Conference Topics

- Rusty Todd (Shore Conference) “Eligibility Appeals Committee” A discussion ensued on the turnout of a particular case. Rusty expressed his opinion on the turnout and was very upset with the decision that was made. Unfortunately, Larry White and Steve Goodell did not attend that particular hearing and could not comment on the particulars of the case and the decision that the committee made.
- Stan Fryczynski (NJIC) questioned the Commissioner of Education Ruling, and whether or not any further action would be taken to appeal this decision. As far as Steve Timko is aware no school has taken action and the Executive Committee voted not to appeal.
- Steve Fortis (CAL) “Mercy Rule in Basketball” Steve expressed concern about a particular game where the score was 108 to 7. His question was whether or not we could implement a Mercy Rule? The NJSIAA follows the Rules implemented by the NFHS which does not have a mercy rule in place. With a majority in favor, an executive committee vote on this is possible.
- Jamy Thomas (TCC) “Clarification of process for submitting a pilot program to the executive committee“ Jamy expressed concern that a pilot program presented at the January Executive Committee was not voted on at this meeting. Steve Goodell advised that the Executive Committee member presenting the pilot program was told the proposal will go through Program Review and have a First Reading at the February Executive Committee meeting. A discussion ensued on whether days should be added prior to the opening date of April 1st for the spring season or at the end of the season when the weather is warmer. The majority felt that opening it up on either end would benefit everyone.
- Allan Stumpf (Skyland) Basketball undergarments. Al brought up situations in his conference where officials have said that the braces used by the athletes has to be white. Larry White informed the committee that letters have been sent out to the officials that any color sleeve/brace/medical items are acceptable with a doctor’s note. If there is an issue the NJSIAA can write a letter to the official if the proper documentation is provided by either a doctor or athletic trainer stating that it is medically necessary.

Steve Timko Report

- Steve opened up the meeting with introduction of all the directors and attendees.
- Steve summarized the legislative update presented by Paul Anzano to the Executive Committee. A hand out has been provided for more detailed information.
- 4 out of 5 Legislative votes were passed as the Annual Meeting. Two of those votes were overturned by the Commissioner. The Executive Committee voted against appealing the Commissioner’s Ruling. A discussion ensued about why the NJSIAA has decided not to appeal even though 2/3 of the votes were in favor of the legislation.
• The Fall Championships were very successful this year. The great weather and match ups played a huge part in this success. The championship football games had an increase in attendance and the Thursday night MetLife game had a terrific turnout.
• Winter Championship Regulations and Facilities are all set for the winter season.
• Wrestling (Skin Checks) Steve clarified that the NJSIAA is not requiring officials to get paid extra money to perform skin checks. Officials are required to verify that a skin check has been performed by a designated on site meet appropriate healthcare professional. A suggestion was made that the NJSIAA establish protocols for skin checks.
• 2,300 advance tickets were sold for the Wrestling Championships at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City.
• Congratulations to Bob Rossi (Hunterdon Central) and Sean Dowling (Madison) for receiving a citation award at the NIAAA Conference.

Bill Bruno Report

• Winter Track Update: Start date is January 14, 2016 for the Relay Championships. The Relay Championships will run through Sunday January 17, 2016 at the Bennett Center.
• ShopRite Cup Fall Standings are posted online.

Larry White Report

• Handouts were provided with the Gymnastics and Girls Volleyball Final Results.
• The 2015 Fall Disqualification Report was provided at the meeting. Player disqualification is down by 38 from last year.
• It has come to the attention of the NJSIAA that vapor/e-cigarettes maybe/are being used by student athletes and/or coaches prior to, during, or after interscholastic events. The NJSIAA will adhere to the NFHS rule book which states that the above is to be treated as a traditional cigarette. We will refer this matter to the NJSIAA Medical Advisory Committee for further review.
• A request was made by a Boys Lacrosse team in Utah (club team) to play one of our member schools. Upon review by the executive committee, the request was denied.
• Handout was provided for a potential scam on ArbiterPay.com

