Flag Salute

Roll Call - The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017, at the NJSIAA Administration Building in Robbinsville, New Jersey, was called to order by the President, Chuck Klaus, at 11:14 am.

The following members were present: Greg Bailey, Maureen Bilda, Joseph Bollendorf, Dr. Brian Brotschul, Kevin Carty, Jr., Teri Connor, Suzanne Cooley, Joanne Dzama, Judy Finch Johnson, James Gaffney, Michael Gatley, Dr. William George, Gerald Glisson, Sharron Grady, Robert Grauso, Robert Haraka, Mary Liz Ivins, Howard Krieger, Bill McDermott, Timothy McElhinney, Matthew McFarland, Elaine McGrath, Dominick Miletta, Tony Mitchell, Thomas Mullahay, Michael Nitti, Sue Petrone, Paul Popadiuk, William Quirk, Danny Robertozzi, Dr. James Sarruda, Steve Shohfi, Vincent Smith, Beverly Torok, Bill Vacca, Todd VanOrden, and Denis Williams. Also present: Steven J. Timko, Executive Director; Kim DeGraw-Cole, Larry White, Jack DuBois, Bill Bruno, and Al Stumpf, Assistant Directors; Colleen Maguire, Director of Finance; Michael Zapicchi, Project Manager; and Steven P. Goodell, Esq., NJSIAA Counsel. The following sportswriters were in attendance: Mike McGarry, Press of Atlantic City; Steve Falk, Asbury Park Press; Darren Cooper and Chris Pedota, Record; Matt Stanmyre and Steve Politi, NJ Advance Media and Joe Malinconico, Paterson Press. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.

Gold Passes were given to new executive committee members.

The rest of the meeting was transcribed by court reporter, Karen Ahern, and is attached on the following pages.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Timko
Executive Director

SJT: In
IN RE:                               :
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

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Wednesday, September 13, 2017
Robbinsville, New Jersey

BEFORE: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

APPEARANCES:

PARKER McCAY, P.A.
BY: MICHAEL W. HERBERT, ESQ.
and
STEVEN P. GOODELL, ESQ.
3840 Quakerbridge Road, Suite 200,
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609-896-4222
Attorneys for New Jersey State
Interscholastic Athletic Association.

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MR. KLAUS: Motion for the adoption of the Executive Committee minutes from June 7th. Maureen Bilda. Second? Suzanne Cooley.

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

(Whereupon a hand vote was taken.)


All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

(Whereupon a hand vote was taken.)

MR. KLAUS: Moved.

The Out-of-State Competition form was attached.

MR. TIMKO: I'd like to start by introducing Paul Anzano to give us the legislative update. Paul.

MR. ANZANO: Thank you, Steve, and good to see Steve again. Glad you're back, Steve.

Brief report. Most of you know we're in an election cycle. All hundred twenty seats in the legislature and governor's office is up for election this year. So, right now Trenton is
really a ghost town. No one, nothing really going on. People are out campaigning and doing what they need to do in their home districts. During I think the last month, Steve and a number of the other directors had a very productive meeting with Steven Turner regarding West Windsor and the issue around the football team. The senator is introducing legislation. We asked her to really hold off. She was very receptive to the fact that the membership will be considering this issue at its annual meeting I guess in December. I'm guessing. But she was very happy that again that the full body would be making a formal decision on what to do about situations like West Windsor which we anticipate will occur in other school districts as we move forward. So, that was a good discussion.

The other issues -- again, because legislation is not meeting, all of the other legislative issues are on hold. None of them were pressing. Governorial race, if you're following it, people speculate that democrats going to win. Phil Murphy, we shall see what happens.

That's the report. Any questions?
MR. ANZANO: The legislature, nothing is expected. No radical changes are expected in the legislature. Maybe two or three seats that change hands. That will not change the balance of power. Democrats will firmly control the legislature and everybody believes they'll remain in control.

Thank you.

MR. TIMKO: Thanks very much.

Next I'll turn it over to Steve Goodell.

We have two appeals that we'll be listening to. Steve.

MR. GOODELL: Okay. So, this is unique. The Executive Committee doesn't often sit in a judicial capacity, but that's what you're doing now. That's because the Bylaws require that when there's a Controversies Committee hearing any appeal goes to you, the Executive Committee, and you make the final decision of the NJSIAA. That decision, whatever it is, can be appealed in this case to the Commissioner of Education.

So, on June 13th, there was a hearing here before the Controversies Committee. The hearing involved Paterson Eastside and Coach Juan
Griles.

The committee made a decision. You've seen that decision. It was handed out to you in your materials. You've also been given the record of the transcript of what happened. You're now going to be asked to either affirm, reverse or modify that decision of the Controversies Committee. You're not going to relitigate it. We're not going to hear it again. Everything is going to be based on the record that's already been established, but the attorneys will be able to argue their case to you. We'll ask them to provide short, succinct arguments to you about their position. You already have copies of their briefs. So, you know what it is in general, their argument. This is their opportunity to try to persuade you in person.

Once you've heard their arguments, we'll go into closed session and we'll deliberate. Then we will come out of closed session and you'll vote on the record. Okay.

You're using the appellate standards of review. That means again you're not hearing it brand new. Rather you're determining whether or
not the decision below is based on the record or
was it arbitrary and capricious.

Okay. All that said, we'll ask the
Paterson attorney to come up first and provide a
short argument.

MS. BARTO: Good morning, everybody. My
name is Fran Barto. I'm an attorney for the
Paterson Public School District. I'm here today
on behalf of the limited Eastside appeal. The
district brought this limited appeal on behalf
of the student-athletes at Eastside. Paterson
Public Schools does not appeal from the entire
decision of the NJSIAA. The decision today that
is at issue is only whether or not the Eastside
basketball players should be permitted to play
in the 2018 state tournament.

