

New Members to Advisory Committee – A motion was made by Kathy Goldenberg, seconded by Tony Mitchell, to approve the new Advisory Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Legislation – The following six pieces of legislation will be considered by the Advisory Committee later in the afternoon:

1. CONFERENCE COALITION FOOTBALL PLAYOFF PROPOSAL (submitted by Bud Kowal)
2. NORTH JERSEY SUPER FOOTBALL CONFERENCE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF PROPOSAL (submitted by Dan Vivino)
3. AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V - SIX-MONTH POLLING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION (submitted by Scott Rosenberg)
4. START OF FALL REGULAR SCHEDULE OPENING DATES (submitted by John Maggio)
5. FOOTBALL CO-OPS TO INCLUDE GROUPS III, IV, & V. (submitted by the West Windsor – Plainsboro Regional School District)
6. CHANGE NON-PUBLIC GROUP CLASSIFICATIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL (submitted by Mary Kane)

Medical Advisory Committee Meeting – 17 renown doctors attend this committee meeting regularly. Topics discussed included:

- 1- Implementing pitch counts for baseball this spring 2017.
- 2- Continuing to work on opioid awareness and limit use.
- 3- Working on a position statement regarding mental health issues in student athletes. Anticipated release late May or early June 2017.
- 4- Investigating options for weight certification in wrestling. Tanita scales are breaking down and replacements are not available. Looking in to ultrasounds for percentage body fat measurement vs. skin fold calipers.
- 5- Continuing to review heat policies and potential changes. Now recommending all schools get a WBGT monitor. The use of an ice submersion apparatus and use of rectal thermometers is still being debated.
- 6- Cold weather guidelines will be released for the 2017-18 school year.

Spring Sports Sites/Dates – Most sites are set. Staff is waiting on confirmations for a few remaining sites.

Spring Sports Regulations – All regulations are done and posted on NJSIAA's website.

DAANJ Conference – Congratulations to Elaine McGrath, who was honored at the conference as Athletic Director of the Year! Mr. Timko reported it to be a great conference and NJSIAA was happy to give a well-attended, two-hour presentation there.

NJ Advance Media Investigative Reporting – Mr. Timko commended Matt Stanmyre and Steve Politi of NJ Advance Media for their excellent investigative reporting series. Their work helped NJSIAA deal with some serious issues.

Assistant Director Reports

Kim DeGraw-Cole

Girls Basketball – Congratulations to the following six schools for winning the state group championships and making it to the Tournament of Champions (TOC): Pascack Valley, Franklin, Manasquan, Bound Brook, Red Bank Catholic & Rutgers Prep. Franklin HS won the TOC finals game against Manasquan HS in an exciting buzzer shot ending.

Girls Bowling – Congrats to the following four schools for making it to the Tournament of Champions: Warren Hills, Academy of the Holy Angels, Brick Memorial and Westwood HS. Congratulations also to Aimee Sherman of Jackson Memorial HS for winning the individual tournament and bowling a perfect game.

Girls Lacrosse – This is the first year that there will be a state semi-finals game. Games will be played at West Essex HS, Warren Hills HS, Toms River North HS and Moorestown HS. Ms. Cole is working out where to play the TOC semi-finals game on June 7th, because there will be construction at Monmouth University.

Softball – This is the first year that softball will have a TOC. All sites are set.

Boys Tennis – A change was made to the tournament. To accommodate SAT testing, the starting time was pushed back to 2pm.

Tournament Refusal – If a school doesn't wish to participate in any spring tournaments, the opt out process is very easy. Spring tournament cutoff dates were distributed.

Larry White

NJIC Bowling Waiver for Mary Help of Christians Academy – For the fifth consecutive year, Mary Help of Christians Academy has asked if their all-girls bowling can stay in their conference and compete against their male counterparts. There are no female teams in their conference. A motion was made by Bill Vacca, seconded by Tony Mitchell, to allow the Mary Help of Christians Academy girls bowling team to continue in their current conference and compete against the boys teams in the conference. Motion carried unanimously.

Bowling – Congrats to the following schools for winning the group championships: Manasquan HS (Group 1), Sussex County Vocational Tech (Group 2), Monroe Twp (Group 3), and East Brunswick (Group 4). In the Baker Roll-Off, #2 East Brunswick defeated #3 Sussex County and #4 Manasquan defeated #1 Monroe Township. East Brunswick then emerged as the State Team Champion when they defeated Manasquan. Seeds are determined by the total pins accumulated over three games. Congratulations to the boy's individual champion, Ryan Carlisi, from Steinert HS, who entered the tournament as an independent bowler. To qualify, an independent bowler must average at minimum 180 pins, from 12 youth games.

