Roll Call / Introduction of Press - The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, at the NJSIAA Administration Building in Robbinsville, New Jersey, was called to order by the President, Thomas Coleman, at 11:07 am.

The following members were present: Gregory Bailey, John Bulina, Earl Clymer, Paul Crupi, William DePonte, Thomas DiGanci, Bill Edelman, Dianne Furusawa, Richard Giglio, Abdul Hassan, Monsignor Kelly, Howard Krieger, Dr. James Lavender, Joe Lennon, Bill McDermott, Elaine McGrath, Thomas Mullahey, Rona McNabola, Patrick Murphy, Susan Murphy, Michael Nitti, William Quirk, Dr. Charles Shaddow, Rod Sharpless, Steve Shohfi, Vincent Smith, Thomas Stark, Todd VanOrden, Barbara Wallace, Scott Wolhrab, and Stephen Yesinko. Also present: Steven J. Timko, Executive Director; Larry White and Jack DuBois, Assistant Directors; Colleen Maguire, Director of Finance; Steven P. Goodell, Esq., NJSIAA Counsel. The following sportswriters were in attendance: Mike McGarry, A.C. Press; Matt Stanmyre, NJ Advance Media; Phil Anastasia, Philadelphia Inquirer; and Greg Schutta, The Record. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by William DePonte, seconded by Abdul Hassan, to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2014 Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried.

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 – Steven J. Timko

Legislative Update (Paul Anzano) – Mr. Anzano distributed a list of bills being tracked and is available for any questions. The legislature was not very active in November/December so there was not much to report. The governor did give his state address yesterday but no major initiatives were discussed. Tomorrow, 1/15, there is a hearing scheduled to deal with the pension issue, with decision expected in April. Whatever decision is made will affect future budgets. The budget will be addressed in February and Bridgegate is expected to be resolved soon.

Fall Championship Update – Assistant Directors gave updates in their individual reports but Mr. Timko commended all directors for an outstanding fall tournament season.

Winter 2015 Ticket Prices – The Department of Education approved charging the same winter tournament ticket prices as last year for all winter sports.

Wrestling Update – 2,800 tickets have been pre-sold to attend the individual championships at Boardwalk Hall, which is on target with sales of previous years at this time. A contract was signed with the Sun Center to host the group championships instead of Toms River, since more space was needed for additional mats.

Annual Meeting – Three ballots were voted on at the annual meeting on December 1, 2014. Results are as follows:
Ballot #1 - Change Classification of Member Schools. DePaul Catholic High School proposed that NJSIAA change the way a school’s enrollment is calculated for purposes of determining the school’s group classification. Currently, enrollment is defined as the sum of a school’s student population in grades 10, 11 and 12. Under the proposal, enrollment would be defined as the sum of a school’s student population in grades 9, 10 and 11.

Final Vote: Yes-219, No-13, Abstain-1. Proposal passed.

Ballot #2 - Change Eligibility Rule regarding Pre-high School Participants who Transfer from Out-of-state. This proposal, sponsored by Northern Highland Regional HS, would allow out-of-state students who transfer to New Jersey to participate in eight consecutive semesters of sports, beginning with the student’s enrollment in high school, provided there has been a bona fide change of residence to New Jersey; a Transfer Form is completed, and all other eligibility requirements are met.


Ballot #3 - Amending NJSIAA 30-day Transfer Rule. Jefferson Township and Vernon Township High Schools proposed amending the NJSIAA 30-day Transfer Rule.

Final Vote: Yes-98; No-139. Proposal did not pass.

NFHS Winter Meeting and NIAA Conference – Since last meeting, Mr. Timko attended both the NIAAA Conference at the National Harbor in Maryland and the NFHS Winter Meeting in Asheville, North Carolina. At the NIAAA Conference, there was a great NJ presence (66 in attendance) and Bill Bruno, Joe Piro and Sean Dowling did a great job as speakers. Bill Bruno was named 2014-15 DAANJ Athletic Director of the Year. Bill Edelman appreciated that Mr. Timko attends all sessions. There were reps from all over the world and every state was represented. Bill encouraged all principals and superintendents to allow their Athletic Directors to attend these conferences because they are outstanding and educational experiences for their ADs.

At the NFHS Winter Meeting, states reported struggling with same issues as NJ such as transfers, public vs. non-public, corporate sponsorship, but a new hot topic emerging nationally is drones. NJ had an issue related to it in football which Mr. DuBois handled early in year. Schools worry that drones will be used for scouting and FAA has not developed regulations yet.

Winter Regulations – All are posted on NJSIAA website.

Assistant Director Reports

Don Danser

Mr. Danser was unable to attend since he was preparing for the upcoming winter track relays. Jack DuBois gave his report.

Fall ShopRite Cup – There are some close races for the ShopRite Cup title. Shore Regional HS was commended for winning six sectional and/or group titles.

Larry White

Gymnastics Final Results – Winners were distributed. The top three schools in the team championships were Red Bank Catholic, Ramapo, and Watchung Hills. Mr. White thanked his five sectional host sites: Ridgewood HS, Bishop Ahr HS, Manalapan HS, Hillsborough HS,
Seneca HS, and a special thank you was given to Executive Committee member, Barbara Wallace, who serves as the Tournament Director and State Tournament Assignor.

Girls Volleyball Final Results – On Saturday, 11/15, at South Brunswick HS, the girls volleyball group championships took place. Congrats to the five group champions: Secaucus (Gr. 1), River Dell (Gr. 2), NV Demarest (Gr. 3), North Hunterdon (Gr. 4) and Immaculate Heart Academy (NP). IHA defeated NV Demarest in the finals to win the Tournament of Champions. Mr. White thanked Sharon Hughes, State Tournament Director and Assignor.

