EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
May 3, 2017

Flag Salute

Roll Call / Introduction of Press

The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, at the NJSIAA Administration Building in Robbinsville, New Jersey, was called to order by the President, Elaine McGrath, at 11:05 am.

The following members were present: Greg Bailey, Maureen Bilda, Dr. Brian Brotschul, Kevin Carty, Jr., Suzanne Cooley, Judy Finch Johnson, Dr. William George, Gerald Glisson, Kathy Goldenberg, Sharron Grady, Robert Grauso, Robert Haraka, Mary Liz Ivins, Richard Kaz, Chuck Klaus, Tony Mitchell, Thomas Mullahey, Paul Popadiuk, William Quirk, Philip Schaffer, Steve Shohfi, Vincent Smith, Beverly Torok, Bill Vacca, Todd VanOrden, Denis Williams and Scott Wohlrab. Also present: Steven J. Timko, Executive Director; Larry White, Kim Cole, Bill Bruno and Al Stumpf, Assistant Directors; Colleen Maguire, Director of Finance; Michael Zapicchi, Project Manager; Michael W. Herbert, Esq., NJSIAA Counsel. The following sportswriters were in attendance: Phil Anastasia, Philadelphia Inquirer; Mike McGarry, AC Press; Steve Falk, Asbury Park Press; Darren Cooper, Record; and Matt Stanmyre, NJ Advance Media. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.; Michael Hughes, Asst Superintendent of North Hunterdon-Voorhees Schools; Bud Kowal, Athletic Director at Ewing HS; Dr. David Aderhold, Superintendent of West Windsor-Plainsboro Schools; Ken Mason, Interim AD at WWP HS; Jonathan Dauber, Principal at WWP HS North; Dennis Lephold, Principal at WWP HS South; and Dan Vivino, Athletic Director at Westwood HS.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Kathy Goldenberg, seconded by Kevin Carty, Jr. to accept the minutes of the April 5, 2017 Executive Committee meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

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) – The legislature is currently reviewing the Governor’s budget, which Mr. Anzano will monitor for inclusion of steroid testing money for NJSIAA. After June 30th, the legislature will be on break to work on their election campaigns. Assemblyman Benjie Wimberly was not supportive of the transfer rule and introduced legislation to eliminate the rule entirely. Mr. Anzano met with him, and he agreed not to move his bill forward, pending action by the Commissioner of Education.

West Windsor North & South HS Football Coop Waiver Request – The Constitution requires league approval for a cooperative sports program. The West Jersey Football League voted 7-16 against West Windsor’s request for both their Group IV high schools to join in to a cooperative
sports program in football. The Colonial Valley Conference supported the request 8-6. There will now be a Leagues and Conferences hearing to decide on the manner.

Advisory Committee Proposed Legislation for 2017-2018 – Michael Hughes, Chairperson of the Advisory Committee and Asst Superintendent of the North Hunterdon-Voorhees School District, reported that the following five proposals were approved by the Advisory Committee on 4/5/17 for consideration by the Executive Committee. If approved, each piece of legislation will be discussed at sectional meetings in the fall, and placed on the ballot at the annual meeting in December.

a. Amendment to Article V – Six-Month Polling of Executive Committee Action submitted by Scott Rosenberg - A motion was made by Rob Haraka, seconded by Kathy Goldenberg, to endorse a proposal that would require the Executive Committee, when exercising its authority under Section 5, herein, to send written notice of the proposed change to all schools ten days prior to the meeting of the committee, at which the matter is to be voted on six months after the effective date of any change by the Executive Committee. The membership shall be alerted to the poll by mail through the Athletic Director’s forum. After such poll, the ballot shall be official and a majority of the votes cast shall decide the issue at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. The results of the balloting shall be reported and the action of the vote shall be implemented. The Advisory Committee advanced the proposal 18-2. If endorsed, the proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2017 annual meeting.

