EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
May 9, 2018

Flag Salute

Roll Call / Introduction of Press

The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday, May 9, 2018, at the NJSIAA Administration Building in Robbinsville, New Jersey, was called to order by the President, Chuck Klaus, at 11:13 am.

The following members were present: Greg Bailey, Maureen Bilda, Kevin Carty, Jr., Suzanne Cooley, James Gaffney, Dr. William George, Sharron Grady, Robert Grauso, Robert Haraka, Jack Hurley, Monsignor Michael Kelly, Howard Krieger, Timothy McElhinney, Matthew McFarland, Tony Mitchell, Thomas Mullahey, Paul Popadiuk, Senator Paul Sarlo, Dr. James Sarruda, Steve Shohfi, Vincent Smith, Beverly Torok, Todd VanOrden, Denis Williams and Scott Wohlrab. Also present: Larry L. 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; Sean Reilly, Sideline Chatter; Steve Falk, Asbury Park Press; Darren Cooper, Record; and Matt Stanmyre, nj.com. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.; David Frazier, Athletic Director at Rutherford HS; Bob Williams, Athletic Director at Northern Highlands HS; Chris Brown, Athletic Director at Park Ridge HS; and Dan Vivino, Athletic Director at Westwood HS.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Kevin Carty, Jr, seconded by Monsignor Michael Kelly, to accept the minutes of the April 11, 2018 Executive Committee meeting. Motion passed with one abstention (Jack Hurley).

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 L. White

Legislative Update (Paul Anzano) – $50,000 was included in the state budget for NJSIAA to administer steroid testing at championship events in 2018-2019. Mr. Anzano plans to talk to the sponsors of S1715 (Former Governor Codey and Senator Paul Sarlo) about year-round testing and steroid education programs. Monsignor Kelly expressed opposition to the Governor’s proposal to legalize marijuana and asked if NJSIAA’s executive body can make a statement against it, like they do against performance enhancing drugs. Mr. Anzano explained that based on new interpretations of the existing medical marijuana law, every 2 out of 3 people who request a prescription for medical marijuana (more than 60,000 people) will be eligible so this would undermine the legalization and Mr. Anzano doesn’t see it happening within next year anyway.
Advisory Committee Proposed Legislation for 2018-2019 – David Frazier, Chairperson of the Advisory Committee/Athletic Director at Rutherford HS and Bob Williams, Secretary of the Advisory Committee/Athletic Director at Northern Highlands HS, reported that the following nine proposals were approved by the Advisory Committee on 4/11/18 for consideration by the Executive Committee. If endorsed by the Executive Committee, each piece of legislation will be discussed at sectional meetings in the fall, and placed on the ballot at the annual meeting in December. If not endorsed, the sponsor can obtain 20 principal signatures to still put on the annual meeting ballot, but the legislation is unable to be amended at the sectional meetings.

a. **70% State Competition Rule submitted by New Milford HS** - A motion was made by Dr. James Sarruda, seconded by Monsignor Michael Kelly, to endorse a proposal that amends Section 18. 70% State Competition Rule so that NJSIAA tournament team entry forms reflect competition to no less than 60% with NJ schools (rather than the current 70%) or it forfeits its entry in to the NJSIAA tournaments. There will be no change in the waiver process. This allows schools to opt out of games that are not competitively balanced so schools are not being blown out and the powerhouses can play better competition and find games since they have difficulty making schedules. The Advisory Committee advanced the proposal 15-0. Mr. Frazier called the question.

Final Vote: Yes-24; No-0; Abstain-1. Motion passed. This proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2018 annual meeting.

b. **NJSIAA Rules and Regulations, Program Regulations: Section 5 Sports Seasons Dates & Section 6 Start of Practice, submitted by Chris Brown, Park Ridge HS along with Steve Jenkins of Bloomfield HS and Kevin Murphy of Washington Twp HS.** Chris Brown spoke on behalf of the proposal. A motion was made by Thomas Mullahey, seconded by Todd Van Orden, to endorse the proposed dates below for placement on the ballot at the 2018 annual meeting (if approved, the proposed dates distributed would go into effect for the 2020 – 2021 school year to coincide with the next scheduling cycle):

- **Football** – The first day of practice will be the 1st Monday in August after August 5th.
- **The First Scrimmage date is seven days after the first day of practice.**
- **All Other Fall Sports** – The first day of practice will be the 3rd Monday prior to Labor Day Monday.
- **Baseball, Softball, B Tennis, B Volleyball** – The first day of practice will be the 2nd Friday in March.
- **Lacrosse, Track & Field, Golf** – The first day of practice will be the Monday preceding the 2nd Friday in March. (These dates are proposed because Lacrosse and Golf already begin earlier and if track ends too late, it coincides with the Penn Relays. Also, golf courses are harder to secure as you get deeper in to the end of spring).