Okay. As the NJSIAA is aware, the issues
that initiated this proceeding were entirely
related to the actions of adults working at or
for the district. At no time did any student
engage in any behavior that was punishable in
this matter. At all times the allegations here
were solely related to adults, and all adults
who are involved in this matter have been
subject to consequences.
The district believes that the decision solely with respect to not allowing the student-athletes to participate in the 2018 State Tournament was arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable. First of all, the student-athletes have already suffered consequences as a result of the adults' actions taken when the district last year voluntarily withdrew both the boys' and girls' teams from the state tournament. We withdrew voluntarily and no wrongdoing of any of the students whatsoever.

Since then the district has been operating under a Corrective Action Plan that we presented at the hearing below. It was a self-created plan, a self-imposed plan, and we're currently in full compliance with that plan.

We believe that the imposition of a ban on student-athletes from participating in the tournament has a wide range of affects. We're an urban district. The athletics provide a second family, if you will, for our students. You know, there's crime, there's poverty, broken families, but what the athletic program provides for our students is stability, accountability.
The students have to show up to school. They have to show up to practice. They have people they can count on, their teammates, their coaches. It provides opportunity insofar as scholarships, the ability to play for, you know, more competitive ranges, the ability to be recruited for other school districts and play on their teams.

Aside from hurting these students, you know, we're also hurting the entire community, the spectators and people who enjoy, you know, going to these games. They go to the games because they're looking forward to the state tournament. So, really this is a community-wide effect that this 2018 ban on participation is having. Certainly the community itself did nothing wrong here. The only people who are at fault, if any, were the adults.

So, we believe that the NJSIAA failed to take into consideration the wide ranging impact that it would have on banning these students in 2018 insofar as also the students that are participating this year weren't necessarily even enrolled in the school district last year. They had nothing to do with this whatsoever. We have
freshmen coming in who are now not going to have the opportunity to play in the State Tournament. We have people who have transferred in. We have new students who have never participated in the basketball program before and all of these students are going to be harmed by this decision and for no good reason that I can think of.

I have with me here today the State Superintendent in support of our position. I don't know if the committee will allow her to speak at all.

MR. GOODELL: No. This is just with you, the attorneys.

MS. BARTO: That's fine.

For all the foregoing reasons, the district believes this panel should reconsider and reverse their decision and allow the basketball players this year to play in the 2018 State Tournament.

Thank you.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Miss Barto.

MR. GOODELL: Mr. Maurice.

MR. MAURICE: Good morning, members of the Board and of the Committee.

I'm here today to argue the appeal of Juan
Griles who was suspended as the basketball coach at Eastside for two years and received a $1,000 fine as well as other conditions that would be required prior to his reinstatement. The purpose of this appeal is to explain to the Executive Committee that the basis upon which this action was taken was largely inaccurate, and that the facts were known we believe that the appropriate action that should have been taken with respect to Mr. Griles would be the educational programs that were suggested by the Controversies Committee.

I am just going to go over some basic facts you may or may not be aware of. The district engaged retired Justice Wallace to do an interview of the parties concerned and to write an extensive report. In his report, which I'm sure you have at your disposal, he found no evidence of recruiting or anything that was done as athletic advantage by Mr. Griles. There was a finding that Mr. Griles was intimately involved with the un -- improper enrollment of students in the districts.

Since that time you have learned both through the Affirmative Action Plan by the
district and by the testimony of Principal Moody, who was before the Controversies Committee, that there was no policy that Mr. Griles violated. In fact, the district didn't have a policy. That's why as part of their Corrective Action Plan they're creating a policy. For years prior to the incidents that arose here, it was customary for students to be enrolled at the school in which they were to attend. Once the student was presented at the school and the documents that were presented by the student for registration, it was up to the administration to determine whether or not to register the student and what their assignments would be.

With respect to the eligibility of students in Paterson prior to this time -- you have to understand now they've created this Creative Action Plan to eliminate all of these problems, but these issues were mostly endemic to the institution as a policy and not to this individual person. As I indicated before Justice Wallace found there was no recruiting, no athletic advantage and that whatever action that Mr. Griles took was as humanitarian.
There was an issue raised that he housed students in his home which he did. There was an investigation by the State of New Jersey which is usually described as DYFS, and a decision was rendered which was attached to the documents, so that they found no wrongdoing on his part.

The issues were raised regarding the management of the scorebook. Okay. As you all know basketball coaches coach on the sidelines. Practically impossible for them to maintain themselves this scorebook during the conduct of a game. The policy at Eastside prior to now was that the athletic director would hire a scorekeeper, direct the scorekeeper in the manner in which to maintain the book and be responsible for the proper entries entered into the book. We don't disagree that there are policies in the NJSIAA regarding that coaches they should have some kind of oversite or supervision over the scorebook, but that's not what the practice and policy was at Eastside, and by finding that to be a fault of Mr. Griles it's ignoring the fact that this was a systemic issue, and he was just following the instructions that he was given by his superiors,
namely the Principal and Supervisor of the Facilities at Eastside, the Athletic Director and the Athletic Supervisor.

There were some issues regarding enrollment and the existence of documents that may have been altered by students seeking enrollment. As you can see in Dr. -- in Justice Wallace's report, he found no one in the Paterson School District or at Eastside had any active role in modifying any student transcripts. As a matter of fact, the documents that were presented were the ones presented by the students and given to the administration for review. It was the expectation of Mr. Griles that those students who were eligible to play basketball would be approved and those would not. As is customary, Mr. Griles gave the list of students who came out for basketball to the athletic director, and then in kind the athletic director gave a list back to the basketball coach of those students eligible to play. He did not play anyone who was not on that list.