Mr. Rosenberg spoke on behalf of his proposal via teleconference. Currently, 50% voter participation rate is required to endorse or veto an Executive Committee decision when polled six months later but there is never a 50% ballot return rate. Mr. Rosenberg expressed that achieving 50% participation is difficult with charter and new schools that are not as involved and felt the votes that were submitted should count. He also feels that if only a minority of schools vote, that is an acceptable practice, because the Executive Committee is a small group of 48, making decisions for the entire state. Mr. Michael Zapicchi shared that if this legislation goes in to effect, any legislation passed by the Executive Committee can be undone by less than a majority of member schools. At the annual meeting, if a majority is not present, then a vote cannot take place. Mr. Herbert clarified that when NJSIAA formed its Constitution, it was based on Robert’s Rules, which requires a quorum of the complete body. Mr. Rosenberg’s proposal conflicts with that rationale. NJSIAA does support Mr. Rosenberg’s idea to have the Athletic Director and Principal both sign the voting ballots of Executive Committee decisions six months later. Mr. Mullahey asked how much participation there was in a transfer survey that was recently sent out. The answer is 100 out of 436 schools responded. Mr. Hughes called a question.

Final Vote: Yes-3; No-23; Abstain-0. Motion fails.

b. Conference Coalition Football Playoff Proposal submitted by Bud Kowal. This proposal was advanced 13-7 by the Advisory Committee. A motion was made by Tony Mitchell, seconded by Maureen Bilda, to endorse the below football playoff structure proposal to place on the ballot at the 2017 annual meeting:
1. Playoff teams remain at 8 per group/section selection based on power rating
2. Conferences schedule 8 games for each team
3. Cutoff is week 8; using power points from first 7 games
4. Playoffs begin week 9
5. Non-playoff qualifiers matched for regional crossover game based on power ratings; schools can opt out of crossover game
6. After week 9; 3 pools developed for week 10 games. Schools may opt out of 2nd regional crossover game; Playoff winners advance, crossover winners matched by power ratings; Playoff losers and crossover winners matched by power ratings.
7. Week 11 – Sectional championship games
8. Week 12 – Thanksgiving
9. Week 13 – State Semi-Final Games; South vs Central; North 1vs North 2

Since the proper teams are not always making the playoffs, it is recommended that to qualify for the state tournament, the association switch from a power points system to an algorithm system (LAX Power, MaxPreps, and colleges use an algorithm system). The playoff structure would stay intact with South, Central, North 1 and North 2 sections. Mr. Kowal feels this proposal encourages stronger competition and treats everyone fairly, rather than having three different sets of power points criteria for schools as is now. Mr. Kowal tested the proposed algorithm system on three different conferences, and three different sections and in each test, the outcome mirrored Max Preps final rankings. The algorithm does not use score differentials but instead power rankings. NJSIAA cannot use MaxPreps because NJSIAA is currently contracted with nj.com so nj.com would have to set up and administer the new formula.

Mr. Mullahey expressed concern with the system since it is used for chess tournaments, not football seasons. Mr. Kowal shared that five other states use this type system including California, Arizona, Illinois, and so does MaxPreps. Steve Shohfi asked if coaches will still be able to predict what they should do week to week with the new system, which Mr. Kowal admitted will be harder. Denis Williams and Scott Wohlrab questioned the fairness aspect since teams that performed lower historically or had a rebuilding year the year prior will be affected by rankings since they will start off the season with a lower ranking. MaxPreps uses five years of data, but this proposal would incorporate only the previous year’s data. Mr. Kowal responded that he hasn’t found this to be an issue and that in the end, the best teams are the ones being ranked the highest. Tom Mullahey had questions about the proposal in regards to non-public schools and their playoffs. The 9th week will be the same as the public schools with regional crossovers but the playoffs would be 3 weeks for non-public schools and 4 weeks for public schools. There would be no byes in weeks 1-8. Week 10 is still teams still playing in the championship brackets, teams that lost in the playoffs and teams that lost in their Regional Crossover games. Like schools can play each other that week. Bob Grauso and Mary Liz Ivins expressed concern that the two football
proposals being presented can negate each other and then everything stays status quo. Michael Zapicchi responded that if both pass, NJSIAA will figure out how to incorporate both on the same ballot or he predicted one proposal would pass with majority of ballots cast and the other would not at the annual meeting. Mr. Kowal felt that the proposal will get enough approval votes since five of the six football conferences support the proposal but Mr. Greg Bailey made note that the sixth conference is made up of 115 schools. Both groups met to try to compromise and submit one proposal, but both sides couldn’t reach an agreement. Mr. Grauso questioned playing two regular crossover games. Tony Mitchell called a question.

