an SAT test date but athletes can take the SATs on 11/9 instead. Graystone Park will host North II since Warinaco Park is under construction.

School Manager – Don reiterated everything Kim spoke about regarding school manager because it is essential to have this information updated and corrected. Constantly redoing the classifications affects multiple schools each time, not just the school who hasn’t updated their information. If there is currently not a coach hired for a sports program, just put TBA in school manager as a placeholder for the sport.

Approval of Cooperative Sports Programs – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative sports agreement between Marlboro HS and Holmdel HS in ice hockey.

JACK DUBOIS REPORT

Football – 2/3 of intent cards have been received, which are due 10/22. Seeding is 11/9, first round games – 11/14 & 11/15, second round games – 11/21 & 11/22 with finals being played 12/5 – 12/7.

Boy’s Soccer – Cutoff – 10/25. Seeding will be 10/29. The non-public finals will be 11/16, women’s public finals on 11/22 and men’s public finals on 11/23, all at Kean University.

NJSCA HOF – Applications for the NJSCA HOF are due 1/22/15. Jack provided a list of all those who have been inducted thus far and pushed for nominations from the Shore and South. Majority of nominations received every year are from the North and he wants the HOF to be balanced geographically. Inductees must have been head coach for a minimum ten years. Full listing of inductees is on our website, under Awards, Coaches Association.

Ice Hockey Cooperative Sports Waiver for Paramus HS, Lyndhurst HS and Hackensack HS – A one-year waiver was granted for a three-school ice hockey co-op program between Paramus HS, Lyndhurst HS and Hackensack HS. It was asked if there was ever consideration to allowing an ice-hockey co-op between a non-public and public school. Legislation is needed to allow for that request.

Corporate – Contracts with IAABO and Parisi are in the works.

Sports Awards – A listing of recipients who will receive a NJSIAA sports or service award at the HOF program on 12/1 was distributed.
**LARRY WHITE REPORT**

**Gymnastics** – Dates and sites are set. Sectionals will be 11/8, an SAT date as mentioned earlier but testing is available on 11/9.

**Volleyball** – Group finals will be played at South Brunswick HS since William Paterson University is not available this year. The only caveat is if South Brunswick HS makes the playoffs, and it rains Friday night, then South Brunswick HS will reschedule their Friday night football game to Saturday, and the volleyball group finals will be postponed to Sunday. Also, the times of the T of C games on 11/22 were pushed to earlier in the day since there is an event at South Brunswick HS at 4pm but the finals on Sunday will still be at 2pm.

**Officials and Basketball** – IAABO asked Larry to share some tips and a listing of “can and cannots” for announcers. Officials are also notified but it’s really more of a home management control.

**COLLEEN MAGUIRE REPORT**

**Outstanding Dues/Affidavits/Resolution Cards** – 90% of annual dues and 70% of affidavits have been collected. 10/20 is the deadline. If not received by that date then schools are not eligible for fall tournaments.

**Outstanding Invoices** – There are still invoices not paid from last year. Colleen asked for assistance and reminded all officers that all financial information is on the NJSIAA website, under Everything NJSIAA/Financial Info.

**Sports Participation Forms** – 100 have been received thus far. Scanning and emailing may be the best route to return the forms since sometimes the association has not received faxes. A listing of participation forms received by schools is posted monthly on the NJSIAA website, under Resources and Forms. Bud Kowal requested the participation form be posted in a word document so he can fill in the information directly since currently it’s a PDF. Soon these forms will be interactive.

**Rooms in Atlantic City for Wrestling Tournament** – The hotel room block has already been filled so NJSIAA secured 50 additional rooms for Friday and Saturday night and possibly 10 extra rooms for Thursday night.

**PROGRAM REVIEW**

**5th Fencing District – 1st Reading** – It was proposed to restructure teams to establish a fifth district, with championships to take place at Montclair HS. Rationale for this proposal is safety and size of the current facilities. Adding another district creates less teams per district, hence a safer environment. The fencing and program review committees both passed this proposal, as did the Executive Committee in its first reading. Second reading will be at the November Executive Committee meeting.
Five Wrestling Groups – 2nd Reading – This passed second reading so this season, all five groups will compete at the Sun Center in Trenton on 2/15. Snow date: 2/16.

Report of Counsel – NJSIAA has been very busy with eligibility appeals cases and protest committee hearings. The Executive Committee had to approve five Protest Committee decisions at the 10/8 meeting.

Next Meeting – November 13, 2014