So, the culmination of all of this was that he received a more severe suspension then the girls' basketball coach received for doing
what appears to us at least to be a less offensive conduct. There is nothing anywhere in any of the records that show that he intentionally violated any rule. Yes, he should have been better informed as to what the rules and regulations were. He should have applied them in a fashion differently then he did. But you must understand that the policy that was applied and used by the school district was one in which he was not responsible for keeping the book. He was not responsible for determining the eligibility of students and he only played those students who were eligible to play.

That being the case it seems that the two-year suspension is disproportionate to what he actually did that was wrong, and that the appropriate remediation actions should be to educate him as to what the rules and regulations are and the manner in which he can conduct himself as a coach, and as a condition of being reinstated, that he attend those classes as indicated. It seems to me that it's certainly disproportionate to punish Mr. Griles for the administrative errors that were made by the school district.
In good faith the school district made an attempt to resolve all of those things. They created a Corrective Action Plan. As Counsel said earlier, they intend to abide by it, but the failures of the districts should not be visited upon Mr. Griles who in good faith tried to do the right thing. He attempted to show -- to provide a place for the students to live that had no place else to go in a time of need. The state has already examined those issues and found he didn't do anything wrong at all.

Since the -- what punishment has he already suffered? He was not able to participate in a tournament. His team was disqualified under voluntary withdrawal of the school district in the state tournament. He was suspended from his position as both a basketball coach and a teacher through the end of 2000 -- 2016-'17 school year.

The school district discovered all of these facts that I'm presenting to you today, and as a result of that tenure charges had been previously filed against Mr. Griles for the same violations we're talking about here, but they since been withdrawn. They're recognizing their
understanding of the policies that were in fact in place and of the nature of what was done was not as originally anticipated. There was a great (inaudible word) in the roles when these issues were first developed. There was a media frenzy about a wide variety of things regarding human trafficking, violations of the rules applicable to the entry of foreign students into the United States, visa questions, all of which were beyond the scope of what a part-time basketball coach would ordinarily be aware.

In summary, we'd like you to consider that the penalties imposed upon Mr. Griles under all of these circumstances were disproportionate and that any such remedial action should be mediated, and that the educational process suggested in the Controversies Committee report be invoked as a condition for reinstatement and not the blanket two-year suspension and thousand dollar fine that's made part of that decision.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Mr. Maurice.

MS. EGAN: Good morning. My name is Kayleen Egan. I am Associate Counsel for the NJSIAA. I'm here to present the Controversies Committees position in this matter.
First, as Steve said, I'd like to remind everyone in considering appeals the Executive Committee serves as an appellate body. Thus, this appeal is confined solely to the record below. Any facts that were raised either in the briefing or the oral argument here that were not in the record below are simply not relevant to your role as an appellate body.

And now know a little background. The hearing in this case was held on June 13th, 2017. NJSIAA first noticed the Paterson School District by a letter of May 25th, 2017. In its initial letter, NJSIAA asked for Eastside's cooperation in notifying all employees effected including Mr. Griles.

On June 6th, 2017, NJSIAA received a letter from Paterson stating that Mr. Griles is no longer employed by the district. So, it could not notice him of the hearing the following day. So, June 7th, NJSIAA sent a notice directly to Mr. Griles' attorney informing him of the Controversies Committee hearing regarding the Eastside basketball program would be held on June 13th, 2017, that he should attend and would be permitted to
present his case and present any documentary evidence that he wished. Mr. Griles did not attend the hearing and he did not submit any additional evidence to the NJSIAA.

Paterson on the other side did appear at the hearing. They brought employees, Anna Adams and David Cozart, who presented Paterson's case and submitted a Corrective Action Plan.

After the hearing, the Controversies Committee came to the following conclusions. One, that Paterson did not have accurate eligibility lists regarding which students were eligible to participate.

Two, that Mr. Griles and Mr. Lyde, who is the girls' coach, engaged in athletic recruitment. Specifically athletic recruitment in the NJSIAA Bylaws is a specific definition. It's defined as any effort to proselytize, pressure, urge or entice a student to enroll or transfer into a school for athletic purposes. It includes but is not in any way limited to offering athletic scholarships, free tuition or other monetary assistance either from the school directly or indirectly through some affiliated body to induce a student to attend the school
for athletic. Schools are liable for recruiting violations of their employees.

So, following the Controversies Committee, hearing, the Controversies Committee determined that with this international students who were involved what had happened was that first Mr. Griles or Mr. Lyde was contacted by someone they knew from their basketball contacts. Second, the student was subsequently brought to Eastside. Third, Mr. Lyde or Mr. Griles facilitated the student's enrollment in Eastside High School. Fourth, Mr. Lyde or Mr. Griles either directly provided housing for the students themselves. In the case of Mr. Griles, he had the students directly living with him or with an assistant coach or they found someone else who would be willing to house the students, and, fourth, the students subsequently joined the basketball team. In the Controversies Committee's opinion, this is athletic recruitment.

They also -- the Controversies Committee also determined that many rules regarding transfers had been violated. Under NJSIAA Bylaws, if a student transfers between secondary
schools, they have to sit out for 30 days unless it's a bona fide change of residence, unless they move with their parent or guardian, and before they can participate at all, they must submit a Transfer Form which explains which school they came from, which school they're going to when they enrolled and is signed off by a bunch of people in the administration.

In this case, there were multiple deficiencies with the Transfer Forms involved. Thus, the Controversies Committee concluded that the transfer rule had been violated.

