A moment of silence was observed in memory of beloved Assistant Director, Don Danser, who passed away in June 2015.

Flag Salute

Roll Call - The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday, September 16, 2015, at the NJSIAA Administration Building in Robbinsville, New Jersey, was called to order by the President, Gregory Bailey, at 11:02 am.

The following members were present: Maureen Bilda, Chris Calveley, Tom Coleman, Suzanne Cooley, Paul Crupi, Bill Edelman, Judy Finch Johnson, Dianne Furusawa, Michael Gatley, Richard Giglio, Gerald Glisson, Kathy Goldenberg, Sharron Grady, Robert Grauso, Robert Haraka, Mary Liz Ivins, Monsignor Kelly, Chuck Klaus, Howard Krieger, Jack Lally, Dr. James Lavender, Scott Lodgek, Bill McDermott, Matthew McFarland, Elaine McGrath, Tony Mitchell, Thomas Mullahey, Michael Nitti, Sue Petrone, Danny Robertozzi, Philip Schaffer, Steve Shohfi, Vincent Smith, John Stanczak, Beverly Torok, Denis Williams, and Scott Wolhrab. Also present: Steven J. Timko, Executive Director; Kim DeGraw-Cole, Larry White, Jack DuBois and Bill Bruno, Assistant Directors; Colleen Maguire, Director of Finance; Steven P. Goodell, Esq., NJSIAA Counsel. The following sportswriters were in attendance: Phil Anastasia, Philadelphia Inquirer; Mike McGarry, AC Press; Steve Falk, Asbury Park Press: Darren Cooper, Record; and Chris Ryan, NJ Advance Media. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Bill Edelman, seconded by Tom Coleman, to accept the minutes of the June 3, 2015 Executive Committee and Reorganizational Meetings. Motion was approved with one abstention (Goldenberg).

Out-of-State Competition
A listing of National Federation and Bordering State Sanctions were distributed.

Executive Director Update – Steven J. Timko
First Steve complimented Colleen Maguire on making much needed office updates, including updating the Executive Committee room and creating a wall dedicated to New Jersey's inductees in to the National Federation Hall of Fame.

Gold Passes – A gold pass was given to new executive committee members.

Hazing Symposium with the Department of Education – On Tuesday, 9/22, NJSIAA, NJSPA and the Department of Education, are hosting a Hazing and Bullying symposium. 150 people have registered. Planning for this has been ongoing for two months. Mr. Timko is excited about the panel of speakers.

New Staff – Bill Bruno was hired as the new Assistant Director to succeed Don Danser. Bill was the Athletic Director at Brick Memorial HS for 14 years and is a Freehold District BOE member. He is also a past Executive Committee member so he is well versed and ready to take over Mr. Danser’s sports responsibilities. He will also be in charge of NJSCA and NJSCA clinics.

Retired principal from West Windsor-Plainsboro HS North, Michael Zapicchi, was also recently hired as a Project Manager. He will spearhead a new compliance initiative that NJSIAA is rolling out, which will help schools stay compliant with NJSIAA requirements and assist new Athletic Directors with their job. Mr.
Zapicchi will oversee eight retired Athletic Directors, as they work with eighty schools each year to submit all the required reports including concussions and steroid forms, transfer waiver forms, etc. The eighty schools will no longer send their paperwork to NJSIAA, but rather NJSIAA will go to the schools to oversee that all requirements are met. This is not an initiative to catch wrongdoings, but rather created to help schools meet requirements and provide guidance where needed. Once guidelines are finalized and the eight retired ADs are hired and trained, this new process will go in to effect. Mr. Zapicchi will also oversee foreign transfers, which Larry White had taken over temporarily when Project Manager, Dr. Johnson Harmon, passed away.

**Legislative Update (Paul Anzano)** – The legislature has not met since June. Mr. Anzano is not expecting any dramatic shifts in the Assembly at Election time, and nothing big is percolating right now. In June, Governor Christie pocket vetoed Governor Codey’s steroid bill and removed the $45,000 to NJSIAA for additional steroid testing. As a result of this, NJSIAA asked the sponsors of the bill to remove it from consideration since NJSIAA already follows most of the proposed legislation, and was hoping for additional money for additional steroid testing. The bill that mandates that NJSIAA sponsor cheerleading is not moving because leaders in the cheerleading community do not want it to fall under NJSIAA jurisdiction.