The Advisory Committee voted 11-5 in favor of the proposal. Monsignor Kelly expressed concern about the 2019 football first practice date (August 12th) which he felt would be too late but Mr. Brown assured him because this proposal would not go in to effect until the 2020-21 school year. This is just the proposed layout – dates can be changed. Beverly Torok felt for four days difference, why change it. Just makes it harder on Athletic Directors to have different start dates. Robert Grauso asked what is the benefit of starting the spring season later to which Mr.
Brown responded that 1- Weather (April 1st there is snow on ground), 2- Helps with preseason – can’t get out and practice until the end of the month, 3-Gives a break in between seasons for winter/spring athletes, and 4- Helps with the use of facilities since often winter and spring sports overlap. Mr. Grauso asked if there will be a reduction of games or the season ends a week later? The state determines tournament dates but there’s a break between county and state tournaments so that time can be used better. Mr. Grauso feels the spring season is already confined and this proposal makes it even more so unless you extend the season or reduce the amount of games. Pitching is a concern as well in baseball with condensed schedules. Mr. Brown feels those type requests can be a byproduct of this proposal, if passed. Mr. Brown also expressed that schools are cancelling most games the first week of the season anyways. Mr. Grauso asked if he votes yes, can there be a contingency. For now, no, but the rule can be altered in sectional meetings. Dr. Sarruda expressed that conferences want autonomy in starting a week later if they choose but Mr. Goodell shared that only works if the whole conference agrees to starting a week later, because schools feel they are at a disadvantage when not starting on the same date. The Excel spreadsheet provided by Mr. Brown shows the playoffs were pushed back a week. Mr. Brown explained the state determines those dates, but hopefully the state will adjust if these dates are approved. Monsignor Kelly expressed that his coaches felt it was late to start soccer, but Mr. Brown explained there is no loss in time. Monsignor Kelly also suggested moving 1st game date up one week to April 1st but Mr. Brown feels that shortens the preseason and only gives two weeks of practice/scrimmages. Dr. Sarruda expressed that the Executive Committee should vote in favor of the proposal if they support it, not so it can be adjusted later.

Final Vote: Yes-20; No-4; Abstain-1. Motion passed. This proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2018 annual meeting.

c. **Credits – Fall/Winter Second Marking Period Eligibility**, submitted by Lorenzo Baratta, Indian Hills. The Advisory Committee passed this proposal 11-4. Mr. Baratta submitted a proposal to change Article V, Section 4.E CL:7. As it currently stands, a student who fails to meet the 30-credit rule will become eligible on February 1st. Mr. Baratta requests changing the Feb 1st date to January 1st or the start of the winter season if he/she meets the requirements of Article V, Section 4.E (2). Right now, if a student completed his/her 30 credits, they are eligible until February 1st and is eligible again on May 1st for spring so they are only impacted by one season whereas the other way around, they are impacted for five months and possibly two seasons. Mr. Baratta feels changing the eligibility date is positive for many reasons: 1-It will allow the student the ability to compete in the winter season if they have passed the First Marking Period and clearly on the way to passing Semester One. 2-Is a positive motivator for students who lost ability to compete in the fall. 3- Is better for team unity and planning. It allows coaches the ability to make roster decisions during tryouts and doesn’t disrupt team chemistry / cause animosity when the ineligible athlete joins the team February 1st and displaces a student who has been playing all season long. Mr. Baratta feels Sept – December gives enough time to know if a student will be eligible so they should be able to start in December.

Mr. Mullahey felt that students have an entire year to get 30 credits plus the opportunity for summer school to make up credits. There are many opportunities
for a student to obtain those credits and at some point you have to have academic standards. It was suggested to make the rule if you pass 30 credits in June, you should be eligible for the entire next year and let schools make these decisions, not NJSIAA. Jack Hurley didn’t understand the cutoff date and suggested it be November 15th / end of first quarter as the determining date, not Jan 1 or Feb 1. Jan 1 is a few weeks in to second quarter so there is no grade to use. Mr. Bob Williams, Advisory Committee Secretary, just shared the mindset of Mr. Baratta, which is that he wanted similar rules/time periods between each semester. He wasn’t looking for the Nov. 15th date. Mr. Popadiuk felt strongly that changing this rule sends a terrible message. Most athletes have to try to fail to be ineligible under this rule, and they can still practice and be part of the team, just can’t compete.