Basketball – Dates are set. Two thirds of schools have submitted their required paperwork. Mr. White is awaiting responses from request letters he sent to four different colleges/universities (William Paterson University, Essex County College, Brookdale Community College and Stockton University), located in each of the four public geographic sections, to host the 2016 sectional finals rounds, so games are not played at the higher seed. The smaller gyms were unable to handle the crowds last year.

Bowling Update – Entries were due Friday, 1/9 and were to be sent to the Sectional Directors.

Fall Disqualification Report – Due to glitches in the system, this will be distributed next meeting.

Jack DuBois
Football – A listing of sectional champions was distributed. Mr. DuBois pointed out that five Executive Committee members had a school that won a title (Steve Yesinko – Linden HS, Joe Lennon – DePaul Catholic, Chuck Klaus – Haddonfield HS, Susan Murphy – Shawnee HS, and Bob Abatemarco – Red Bank Catholic.) Mr. DuBois was happy that the Giants/Jets played away that weekend, which meant MetLife offered to host four more games for a total of 10 games. Four more were played at Rutgers, five at Kean and five at Rowan. The weather was inclement that weekend, which was reflected in the gate receipts.

Boys Soccer – A listing of 2014 champions was distributed. For the first time, all group finals, both public and non-public, were played at Kean University. This was very well received as they had great facilities and staff. NJSIAA will return there again next year for all public and non-public group final games.

Ice Hockey – Cutoff is 2/9. The semifinals will be played at Codey Arena on 3/4 and 3/5, finals at the Prudential Center on 3/9.

Fencing – Mr. DuBois spoke about the sport and its four major tournaments (districts, squads, team and individuals). A fifth district has been added and will compete at Montclair HS.

Corporate – Bollinger re-signed for three years as the sponsor of fencing, bowling, the NJSIAA/Bollinger Hall of Fame and the Robert Kanaby Award. NJSIAA also received verbal commitment from Wilson for a five-year agreement to be the official ball sponsor of NJSIAA.

Clinics – 80 coaches attended the baseball clinic at Jack Cust Baseball Academy in Flemington. The Bullying, Supervision of Coaches Workshop, held on 12/16, in conjunction with Legal One, was sold out so another workshop has been scheduled for 2/24, with 25 already registered. The boys/girls tennis clinic will take place on 1/16 at Princeton University’s Jadwin Gym.

Kim DeGraw-Cole
Ms. Cole was unable to attend since she was attending the NFHS Field Hockey Committee meeting in Indianapolis, but she distributed her report.
Field Hockey – A listing of tournament sectional and state champions was distributed. Executive Committee member, Earl Clymer’s school, Warren Hills, won the North Jersey, Section II, Group III championship.

Soccer – A listing of group champions was distributed.

Basketball Non-Member/Out-of-State Form— This form is critical for power points so member schools need to get it in now if their school played out-of-state/non-member schools.

Swimming – Team entries are due 1/26. The team tournament structure is new for 2015. The individual tournament will be conducted at GCIT on 2/28 and 3/2. Diving will take place at Montgomery HS on 2/24 and 2/25.

NAGWS – The National Association for Girls and Women in Sports will celebrate this recognition at Seton Hall University on February 1, 2015 at an awards luncheon beginning at 12pm, followed by the Seton Hall vs St. John’s women’s basketball game. All high schools are encouraged to nominate one deserving female athlete. Nancy Williams, retired Shore Regional field hockey coach, will receive the Honor Award for her contributions to women’s sports.

Website – Athletic Directors must log in to have access to tournament forms, which NJSIAA anticipates may be available for the winter tournaments. The AD forum appears to be functioning well and serving our member schools. Athletic Directors still need to maintain the School Manager as this is our main database for contacts and classifications. Please contact Don Danser or Kim Cole for assistance with login.

Director of Finance Report – Colleen Maguire

Approval of November/December 2014 Checkbook – A motion to accept the November and December check registers, which was approved by the finance committee as well as our monthly approvals according to policy, was made by Howard Krieger, seconded by Dr. Lavender. All in Favor, No Opposed, No Abstentions. The motion was approved unanimously.

A/R Balances - Status – The new policy, which declares that all schools with outstanding invoices past 90 days are ineligible for state tournaments, has been successful. This new policy was added to all winter regulations. The result – there is only a $2,500 outstanding balance between 24 schools, and since contacting all 24 schools, POs have been submitted to pay off the outstanding monies.

Fall 2014 Financial Report - There was a decrease of $70,000 in fall tournament revenue, from $320,000 to $250,000 but this drop is primarily attributed to a decrease in football gate receipts due to inclement weather. There was a one-time $10,000 cost savings switching the soccer finals from TCNJ to Kean University since Kean did not charge to host. There was an increase in fall sponsorship money; field hockey and gymnastics stayed equivalent to last year; volleyball revenue decreased $3,500 because the change of venue led to reduced attendance and cross country revenue decreased $4,000 because Mr. Danser had to move a sectional site to a site that charged a fee.


1. A case challenging an EAC decision is presently in front of the Commissioner.
2. NJSIAA is still waiting on an appellate decision re: North Bergen HS.
3. The Public/Non-Public Committee continues to meet and the hope is to have some type of legislation to present to the Executive Committee later in the year.

4. Another EAC hearing is being heard in the afternoon related to transferring for athletic advantage.

Old Business / New Business – None

Adjournment - There being no further business, a motion was made by William DePonte, seconded by Thomas DiGanci, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Timko
Executive Director

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