Additionally, and finally, the Controversies Committee concluded there was an academic eligibility issue with one of the students. Due to NJSIAA investigation, it was later learned one of the students had been expelled from his previous secondary school and had not completed the required credits that he needed to participate in the next season.

Based on the multiple violations of NJSIAA rules the Controversies Committee decided to inact the following penalties, two-year suspension for the Paterson -- participation in the State Basketball Tournament for the Paterson
School District. One of those years was deemed to be already served because they voluntarily withdrew from this year's tournament. To be clear, the students will still participate in regular season games. The prohibition is totally against participating in a State Tournament.

Also NJSIAA has worked with Paterson School District in creating educational programs and corrective measure in order to make sure that the Paterson School District is compliant with all NJSIAA eligibility rules, and then with respect to Mr. Griles, the Controversies Committee determined that he should be suspended for two years, fined a thousand dollars, and before he can begin coaching again he must take the Teaching and Modeling Behavior Course through the National Federation for high school sports.

The Controversies Committee believes that this decision was not arbitrary and capricious because it was based on the record established below. Specifically if Mr. Griles or Mr. Lyde had wanted to attend the hearing, they were welcome to do so. At all times they were
welcome to be represented by counsel or to submit additional documents to the NJSIAA, but that did not happen. At the hearing, the Controversies Committee only heard from the Paterson School District, and as such the Controversies Committee believes that its decision was not arbitrary or capricious.

Thank you.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Miss Egan.

Okay. At this time, it would be appropriate to have a motion to go into closed session to deliberate. Also if anybody's going to recuse themselves. Mr. Vacca, you're going to recuse yourself. Mr. Glisson, you're going to recuse yourself.

MR. GLISSON: Do I have to?

MR. GOODELL: You're employed by Paterson.

MR. GLISSON: I'm joking.


All in favor?

(Unanimous hand vote to go into closed session.)

(Whereupon the following was heard in closed session.)
MR. GOODELL: A motion to come out of closed session? Dr. George. Second? Mr. Nitti.

All in favor?

(Unanimous hand vote.)

MR. GOODELL: Okay. Bring them back in.

Roll call now.

(Whereupon the following was heard in executive session.)

MR. GOODELL: We're back in Executive Session. The Executive Committee deliberated. We're going to handle each of the appeals separately. First you'll handle the appeal by Paterson Eastside. Is there a motion? Mr. Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: I make a motion to confirm the Controversies decision as to to Eastside Paterson.


(Whereupon a roll call vote was taken, 35 - 0 with two recusals, Bill Vacca and Gerald Glisson.)

MR. GOODELL: Okay. The decision has been affirmed.
Now as to the appeal by Coach Griles. Is there a motion?

MR. SMITH: I make a motion to affirm the decision of the Controversies Committee.

MR. GOODELL: A second? Judy Finch Johnson.

Roll call.

(Whereupon a roll call vote was taken, 35 - 0 with two recusals, Bill Vacca and Gerald Glisson.)

MR. GOODELL: The decision related to Coach Griles has been affirmed.

I want to thank the attorneys for their presentations, thank the committee.

(Whereupon the Eastside Paterson appeal was concluded.)

MR. GOODELL: We can move onto the next agenda item.

MR. TIMKO: Next on the agenda is the sectional meetings dates and legislation. You have copies of the three pieces. We start our road trip next week. First sectional meeting for North II is Tuesday, the 19th at Millburn High School. The Central meeting will take place here at NJSIAA, ten o'clock. Next we had
the Shore Conference meeting will take place next Friday, the 22nd, at nine in Eatontown, and the South meeting will be the following Wednesday at Washington Township at ten o'clock, and the North I meeting will be at Montclair High School on the 29th at ten o'clock in the morning, and the three pieces of legislation have all been approved by this body which means that after the sectional meetings if they want to make any type of adjustment based on what they hear at the sectional meeting, they'll have that ability to do so. You'll get a copy of the final legislation prior to the vote that takes place the first Monday of December.

The next part of my agenda is having responsibility for a short time with wrestling. Everybody has received the 32 district sites, all the schools that are in the districts, the new region site. The only new region site I believe is West Milford, and we are in the second year of a two-year commitment before we reevaluate at the end of this year. I'm very happy to say that 30 -- I believe right now 30 of the 32 districts will be running a one-day district which I think really helps all schools
out tremendously with weigh-ins, with buses, with officials, with ticket sellers, ticket takers, the whole gamut of running an event. I believe that's where we are right now is 30 of the 32 districts will be one day, a one-day event.

A final Steroid Report, very. Happy I will announce, yes, that this past year we conducted 502 steroid tests, and the reason why we did two additional last year is that we were before 98 last year. So, it balanced out to the 500 over the two-year period of time.

Sixty-nine schools were tested. There were five schools that were tested twice, and they were West Essex, Shabazz, Camden Catholic, Highland and Toms River North. Three hundred and fifty-six six males were tested. One hundred forty-six females were tested. The sports that were tested for males were football, winter track and field, boys' soccer, lacrosse, boys' basketball and baseball. The female sports that were tested were girls' soccer, field hockey, girls' swimming, winter track and field, girls' basketball, softball and spring track and field.

We had one positive test and we had no
violations relative to protocol. Everybody helped and cooperated during the entire process. We signed our new contract over the summer for the contract for Drug Free Sports and have been very pleased with our relationship to this point.

Any questions?

(No response.)

MR. TIMKO: Thank you.

