Flag Salute

Roll Call / Introduction of Press
The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday April 3, 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, Edward Grande, Robert Grauso, Robert Haraka, Mary Liz Ivins, Monsignor Michael Kelly, Howard Krieger, Timothy McElhinney, Elaine McGrath, Dominick Miletta, Tony Mitchell, Thomas Mullahaey, Michael Nitti, Leon Owen, Michael Pellegrino, Sue Petrone, William Quirk, Steve Shohfi, Beverly Torok, Bill Vacca, Todd VanOrden, Paul Vizzuso, Kathy Whalen, Denis Williams, Scott Wohlhabr 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: Mike McGarry, AC Press; Steven Falk, Asbury Park Press and Darren Cooper, The Record. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Kevin Carty, Jr., to accept the minutes of the February 13, 2019 Executive Committee meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Out-of-State Competition/All-Star Games
A listing of Bordering State Sanctions and National Federation Sanctions was given for informational purposes.

Executive Director Update – Larry L. White

Legislative Update (Paul Anzano) – The legislature is on a budget break for the next 4-6 weeks, so Mr. Anzano does not anticipate much legislative activity. All 80 seats in the Assembly are up for re-election in November. Mr. Anzano doesn’t expect any radical shifts. Mr. Anzano is watching the budget talks, but he anticipates NJSIAA will receive the $50,000 steroid testing money. The Commissioner of Education spoke to the membership at the DAANJ Conference about the proposed Student-Athlete Bill of Rights (A2824) which the Commissioner wants schools to adopt. It is an anti-hazing policy stemmed from the football hazing incident at Sayreville HS years ago. This was proposed six years and not yet had a committee hearing, but if it moves forward, NJSIAA will support it.

Practice Like Pros Recommendation – 2nd Reading – In February, this proposal was fully vetted by the Program Review Committee and questions were answered by Exec Member, Kevin Carty, Jr., and Practice Like Pros founder, Terry O’Neil. Timothy McElhinney asked about which schools’ practice plans were reviewed before deciding to reduce the tackle minutes from 90 to 15 minutes. Did the practice plans span all group size and types of schools? Mr. Carty explained that it was done by schools from the NJSFC Executive Committee, which covers the entire state. Once the proposal was made, there were two meetings to discuss it. Anyone was welcomed to attend to discuss. Mr. McElhinney questioned if Mr. Carty felt there was enough
big and small school representation, which there was according to Mr. Carty. Then the proposal was brought to the state meeting in December and January. After the January meeting, a letter was sent out to everyone. A motion was made by Dr. Brotschul, seconded by Kevin Carty Jr, to approve the second reading of the Football Practice Like Pros Recommendation and go from 90 minutes in-season full contact per week to 15 minutes and reduce full contact in preseason from unlimited to six hours total. A role call vote was taken. Final Vote: Yes-32; No-0; Abstentions-0. Motion carried unanimously.

**DAANJ Conference** – The DAANJ Conference took place from March 12 – 15, 2019. Over 300 people were in attendance. The NJSIAA did a two-hour session to address current topics but shared the session with the Commissioner of Education. This is the first time ever that the Commissioner has been part of the schedule and the Athletic Directors appreciated it. Bill Vacca, as the DAANJ rep, expressed gratitude to the NJSIAA for giving the Commissioner some of their session time, and speaking at the conference. Everything went well.

**Assistant Director Reports**

**Kim DeGraw-Cole**

**Girls Basketball** – A listing of all sectional, group and TOC champions was distributed. Congratulations to the six schools that made the TOC (Franklin HS, Saddle River Day School, Manchester Twp., Saint Rose, University and Mainland.) Franklin HS, who had an undefeated season, defeated Saddle River Day School in the TOC finals. Games were well attended. Thanks to Jack Baum, Jeff Cohen and Greg Bailey and Rob Reilly for assigning both the boys’ and girls’ tournament games. We would also like to thank Art Jackson, basketball rules state interpreter for his efforts during the season. The post-season committee meeting will be 4/16.

**Softball** – Tournament dates and locations were distributed. Tentative sites for the softball tournament may be Caldwell University, Montclair University, Ivy Hill Park, Stockton University, Rowan University, or Rowan at Gloucester. The group finals will be at Kean University on June 1 & 2 and the TOC will be played on June 4, 5, and 7 at Ivy Hill Park.