Final Vote: Yes-19; No-6; Abstain-0. Motion passed. This proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2017 annual meeting.


A motion was made by Bill Vacca, seconded by Rob Haraka, to endorse the below football playoff structure proposal to place on the ballot at the 2017 annual meeting:

1. 8 groups of approximately 39-41 schools
2. 2 sections in each group of approximately 19-21 schools
3. 12 teams per section will qualify for playoffs. 62% of public schools would qualify, up from 52%. This is now closer aligned with most other NJSIAA sports where almost 75% of the teams qualify.
4. Power Points will still be used to seed the tournament.
5. Seeding would be a 12-team bracket with seeds 1-4 receiving a bye and 5v12, 6v11, 7v10, 8v9 beginning in week 9.
6. 3 Non-Public groups remain
7. Non-Public groups would allow 12 teams to qualify for the playoffs
8. There would be 32 additional public schools in the playoffs and 8-10 additional non-public schools in the playoffs. There would be approximately 205 total playoff games up from the current 161.
9. Regular season would run from week 0-8. Week 9 is optional.
10. Schools may use 9 weeks and Thanksgiving to play 8 or 9 games, whatever their league or an individual school desires.
12. Teams may still opt out of the playoffs and Regional Crossover games would be assigned to teams that do not make the playoffs for week 9
13. Schedule does not change - sectional finals are still played the week after Thanksgiving.
14. A team/league that chooses to schedule 9 regular season games (weeks 0-8 or 8 games plus Thanksgiving) and qualifies for the sectional final will play 13 games.

Mr. Vivino explained that college football has moved away from using power rankings and just like in college, this proposal is not going to count score differential, home/away, etc. Only 40 to 50% of schools make the playoffs and it’s not always the best teams. This proposal allows 10% more schools to qualify. This proposal helps lower performing teams but without taking playoff spots from
the better teams. The framework changes from five groups to eight groups so
c ompetition is between more like schools and the enrollment differential is not as
big. Mr. Vivino presented this framework to several different associations,
including the NJFCA. 83% endorsed the proposal. As a result of meeting with
several different associations, three major revisions were made after the
meetings.

Final Vote: Yes-19; No-5; Abstain-0. Motion passed so this proposal will be
placed on the ballot at the 2017 annual meeting.

d. **Start of Fall Regular Season Opening Dates, submitted by John Maggio.** The Advisory
Committee passed this proposal 18-2. A motion was
made by Bill Vacca, seconded by Tony Mitchell, to endorse a proposal that
allows all fall sports except football (cross country, field hockey, gymnastics,
soccer, girls tennis and girls volleyball) to begin their regular season
interscholastic competition after six days of practice, on the Tuesday after Labor
Day. This creates uniformity.

Final Vote: Yes-24; No-0. Motion passed so this proposal will be placed on the
ballot at the 2017 annual meeting.

e. **Football Co-ops to Include Groups III, IV & V, submitted by Dr. David
Aderhold/West Windsor Plainsboro Regional School District.** The Advisory
Committee passed this proposal 12-7. A motion was made by Mary Liz Ivins,
seconded by Gerald Glisson, to endorse a proposal that removes the word "football"
in Section 10B so cooperative teams may exist in football in Groups III, IV, V, under
the following conditions:

1. Teams agree to forgo any divisional championship and/or state tournament
competition.
2. The maximum number of players between requesting schools may not exceed fifty
(50) in grades 10 & 11 (rising juniors and seniors)
3. The cooperative arrangement should be examined every two years (exemptions
should be examined every two years – exemptions should coincide with the two-year
scheduling cycle)
4. Co-op teams may be eligible for a regional crossover game.

For the West Windsor-Plainsboro district, only 1.3% of the 3,000-student population
plays football and next year there is less than a 50% return rate. At the younger
levels, the feeder system isn’t strong either so having enough to field a team will
continue to be an issue. Dr. Aderhold request to honor the schedule cycling and not
request this go in to effect until the next scheduling cycle. He also didn’t consider the
power points component of his proposal. He does not wish to limit or hurt anyone so
he is open to any guidance/suggestions. It has been recommended that West
Windsor-Plainsboro just have a JV program next year, but Dr. Aderhold feels that is
not fair to his five seniors.

Final Vote: Yes-21; No-3. Motion passed so this proposal will be placed on the ballot
at the 2017 annual meeting.

