EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 10, 2018

Roll Call / Introduction of Press - The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018, at the NJSIAA Administration Building in Robbinsville, New Jersey, was called to order by the President, Chuck Klaus, at 11:10 am.

A moment of silence was observed for Laura Smith, wife of Executive Committee 1st Vice President Vincent Smith, who recently passed away.

The following members were present: Heather Andersen, Greg Bailey, Maureen Bilda, Joseph Bollendorf, Dr. Brian Brotschul, Kevin Carty, Jr., Teri Connor, Suzanne Cooley, Joanne Dzama, Judy Finch Johnson, James Gaffney, Michael Gatley, Dr. William George, Gerald Glisson, Sharron Grady, Robert Grauso, Robert Haraka, Jack Hurley, Mary Liz Ivins, Howard Krieger, Bill McDermott, Elaine McGrath, Dominick Miletta, Tony Mitchell, Thomas Mullahey, Sue Petrone, Paul Popadiuk, Danny Robertozzi, Philip Schaffer, Steve Shohfi, Beverly Torok, Bill Vacca, Todd VanOrden, and Denis Williams. Also present: Larry White, Executive Director; Kim Cole, Jack DuBois, Bill Bruno, Al Stumpf and Tony Maselli, Assistant Directors; Colleen Maguire, Director of Finance; Michael Zapicchi, Project Manager; Steven P. Goodell, Esq., NJSIAA Counsel. The following sportswriters were in attendance: Phil Anastasia, Philadelphia Inquirer; Mike McGarry, AC Press; and Darren Cooper, Record. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Maureen Bilda, to accept the minutes of the November 15, 2017 Executive Committee meeting. Motion passed with two abstentions (Robertozzi and Cooley).

Out-of-State Competition/All-Star Games
A listing of Bordering State Sanctions and National Federation Sanctions was given for informational purposes.

Executive Director Update – Larry White

Legislative Update (Paul Anzano) – Though Bills S3447 and A5254 were passed by the legislature, it was a worthwhile effort by the membership to try to stop them. The Governor has until Tuesday, 1/16, to pocket veto the bills or sign them in to law. Mr. Anzano has been in talks with the Governor’s Counsel. 1/9/18 marked the first day of the new legislature. Committee chairs have been chosen. There are no major changes that would affect NJSIAA.

Annual Meeting – Three ballots were voted on at the annual meeting on December 4, 2017. Results were as follows:

Ballot #1: Bridgewater-Raritan High School proposed to change the start-date for fall sports as an option for any league, conference, or member school. The proposal would set the start-date for all fall sports -- with the exception of football -- at the Tuesday after Labor Day.
Vote of the Membership: 265 in favor, 32 opposed, 1 abstention. This proposal required a majority vote of the membership at the annual meeting, based on the total number of ballots cast at the annual meeting, therefore was approved.

Ballot #2: The North Jersey Super Football Conference (NJSFC) and a coalition of predominantly Central and South Jersey high schools (“The Coalition”) submitted a new football playoff structure - the “NJ United Playoff Proposal.” In order for the NJ United Playoff Proposal to be implemented, the Football Regulations must be changed to allow for a ten-game season so ballot #2 proposed to increase the maximum number of football games to ten (from nine), and would be a vote in support of the NJ United Playoff Proposal.

Vote of the Membership: 219 in favor, 79 opposed, 12 abstentions. This proposal required a majority vote of the membership at the annual meeting, based on the total number of ballots cast at the annual meeting, therefore was approved.

Ballot #3: The West Windsor – Plainsboro Regional School District has proposed to change the Bylaws to allow schools to enter Cooperative Sports Programs in the sport of football under certain specified conditions.

Vote of the Membership: 180 in favor, 114 opposed, 18 abstentions. This proposal required a majority vote of the membership at the annual meeting, based on the total number of ballots cast at the annual meeting, therefore was approved.

NFHS Winter Meeting – Mr. White attended the NFHS Winter Meeting in AZ along with Steve Timko. There, Mr. Bob Gardner, Executive Director of the NFHS, announced his retirement and the NFHS National Council voted on whether the NFHS should look into having national championships. 48 states were present to vote. Final Vote: 27-Yes, 20-No and 1 Abstention.

Winter Championship Facilities / Regulations – All winter regulations are online and all sites are secured for winter tournaments.