No motion was made, therefore the proposal does not move forward, unless Mr. Baratta obtains twenty principal signatures supporting it.

d. Add Special Olympics Representative to Executive Committee, submitted by NJSIAA. The Advisory Committee passed this proposal unanimously 16-0. A motion was made by Greg Bailey, seconded by Vinny Smith, to endorse adding a Special Olympics representative to NJSIAA’s Executive Committee.

Final Vote: Yes-24; No-0; Abstain-1. Motion passed so this proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2018 annual meeting.

e. Annual Meeting – Changes to Process/Timeline, submitted by NJSIAA. The Advisory Committee passed this proposal 16-0. A motion was made by Maureen Bilda, seconded by Tony Mitchell, to endorse a proposal that changes the timeline of dates to submit and approve legislation for the annual meeting. Timeline is below:

December 1st – legislation deadline (currently March 15)
Advisory Committee meeting – 2nd Wednesday in December (currently in April)
January Executive Committee meeting – soft approval (i.e. previously May approval)
February/March – Sectional meetings (minimum of two…one at DAANJ conference and one at NJSIAA offices and/or North site)
April 1st – Final deadline for Advisory Committee proposals as well as those with 20 signatures
April Executive Committee meeting – final approval (i.e. previously November meeting approval)
Annual Business Meeting – 1st Monday in May

Lastly, effective date will change to July 1st….not September 1st as currently prescribed.

Final Vote: Yes-24; No-0; Abstain-1. Motion passed so this proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2018 annual meeting.

f. Changes to Cooperative Sports Programs, submitted by NJSIAA: Classifications/Cooperative Sports Committee. The Advisory Committee passed this proposal 12-4. A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by
Paul Popadiuk, to endorse the following changes to cooperative sports programs.

1. The league to approve the cooperative sports program request should be the league that assigns/schedules regular games.

2. Schools will have to prove they attempted to find a school within their league/conference before seeking a school outside of their conference.

3. Any public school can co-op with any public school, regardless of group size or sport. There will be no limitations. Same is true for non-public schools. Any non-public school can co-op with any non-public school, regardless of group size or sport. Only stipulation – a public school cannot co-op with a non-public school. Schools can also co-op with a different school for different sports, which is a change from the current rules. For example, a school can co-op with one school for fall, another for winter, and another for spring. The only limitation is a school cannot co-op with more than one school in one sport at a time, with the exception of ice hockey that is permitted to have tri-ops.

4. Schools can run stand-alone freshmen and JV programs, then co-op for varsity.

5. Agreements are valid for four total years. After the first two years, there will be an automatic two-year renewal.

6. Deadlines for applications are accelerated as to allow time for review:

   Fall Sports- January 15th  
   Winter Sports- April 15th  
   Spring Sports- September 15th

7. There will be an appeals process set up just like Eligibility cases. First there will be a Co-Op Sports Committee that meets three times each year, after the seasonal deadline. They will paper screen all applications. If approved, the committee will designate the classification of the cooperative sports program so there’s competitive balance. Any decisions made by the committee can be appealed to the Co-operative Sports Appeals Committee, which will be made of Executive Committee members. If a school is not happy with the decision rendered by the Appeals Committee, they can appeal the decision to the full Executive Committee. Decisions rendered by the full Executive Committee will be considered final decision. At the two-year renewal mark, a cooperative sports program can be moved to a different classification.

8. If approved, this proposal will go in to effect in the 2019-2020 school year.

9. After four years, schools must plan for an exit strategy, but if can be proved that the schools cannot sustain the program on their own, they can reapply. Lastly, effective date will change to July 1st….not September 1st as currently prescribed.

Tony Mitchell questioned enacting this legislation in the middle of a two-year cycle. Mr. Goodell offered that it can be pushed back a year, or all approved co-ops can be grandfathered in. Monsignor Kelly expressed concern about big cities
joining together but there are safeguards to prevent powerhouse mergers, including moving the new team to a higher classification. Ms. Maguire added that a co-op can still go to the Co-op Committee, even if a league or conference doesn’t approve it, but leagues and conference can submit a letter in opposition. Leagues and conferences also have the right to appeal any decisions made by the Co-op Committee.