2017 / 2018 List of Banned Substances – There were no changes from 2016-2017. A motion to
approve the new banned substances list for 2017/2018, which was preapproved by the NJSIAA
Medical Advisory Committee, was made by Tony Mitchell, seconded by Suzanne Cooley. Motion carried with one abstention (Goldenberg). Mr. Haraka requested this list be approved at an earlier meeting in 2018 so he can distribute this list with his fall package information.

**NFHS Legal Meeting** – Along with Mr. Herbert, Mr. Timko attended the NFHS Legal Meeting in Indianapolis. Sportsmanship was a big topic of conversation so Mr. Timko shared NJ’s sportsmanship policy with attendees. It was highly regarded and appreciated. NJ is a model for other states to follow in this area. Transgender regulations were discussed in depth.

**Nomination of Officers – 1st Reading** – On behalf of the nominating committee, Greg Bailey made a motion, seconded by Maureen Bilda, to accept the following slate of officers for next year’s Executive Committee:

- **President** - Chuck Klaus, Principal at Haddonfield Memorial HS
- **1st VP** – Vincent Smith, Superintendent, Point Pleasant Borough School District
- **2nd VP** – Mary Liz Ivins, Principal, Notre Dame HS

Motion passed first reading unanimously.

**2017-2018 Executive Committee Meeting Dates – 1st Reading** – Proposed meeting dates for next year were distributed. A motion was made by Judy Finch Johnson, seconded by Maureen Bilda, to approve the meeting dates for 2017-2018. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

---

**Assistant Directors Reports**

**Jack DuBois**

*(given by Michael Zapicchi since Mr. DuBois unable to attend)*

**Workshops** – There will be a transgender workshop on 5/9. The presenter is an expert in the topic. Mr. DuBois expects this to be a useful workshop that all should attend.

**Scholar Athlete Program** – A record number 352 scholar athletes will be honored at this year’s event (up 27 from last year). For the first time, each recipient will leave the event with at minimum – a $500 scholarship. $201,000 will be awarded in scholarships.

**Boys Lacrosse** – Seeding takes place 5/15. The public tournament begins 5/17, while the non-publics begin play on 5/20.

**Cooperative Sports Program Approvals** - A motion was made and seconded to approve the below listing of cooperative sports program requests.

1) Jonathan Dayton HS / David Brearley HS / Union HS – Ice Hockey*
2) Gateway HS / Woodbury HS – B/G Cross Country, Wrestling, B/G Swimming
3) New Milford HS / Dumont HS – Boys Swimming, Girls Swimming
4) Verona HS / Glen Ridge HS – Ice Hockey
5) St. Rose HS / Donovan Catholic HS – Ice Hockey
6) Hanover Park HS / Whippany Park HS – B/G Golf, Boys Lacrosse, B/G Swimming
7) Palisades Park HS / Leonia HS – Football
8) Leonia HS / Palisades Park HS – Girls Soccer, B/G Swimming
Robert Grauso questioned if the league approved the Jonathan Dayton HS / David Brearley HS / Union HS ice hockey tri-op, which they did. *The tri-op approval is contingent upon the ice hockey tri-coop proposal passing second reading later in the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

---

**Kim Cole**

**Boys Tennis** – Cutoff for the team tournament and singles/doubles tournament was 5/2. Seeding will take place on 5/12. Team tennis day is 5/24 at Mercer County Park, and the finals of the singles/double tournament will be 6/8, also at Mercer County Park.

**Girls Lacrosse** – Seeding takes place 5/12 using LAX power. Cutoff is 5/11. The group finals will be at Kean University on 6/3, the T of C semifinals at Monmouth University on 6/7 and the T of C finals at Kean University on 6/10.

**Softball** – Seeding will be 5/15. The state public semi-finals and non-public sectional finals will take place at six predetermined sites on 6/1. The finals will be played at Kean University on 6/3 & 6/4. The Tournament of Champions will be played at Ivy Hill Park on June 6, 7 & 9.

**Tournament Refusal** – This process has become very simple. Schools just need to log in to our website and uncheck a box if they don't want to be entered in to a tournament. 53 teams opted out of a tournament and though more than five reminders were sent, two emails were received this morning, after the cutoff, that their school does not want to participate in the tournament. Next year that type of activity would be fined.