**Girls Lacrosse** – Tournament dates and locations were distributed. The state semi-finals will be played at the following neutral sites: Bernards HS, West Essex HS, Moorestown HS and Point Pleasant Boro HS. The group finals and TOC Finals will be at Kean University. The location for the TOC semifinals is Middletown South HS.

**Transfer/Eligibility Update** – Ms. Cole has spent a lot of time on the phone answering transfer questions. There was a Controversies Hearing on 3/27. The tentative Controversies Hearing Committee meeting scheduled for 4/10 will not be needed. After today’s meeting, a small group is meeting to discuss transfers and see if “bona fide change of address” can be better defined.

**Advisory Committee** – Typically this group would have met today to consider new legislation for placement on the annual meeting ballot, but due to the new legislation, the schedule for submitting legislation is now:

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<td>12/1-</td>
<td>Proposals Due</td>
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<td>12/11-</td>
<td>Tentative Advisory Committee Mtg</td>
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<td>January 2020-</td>
<td>Executive Committee action</td>
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Jack DuBois

Ice Hockey – The finals at Prudential Center were well attended - greater than the previous two years, even with the time changes. The NJ Devils were a great host. The following schools won the championships:

Public A – Morris Knolls / Morris Hills HS Co-op Team
Public B – Ridge HS
Public C – Summit HS
Non-Public: Don Bosco HS.

The Rules Committee met on 3/21. Two big changes approved were 1-NJSIAA will host an invitational for the 11 NJSIAA girls’ hockey schools. The top 2 from that tournament will compete in a finals game at the Codey Arena, same day as the boy’s semi-finals and 2-Conference Tournament Cups will no longer have to end after overtime play and will now follow the NJSIAA Group Championships tie rules.

Fencing – Championship results were distributed. Mr. DuBois thanked Morris Hills HS, Livingston HS, and North Hunterdon HS for hosting events for this tournament.

Boys Lacrosse – Seeding takes place on 5/13. The seeding committee consists of one representative from each conference in the state. They are modeling the way ice hockey does their seeding.

NJSCA Senior All-Star Game – This game, played on 3/16, was well attended. The MVPs of the two games were Maria Perez from Newark Tech HS and Hartnel Haye Paul VI HS. The Slam Dunk winner was Avante Gilbert from JFK Paterson HS.

Scholar Athlete Program – Nomination forms have been distributed and are due 4/19. 84 forms have been received as of this morning. The event will take place on 5/19. Kearny Bank is giving out a $2,500 scholarship/character award. 34 submissions were received. Whoever is chosen will receive their award/scholarship at the Scholar Athlete luncheon.

Bill Bruno

Mr. Bruno was unable to attend today’s meeting, but he distributed handouts, including winter track group meet results, spring track dates/times/sites, and boys and girls wrestling championship brackets and results.

Mr. White spoke on Mr. Bruno’s behalf and gave a NJSCA clinics update. There was a Track & Field clinic on 3/22, the wrestling clinic will be 5/3 at Princeton University and there may be a boy’s and girls’ basketball coach clinic at Rutgers University.

Al Stumpf

Boys Basketball Results – Sectional, Group, and Tournament of Champions results were distributed. The following six schools won the group championships and competed in the Tournament of Champions: New Providence HS (Group I), Haddonfield Memorial HS (Group II), Moorestown HS (Group III), Newark Eastside HS (Group IV), Bergen Catholic (NP-A) and the Roselle Ranney School (NP-B). Ranney School defeated Bergen Catholic HS in the Tournament of Champions finals. Only six games of the whole tournament were rescheduled due to weather and
attendance was better than last year. Having three regional assignors assign the whole tournament was successful. The tournament ran smooth and there weren’t a lot of complaints against officials.

Unified Sports Update – 19 teams participated in the Unified basketball tournament, so schools were separated in to an A and B division. Ewing HS won Group A (defeated two-time champion Moorestown HS) and Monroe HS were the B champions. Monroe HS was a success story because they weren’t even going to enter the tournament because they didn’t think they were ready. Mr. Stumpf attended the Monroe council meeting where all the kids received championship rings from the township.

In Unified Track, there are 32 teams registered. Last year, Unified athletes started participation at the Groups level. This year, there may be a sectionals level as well, in addition to a Groups and Meet of Champions meet.

Boys Volleyball Update – Seeding will be 5/13. All tournament information can be found in the Rules and Regulations.