Final Vote: Yes-24; No-0; Abstain-1. Motion passed so this proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2018 annual meeting. Mr. Sarlo expressed appreciation that this proposal was addressed so that more kids are offered the opportunity to participate in high school athletics.

g. **365 No Contact Rule Before Hire, submitted by NJSIAA: Out of Season Coaching Committee.** The Advisory Committee passed this proposal 15-1. A motion was made by Suzanne Cooley, seconded by Tom Mullahey, to endorse eliminating the 365-day rule prior to hire. Once the coach is hired as staff, the 365-contact rule should stay in effect. Athletic Directors are strained to find coaches so having to eliminate a coach that had contact with a player in past 365 days from consideration makes the search even more difficult. There is a chance coaches can groom future athletes, but it is a one-time exception, because once the coach is hired, they can no longer coach the athlete out of season. This rule would apply to all levels of interscholastic competition.

Final Vote: Yes-24; No-0; Abstain-1. Motion passed so this proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2018 annual meeting.

h. **Out of Season One Team Meeting Limit, submitted by NJSIAA: Out of Season Coaching Committee.** The Advisory Committee passed this proposal 15-0. A motion was made by Tony Mitchell, seconded by Todd VanOrden, to endorse a proposal that removes the one (1) team meeting restriction during the “Out of Season” period and allow multiple non-instructional organizational meetings for teams to distribute required materials and meet to discuss fundraising, community service, camps, travel, off season, workout opportunities, crisis management etc. Strategy or techniques may not be discussed, and no physical activity can take place. The meetings must be for organizational purposes only. Any meeting that involves sports related discussions/coaching will be considered a violation of the out of season contact rule.

Final Vote: Yes-24; No-0; Abstain-1. Motion passed so this proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2018 annual meeting.

i. **Contact with Eight (8th) Grade Students, submitted by NJSIAA: Out of Season Coaching Committee.** The Advisory Committee passed this proposal 16-0. A motion was made by Tony Mitchell, seconded by Jack Hurley, to endorse a proposal that adds a new section to the NJSIAA Rules and Regulations – Student-Athlete Guidelines to permit contact with student athletes in 8th grade under the following guidelines:

New section: NJSIAA Rules and Regulations -Student-Athlete Guidelines, Section 9 Eighth (8th) Grade Contact, Page 68:
High school coaches are permitted to have contact with student-athletes in grades eight (8) and below as it pertains to camps, clinics and the like, as long as it does not involve high school students unless it is during the summer recess period.

Student-athletes in grades eight (8) and below are not permitted to take part in activities that involve high school student-athletes until they have graduated from eighth (8) grade or during the summer recess period.

High school coaches are permitted to coach teams that involve student-athletes in grades eight (8th) and below as long as it does not involve high school students or during the summer recess period.

All camps, clinics and the like must be open to all. In no way may these activities be held by invitation only when they are involving high school coaches except for the summer period.

Schools are prohibited from sponsoring any camps, clinics and the like during any season (current rule).

Coaches may attend games that involve eighth (8th) grade students to watch the game only. Any contact beyond just watching the game may be considered a violation of the Athletic Recruitment Bylaws (Article V, Section 4, Letter D).

Lastly, effective date will change to July 1st….not September 1st as currently prescribed.

Summer contact and the recruitment rule were discussed, more for understanding by committee members. Paul Popadiuk questioned whether a coach can run a camp for 5th graders through the rec department and work with his/her players that were hired as well. Answer is yes because it is during the summer recess period, so that is permissible. This rule puts structure in to the vague recruitment rule. Suzanne Cooley questioned last month’s minutes – when is an 8th grader considered a student of the hs – at graduation or when they enroll with their high school. Answer is when student graduates AND when NJSIAA summer session begins. For that reason, Mr. Grauso feels the following sentence in the proposal needs to be fixed because it is not if they graduate or during the summer recess. It is both so “or” should be replaced with “and”.

Student-athletes in grades eight (8) and below are not permitted to take part in activities that involve high school student-athletes until they have graduated from eighth (8) grade or during the summer recess period.

Final Vote: Yes-24; No-0; Abstain-1. Motion passed so this proposal will be placed on the ballot at the 2018 annual meeting.