---

**Larry White**

**Baseball** – Cutoff is 5/12. Seeding is 5/18. Sites for the public state semi-finals and non-public sectional finals were distributed and are set for June 6 (rain date June 7). The group finals will be held at the three Toms River high schools on June 10 (rain date to be determined). Times are 11am and 2pm.

There have been 8 forfeit games and 2 pending forfeits due to violation of the new pitch count rule. Mr. White thinks that number is minimal. Beginning at the public state semifinals / non-public sectional finals rounds, NJSIAA will supply the one adult pitch counter. Steve Shohfi asked if Mr. White has heard of problems staffing a pitch counter. Answer-no. Mr. White added that the pitch counter and the manager must agree each inning on official inning counts. That seems to be where the problems lie.

**Boys Volleyball** – Cutoff is 5/11. Seeding will be 5/16. The sectional finals will be 6/2 at the highest remaining seed; semifinals and finals will be at South Brunswick HS on 6/6 and 6/8 respectively.
Outdoor Track – Dates and sites for the outdoor track spring tournament were distributed. Paper entries must be postmarked by 5/24 to enter the tournament. By 5/26, entries are locked in. Coaches have been doing a great job with the online paperwork.

NJSCA Clinics – The last clinic of the 2016-2017 year will be the wrestling clinic on 5/5 at Princeton University. There will be four presenters and 353 in attendance. The last NJSCA meeting of the year will be on 6/14.

Cross Country Dates – Sectionals will take place on 11/4. The Group Championships and the Meet of Champions will be 11/11 and 11/18 respectively, both at Holmdel Park. All sectional sites have been confirmed, except one in North Jersey.

Unified Sports – The round table discussions around the state have been helping the process of getting the word out about Unified Sports.

Golf Update – To qualify for the state tournament, a minimum of six matches with a 60% winning percentage must be played before the cutoff of 5/5. Mr. Stumpf has secured the last tournament site, the Francis Byrne Golf Course. Scores for approximately 400 female golfers are in the system which coaches have access to via internet.

Meeting with the Commissioner re: Transfer Rule – Mr. Timko, Mr. White, Mr. Herbert and Mr. Zapicchi met with representatives from the Commissioner of Education’s office to discuss concerns with the transfer rule. Originally the meeting was scheduled with the Commissioner of Education herself but instead she sent her main counsel to represent in the meeting. NJSIAA drafted a report with rationale in support of the transfer rule and sent it over, but unfortunately it appears the Commissioner will veto the new transfer rule. Mr. Anzano met with the Governor’s Council and received indication that it would not pass. Committee members expressed disappointment that the Commissioner did not make the meeting, and instead sent counsel in her place.

Finance Report

2017-2018 Budget – The Finance Committee reviewed and endorsed the 2017-2018 budget. A copy will be emailed to all Executive Committee members later in the day. Ms. Maguire is available for any questions.

Absentee Ballot Survey – Ms. Maguire surveyed the membership whether they would like to see absentee balloting available for the annual meeting. Some have expressed hardship in physically getting to the meeting to cast their ballot. Leagues and Conference officers distributed the survey to schools in their conference. Of the 373 schools that returned their survey (86% of the membership), 223 schools voted in favor of absentee balloting (60% of schools), 133 were opposed to it (36%), and 17 schools abstained (5%). Another question on
the survey was if absentee balloting was permitted, would your school attend the annual meeting. Results: 244 would still attend (65%), 89 would not (24%) and 40 schools abstained from answering yes or no (11%).

Ms. Maguire asked Executive Committee to speak to their constituents, and find out whether they are in favor or against absentee balloting. If the Executive Committee votes in favor of absentee balloting in the June meeting, Ms. Maguire will have legislation drafted over the summer and present it to the new Executive Committee in September 2017. If approved, it will be effective for the annual meeting in December 2017. Some committee members expressed concern that schools will not be present for the discussions that take place at the annual meeting. Rob Haraka expressed that at times he has not known his vote until after the presentations made at the annual meeting so he felt strongly against absentee balloting. He also felt every profession has integral meetings and the annual meeting should be one of them. Bill Vacca agreed with Mr. Haraka, but felt the proposal should be moved forward and hopefully voted down to send a message to the membership how important it is to be present at the meetings. Maureen Bilda agreed as well, but understood the plight of smaller schools and the multiple roles a staff person covers, therefore making it difficult to leave the school and attend the annual meeting.

