Flag Salute

Roll Call / Introduction of Press

The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday June 5, 2019 at the NJSIAA Administration Building in Robbinsville, New Jersey, was called to order by President, Vincent Smith, at 11:10 am.

The following members were present: Heather Andersen, Maureen Bilda, Dr. Brian Brotschul, Kevin Carty, Jr., Teri Connor, Jason Corley, Joanne Dzama, Judy Finch Johnson, James Gaffney, Robert Grauso, Robert Haraka, Jack Hurley, Mary Liz Ivins, Monsignor Michael Kelly, Chuck Klaus, Howard Krieger, Bill McDermott, Tony Mitchell, Thomas Mullahey, Michael Nitti, Michael Pellegrino, Senator Sarlo, Steve Shohfi, Bill Vacca, Todd VanOrden, Kathy Whalen, Denis Williams, Scott Wohlrab and Dr. Brian Zychowski. Also present: Larry White, Executive Director; Kim Cole, Jack DuBois, Al Stumpf, and Tony Maselli, Assistant Directors; Colleen Maguire, Director of Finance; Michael Zapicchi, Project Manager; Steven Goodell, Esq., NJSIAA Counsel. The following sportswriters were in attendance: Phil Anastasia, Philadelphian Inquirer, Mike Pavlichko, WCTC and Darren Cooper, The Record. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.

Mr. White thanked departing Executive Committee members, Teri Connor, Jack Hurley, Chuck Klaus, and Todd Van Orden for their service.

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Maureen Bilda, seconded by Judy Finch Johnson, to accept the minutes of the May 1, 2019 Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Out-of-State Competition Sanctions (informational) - 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) – In May, the legislature charged the association with monitoring a central assault prevention program. For this program, NJSIAA would be responsible for the compliance of the coaches. It was introduced on the Assembly side, but there hasn’t been much movement anywhere else, nor does Mr. Anzano anticipate action in near future because the legislature is trying to pass the state budget. Mr. Anzano expects that the proposed $50,000 for NJSIAA steroid testing should be approved. All 80 seats will be up for election next November, so the legislature will most likely be focused on this in the fall.

2019-2020 Executive Committee Meeting Dates – 2nd Reading – A motion to approve the following dates for next year’s Executive Committee meetings was made by Bill Vacca, seconded by Monsignor Michael Kelly. Motion carried unanimously.
Approval of 2019-2020 Officers – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Maureen Bilda, seconded by Dr. Brian Brotschul, to accept the following slate of executive committee officers for 2019-2020: President – Mary Liz Ivins, 1st Vice President – Steve Shohfi, and 2nd Vice President – Tom Mullahey. Motion carried unanimously.

Scholar Athlete Program – In its 26th year, the Scholar Athlete program honored 370 student athletes and awarded $200,000 in scholarship money. 1,400+ people were in attendance. For the first time, a $1,000 random scholarship was selected and given out at the end of the program, but the winner selected had to be present to win. This was done as motivation for people to stay at the program and it worked.

Spring Medical Advisory Committee – The final meeting of the year took place on 5/8. The committee approved the banned substances list again. There were no new banned substances added from last year. Kevin Briles, ATC at Delsea HS, spoke about his concerns that there is not always an athletic trainer at away events in the early rounds of the basketball tournaments. Usually the home school’s athletic trainer acts as the trainer for both schools. There is also a service that provides athletic trainers if the need arises. This type information needs to be communicated to schools. The other big topic of discussion was the use of Tanita Scales over the next year or two since a new ultrasound measuring device was approved by the Executive Committee. The Tanita Scale can be used for the upcoming 2019-2020 wrestling season but will be phased out after next year. The only caveat is that a school must use one device or the other – cannot use the Tanita Scale sometimes and then the new ultrasound tool the other times. Must be consistent whichever tool is utilized. On Monday, 6/10, Dr. Rob Monaco is holding a training session for 24 trainers (2 from each region) on how to use the new ultrasound device. After next school year, all members schools should be educated in using it.

Drug Free Sports Contract for 2019-2020 – A motion was made by Monsignor Kelly, seconded by Tom Mullahey, to allow NJSIAA to renew its contract with Drug Free Sports (DFS) this summer to administer the association’s steroid testing. Motion passed unanimously.