**Ice Hockey – Post Season Player Eligibility – 2nd Reading** – In May, a proposal passed first reading that requires ice hockey players to play in 50% of the regular interscholastic season in order to be eligible for post-season tournament play. This was strongly endorsed by the ice hockey committee, especially since some players’ first interscholastic high school season game was the championship game. A motion was made by Monsignor Kelly, seconded by Jack Lally, to require ice hockey players to play in 50% of the regular interscholastic season in order to participate in post season play. Second reading passed unanimously.

**2015-2016 Meeting Dates** – The 10/7 meeting has been pushed back one week to 10/14/15.

**Sectional Meetings and Legislation** – The Shore meeting date changed from Friday, 9/18 to Monday, 9/28, still at the Doubletree Eatontown Hotel.

**Steroid Protocols / Drug Free Sports Contract / Steroid Final Report** – The Executive Committee gave permission in June for NJSIAA to enter into a contract with Drug Free Sports to administer NJSIAA’s drug testing. The contract was signed over the summer and distributed. Of the 497 students tested last year (361 males; 136 females) from 73 schools and 12 sports, there were zero positive tests! The membership has been cooperative. Refusal to take a test is considered a positive violation. Testing per sport is outlined below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th># of Students Tested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Indoor Track and Field</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Field Hockey</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Volleyball</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Indoor Track and Field</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Basketball</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Basketball</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Lacrosse</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Wrestling Update** – The group championships will continue with five groups but will return to the Pine Belt Arena in Toms River with four mats. This will add an additional round so the event may take an hour longer, and may start earlier. The plan is as follows; Groups 1 & 2 semifinals will take place half hour earlier; followed by Group 3 & 4 semifinals; followed by Group 5 semifinals and Non-Public A&B finals. Then the mats will be cleared for Groups 1-3 finals, with the last round being the Groups 4 & 5 finals. There were logistical issues at Sovereign Bank Arena including fans were forced outside for an hour in the cold while the arena cleared the mats. People always enjoyed being at Toms River but there was only room for four mats there, which is why a new schedule of competition was created.

**Interim Drone Policy** – No drones are allowed at NJSIAA events. A motion was made by Kathy Goldenberg, seconded by Dr. Lavender, to accept the interim drone policy, which states that “The NJSIAA will study the costs and benefits of allowing UAS, or drone, flights at high school sporting events. The NJSIAA study will consider, among other things, the federal FAA regulations currently being drafted; the safety of athletes, coaches and spectators; the potential for a school with access to drones to gain an unfair competitive advantage over a school that does not; and privacy concerns about photographing students and spectators from drones. Until the NJSIAA study is completed, no UAS or drone flights will be permitted at high school sporting events or practices involving NJSIAA member schools.” Maureen Bilda asked how schools can control anonymous drones and the answer is, for now, you can’t. Motion carried unanimously.

**Fall Championship Sites** – These are all set.

**NFHS Summer Meeting** – This was attended in New Orleans by Steven Timko and Larry White. Mr. White was a facilitator for one of the guest speakers while Mr. Timko was a presenter of a seminar titled “Dealing with Difficult Situations.” It was a great meeting and Mr. Timko was happy to report that many athletic directors from NJ serve on national committees.

**League/Conference Officers Meetings** – One meeting has already taken place in August. Officers will always meet the day after Executive Committee meetings to be debriefed about what took place. These meetings are very productive. Officers and NJSIAA used to meet only 2-3 times each year, so meeting monthly now helps foster open lines of communication between NJSIAA and its membership.

**Executive Committee – Committee Appointments** – All committee members have been assigned to sub-committees. Please check the list to see which subcommittees you have been assigned and if you want to be more involved, contact Mr. Timko.

**Fall Tournament Regulations Online** – All fall regulations are posted online by Kim Cole, who has done an outstanding job working on the website. It continues to be an ongoing process.