NFHS Legal Meeting / NFHS Medical Advisory Summit – Mr. White and Mr. Goodell attended and presented at the NFHS Legal Meeting in Indianapolis. NJSIAA’s presentation was well received. Dave Csillan, trainer at Ewing HS and on NJSIAA’s Medical Advisory Committee, attended the NFHS Medical Advisory Summit with Mr. White. Dr. Yvette Brooks from NJ presented and will present again on May 16th at Columbia University. Bob Gardner is retiring as
Executive Director of the NFHS. Dr. Karissa Niehoff, Executive Director of the CT Association, will take over the reins on August 1st.

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

President - Vincent Smith, Superintendent, Point Pleasant Borough School District

1st VP – Mary Liz Ivins, Principal, Notre Dame HS

2nd VP – Steve Shohfi, School Board Member, Point Pleasant Beach School District

Motion passed first reading unanimously.

2018-2019 Executive Committee Meeting Dates – 1st Reading – Proposed meeting dates for next year were distributed. A motion was made by Beverly Torok, seconded by Monsignor Kelly, to approve the meeting dates for 2018-2019. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

Assistant Directors Reports

Jack DuBois

Workshops – The Legal One Workshop on Financial Pitfalls was rescheduled to 4/27. Ken Kokoska, former Exec Committee member and South River HS board member, presented.

Scholar Athlete Program – 364 scholar athletes will be honored at this year’s event at the Pines Manor in Edison. $201,000 will be awarded in scholarships and over 1,500 will be in attendance. Mr. DuBois thanked the conferences and sponsors for donating scholarships to NJ’s athletes.

Cooperative Sports Program Approvals - A motion was made by Dr. James Sarruda, seconded by Tony Mitchell, to approve the following cooperative sports program requests.

1) West Windsor Plainsboro South / West Windsor Plainsboro North – Football
2) Keyport HS/Henry Hudson HS–Football, G Soccer, B/G Volleyball, Wrestling
3) Henry Hudson HS / Keyport HS – Cross Country, B/G Tennis, Winter Track
4) Manasquan HS / Point Pleasant Beach HS – Gymnastics, B/G Swimming, B/G Bowling, Ice Hockey
5) North Warren HS / Belvidere HS – B/G Lacrosse
6) Bordentown HS / Florence Twp HS – Wrestling

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Tony Mitchell, seconded by Suzanne Cooley, to approve a cooperative sports agreement between Mater Dei Prep and Ranney School in football. This request was approved by the Shore Conference. Final Vote: Yes-16; No-6. Motion carried.
Kim Cole

**Girls Lacrosse and Softball** – Tournament dates, locations and assignor information was distributed.

**Eligibility and Transfers** – More schools are utilizing the online transfer form, 70+ since the last report. The Eligibility Committee and Eligibility Appeals Committee have been extremely busy with cases and there is a potential controversies hearing coming up.

Bill Bruno

**Outdoor Track** – Mr. Bruno thanked the ten sites hosting the tournament.

**NJSCA Clinics** – The wrestling clinic will be on 5/4 at Princeton University. 68 coaches are registered.

**Cross Country Dates** – Three of the four sectional sites are confirmed. Sectionals will take place on 11/3. The Group Championships and the Meet of Champions will be 11/10 and 11/17 respectively.

Al Stumpf

**Unified Sports** – Mr. Stumpf is expecting 16 teams to participate in the Spring Track Group Meet. Entry forms were sent out.

**Golf Update** – All sites have been confirmed.

**Boys Volleyball** – Cutoff is 5/10. Seeding will be 5/15.

Tony Maselli

**Baseball** – Cutoff is 5/11. Seeding is 5/17.

**Boys Tennis** – The tournament is underway.

**Tournament Refusal** – NJSIAA needs to do a better job in educating Athletic Directors of this process.

**Website Update** – The association is moving to a new platform so until that happens, not much will take place on the current website. NJSIAA is engaging Twitter, Facebook and Instagram more these days.

**Arbiter Update** – The new registration process with Arbiter has been rolled out, with many glitches, but the association is working with Arbiter to get all the problems resolved.
Michael Zapicchi, Project Manager

Implementation of International Student Legislation – The implementation strategy and updated forms for the new international student legislation will be shared with Athletic Directors via the NJSIAA forum.

Compliance Update – Next month, Mr. Zapicchi will distribute the 2017-2018 Compliance Report. 83 public and non-public schools and 22 new Athletic Directors were visited by compliance monitors this past year.