Jack DuBois Report

• Sportsmanship Banners: Jenny Yelle will send out an email to all of the League & Conference Officers to notify us of any schools that have not received their banners as of yet. We will hand out the banners at the next League & Conference meeting in February.
• To reiterate what Steve mentioned earlier, Football had a very successful year. Thursday night MetLife was a great hit. Congrats to all the athletes and schools that participated in the events.
• The 2015 Soccer Championships was provided in a handout.
• Ice Hockey Update: We have a verbal confirmation from the New Jersey Devils to renew our contract with them for one year. The Ice Hockey State Championships will be at the Prudential Center on March 7, 2016.
• Fencing Tournaments will begin on January 23, 2016. Please fill out pages 13 & 14 listed in the Fencing Tournament Regulations on our website no later than January 15, 2016 (Cut-off Date)
• On January 15, 2016 the NJSCA 19th Annual Men’s/Women’s Tennis Coaches Clinic will take place at Princeton University.
• The 2016 NJSCA North-South All Star Basketball will take place on March 20, 2016 at Rider University. Please either email or fax your nominations to our office by January 29, 2016. The Coaches meeting to select the teams will take place on February 1, 2016.
• Power point Football Proposal - North Jersey Super Conference United A & B Division opponents would receive bonus power points. Opponents of United A would be two times and opponents of United B would be 1.5 times. Both United A & B divisions would receive automatic entry into NJSIAA Football Championship Tournament. A second reading of the proposal will be presented at the February Executive Committee.
• The deadline to submit your nominations for the Coaches Hall of Fame is Friday, January 22, 2016. You still have time to nominate! The event will take place at the Pines Manor on April 10, 2016.
• Program Review approved the Field Hockey Proposal. A handout was given with all the information on the decision.

Kim DeGraw-Cole Report (absent)

• Handouts: Field Hockey; Girls Soccer; Softball; NAGWS
• Basketball “Non-Member/Out of State Tournament Reporting Form” can be found on our website under “Latest Documents” This is a reminder that coaches MUST enter game results at njshoolsports.com
• New Jersey Celebrates National Girls and Women in Sports Day on February 7, 2016 at Seton Hall University. The deadline to submit registration forms is January 15, 2016.

Colleen Maguire Report

• Fall Finance Report – The Association’s average cash balance for the current fiscal year has been approximately $2.1 million. The cash balance on a monthly basis has consistently been higher than the cash balance for the same prior year period. As of the meeting date, there are 25 schools with outstanding receivables 90+ days due which total approximately $3,000. Colleen commented that she has confirmed payment with any school on the list that is entered in the Winter Track Relays, beginning Thursday, January 14th. Overall, the NJSIAA experienced a tremendous fall season. MetLife just sent a check from the football championships in the amount of $42,000, which included a $25,000 guaranteed fee plus a share of excess gate receipts. The Fall season results are being finalized but Colleen is expecting to report over $200,000 in net profits. Everyone is pleased with the Association’s current financial status.
• Winter 2015 Ticket Prices – Three winter tournament ticket price Long Form requests were sent to the Department of Education. First, since the basketball group finals at Rutgers did not make a significant profit last year (only $1,500), NJSIAA requested $8 adult / $3 student/senior prices. The Department of Education did not grant the $3 request so NJSIAA can only charge $8/$2 which hurts because approximately 50% of ticket sales are students/seniors. Ms. Maguire is not anticipating a significant increase in the total profit from these games in the current year. The second request was to increase the Ice Hockey Championships ticket price from $10/$3 to $15 / $5 since the NJ Devils do not make enough to justify giving us the facility for the finals. Unfortunately, the DOE did not approve the increase so ticket prices will be the same as last year - $10 adult /$3 student/senior. Fortunately, the Prudential Center signed a one-year
contract to allow NJSIAA their facility for the finals for the current year and is looking into alternative options to help offset its losses. Lastly, the Department of Education did approve the Boardwalk Hall Individual Tournament $10/$2 ticket price request for the next three years. These are the same ticket prices in effect in prior years. The approved request locks in the ticket prices for the same 3 year period as the contract with Boardwalk Hall.

- Coaches Clinics: Please let your athletic directors know that if a coach signs up for a clinic it is their responsibility to pay the registration fee if they are a no-show. Materials for the workshops have already been purchased and a lunch is also provided. If they contact our office to cancel prior to the event, that is okay, otherwise, it is their responsibility.
- Spring Classifications will be posted on the website by the end of the month of January. Please update School Manager.
- We are having issues with incomplete rosters and game reports on njschoolsports.com not being updated. We would like to have feedback on how we can alleviate this problem. The NJSIAA is considering imposing a fine if the roster is not completed. Suggestions were made that if the rosters are incomplete that the championship program set forth that no rosters were provided by the school and that the championship t-shirts would not include the name of the athletes.

**Mike Zapicchi Report**

- Compliance Update: The monitors have visited over 40 sites with positive results. Joe Piro commented that his experience was very positive.
- Thank you for keeping me up to date on new Athletic Directors.
- On January 26, 2016 the Public/Non-Public Meeting will be held at the NJSIAA Robbinsville office at 10am.