The fall championship sites I think -- and the directors will speak. I think we're pretty much confirmed on all of our fall championship sites. A number of us this past summer attended the National Conference in Providence, Rhode Island. We all went to the conferences that were related to our fields. I attended the Wrestling Medical Advisory. I think Larry went to ones relative to officials and volleyball, and I don't know if Jim was part of that. Kim and Bill also attended. So we had good representation at the meetings and I'm very happy that -- I feel New Jersey is very much in the forefront of what's going on on the national level.

And Conference Officers Meeting, we met
last month, the first meeting. We'll be meeting again tomorrow. In going over today's agenda and have been very happy with the outcome of those meetings. You have the appointments of members of the Executive Committee, what committees you are on. If you have any questions relative to your appointment or your committee, please contact one of us after this meeting and we will see what kind of recommendations that we can make that would help you.

Fall Tournament Regulations. All of the fall sports are online. They've been online for a while. I think even prior to all the practices beginning. So, we feel very comfortable with that. I know Kim is constantly asking for help from the membership about updating our database, but we'll let her speak to that under her report which is next.

Kim.

MS. DE GRAW-COLE: Thank you, Steve.

You have a written report. I won't go over it. I kind of highlight the website and where to find things that Steve said. The constant encouragement to make sure that our
database school manager is accurate with
certainly the athletic directors' information,
the sports that your school has and especially
the principal because if a student or a coach is
disqualified and the principal's information is
not accurate, you will not receive the proper
notification. So, we're trying to make sure
that everything is correct.

With reference to sports, I have dates for
field hockey. Our cutoff will be 10/16, our
seeding on 10/18 using pretty much the same
sites. So, everything is really in good place.
The only change will be our TFC. Thankfully
Rancocas Valley will be hosting that. We're
using all turf fields at that time.

In girls' tennis, the dates are there with
the first tournament to get underway. We have a
9/27 cutoff and a seeding meeting on 10/2. We
do the team seeding singles and doubles. We
added a new format this year called Wildcard
Entry for our singles and doubles to try to fill
our brackets. All the dates have been on the
website. We look forward to a great tournament
there.

Tournament Refusal, opportunity for
schools who do not wish to participate in our
tournament. It's really a very simple procedure
by the athletic directors. Coaches can't do it.
That's all done online. Nonmember, out of state
need to know if your school is playing field
hockey, football, girls' and boys' soccer out of
state so we can give them the proper power
points, and then last but not least an
encouragement out there for everyone to make
sure that their information, their coaches,
administration, rosters and scores are accurate
on NJSIAA School Sports which is again our
reporting database. Any help you can provide
through, you know, your associations are
certainly appreciated.

Thank you very much.

MR. TIMKO: Larry.

MR. WHITE: Okay. Thank you, Steve.

My report is at your desk also, and very
quickly though just to highlight a couple of
things that I have. Gymnastics, proud to say
that Barb Wallace is here and that she has been
in contact with the NFHS staff up there, making
sure we're represented on the gymnastics in
terms of their online meetings and everything.
Our sectional sites, November 4th, they're the same as last year. We are going to be starting all of those sectional meets sometime between eight-thirty and nine. We went to that a couple of years ago so that we can post the scores without unduly maybe influencing judges' scoring because they're all be going on at the same time. November the 9th is the team championship at (inaudible word) High School again. The 11th is the individual championships, and we are looking for another great year of girls' gymnastics.

A little bit of a side just so that you're aware. The NFHS has changed the ways they're doing rules interpretation meetings. Years ago the NJSIAA director in charge of a sport may go out there to the Rules Committee meeting or send the rules interpreter out there. They said no, you have to go to online meetings. They did for the past four or five years. Now they're back to us sending people out there. This year the winter sports of basketball, ice hockey and wrestling we're sending our rules interpreters out there from September 20th to 21st. It's a fly-in meeting, have dinner at six, do the
meeting at night, next morning get up, have
breakfast, do some more meeting, have lunch and
fly back home.

Next summer it will be gymnastics, field
hockey, swimming and diving, football and
soccer, and we'll be sending -- then the
following year it would be in January baseball,
softball and track and field. Okay. So, just
that you know so we're going to be incurring a
little of a cost there, but it's okay.

Officials Rules Meeting. Kim, I, Al,
Jack, I think we were were from Hackensack to
Mainland throughout the month of August hitting
our football, volleyball and Soccer Rules
Interpretation meetings for our chapters.
Probably had in excess of 2,000 officials at
those meetings accumulative, so forth and so on.
Major thanks to Bill Vacca at PCTI for allowing
us to use his site for two meetings, one where
we just do the soccer and volleyball because
they're so large we can't get football in. So,
we go there the next week and have football.
So, that was a great thing, and in September
we'll be hitting for basketball, let's see,
Williamstown, Brick Memorial, Immaculate Heart
of Mary, Union Catholic High School, Passaic County School of Technology, Morrisville and Robbinsville High Schools. I'll be glad (inaudible).

The DQ Report. We had player disqualifications. We were up 30 over the entire school year from last year, but that was down from 40 the year before. So, basically we're staying kind of consistent. One of the things that I'm tracking right now, every time I get a disqualification or a player or coaches uses the F word, I'm putting a little F on the DQ. I really want to track that whole thing because somehow our student-athletes aren't getting the word that those words are just not acceptable, and if they use them the officials are going to disqualify them.

So, for the most part, the coaches were down this past year. We did have six disqualifications that broke our sportsmanship policy, but we contacted the Attorney Generals' office on all of those and great to say that the schools handled those issues so that we didn't have to. That's my report.

MR. TIMKO: Jack.
MR. DU BOIS: Thank you, Steve.