Finance Update (Colleen Maguire)

Winter Season Financial Update – Overall, the winter season came under budget. The following factors affected the budget: 1-venues and bad weather in the sport of basketball, specifically the semi final rounds; 2-In ice hockey, a fourth classification was added, which increased costs. Ice hockey also saw an increase in finances because a third official was added to tournament games. 3-Wrestling saw a decrease in ticket revenue at both the regions and the individual tournament in Atlantic City. The decrease at regions is most likely due to the geography of participating teams and the locations of region hosting sites. 4-In wrestling, NJSIAA lost money when it paid out $8,000 to six sites that lost money hosting a district/region event since ticket prices must be in line with regular season ticket prices. Until this past year, NJSIAA was not involved with the district sites; they ran themselves, but now NJSIAA will be more involved. Some district sites took a loss, but didn’t submit for reimbursement.

2018-2019 Budget – Key variances were discussed in the Finance Committee meeting. A copy of the proposed budget will be emailed to all Executive Committee members. Ms. Maguire is available for any questions.

Spring Ticket Prices – Ticket price requests were submitted to the Department of Education. There were some venue changes, but no changes in ticket prices was requested.

Broadcasting Rights – RFPs have been received. NJSIAA signed a one-year renewal with News 12 Varsity for $120,000 to be the primary holder of NJSIAA’s broadcasting rights. There are two years left on the contract with NFHS Network allowing them to be the secondary holder. There will be third tier of tertiary rights. A proposal has been received, which NJSIAA revised, so now the association is just waiting on a response. There are enough games out there for all three companies to have content to broadcast.

Student Advisory Committee Update – After Bill Bruno presented at an assembly at Nutley HS, it became apparent that NJSIAA needs to give NJ’s student athletes a voice and a way to be involved in the organization. A handout was distributed detailing the new Student Advisory Committee and Ambassador program.

Gregg Ficarra, Stan Fryczynski, and Frank Noppenberger will head the Student Ambassador program. An online application will be posted next week for sophomores/juniors to apply, which will be reviewed by a selection committee in July. The commitment will be for two years. Students will be expected to attend their regional sectional meeting in addition to four other meetings throughout the 2018-2019 school year. For the Student Advisory Committee, every school can nominate one student athlete to represent their school and attend the summit meeting in Late March/Early April at the Woodbridge Community Center. Student Ambassadors will drive the agenda for that meeting. 22 students attended the May Leagues and Conferences
Officers meeting, and their feedback was interesting and surprising. Students expressed strongly that they prefer championship games being decided in a soccer shootout rather than ending in a tie. Also, in an icebreaker activity, all but one said they would prefer to be a coach rather than an official. Going forward, NJSIAA would like to educate and provide the student population a better understanding of officials.

**Finance Committee Update (Chuck Klaus)**

April 2018 Checkbook – A motion was made by Greg Bailey, seconded by Denis Williams, to accept the April 2018 check register, which was approved by the finance committee as well as our monthly approvals according to policy. Motion carried unanimously.

**Program Review**

Field Hockey Clock Operator – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Greg Bailey, seconded by Suzanne Cooley, to add an additional timer at $65 per game in the booth beginning with the Public State Semi-Finals and Non-Public Sectional/State Semi-Finals and throughout the tournament. This will go into effect Fall 2018. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Baseball Non-Public Sectional Finals Location – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Greg Bailey, seconded by Monsignor Kelly, to move the non-public sectional finals to the higher seeded team as determined by the seeding committee. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Unified Sports Guidelines – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Paul Popadiuk, seconded by Greg Bailey, to approve the new Unified Sports Guidelines for placement in the Rules and Regulations of the NJSIAA Handbook. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Football United Playoff Proposal – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Kevin Carty, Jr., seconded by Scott Wohlrab, to approve the NJ United Playoff Proposal. Motion passed second reading with one abstention (Tony Mitchell).