**Public/Non-Public Committee** – This committee continues to meet. In its last meeting in August, the focus was on 8th grader recruitment.

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**Reports of the Assistant Directors**

**Kim DeGraw-Cole**

**Classifications** – This was a task Don Danser used to calculate. It is a well-defined mathematical process, outlined on pages 35 – 38 in the Constitution. Years ago, all sports used the general classification, but now the only sports that are grouped by the general classification are baseball and men’s and women’s basketball. All others use sport specific classifications. Once enrollment numbers are received from the Department of Education, the regions are divided in four, the first ¼ of schools with the highest amount of enrollment make up Group IV; the second quarter is Group III, etc. Then each group is subdivided in to sections by 4 by its northing numbers in to North I, North II, Central or South.
Only caveat is if a school has 150 students or less, they are automatically Group I. Northing numbers were created by an engineering firm that assigned a numerical number to each school based on its geography from the northern most tip of NJ to the most southern school. Since most sports are sport specific, a school can be different groups for different sports, since one of the factors to determine grouping is the number of total schools participating in that sport. Also, since being approved at last year’s annual meeting, enrollment numbers are based on grades 9-11, rather than 10-12 as was used in the past. It is a challenge how some schools report their numbers to be accurate, but Ms. Cole is confident, that after working with the DOE, the numbers are represented correctly. If a school believes their numbers are inaccurate and can prove it, NJSIAA is willing to work with them. Also, in the past, if a school did not reflect in School Manager that they offer a sport or they added a sport in School Manager, NJSIAA would reshuffle the classifications to make them even per group. This practice will no longer take place. Instead, groups can be uneven, and that school will be placed where it belongs without the domino effect. Tony Mitchell questioned if it’s more advantageous to classify by gender? Ms. Cole responded that if that’s what the membership wants, a proposal needs to be submitted to change it in the Constitution and voted by the membership.

**Field Hockey** – Tournament dates were distributed. Ms. Cole secured a new Central South site (Egg Harbor Twp HS) because the committee did not want any teams playing at their home field for the state semifinals and the original school that was scheduled to host usually qualifies.

**Women’s Tennis** – Cutoff dates for the singles/doubles tournament and the team tournament are 9/21 and 9/23 respectively. Seeding takes place on 9/28.

**Women’s Soccer** – Tournament dates were distributed. Cutoff is 10/24 with seeding on 10/28. The tournament begins 11/2.

**Tournament Refusal Form** – Refusal to enter in to the following tournaments is now interactive instead of a faxed form: field hockey, men’s and women’s soccer, women’s team tennis and women’s volleyball. This new process launched in the fall. Schools are automatically entered in to each tournament unless they opt out by simply logging in to NJSIAA’s website, and unchecking their school from the tournament. It’s a very simple and smooth process.

**Non-Member/Out-of-State-Opponent Tournament Reporting Form** – If a school plays an out-of-state opponent or non-member, they must fill out this form and return. It is crucial for power point seeding in field hockey, soccer, basketball, baseball and softball.

**Njschoolsports.com** – This is our data collection for creating sports programs so please encourage your coaches to enter rosters in to this site. NJSIAA wants rosters up to date.

**Website** – Please make sure your school is updated in School Manager and the listing of sports is accurate. This information is important for classifications. When an Athletic Director is logged in, there are features available to them, that the general public does not see. The association is close to offering that access to other people besides Athletic Directors, such as AD secretaries.

**Bill Bruno**

Mr. Bruno began by acknowledging and paying tribute to his predecessor, Don Danser. He also thanked everyone for the support and begins officially as full-time NJISAA Assistant Director on 10/1.

**Cross Country** – There is a brand new way for coaches to fill out rosters. Coaches submit their eight-person roster online through Hy-tek as always, but on the day of the meet, coaches now have the flexibility to change up to three runners. Also, Jon Hein, Athletic Director at Manalapan HS, will be the new Central Jersey Site Director. The dates are set for the Group Championships and the Meet of
Champions, both of which will take place at Holmdel Park. Ignore the rumors that the events will be run at a different venue.