Assistant Director Reports

Jack DuBois

Football – A listing of sectional champions was distributed. The first meeting of the NJSIAA Football Leagues and Conferences Committee will take place on 1/18/2018 to develop the new football playoff structure that was approved at the 2017 annual meeting. Mr. DuBois anticipates another meeting in February. The Football Rules Committee meets on 1/24/18.

Boys Soccer – A listing of 2017 champions was distributed. This is Mr. DuBois’s last year in charge of boy’s soccer. Next year it’ll be the responsibility of Assistant Director, Tony Maselli.

Ice Hockey – Cutoff is 2/5/18 and seeding is 2/13/18. There will be three public division and one non-public division. Public Division C is a pilot program. The NJ Devils have committed to hosting all four division finals on Monday, March 5, 2018.

Fencing – The district tournament will take place in a few short weeks at the following locations: Hackettstown HS, Livingston HS, North Hunterdon HS, Fair Lawn HS and Montclair HS.
Workshops – Legal One will hold a bullying workshop on 1/29/18.
NJSCA Senior Basketball All-Star Game – The Selection Committee meets on 2/1/18 to select
players. The game will take place at Rider University on March 17th.

Corporate – Bollinger Insurance renewed their contract and Mr. DuBois received a verbal
renewal from the American Dairy Association.

Cooperative Sports – Spring applications are due February 1st.

Kim DeGraw-Cole

Field Hockey Results – Finals were played at Kean University. Oak Knoll defeated Eastern in
overtime. It was a great game and well attended. Committee minutes will be posted later in day.

Non-Member/Out-of-State Tournament Reporting Form – Mr. Maselli is taking over this
responsibility but it is mandatory that schools fill out this form if playing a team from out of state
or if an opponent is a non-member school.

Girls Basketball – Forms are due 1/12.

NAGWS – The deadline to return this reservation form was extended to 1/11. All schools are
encouraged to nominate a female student – it’s a heartwarming inspirational event.

Softball/Baseball/Volleyball Rules Interpretation Meetings – Begins on 1/22.

NFHS NIAAA Conference – Ms. Cole attended the NIAAA Conference in Arizona with Mr.
Timko and Mr. Bruno. There were worthwhile classes. Kudos were given to Mr. Bruno for being
an instructor and monitor.

Bill Bruno

Cross Country Results – A list of winners from the Meet of Champions was distributed.

Winter Track Update – Dates for the Group Relays, Sectional Championships, Group Meets and
Meet of Champions was distributed.

Wrestling Update – Tournament dates were distributed. Mr. Bruno encouraged anyone who
wishes to lodge in Atlantic City for the individual tournament to book soon. Rooms are going
rapidly.

Spring Track – Sites for the spring track tournament were distributed.

NJSCA Hall of Fame – The Selection Committee meets later in the day to review over 113
nominees. 35 individuals will be chosen for this year’s NJSCA Hall of Fame Class of 2018.

NJSCA Clinics – The rescheduled baseball clinic (due to snow) will now take place tomorrow,
1/11. The tennis clinic will take place on Friday, 1/12, the track clinic on 3/23 and the wrestling
clinic on 5/4.
Girls Soccer Results – A listing of group and sectional champions was distributed. Group champions are listed below:

- Non-Public A - Immaculate Heart and Bishop Eustace were co-champions
- Non-Public B - Montclair Kimberley and Moorestown Friends were co-champs
- Group IV – Ridge HS and Freehold Twp HS were co-champs
- Group III – Allentown HS
- Group II - Wall HS
- Group I – Shore Regional HS

The post-season Soccer Committee minutes are posted on NJSIAA’s website.

Girls Volleyball Final Results – Group champions were distributed. In the Tournament of Champions meet, Immaculate Heart Academy won the title after defeating River Dell in the finals and Verona in the semifinals. The post-season Volleyball Committee minutes are posted on NJSIAA’s website.

Boys Basketball – Gym Availability and Security Forms are due 1/12. Cutoff is 2/4, Tournament Refusal is by 2/5, and seeding is on 2/8. The public tournament games begin on 2/26 while the non-public schools begin play on 2/27. Mr. Stumpf also discussed proper uniforms. If an official notices during warmups that an illegal uniform is being worn, they will take a picture and send it to Mr. Stumpf, who will reach out to the Athletic Director. The official will also pull the player aside and explain the infraction. Players will not be allowed in the game until they are compliant. There is no technical foul penalty.

Boys Bowling Update – Cutoff is Friday, 1/12. Entries are to be sent directly to the Tournament Director, not NJSIAA. Mr. Stumpf distributed a listing of all tournament dates.