Basketball Tournament – Due to anticipated snow, Mr. White and Ms. Cole had five contingency plans but all worked out smoothly. The following six schools won the group championships and competed in the T of C: Verona HS (Group I), Newark West Side HS (Group II), Teaneck HS (Group III), Linden HS (Group IV), Don Bosco Prep (NP-A) and the Patrick School (NP-B). The Patrick School defeated Don Bosco Prep in the T of C finals.

Winter Disqualification Report – There was an increase of 15 total player disqualifications and 3 coach disqualifications from last year's winter season. The increases were in boys basketball (from 33 to 37), girls basketball (from 11 to 18), wrestling (from 26 to 29), and fencing (from 1 to 3). Ice

hockey dropped from 46 disqualifications to 45 this year. Overall though, the numbers are consistent with years past. Winter is not nearly as high as the fall or as low as the spring.

Jack DuBois

West Windsor North and South HS Football Coop Waiver Request – Dr. David Aderhold, Superintendent of West Windsor-Plainsboro Schools, along with WWP HS principals Jonathan Dauber and Dennis Lephold, and Interim AD – Ken Mason, presented their waiver request. Both WWP HS North and South are Group IV schools who wish to join in to a cooperative sports program together in football. As it stands, WWP HS North will be unable to field a team. They have 4 returning juniors, 5 sophomores and are relying on 16 freshmen to return. WWP HS South is in a better position with 11 returning juniors, 6 returning sophomores, and 11 returning freshmen. This merger is not for athletic advantage and the waiver request states that they will not participate in playoff competition – just want the opportunity to play regular season. For the past three seasons, it's been hard to man a JV team, with only 11 players between the two high schools. Also some players have expressed they won't play because there is not adequate protection and they fear injury. West Windsor is losing athletes to private schools because they do not have a team. The district has taken a two-prong approach: 1- Submitted this waiver to Executive Committee and 2-Submitted legislation to the Advisory Committee to make a change permanently. A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Kathy Goldenberg, to grant a one-year waiver to allow West Windsor-Plainsboro HS North and West Windsor-Plainsboro HS South to enter in to a football cooperative agreement for the 2017-2018 season.

Tony Mitchell questioned if a formal request was sent to the WJFL. The request was sent to the CVC. Bud Kowal advised the district to just have a JV program for now and disband the Varsity program, which is not what WWP district wants to do. West Windsor does not have feeder systems to sustain the program. Tony Mitchell expressed this is a local problem and if granted, what would stop other regional schools from requesting the same thing. Dr. Aderhold feels the playoff restriction component would dissuade others from wanting to do the same. Football is a huge part of the community with its Friday night games, marching bands, cheerleaders. Bill Vacca questioned if the Executive Committee could even grant the waiver, if the football conference hasn't supported it. Judy Finch Johnson questioned what practices will be put in place by West Windsor to build the program so the district does not need to come back and request this same waiver again. Dr. Aderhold did not yet have a short-term solution. Youth sports in his community are co-op-ing everywhere. Six communities have joined together for a football program at the youth level. Kathy Goldenberg expressed support for having a team from the community perspective. She'd hate to deny opportunity to kids. Ken Mason expressed that the chance of WWP having a JV schedule will be tough if there is no varsity program. Right now they are scheduled to open up playing Allentown HS but Mr. Mason expects that Allentown will drop the game to find a new JV game if there is no Varsity game for Allentown to play.

A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Kathy Goldenberg, to rescind the motion to grant a one-year waiver to allow West Windsor-Plainsboro HS North and West Windsor-Plainsboro HS South to enter in to a cooperative agreement for football for the 2017-2018 season, and table the waiver until the May 3rd, 2017 meeting.

Pope John Waiver Request for Early Football Opener (August 26) – Mia Gavan, Athletic Director and Brian Carlson, Football Coach at Pope John XXIII presented their waiver request. Last year, Pope John's football team only played eight games though they wanted nine. They could only find eight opponents, which they felt was unfair to their student-athletes. This year they want to have nine games but cannot find any in-state games. The school already has two out of state opponents including one in Florida (not by choice). The only option available for the ninth game is to open on double zero week. There are two to three teams available on August 26th but New Jersey doesn't open up until August 31st. Pope John allowed Hudson Catholic and

Blair Academy to drop their games (last year Pope John defeated HC 55-7 and Blair 37-7) and then a few others dropped their games with Pope John.