National HS Senior Gymnastics Invitational – New Jersey came in first by edging out Massachusetts by 1/10 of a point. The coaches for the National Team were Cindy Wagner-Somerville HS, Heidi Henning-South Brunswick HS, Meredith Garofalo-South Plainfield HS and Colleen Sutphen- Holmdel HS. Gymnasts included Alexis Rogers- Freehold Twp HS, Colleen Addario- Middletown HS South (Colleen was the all-around champion), Karly Herod-Montgomery HS, Brielle Seidel-Hillsborough HS, Michaelah Lanza-Middletown HS North, Cindy Lui- Hillsborough HS and Ariyana Argarwala-Bishop George Ahr HS.
Assistant Directors Reports

Al Stumpf

Golf – Golf results were distributed. Though there were weather issues, all rounds were played.

Unified Sports – This year, 34 teams registered for the Unified Spring Track state tournament and an additional 10-15 schools participated in Unified but were not registered for states. Mr. Stumpf’s goal is to have all registered teams compete in the NJSIAA championships next year. The 2019 Unified Hopewell Valley Track & Field Invitational was successful with six teams participating. The setup and scoring was all correct. Mr. Stumpf will propose to set up an official Unified schedule next spring for coaches. There were three sectional champions (North, South, Central). Then at the group championships, Franklin HS was crowned the North champions & Hamilton West earned the South crown. The 4x400 and 4x100 relays will be run at the MOC.

Volleyball Update – Congrats to the following sectional champions:
North 1 - Fair Lawn HS
North 2 - Ridge HS
Central - Old Bridge HS
South - Southern HS

Fair Lawn then defeated Southern and Old Bridge defeated Ridge. Fair Lawn and Old Bridge will compete against each other in the finals on 6/6.

Basketball – NJSIAA’s regional assignors are running 3-man crew training sessions @ Rider University. So far, 147 are registered.

Kim DeGraw-Cole

Girl’s Lacrosse – The seeding meeting was held on 5/10 with 174 teams out of 218 filling the 16 brackets. Results from the Group Finals, held at Kean University on 6/1, was distributed. The Tournament of Champions Semi-finals were moved to Middletown HS South on 6/5 at 5pm and 7pm and the T of C Finals at Kean University will be on 6/8 at 5pm.

Softball – The seeding meeting was held on 5/13 with 303 teams out of 398 seeded. All but one public bracket was filled to 16, however the non-public brackets were not since a significant number of non-public softball teams opted out of the tournament. The seeding committee used topsy turvy seeding. There were multiple games where a 15-seed defeated a 2-seed. The Public State Semi-Finals and Non-Public Sectional Finals were held at six college venues on 5/31 (rain date) in double header format. A few changes to the Semi-Final schedule had to be made at the last minute due to weather. The Group Finals were held at Kean University on 6/1 & 6/2. Results were distributed. This is the third year of the Softball Tournament of Champions @ Ivy Hill Park. The first round had some great games.

Eligibility & Transfers – There were eligibility appeals hearings earlier in the day, prior to the Executive Committee meeting and one hearing took place after. The committee may meet again in July for an athletic advantage case.

Amendment to Bona Fide Change of Residence – 2nd Reading – Adjustments were made to the original proposal presented in May. Several members expressed that it would be inappropriate
and illegal to require a NJ Driver’s License to prove a bona fide change of residence. After
research, it was found that the ACLU had challenged similar cases in the past, so the
association changed the language to make a driver’s license an acceptable proof of residence,
but not required. Just like in getting a passport, it is just required to show a state-authorized
form of ID. A motion was made by Maureen Bilda, seconded by Brian Zychowksi, to amend the
transfer rule to read as follows:

K. Transfers – After his/her initial enrollment in a secondary school, as provided for in
Article V, Section 4.G (2) of the Bylaws, a student-athlete is subject to the following
transfer rules:

1. A student-athlete who transfers from one secondary school to another because of a
bona fide change of residence by his/her parents or guardians, or through assignment
by the Board of Education, becomes eligible to represent his/her new school
immediately upon entrance unless recruitment or transfer for athletic advantage is
alleged and provided all other eligibility regulations are satisfied.

Both the former and new school must complete a transfer form affirmatively stating that
the transfer is a bona fide change of residence and that there was no athletic recruitment
or a transfer for athletic advantage.

A bona fide change of residence takes place when:

a. The parent/guardian moves with the student from one public high school district to
another public high school district;
b. The parent/guardian completes an affidavit or certification with proof of the new
residence;
c. The change of residence must have occurred on or before the following dates: July 1,
to be immediately eligible to participate during the Fall sports season; October 1, to be
immediately eligible to participate in the Winter sports season; and February 1, to be
immediately eligible to participate in the Spring sports season; and
d. The new residence may not be associated with, leased, or provided by anyone
associated with the school or acting at the direction of the school, including but not
limited to administration, staff, coaches, students, parents, booster clubs, or any
organization having a connection with the school.