Football Heat Acclimatization Start Date – Monday August 6th for 2018 Season – 2nd Reading - A motion was made by Kevin Carty, Jr., seconded by Tony Mitchell, to change the heat acclimatization start date from Wednesday August 8, 2018 to Monday August 6, 2018 with board approval. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Bowling Season Start Date – 1st Reading - The Bowling Committee recommends moving the start of the regular season to an earlier start date. Getting time in the bowling alleys has become increasingly more difficult. The number of bowling teams are increasing as well, which adds to the problem. The next 3 years are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NJEA Dates</th>
<th>Practice Start</th>
<th>First Scrimmage</th>
<th>Opening Day</th>
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<td>2017-18</td>
<td>Nov 9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>Nov 22</td>
<td>Dec 1</td>
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<td>2018-19</td>
<td>Nov 8 &amp; 9</td>
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<td>Dec 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>Nov 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Nov 11</td>
<td>Nov 18</td>
<td>Dec 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>Nov 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Nov 9</td>
<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>Dec 1</td>
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Moving the bowling will align it with the proposed swimming dates to minimize the amount of different starting dates and the cutoff date was pushed back a week later on the backend to give teams more days for matches as well.

A motion was made by Greg Bailey, seconded by Steve Shohfi, to begin practices the Monday after the NJEA Convention every year and opening day to be December 1st every year. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

Swimming Season Start Date – 1st Reading - The Swimming Committee recommends moving the start of the regular season to a later start date, similar to where it was a few years ago. Their recommendation is for every year, practice to start the Monday after the NJEA Convention and opening day to be December 1st. Their feeling is that starting on the date that Ice Hockey starts (Nov 5) is too early. Since swimming has move to the earlier start date, many coaches and facilities have reported teams not starting until the following week. This also puts the facility in a tough spot because the pools are unoccupied. The next 3 years are listed below:

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A motion was made by Kevin Carty, Jr., seconded by Beverly Torok, to change the swimming practice start date to the Monday after the NJEA Convention every year and the opening day be December 1st every year. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

Wrestling Rules Modifications – 1st Reading – A motion was made by Greg Bailey, seconded by Maureen Bilda, to amend the present language of the Wrestling Rules and Regulations to read,  

1) The power point team average will be based on a three-year average (The present language states the power point team average be based on a five-year average.) and

2) Each region will have 4 power ranked teams (The present language provided for a one team differential when balancing out the regions (example: Region 1, Five power teams, Region 2, Three power teams, Region 3 Four power Teams)

Rationale is after looking at the data from the past few years, the three-year average is a better indicator of a team’s strength (students only attend high school for four years so why should the formula be five years) and the committee decided to balance the 8 regions, 32 power ranked teams without a one team differential (this removes human error and keeps formula same for all). The Wrestling Committee will secure new district and region sites based on the new alignment. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

Soccer Group Finals Shootout – 1st Reading - In December 2017 the Soccer Committee met and discussed the issue of the Group Championships ending in a tie and a Co-Championship being awarded. Al Stumpf and Tony Maselli polled the conferences to see if ending the practice of awarding a Co-Championship should be revised. Results of the survey: The Conference vote to continue the Co-Championship was 3 in favor and 10 opposed. The means to break the tie in overtime were also voted on, Extended or Additional overtime periods - 8 in favor – 5 opposed. Mr. Stumpf checked with the NFHS and they recommended against this for the safety of the athletes. The recommended method by the NFHS was to use shootout. The committee voted 7 in favor and 5 opposed with 1 abstention. At the youth summit at the April Leagues and

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Conference meeting, the student athletes overwhelming felt that the game should be played to a winner, to them that is what athletics is about.

After hearing their views, Mr. Stumpf presented their feelings to the soccer committee via email and based on their responses and more importantly on the students athlete’s input, the soccer committee is recommending beginning with the 2018-19 boys and girls soccer season and also in the 2019-20 boys and girls soccer season, the NJSIAA grant a two-year rule modification that would allow the following - In the Group Soccer Championship Games if the regulation game ends in a tie score that a maximum of two ten-minute overtime periods using “Golden Goal” be used to declare a Champion. If at the end of these two overtime periods the game remains tied that a shootout (as defined in the current NJSIAA Soccer Regulations) be used until a winner has been determined. This would be a two-year trial period to give the soccer committee an opportunity to determine if it is a viable means to eliminate the co- championships in soccer and two years is necessary in case there are no ties during year 1.

A motion was made by Maureen Bilda, seconded by Kevin Carty, Jr. to go to a shootout (as defined in the current NJSIAA Soccer Regulations) in the boys and girls Group Soccer Championship Games if the regulation game ends in a tie score, and a maximum of two ten-minute overtime periods using “Golden Goal” has been played. Motion passed first reading unanimously.


Old Business / New Business – none.

Adjournment - There being no further business, a motion was made for adjournment by Dr. James Sarruda, seconded by Kevin Carty, Jr. Meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry L. White
Executive Director

SJT:In