Golf Update – The girls Tournament of Champions will be held at the Royce Brook West Golf Club for a second year. It is an excellent course and last year, the girls loved it there. The committee wants to keep moving the championships around the state, so they are busy researching new sites. Mr. Stumpf encourages coaches to read the rules and regulations, especially page 2. Changes to the maximum allowable strokes have been made to speed up the game. Double par is no longer allowed. A player may record a maximum score of 10 on a hole (regardless of what par is for that hole) if they do not hole out on the hole. If a player records a 10 on their scorecard they MUST DOUBLE CIRCLE that score on the card. The score of that match CANNOT be used by the player as a qualifying score for the state sectional meet. The player cannot pick up prior to reaching the 10-stroke limit on the hole until they notify their opponents in their group- if they pick up prior to reaching the capped number of strokes (10) and they do not correct this mistake – the player is disqualified from the match. This means that a player cannot just record a “double par” for that hole on their card and pick up. HOWEVER- the score may be used for team qualifying for the sectional. If a player holes out with a score of 10 on a Par 5 hole the score of 10 IS NOT doubled circled on the card and the score can be used as a qualifying score for the Individual State Championship. This change was posted on the forum yesterday, 4/2.

Edward Grande asked if private schools can play on 5/22 or 5/23. Mr. Stumpf explained that if they play, the match must be run by NJSIAA, or a school can apply for a sanction.

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Tony Maselli

Baseball and Boys Tennis Update – Though it’s been cold, both sports are underway. At least there hasn’t been rain.

Non-Member/Out-of-State Reporting Form – For baseball and softball, a Non-Member/Out-of-State Reporting Form must be filled out if a school plays a non-member or out-of-state opponent. If a school fails to do this, they will miss out on power points. The form is online.

Website Update – The association is moving closer to a launch date, though the date is not yet set. The website will not go live until it’s perfect, which Mr. Maselli hopes is not too far in the future.

Tournament Refusal – Mr. Maselli reminded the committee and its constituents that if a school does not wish to enter a tournament, they must fill out the tournament refusal online in a timely manner. If a school is seeded when they didn’t want to enter the tournament, there is a fine.
Winter Disqualification Report – The 2018-2019 Winter DQ report was distributed. There are no major changes from last winter except the amount of ice hockey and coach disqualification went down.

Out of Season Coach Committee Update – The committee has concentrated on five topics. Of the five, legislation was created for three of them, and passed by the membership at the 2018 annual meeting. Now the committee will focus on the Student Athlete Guidelines 1-8 and summer session. Does NJSIAA need to be involved in governing summer session? Should the association be limiting transportation, uniforms, etc. Mr. Maselli reminded the committee that the 8th Grade Contact Rule, passed at the December annual meeting, starts June 9th so the committee has been clarifying it to make sure it’s up to par. Open houses and 8th grade signing periods have also been a topic of conversation – is that recruiting and how does the association regulate it. In South Carolina, there are open and dead periods. There is a two-week period that baseball coaches can work with their athletes. For the time being, this topic is tabled, but Mr. Maselli has been reaching out for feedback from other states.

Michael Zapicchi

International Student Eligibility Rules for 2019-2020 – Last year, when changes were approved to the international student eligibility rules, international students transferring from another high school were grandfathered in and allowed to be treated as a transfer. It was ok if the school wasn’t a CSIET approved school. The one-year grandfathering period is over. Now all F1 or J1 students must come from and transfer to a CSIET approved school if they wish to participate in NJSIAA sports.

Finance Update (Colleen Maguire)

ShopRite Cup Report – Winter standings were distributed and are as follows:
Group 1 - Willingboro HS
Group 2 – Haddonfield Memorial HS
Group 3 – Moorestown HS
Group 4 – Ridge HS
Non-Public A – Christian Brothers Academy
Non-Public B – Trinity Hall

Cooperative Sports Review Committee Update – The committee met in January and was supposed to meet again on 4/4, but since there are no new cooperative sports applications, the next meeting will be the second week of June. At that time, all expiring winter and spring programs will be considered, along with any new requests. There are 11 programs expiring at the end of this year, 2 will be dissolved while 9 have been approved and therefore fall under the grandfather provision.