A motion was made by Monsignor Michael Kelly, seconded by Kevin Carty, Jr., to grant Pope John HS a one-year waiver to begin official practices on Monday, July 23rd to play week 00 and waive the 70% in-state rule for 2017-2018. The school would be officially off from July 31 – August 6th as part of the 9 day non-contact summer period. Tom Mullahey expressed that Pope John shouldn't have dropped their game with Hudson Catholic before they had a replacement game but Ms. Gavan felt physicality was an issue, not just the score of 55-7 from last year. Robert Grauso expressed understanding for the plight of Pope John but he also felt the school shouldn't have dropped games before having replacements and feels that having only eight games is not detrimental to the program. Final Vote: Yes-4; No-16. Motion was defeated.

Football Power Points Adjustment Pilot Plan – 2nd Reading – A motion was made by Tom Mullahey, seconded by Tony Mitchell, to approve a second reading to adjust power points for the United Red and United White divisions in football for one year. Monsignor Kelly questioned if the new proposal has a negative effect on the teams in the red and white divisions. Jack DuBois thinks it helps. Denis Nelson shared that the United Red and White divisions will still have automatic entry and a multiplier – there's just a change to the multiplier and a differentiation between a team that wins or loses a game. Motion carried with one opposition (Monsignor Kelly.)

Clinics/Workshops – There will be a Legal One Transgender Workshop on 5/9 at 9:30am. The association has already received numerous registrations. Mr. DuBois expects this to be very well attended. Robyn Gigl and David Nash will handle the workshop.

Ice Hockey – Congratulations to the following schools for winning the 2017 ice hockey championships: Ridge HS (Public A), Glen Rock HS (Public B) and Delbarton HS (Non-Public). The date for the finals provided by the NJ Devils was not agreeable to NJSIAA (they offered Sunday night at 9:30pm and Monday morning at 9am & 11am) so NJSIAA held the finals at the Mennen Arena instead of the Prudential Center.

Fencing – Championship results were distributed. Mr. DuBois congratulated St. Peter's Prep and Bergen Tech for winning the team fencing championships for the first time.

NJSCA Senior All-Star Game – This game, which is made up of the best senior basketball players in NJ, took place at Rider University on 3/19/17.

Scholar Athlete Program – Nomination forms have been distributed. The event will take place on 5/21/17. Mr. DuBois was happy to announce that each attending honoree will receive a \$500 scholarship.

Policy Committee / Cooperative Sports Proposals – 2nd Reading

1. Team Name on Uniforms – A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Rob Haraka, to allow schools in a cooperative sports program to select team names and uniforms that reflect both schools if they so choose. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Penalties Resulting from a Disqualification – A motion was made by Paul Popadiuk, seconded by Tony Mitchell, to assign player disqualifications to the school of the offending athlete and coach disqualifications to the LEA school. It is incumbent of the LEA principal to pass on a disqualification to the other school's principal because principals of the LEA school will still be the one to receive the notice of the disqualification, regardless of the school assigned one. Motion carried unanimously.

Cooperative Sports Programs – A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Bill Vacca, to approve the following cooperative sports agreements:

- A. Toms River East HS / Toms River South HS – Ice Hockey
- B. Middlesex HS / Dunellen HS – Wrestling
- C. Park Ridge HS / Emerson HS – B/G Cross Country, B/G Bowling, B/G Golf & Boys Lacrosse
- D. Emerson HS / Park Ridge HS – Wrestling & Girls Lacrosse
- E. David Brearley HS / Jonathan Dayton HS – Wrestling
- F. Jonathan Dayton HS / David Brearley HS – Gymnastics/Co Ed Swimming

Motion carried unanimously.

Corporate – Three new corporates have signed agreements. Team Gear signed a three-year contract to be the official team uniform supplier. The Marines signed a contract to be the official military sponsor and Ivy Rehab signed up to co-sponsor the baseball tournament.

Bill Bruno Report

Winter Track Summary – 19,812 athletes competed at the Bubble in Toms River. There was less than a 2% error rate with coaches putting their rosters in MileSplit. Mr. Bruno also expanded the committee by adding more Athletic Directors and media personnel. This addition worked out well.