The form of the affidavit or certification shall be approved annually by the Executive
Committee. The affidavit or certification must be filed with the new school and be
available to the NJSIAA upon request. Any school official with actual knowledge that the
affidavit or certification is false may be subject to punishment as set forth in Article X.

The affidavit or certification must be accompanied by proof of the new residence.
Such proof shall include at least two of the following: (i) a New Jersey driver’s
license or non-driver’s identification showing change of address; (ii) mortgage or
lease documents; (iii) utility bills; (iv) voter registration; (v) bank statement; (vi)
homeowner’s insurance or renter’s insurance; or (vii) any business record or
document issued by a governmental entity.* (Changes from the last reading is shown
below. Strikethrough means deleted from last reading. Underline means added since
last reading)

The affidavit or certification must be accompanied by proof of the new
residence. Such proof must include at least two of the following: (i)
a New Jersey driver’s license or non-driver’s identification showing change of address; (ii), and at least two of the following: (i) mortgage or lease documents; (ii) utility bills; (iii) passport; (iv) voter registration; (v) bank statement; or (vi) homeowner’s insurance or renter’s insurance or (vii) any business record or document issued by a governmental entity.

The term “guardian” refers to that person who has control over the person and property of a child as established by the order of a court of competent jurisdiction. A student who becomes emancipated shall be deemed not to have made a bona fide change of residence.

Note: To provide ample notice to schools and families, the July 1 deadline for a bona fide change of residence set forth in paragraph c. above shall not be applicable in 2019. All other requirements will take effect 20 days after approval, unless determined otherwise by the Commissioner of Education.

Rob Haraka expressed displeasure with the July 1st fall deadline because he feels many legitimate transfers take place in the summer, after that 7/1 date. He suggested September 1st being the fall transfer deadline which is before school starts. Mr. Goodell shared that this was discussed at length by the committee but in the end, the committee felt a buffer was needed so transfers aren’t done last minute. They also felt more comfortable with this since it’s only a 30-day sit, vs a whole year. But the topic was debated. If a significant number of transfers fall in to this category, the rule can be changed. Mr. Haraka expressed he thinks the 7/1 deadline could affect fifty kids just from his school, but Mr. Goodell reminded him that the rule would only apply to varsity athletes. Robert Grauso asked if a student shows proof that a closing date has been scheduled, but it’s after the 7/1 deadline, could that be considered? Mr. Goodell answered – no. The rule should be black and white, so athletic directors don’t have to apply discretion. Ms. Cole also remarked that this fall, there is no deadline. Deadlines will begin to go in to effect beginning with Winter 2019/2020. Chuck Klaus asked if there’s a way to track data this summer to see if the July 1 deadline is appropriate or should be amended for next summer. Both Ms. Cole and Mr. Goodell concurred that was a great idea and can use transfer forms to track that type information and can revisit the subject next year. Michael Pellegrino asked if this rule applies to in-state transfers only. Mr. Goodell responded that the rule is applicable to all transfers.

Final Vote: Yes-26; No-0, Abstain-1. Motion passed second reading.

---

Jack DuBois

1. **Boys Lacrosse** – Mr. DuBois distributed a listing of sectional and group state champions. During the group tournament, two games were suspended to a later date while two others were postponed due to rain. The non-publics played their group championships at Livingston HS, while the public group finals were played at Hopewell Valley HS and Shore Regional HS. In the TOC quarterfinals, Summit defeated Morristown Beard, while Montgomery beat Moorestown. The semi-finals will be played later in day at Kean University though the games may be postponed to 6/6 due to weather.

2. **Senior All-Star Baseball Game** – Rosters were distributed. Prior to the games on 6/11 at Diamond Nation, the NJSCBA will induct five new coaches in to their Hall of Fame.
3. **Corporate Update** – Jolyn Clothing will be the new three-year sponsor of the Swimming & Diving Championships, co-sponsor of the cross country and track tournaments, and the official girls athletic wear provider.

4. **NJSIAA Workshops** – Two eligibility workshops have been scheduled – one in August, the other in September. There is a Fundamentals of Coaching class on August 1st and a New Athletic Directors Workshop on August 20th. Both will take place at NJSIAA. Registration forms are on NJSIAA’s website.

**Football / Opponents Strength Index (OSI) – 2nd Reading** – A motion was made by Kevin Carty, seconded by Rob Haraka, to:

1. Replace Born Power Index with an Opponent’s Strength Index (OSI)…60% of a team’s UPR
2. Strength Index rating that moves weekly based on the outcome of each game
3. Changes to those non-public schools that are categorized as a Non-Public Multiplier school
4. All sections will seeded via a “snake-seeding” methodology

A roll call vote was taken. Final Vote: Yes-27; No-1, Abstain-0. Motion passed second reading.