N.J.S.A 18.A:11-3.1 Financial Forecast and Proposal – This statute, which regulates our annual dues, entry fees and tickets prices, has been in effect since 2010. Ms. Maguire met with the Commissioner of Education to voice her financial concerns because 60% of the association’s budget comes from those three revenue sources and there hasn’t been an increase to them since 2010 (with the exception of some random venue-related ticket prices.) Last year the association experienced a net loss and had to dip in to the reserves. Though it’s too early to forecast, the same may happen this year. The association strives to keep operating costs minimal, but expenses have gone up on average 2.5% each year, while the statute limits the association from increasing annual dues and tournament entry fees to 1% plus the CPI increase, which has averaged 1.8% since 2010. To curtail the association’s stagnant revenues, Ms. Maguire had a productive meeting with the
Commissioner of Education and is waiting on approval to increase annual dues to $2,500 and increase entry fees based on CPI, with the exception of six tournaments that lose the association money (cross country, golf, bowling, tennis) as these particular tournaments do not have gate receipts. For those sports, the association will seek entry fees higher than the allowable CPI increase. All proposed increases are for the 2020-2021 school year, not next year since budgets have already been done. Ms. Maguire told the membership about the plan at the DAANJ Conference. The goal is to continue offering the same level of services and look for new opportunities (such as girls wrestling), but to also add to the reserves, so the association isn’t so dependent on factors out of its control (bad weather, matchups, etc.)

Student Advisory Council – The last meeting of the year took place on 3/28 in the Rutgers University football room. Mr. Stumpf and Ms. Cole talked for an hour to the students about the transfer rule, which led to some interesting conversation. A survey about transfers will be sent out. In May, two student ambassadors will speak to the Executive Committee about this past year. An op-ed style piece is also being created from the students about their concerns and issues, so their voices can be heard and out there. The 31 student ambassadors have made a 2-3 year commitment but the structure of the advisory council will change. Instead of having a potential representative from each school, each league and conference will have a fixed number of representatives, selected by the conferences. First, that may make communication trickle down more effectively; 2-Each geographic span will have the appropriate amount of representation and 3- This may make for better sectional meetings. Conferences will choose their representatives by the summer.

Finance Committee Update – Vincent Smith

February/March 2019 Checkbook – A motion was made by Michael Nitti, seconded by James Gaffney, to accept the February and March 2019 check registers, which was approved by the finance committee as well as our monthly approvals according to policy. Motion carried unanimously.

Program Review

Heat Policy – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Rob Haraka, seconded by Steve Shohffi, to adopt the heat policy and related guidelines. A roll call vote was taken. Final Vote: Yes-31; No-0; Abstentions-0. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Wrestling New Ultrasound Measuring Device – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Rob Haraka, seconded by Maureen Bilda, to mandate using the new Body Metrix ultrasound measuring device for wrestling weight certification for the 2020/2021 wrestling season with a grace period for the 2019/2020 wrestling season. Mary Liz Ivins wanted to confirm that the ultrasound device does not replace the scale. It does not. Mr. Haraka shared that any scale can be used for weight, but the ultrasound tool must be used for the weight certification. Michael Pellegrino asked if the BodyMetrix by IntelaMetrix is the only approved device or if another company creates a similar tool, can that one be used instead? Mr. Haraka is under the impression there is only one tool like this out there (BodyMetrix). Ms. Cole said they did the same thing with the Tanita Scale, but if another comparable model comes on the market, an addendum can be done. The ultrasound device must be able to be entered in to Trackwrestling. Mr. Goodell added that if another company comes up with a similar technology, the association cannot restrict schools. Mr. Mullahey asked if the sale to purchase the BodyMetrix started six months from February. Ms. Maguire will find out. She will also ask if the grace period can be extended. Mr. Haraka added that on the quote he received, it said “only good for 30 days”, but
that's the standard print on every quote. In this case, it's not true. A roll call vote was taken. Final Vote: Yes-31; No-0; Abstentions-0. Motion passed second reading unanimously.

Report of Counsel – Steven P. Goodell, Esq. -
Mr. Goodell received notice that Juan Griles, East Side Paterson HS basketball coach, filed a motion to reinstate his case with the Appellate Division, which had been dismissed two months ago.

The task force is hard at work investigating the Buena wrestling situation that happened in December 2018. The committee reviewed documentary evidence and completed their interviews. They should complete their investigation soon.

Old Business/New Business – none.

Adjournment - There being no further business, a motion was made for adjournment by Maureen Bilda, seconded by Jason Corley. Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry L. White
Executive Director

LW: In