Unified Bowling and Basketball Update – Everything is to be determined, based on the amount of entries.

Swimming/Diving Update – Tournament dates were distributed. Teams have been diligent in entering their scores. Only two schools did not do this procedure. First time it happens, the school receives a warning; second time – a fine, and third time – removal from the state tournament. It is required to powerpoint two meets.

Diving participation is on the rise each year. Mr. Maselli will distribute the dates of the diving tournament once they are finalized.

Girls Bowling Update – Dates for the sectionals and individual/team finals were distributed. Bowling entries should be sent to site directors.

Website – Mr. Maselli is now the director in charge of the website.

International Student Committee Update – The committee has met and is on track to propose changes/legislation to the Advisory Committee in April.
Transfer Form - The transfer form is now online. Only out-of-state transfers still need to use the paper version of the form. Data collected electronically will be helpful for NJSIAA to analyze trends, patterns, etc.

Director of Finance Report – Colleen Maguire

Fall Financial Review – Due to weather, this report is delayed and will be shared in February's meeting.

ShopRite Cup - Fall – Fall leaders are as follows:

- Group 4 - North Hunterdon High School
- Group 3 - River Dell Regional HS
- Group 2 - Haddonfield Memorial HS
- Group 1 - Pompton Lakes High School
- Non-Public A - Immaculate Heart Academy
- Non-Public B - Montclair Kimberley Academy

Winter Ticket Prices Update – Allowable ticket prices for the winter season have been requested. There are no changes to the request from last winter. All prices should remain the same.

Spring Classifications – Drafts will go to the membership after 2/1/18, the deadline for spring cooperative sports applications.

Finance Committee Update – Chuck Klaus

Approval of November/December 2017 Checkbook – A motion was made by Bev Torok, seconded by Denis Williams, to accept the November and December 2017 check registers, as approved by the finance committee, as well as monthly approvals according to policy. The motion was approved unanimously.

Program Review

Golf Early Start Date - 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Rob Haraka, to move the 2018 Golf Official Starting Date for matches to March 28, 2018, to correspond with the lacrosse opening date. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Cross Country Meet of Champions Advancement Procedure – 1st Reading – A motion was made by Greg Bailey, seconded by Dr. William George, for a two-year pilot program that would modify the way teams advance to the Cross Country Meet of Champions, by taking the top two teams from each group (12 teams) and then the next eight at-large teams (wildcards) from all groups using a merge system. Total amount of teams to advance would be 20 total teams. The current system takes 21 teams (the top three teams from each group totaling 18, and then the top three at-large teams from all groups.) The rationale for this proposal is to increase the number of wildcards, which allows for more fluctuating strengths of groups. The top two teams from each group are still guaranteed entry but the wild card dynamic is different so more teams with depth, rather than a team with only two strong runners, will qualify. This proposal was approved 12-0 by the Cross Country Rules Committee and 8-0 by the Program Review Committee. Motion passed first reading unanimously.
Report of Counsel – Steven P. Goodell, Esq. –

1. In November, the Executive Committee adopted a new Transgender Policy. Since the media covered this so well, it received national attention. Mr. Klaus received several petitions by email opposing the policy. In efforts to help people understand the changes and new policy, a FAQ was created and distributed.

2. The appeal filed by Paterson Eastside HS, challenging the ruling that they be excluded from playoff participation next year, has been resolved. The Commissioner of Education decided in NJSIAA’s favor and dismissed the appeal.

3. St. Rose HS appealed the decision that they couldn’t hire their coach who had contact with a player within 365 days of coaching. The case was dismissed in court yesterday (1/9/18).

4. St. Joseph Regional HS (Montvale) has appealed a controversies decision regarding recruitment. The appeal will be heard at February’s Executive Committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mike Gatley, seconded by Bill Vacca, to enter in to closed session at 11:52 am. A motion was made by Mary Liz Ivins, seconded by Bill Vacca at 12:15 pm, to enter in to open session.

Old Business – None.

New Business – Robert Haraka received an email from his Asst. Superintendent about a new Department of Education Opioids Awareness and Facts sign off form that must be added to the Medical Clearance Packet. The form is supposed to be used by spring 2018 athletes. It was recommended that NJSIAA notify schools via the forum about this new form and it will be sent to the Medical Advisory Committee for review.

Adjournment - There being no further business, a motion was made by Maureen Bilda, seconded by Suzanne Cooley, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry L. White
Executive Director

LLW: In