**Winter Track** – Mr. Bruno is currently in the process of finalizing the relay dates and the Meet of Champions at Toms River.

**Spring Track** – There have been requests to move the Meet of Champions to a different site. Mr. Bruno will research other sites.

**Cooperative Sports Programs** – A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Monsignor Kelly, to approve the following two cooperative sports agreements: 1- Bernards HS and Somerville HS in ice hockey and 2- Robbinsville HS and Allentown HS in ice hockey and m/w swimming. Motion carried with one abstention (Krieger).

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**Larry White**

**Girls Volleyball** – Everything is set. Contracts have been signed with William Paterson to host the Group Finals and the Tournament of Champions. Sectional final games will take place at the higher seed.

**Gymnastics** – Mr. White found out this morning that Brick Memorial HS may not be able to host the South Sectional match so he may need a new hosting site. They were going to take over for the usual host, Seneca HS, because Seneca HS lost their roof and are scrambling to get their floor changed. Mr. White has backup sites in mind.

**Officials’ Rules Meetings** – Mr. White, Ms. Cole, and Mr. DuBois traveled around the state in August/early September to four regional rules interpretation meetings to review present rule interpretations in football, soccer and women's volleyball. These mandatory meetings were well attended. In late September/October, Mr. White will travel again for the basketball rule interpreter meetings, and in the spring will review baseball/softball and men’s volleyball rule interpretations with officials.

**DQ Report** – This report was distributed. There were 102 more disqualifications from the previous year, 325 to 427. Mr. White wonders if the results from 2013-2014 was an anomaly, since it was low compared to normal years. 427 is more on average with years past. There were no disqualifications from the six protected categories (race, ethnicity, disability, gender, religious affiliation, and sexual orientation) vs. six reported last year. Mr. White attributes this finding a testament to the captains, coaches, and school personnel.

**Eligibility/Foreign Exchange** – This is Mr. White’s third year overseeing this process, which he took over when Dr. Johnson Harmon passed away. Mr. Zapicchi will take over this job responsibility. 20-30 exchange students each year apply to play sports, which Larry reviews and approves. The application is found in NJSIAA’s Constitution.

**Constitution** – The 2015-2016 Constitution is posted on NJSIAA’s website, under Resources. Any topic can be easily found by using search function – Ctrl F.

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**Jack DuBois**

**Football** – Approved by the Medical Advisory Committee and Executive Committee last year, the 90-minute contact rule is now in effect. Football Intent Cards will be mailed this week. Mr. DuBois secured two additional games at MetLife Stadium for a total of eight sectional championship games to be played there. He has also requested 6 games at Kean University; 5 at Rowan University and is waiting on confirmation for four games to be played at Rutgers University.
Men’s Soccer — For the public state semifinals on 11/17, Mr. DuBois secured two new sites. Hopewell Valley Regional HS and Kearney HS will replace Somerville HS and DePaul Catholic HS. The non-public finals will be played on 11/15; the public finals will be 11/22; both at Kean University.

Coaches Education Update — NJSIAA has offered 13 courses since July 1st and educated over 325 coaches to date this year.

Clinic Updates — On 8/19, in conjunction with the DAANJ and PSA, NJSIAA held a course for new Athletic Directors. 45 Athletic Directors attended. The volleyball clinic at Livingston HS took place on 8/23. On 9/15, NJSIAA offered an Eligibility Workshop where 45 Athletic Directors and Administrators attended.

ShopRite Cup Presentations — There are four first-time winners. The winners of Group III and IV were decided by one point, while the Non-public B race was decided by two points. On 10/6, there is a committee meeting to review ShopRite Cup criteria and determine if change in criteria is warranted. The committee is made up of public and non-public group representatives. Mr. DuBois gave huge congratulations to Executive Committee member, Chuck Klaus, whose school has received the ShopRite Cup for the past twelve years. Mr. DuBois has been on the road personally presenting the award to each of the six winning schools.

Corporate — Three renewal contracts have been signed – ShopRite for three years; Wilson for five years, and a one-year contract with Investors Bank. Then NJSIAA signed new contracts with Rothman Institute for three years, Med Express for three years and a new wrestling mat provider, Dollamur for one year.