The football intent cards were sent out last week. They should be in the athletic directors' office as we speak. They are due back here to the office by October the 23rd. The football championship final weekend begins on Thursday, November 30th this year with two games at MetLife. Then it will move on to Friday. We will have two games at MetLife and one game at Kean University on that Friday, and then the bulk of the championships will be on December 2nd, Saturday. We'll have four games at MetLife, four games at Rutgers, four games at Kean University, three at Rowan and then on Sunday, December 3rd finish up the tournament with three games at Rowan University for football.

Regarding soccer, the championships are set at Kean University. The seeding meeting is October the 25th. The tournament finals for the nonpublic will be Sunday, November the 12th at Kean University, and for the public boys it will be Sunday, November 19th. This year I'd also like to knowledge that our state semifinals we have four new sites for the boy/girl
doubleheaders for our state semifinals. I'd like to thank Millburn for stepping up, Paul VI High School, Washington Township and Rowan University. Those are four of the 12 new sites that we'll be using for our State Semifinal Championships in soccer.

Regarding workshops, we had the new Athletic Director Workshop here on August 16th attended by roughly 30 new athletic administrators. We had our first Eligibility Workshop yesterday attended by about 32 guidance counselors and athletic directors. We have the next Eligibility Workshop scheduled for September 25th here at NJSIAA, and we have our Transgender Workshop scheduled here on September 28th, and that will address the transgender issues and will also provide the new NJSIAA transgender policy.

Moving on to the Shop-Rite Cup. The presentations and the winners presentations will start this Saturday. I'll be at Villa Walsh. They won the Nonpublic B to make the presentation. On September 22nd, Bill Bruno will handle the Group IV at Ridge High School, and on September 28th I'll be at West Essex for
the Group III Shop-Rite Cup championship presentation. Bill will be at CBA, Christian Brothers, on October 10th for the Nonpublic A. I'll be at Shore Regional for the Group I on October 13th, and Bill will finish up with the perennial Group II champion on October 26th, Haddonfield High School, President Chuck Klaus' school. So congratulations there.

MR. KLAUS: Thank you.

MR. DU BOIS: Along the corporate update we have contract renewals from the IAABO group, which is the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials, for three years renewal, Atlantic Health, Tri-County Orthopedic, Guardian Protection Helmets are renewed. We also have under the new contract, we have Team Gear as the new official team uniform supplier to NJSIAA. We also have, and I'm sure Colleen will mention it, we have a new championship merchandise provider, Northwest Design. We have a three-year contract with them. We have ongoing negotiations with Hummingbird Sports. They make the girls' lacrosse protective helmets, and we are awaiting a response to our proposal that we made to Jersey Mike Sub back in
July. We've been back and forth negotiating and speaking with that group and waiting for them to make their final decision, and as of this morning we signed a contract with MetLife Stadium for our football championships at MetLife.

And that's my report. Thank you.

MR. TIMKO: Give the approval.

MR. DU BOIS: I'm sorry. The co-ops. We had eight co-ops to be approved. Take a look at that. Seven of the eight include ice hockey. Ice hockey is like co-op city lately, but I'd ask for a motion to approve the eight co-ops that are listed below. Tom Mullahey. A second? Steve Shohfi.

All those in favor? Any opposed? Any abstain?

Thank you.

(Whereupon there was a unanimous vote.)

MR. TIMKO: Thank you very much.

Bill Bruno.

MR. BRUNO: You have 16 pages of handouts. So, I'm not going to go over all that. Touch upon a couple highlights of each one of those.
The fall season we're ready to go. All the sites of officials are set. I do have to congratulate, thank Tom again in Clifton for supporting me with our negotiations with Garret Mountain. We are in the process of possibly losing Garret Mountain as a sectional site. Tom's negotiations made it come through for us. We're back to Garret again. Thank you.

Greystone and Holmdel Park have done some tremendous improvements on the course. I think your athletes and coaches will be very happy with both courses, the new layouts. Again, positive things taking place with the Parks Departments across the board.

Moving into winter track, all the dates you have on there. The winter track was posted this past week. I have to give the Toms River School District a lot of kudos because they came up with a hundred seventy thousand dollars to strip the bubble down, the indoor facility, the John Bennett Center, strip the track to the asphalt, resurface it with a brand new layer, which is very, very soft to walk on, relined it, restriped it and sealed it first time in 11 years. So, it looks magnificent. I think your
athletes will enjoy competing in there.

Bathrooms in or around the facilities,
portajohns would be a home run. I'm not asking
for too much right now. That was a home run
this past summer. So, looking forward to winter
track.

Spring track. Fifteen of the 16 requests
for proposals have been returned in writing.
Now sitting down to go through the process to
look for sites for the sections, the groups. We
hope that will be returning to Northern
Burlington for the Meet of Champions next summer
after we speak to the police department next
week to discuss traffic control which I don't
see any issues.

So, those sites will be selected probably
right around November 15th. I will tell you
there probably is a good chance there will be at
least four new sites for the sectional meets for
the spring. We have some brand new facilities
out there that are just top-notch and foolish of
me to at least not to try to get some of those
meets there and give those communities an
opportunity to host.

The New Jersey Scholastic Coaches
Association, couple of things. Their volleyball clinic we just held at (inaudible) High School. Seventy-two coaches there on a Sunday. Bowling is coming up in two weeks at Monmouth University, golf on November 13th, baseball on December 14th, others to follow after the first of the year.

We all have coaches who are deserving of Hall of Fame nomination and recognition. The information is in your packet. I stress with you to take a few minutes, fill out the name of your coach, submit it to the committee. At least give us as a committee the opportunity to review your coach and put it into the bid for possibly being honored in April. Again, that information is in your packet.