**Jack DuBois for Bill Bruno**

**Spring Track** – Mr. Bruno thanked the Athletic Directors of all sectional and group meet host sites. Over 19,000 athletes from 272 schools participated in the sectionals, 3,500 in the group meets, and 1,600 in the Meet of Champions. There were also 7 athletes in wheelchairs and four Unified teams who participated in the tournament. Results of both the group and sectional meets were distributed.

**NJSCA Update** – The NJSCA Committee met on 6/3. The committee would like to add a boys’ and girls’ basketball coaching clinic in addition to a softball clinic.

**BodyMetrix Training Session** – On 6/3, a training session was attended by 24 assessors, so they can teach the trainers how to use the new BodyMetrix tool.

**Air Force Wrestling Mat Donation** - Irvington HS was selected by the Air Force as this year’s recipient of a free wrestling mat. Mr. Bruno is hoping this tradition continues.

**Tony Maselli**

**Baseball Update** – Mr. Maselli will have to decide by 1pm whether to postpone the two non-public finals, being played later in the day on account of rain. The four public finals will be played Saturday, June 8th.

**Boys Tennis Update** – The tournament is down to four – 2 doubles and 2 singles matches. The tournament concludes tomorrow, 6/6. There are backup facilities in place in case of rain.

**Website Update** – The association is inching closer to a roll-out.

**Officials Update** – The association is switching from Arbiter to ZebraWeb for scheduling officials. With ZebraWeb, NJSIAA will have the control of tracking the registration of officials through our own website. ZebraWeb can then access that information to schedule/assign officials. There is
one more year in the contract with Arbiter before the association switches over to ZebraWeb so for this upcoming school year (2019-2020), nothing will change. Three RFPs were considered before ZebraWeb was selected. The Finance Committee has approved the change.

Michael Zapicchi, Project Manager

2019 Compliance Report – An annual compliance report was emailed to the committee. The compliance program continues to be successful and meet its initial goals. This past year, compliance monitors visited 70+ schools in addition to 20 schools with new Athletic Directors. Next year will be the last year of the five-year cycle. A questionnaire will be sent to schools for feedback on the program.

Director of Finance Update (Colleen Maguire)

2019-2020 Budget – The proposed 2019-2020 budget was sent via email to the Executive Committee for review prior to today’s meeting. The Finance Committee reviewed the budget in detail during its regularly scheduled meeting and endorsed it.

Overall, total budgeted revenues are consistent with last year’s budget while total budgeted expenses are slightly less. The decrease in expenses are primarily due to a change in the officials’ registration process and a decrease in anticipated technology-related expenditures. Overall, the budget anticipates a net loss of approximately $15,000. Ms. Maguire reminded the Committee of the request to increase both annual dues and tournament entry fees starting with the 2020-2021 school year that is currently under review by the Commissioner of Education. Such increases, if approved, will provide the necessary increase to the associations’ revenues in order to get it back to a profitable position on annual basis. The associations’ revenues have remained stagnant since the adoption of N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3.1 in 2010.

A motion for a roll call vote to approve the 2019-2020 budget was made by Rob Haraka, seconded by Michael Nitti. Final Vote: Yes-31, No-0, Abstentions-0. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance Committee Update (Vincent Smith)

Approval of May 2019 Checkbook – The May 2019 checkbook was approved by the finance committee and all checks were approved per policy before they were disbursed. A motion was made by Michael Nitti, seconded by Chuck Klaus, to accept the May 2019 checkbook. Motion passed unanimously.

Report of Counsel – Steven P. Goodell, Esq. – A motion was made by Tony Mitchell, seconded by Mary Liz Ivins, to enter in to closed session to discuss the Buena HS wrestling investigation. Motion carried unanimously. A motion to enter back in to open session was made by Tony Mitchell, seconded by Mary Liz Ivins. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business/New Business – Waiver Request for Early Start of Winter 2019 for Wrestling, Basketball, Winter Track & Fencing – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Jack Hurley, seconded by Todd VanOrden, to move the 2019-2020 opening date for wrestling,
basketball, fencing and winter track from Friday, December 20, 2019 to Thursday, December 19, 2019. Motion passed second reading unanimously

**Adjournment** - There being no further business, a motion was made by Joanne Dzama, seconded by Bill Vacca, to adjourn the meeting at 12:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry L. White
Executive Director

LLW:In