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Director of Finance Update – Colleen Maguire

FYE 2014-2015 Audit Report — NJSIAA’s audit firm completed their field work in August and will present a final report to the Executive Committee in October. The preliminary results show a net income of $200,000, which is on par with last year’s results.

Spring Financials Report — A handout detailing the spring financial results was distributed. Ms. Maguire was pleased with the results since there was a net increase of $10,000 over the previous year. Ms. Maguire also distributed a fall tournament schedule should any Executive Committee member want to attend one of NJSIAA’s fall tournament games/matches.

Resolution Cards / Affidavits Status — Both of these requirements are due 10/1. 70% of annual dues and Board Membership Resolution Cards have been received, while 25% of schools have turned in their affidavits. 10/16 is the hard deadline. If a school does not turn in any of the above items by 10/16, then they are ineligible to participate in any of NJSIAA’s fall tournaments. Same is true for a school with an outstanding invoice 90 days past due with no proof of payment such as a PO. They too are ineligible for fall tournament participation. As of this meeting, 90 schools have invoices past 90 days. This list will be distributed at the Leagues and Conferences Officers meetings to solicit help with collection. Last year, all schools submitted proof of payment prior to tournament time; therefore no one was deemed ineligible for tournament participation.

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Finance Committee Update – Greg Bailey

Approval of Monthly Checks — The June – September 2015 checkbook was approved by the finance committee and all checks were approved per policy before they were disbursed. Richard Giglio made a motion, seconded by Dianne Furusawa, to approve the June 1 through September 1st check registers. Motion carried with one abstention (Goldenberg).
**New Contracts** – A motion was made by Richard Giglio, seconded by Dianne Furusawa, to approve the following three contracts with NJSIAA:

1- MSG Varsity for broadcasting rights;
2- NFHS Network for secondary broadcasting rights and
3- T-Rific Tees to be NJSIAA’s exclusive apparel sponsor.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Report of Counsel (Steven P. Goodell)**

1. **Protest Committee (Don Bosco & St. Joe’s)** – In the summer, a Protest Committee hearing took place because Don Bosco and St. Joe’s appealed their Big North football schedule. The Protest Committee meets on an emergent basis and consists of the NJSIAA President, Executive Director and one Executive Committee member. The Big North was requiring Don Bosco and St. Joe’s to play each other twice to make a complete football schedule. The Protest Committee determined that this practice does not comprise a full schedule. The conference and two schools worked out a solution, but it was a difficult process.

2. **North Bergen Appeal** – This four-year case is over. It started when the Controversies Committee determined there was recruitment by North Bergen HS’s football team, but the school was allowed to keep their championship title. Montclair HS, who lost to North Bergen HS in the championship game, appealed this decision to the Executive Committee, who then overturned the Controversies Committee decision and ruled that North Bergen had to surrender their title. North Bergen HS appealed the Executive Committee decision to the Commissioner of Education, the Appellate Division of the Superior Court, and then the New Jersey Supreme Court, all of whom affirmed the decision rendered by the Executive Committee. North Bergen has now exhausted all appeals in NJ. The school has chosen not to petition the US Supreme Court, so the Executive Committee decision is upheld.

**Old Business / New Business** – Beverly Torok questioned if there a disqualification-free banner? No. There is a sportsmanship banner and being disqualification-free is usually a conference requirement to earn a sportsmanship banner. Mike Gatley questioned if NJSIAA can perform steroid testing during regular season, not just post-season. Steve Goodell explained the two reasons NJSIAA only tests at championship events though the preference would be to test during regular season: 1-NJSIAA is operating under an Executive Order that states testing must take place at championship competition and 2-Budget. There was the bill in the assembly that would give NJSIAA more money for testing from the state, but the Governor removed the additional $45,000 in funding.

Mr. Bailey wished everyone well as the fall season is underway and thanked Steve Timko and all present for the work they do for the student athletes of NJ.

**Adjournment** - There being no further business, a motion was made by Scott Lodgek, seconded by Michael Gatley at 12:15 pm, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Timko
Executive Director

SJT: In