Two new endeavors, and Kevin and I have been talking about this. Kevin's our Chairperson of the NJSCA. We are going to debut a new Twitter page beginning hopefully Monday night at our meeting here. We're going with some technology with the NJSCA, and we also just developed a partnership with Atlantic Magazine and the NJSCA. We put out our first newsletter yesterday. So, hopefully the athletic directors
were able to get their hands on it and give it to the coaches. Quite frankly, we're trying to drum up more coach involvement with the Scholastic Coaches Association.

If there's any questions I'll try to answer. Otherwise, I'll pass it back to Mr. Timko.

MR. TIMKO: Thanks, Bill.

Al.

MR. STUMPF: Again, you have a handout from me. I'm going to shorten it up because I realize it's coming to a long day.

Soccer, I'm just going to mention two things with soccer because I've gotten some feedback. As you know, I was able to get the National Federation to approve a face mask for injured soccer players. It's no longer mandatory that be the custom which cost between 800 and a thousand dollars. This face mask costs about $80. It's been approved by the National Federation. The kickback I've gotten from some ADs and some conferences why are we still requiring a doctor's note for that mask to be used because in basketball and in wrestling they use the same mask and there's no
requirement for the doctor's note.

I called Bob Colgate, National Federation, who deals with medical issues. His comment is that it sways (inaudible) for quite a while with them. Until the Soccer Committee decides to change that rule, we are still going to require the doctor's note. That's the answer to that.

This year the Soccer Committee made a recommendation to change how the soccer clock is being used. Used to be most people would run it down to two minutes and stop it. Now it's being run down to zero. The officials on the field are keeping time. They can also make a -- during the stoppage of play, they can tell the clock keeper to add or subtract time depending on what it is. Once again it was recommended by the Soccer Committee. I'm getting feedback from some schools that they don't like the new rule. That will be something that will be discussed again in postseason meeting. Okay. So that can be changed if need be.

Volleyball close on the 18th of October, seeding's the 25th. If you want to be one of the playing schools where you have to have that
playing game by Monday, October 30th. On the 25th someone from the committee will call both schools involved in that so you get a head up on that.

In regard to uniform waiver request for both soccer and volleyball, as you know, Breast Cancer Awareness month is in October. We're already starting to get requests for uniform waiver, pink socks, pink shirts, what have you. I spoke to the other directors and we decided we have no problem giving those waivers. The only thing is we are asking for specific dates, okay, for that. You must notify your opponent. You must notify the officials beforehand. We've gotten a couple where they said they'd like to wear the whole month of October, and we've decided that we're not going to grant the whole month because it's over half the season to waive a uniform requirement. So, we're asking for specific dates. Okay.

Also in volleyball I've gotten some waivers for religious purposes. Some of the young ladies, okay, Muslims are requesting that they be able to wear long pants and a head gear. I'm handling that on a school-by-school basis.
If you have such a situation, send me an email with the students' names. We will grant that waiver. Our suggestion is that please tell your coach to put it in the scorebook. That way if there's any question, he or she always has to show the official.

Unified sports. You know, it's an ongoing process right now. I'm working on a set of regulations, and I'm planning on presenting to the Program Review Committee probably next month asking that that be put in, okay, into effect. It will define what a unified athlete is, what a unified partner is and some other regulations in regard to that.

During the summer, I was able to attend a meeting in St. Louis with the people from Special Olympics New Jersey and also from -- I believe there were nine other states that are in the same status that we are. They're just beginning. So, it was a great time to exchange ideas back and forth. I got a lot out of it, made a lot of contacts with people. In fact, Bill and I just had a conference call with the Nebraska people earlier this week. They want to put track and field in. Since we have five
years experience, they're asking us for advice.
Okay. So, they'll be more to come on that as we progress. I'll report back more and more on that.

Anyone have any questions?

MR. TIMKO: Thank you, Al.

MR. STUMPF: Thank you.

MR. TIMKO: Michael.

MR. ZAPICCHI: Quickly, under compliance I need names of new athletics directors so that they can receive their mentoring visit from the compliance monitors. Also I posted on the AD forum the schedule of visits, regularly scheduled visits for this year. You should see that.

International Student Eligibility Committee. I've asked at the League and Conference Committee level and put it out here looking for a representative from every conference. Today on the AD's form, I posted a letter which talks -- speaks to the fact that if you are a school that's certified by Homeland Security to issue a Form I-20, that in our Constitution and Bylaws there are two documents that you need to submit on every one of those
students in order for them to be eligible to
compete in interscholastic athletics. So, if
you are one of those students, it would behoove
you to read that carefully so the proper
documentation comes to our office.

Thank you. Unless there's questions.

Thank you.

MR. GOODELL: Colleen.

MS. MAGUIRE: Thank you.

Just quickly touching on we had our audit
firm out for a few days around the week of
August 7th. All went well with the audit. We
still have a couple things we're finishing up
with them, but they are scheduled to be here at
the October meeting to present the final audit
results for your approval at that time.

Left on our table at your chair was this
schedule which summarizes by sport the bottom
line profit or loss by season by sport. If you
have any questions, just for the essence of time
I went through in detail with the Finance
Committee prior to this meeting our spring
results. I thought the full year reminds
everyone how we did and for anyone new.

Overall for the full year, approximately
375,000 in net profit compared to the budget of about 350,000. So, overall we came in over budget. You'll notice we are down from last year. The primary driver to that though is in the fall of '15 football just had a tremendous year. So, really the crux of that decrease is related to the football year. Any questions, never hesitate, please email, call me. I'll move on from that.