______________________________________________________________

Finance Committee Update (Elaine McGrath)

April 2017 Checkbook – A motion was made by Kathy Goldenberg, seconded by Judy Finch Johnson, to accept the April 2017 check register, which was approved by the finance committee as well as our monthly approvals according to policy. Motion carried unanimously.

______________________________________________________________

Program Review

Swimming 4th Official Beginning at State Sectional Finals – 1st Reading - A motion was made by Philip Shaffer, seconded by Suzanne Cooley, to add a fourth official to all the swimming sectional finals, state semi-final and state finals. This request is because at this level of the competition, the current three-official team may not always be in the proper position to accurately determine if a swimmer leaves the platform early during the relay races. This season a sectional championship was determined by a disqualification of a swimmer leaving early. The cost for an additional official would increase by $40, from $200 per team to $240. The Swim Committee approved this recommendation 12-0. Dr. George suggested using video cameras to aid officials, but that is cost prohibitive at each site. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

New Fall Sports Start Date – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Kevin Carty, Jr., seconded by Suzanne Cooley, for a one-year pilot to change Section 8 Start of Regular Schedule to have the following fall opening dates after six days of practice:

1. Girls Tennis September 5, 2017 (no change)
2. September 5, 2017 – Cross Country, Field Hockey, Gymnastics, Soccer (already approved by the Executive Committee), Girls Volleyball
3. August 31, 2017 – Football

Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Football Summer Period – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Philip Schaffer seconded by Gerald Glisson, to create a summer period from Sunday June 11 thru Sunday August 6 with on field practice per day restricted to 2 ½ hours (Weight room lifting session, classroom sessions
are NOT INCLUDED in the 2.5 hours), Football helmets/mouthpieces are permitted and protective equipment may be issued for attendance at prospect camps or 7v7 (third party camps) with board approval. Mr. Vacca expressed that he doesn’t understand how the committee can pass a rule with no power to enforce, but if it’s a recommendation, he is ok with it. Final Vote: Yes-15; No-6; Absain-1. Motion passed second reading.

NJSIAA Official Football Practice Start Date – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Kevin Carty, Jr., seconded by Suzanne Cooley, to change the official football practice start date from Wednesday, August 9, 2017 to Monday, August 7, 2017. Mandatory heat acclimatization protocol would begin on 8/7 – no early heat acclimatization would be permitted. The heat acclimatization protocol would be as follows:

- DAYS 1-2: Helmets ONLY
- DAYS 3-5: Helmets and Shoulder Pads ONLY
- DAY 6: ALL Equipment may be worn

Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Establishing Seasonal Deadline Dates for Cooperative Sports Program Applications – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Rob Haraka, seconded by Rob Grauso, to establish the following firm cooperative sports deadline due dates:

- Fall – applications due by May 1st of the prior year
- Winter – applications due by October 1st
- Spring - applications are due February 1st.

These dates are consistent with state reports and the Executive Committee dates for approval prior to each season. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Permitting Three Schools to Form a Cooperative Sports Program in Ice Hockey – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Philip Schaffer, to allow a tri-op cooperative sports program in ice hockey, but roster cannot exceed 30 students. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Establishing 3rd Ice Hockey Group Classification – One Year Pilot – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Thomas Mullahey, seconded by Steve Shohfi, to create a third public ice hockey championship division so each group would have 32/33 schools in each. This is more consistent with groupings for other sports, gives another school a championship opportunity, and eliminates the out-bracket game. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Report of Counsel – Michael W. Herbert – There was an appeal to the Commissioner of Education regarding a 5th year eligibility case, but the Commissioner upheld the decision made by the Eligibility Appeals Committee and denied the student-athlete a fifth year of eligibility.

Old Business / New Business – Dr. George wants to look more closely at the schools with a significant amount of transfers to investigate if recruiting is taking place. He also wants more information about the impact of the Commissioner of Education vetoing the new transfer rule. Mr. Herbert is hoping for more resolution when NJSIAA hears from the Commissioner’s legal counsel.
Adjournment - There being no further business, a motion was made for adjournment by Philip Schaffer, seconded by Judy Finch Johnson. Meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Timko
Executive Director

SJT:In