Regarding our membership, as of today we stand at 436 for the school year. That compares to 435 last year. You're probably familiar we lost two schools due to closings, St. Anthony's High School and Queen of Peace. We picked up three new schools, Passaic Arts and Science, Foundation Academy based here in the Trenton area, then Warren County Technical High School. Those are three brand new members to the Association for this year.

Accounts receivable. I updated the Finance Committee. We have about 80 schools that have outstanding invoices that pertain to last school year, about $19,000 in total. We're actively soliciting POs and payments on them. As those that have been around, we do have, you
know, deadlines. At the start of each
tournament seeding that all these invoices need
at minimum to be under a PO before they're
allowed to be seeded in the tournament. That
deadline will be the end of October, usually
late October. The girls' tennis tournament kind
of gets a pass because it's so new into the
school year at this time.

Classifications. For those -- this is our
first year. We are sports specific in every
single sport because we are moving to a sports
specific classification for basketball. That
was the last holdout from last year. So, now
all the fall sports specific classifications
have been posted. The general classifications
we still do on a group basis. That really is
for the Shop-Rite Cup competition. The winters
are in process. We're going to put out drafts
soon by the end of the month. We have a
November 1st deadline for the winter
classification to be final.

Lastly, a little present for you all back
to school. Over the summer, in late spring, we
worked very diligently to bring back the
handbook for those that have been around. I
hope you guys find this a good resource, but just a couple comments. You'll notice it's bifurcated now between the Constitution and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations versus all of our policies and procedures, and then lastly, there's an entire appendix that Larry spent a little time over the summer reorganizing on student eligibility, frequently asked questions, other pieces of resources, you know, regarding that. So, tomorrow at the League and Conference Office meeting we also have a copy for every member school. Each conference officer is going to leave with their copy -- so, Rob, you'll get two, lucky you -- to take back to their league and conference meetings for the next few weeks to hand out to their schools. We will get them to our independent schools. We have limited extras that can be purchased should you contact me and be interested.

Other than that, thank you, and enjoy the handbook.

MR. WHITE: Comment. Please read them. Please read them.

MS. MAGUIRE: No excuse now.

MR. KLAUS: I need a motion to approve the

All in favor? Against? Abstentions?
(Whereupon there was a unanimous vote.)

MR. KLAUS: So moved.

MR. GOODELL: Okay. So, there's one case in litigation right now being handed by Michael Herbert. That involves a transfer of a student from Hammonton High to St. Joseph Hammonton. The case was actually filed in Superior Court and Michael went to court, got that dismissed. They're actually asking for damages now. It's been refiled with the Commissioner. So, the Commissioner will hear that probably within the next month.

Other than that, I want to thank Michael for filling in so ably and on short notice and thank everybody else. I appreciate all their support. I got lots of cards and letters. It's really been touching and supportive. I thank you very much. It's good to be back.

MR. KLAUS: I need a motion to approve the Lodi girls' basketball waiver. Kevin Carty.
Second? Thomas Mullahey.

Discussion?

(No response.)

MR. KLAUS: In favor? Opposed?

Abstentions.

(Whereupon there was a unanimous vote.)

MR. KLAUS: Unanimous.


Discussion?

(No response.)

MR. KLAUS: All in favor? Opposed?

Abstentions?

MR. KLAUS: Moved.

Now for the Special Olympics representative, the NJSIAA Executive Committee.

Steve.

MR. GOODELL: So what we want to do is move towards making that a permanent member of the Executive Committee. I think what we need to do now is make it an Advisory Committee -- Advisory member so you can get everything, have the opportunity to participate in discussions, not vote until they change the Constitution.
officially. So, that would require a majority vote of the Executive Committee at this time. So, there's been an Advisory Committee member from Special Olympics.

MS. MAGUIRE: The plan being to go to legislation to change the Constitution which is what I sent, you know, in Liz's email. So, then next it would go to a legislative vote at Advisory next and on the ballot for next December.

MR. GOODELL: Is there a motion? Kevin Carty. And second? Dr. Brotschul.

All in favor? Any opposed?

(Whereupon there was a unanimous vote.)

MR. GOODELL: It's unanimous.

MR. KLAUS: All right. At this time, the Executive Committee will now go into executive session to discuss the result of the Search Committee for the position of Executive Director of the NJSIAA, and the press are to be excluded.


All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

(Whereupon there was a unanimous
vote.)

(Whereupon the Search Committee Recommendation was held in closed session and off the record.)

MR. KLAUS: As the Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the NJSIAA, the committee is recommending Larry White to serve as the Executive Director of the NJSIAA to perform such services and duties related to such positions as defined by Article I, Section 3 of the NJSIAA Bylaws including any additional duties as the NJSIAA Executive Committee. Nominee may be subject to contract as reviewed. That's the motion. Second? Greg Bailey. We need a roll call vote.

(Whereupon a roll call vote was taken and there was a unanimous vote, 33 - 0.)

MR. WHITE: (inaudible) that would come my way once the decision by Steve was made he was going to retire. I'm very awestruck at this moment, but I've had 12 years to watch Steve do this job and do an outstanding job, tremendous leader, and I hope I can at least hopefully
(inaudible.) Thank you very much.

MR. KLAUS: Motion to adjourn? Dr. Sarruda. Second? Joseph Bollendorf. So moved.

(Whereupon the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned.)
NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

IN RE:                      : CERTIFICATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING :

I, KAREN M. AHERN, the officer before whom the foregoing meeting was taken, do hereby certify that the testimony that appears in the foregoing meeting is a true record of the testimony given by said witnesses; that I am neither attorney nor counsel for nor related to or employed by any of the parties to the action in which the meeting was taken; and further that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto or financially interested in the action.

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