Spring Track Update – Sites are set. The group championships will take place at Egg Harbor HS and Northern Burlington HS and the Meet of Champions will take place at Northern Burlington HS. Officials have been hired and entries have been coming in.

NJSCA Coaches Hall of Fame – This event took place on 3/26/17 with over 528 in attendance.

NSJCA Clinics – The golf and track clinics were brought back after a ten-year absence. Both were very successful in their turnouts. There is one NJSCA clinic left, which will be the wrestling clinic on 5/5 at Princeton University.

Al Stumpf

Swimming – Swim Committee minutes were distributed. www.BeSmartt.com is where you can find the results of the individual championships. 28 boys teams and 19 girls teams didn't follow the regulations. Next year, Mr. Stumpf plans to create a tracking spreadsheet to distribute on the forum to minimize the non-compliance.

Unified Sports – The Unified basketball championship game, between Trenton and Cranford, was a very close game. In the semifinal games, Cranford HS played Union City HS and Randolph v Trenton. Mr. Stumpf shared that Voorhees HS hosted a Unified game v Delaware Valley HS and the gym was packed, with more spectators than a varsity game and the officials loved officiating the game. The spring track regulations are posted, and includes Unified track info. Mr. Nitti highly recommends being involved in the Unified programs. His entire student body loved being part of it and it involved the entire school.

Golf – Watchung Valley Golf Course, formerly known as Twin Brooks, is where the girls state championship will be held. Wakefern Corporation is offering the top four girl finishers a chance to walk inside the ropes of the LPGA ShopRite Classic tournament at Seaview. Please note: non-powered hand carts are allowed this year, but ONLY if the course allows it. Many courses do not have AEDS so it's imperative that coaches carry one with them.

Michael Zapicchi

Public/Non-Public Committee – Transfer Rule – The new transfer rule has been sent to the Commissioner for review.

Investigation of F1J1 Process & Rules – NJSIAA continues to investigate the F1J1 process and will seek out how other states handle it when Mr. Timko and Mr. Herbert attend the NFHS Legal Conference in April. If your district accepts F1J1 students, please contact Mr. Zapicchi.

Finance Update (Colleen Maguire)

ShopRite Cup Report – Winter standings were distributed and are as follows:

Group 1 - Verona HS
Group 2 – Haddonfield Memorial HS
Group 3 – West Essex HS
Group 4 – Hunterdon Central HS
Non-Public A – Christian Brothers Academy
Non-Public B – Villa Walsh Academy

Preliminary Winter Sports Financial Results – Preliminary financial results for the winter season was distributed. The report is 90% final since the association is still waiting on some numbers from basketball and wrestling. Ms. Maguire is pleased that the net profit is \$125,000, which is over budget. Revenue from basketball was down but that's because attendance was down at the Tournament of Champions. There was an increase in salary expenses because Ms. Maguire allocates salaries from sports expenses to Assistant Directors, and this year, Ms. Cole and Mr. White shared two sports, so cost went up. Bowling was flat with budget. Fencing increased because of a one-time purchase of software and scoring sheets and an increase in officials' fees. For ice hockey there was a change in the championship venue and a decrease in semi-finals gate receipts (due to matchups.) Swimming stayed flat with the budget. Winter track saw an increase in participants and a decrease in worker fees because Mr. Bruno reduced the number of officials used in the tournament. In wrestling, the tournament entry fee changed from a flat \$80 fee to an individual entry fee so a school could have paid \$196 vs. \$80. This led to a \$25,000 increase for the district tournament which helped offset the increases in Atlantic City for the individual tournament. Since there were more rounds in AC, the rental and official fees increased. Gate receipts and expenses for the first two rounds in wrestling went to the school which led to a cost savings of \$56,000 since NJSIAA is no longer responsible for paying for officials for those rounds. Overall, wrestling finished \$30,000 over the budget. Dr. George questioned if there are action plans to minimize some of the sport tournament losses. Ms. Maguire shared that some sport tournaments are more expensive to run but the association wouldn't want to shrink a tournament because it's expensive though the directors are always looking for ways to save money. For example, Mr. DuBois just saved the association \$8,000 when he received an in-kind equipment donation for fencing.

Proposed Fines – 2nd Reading - A motion was made by Kathy Goldenberg, seconded by Judy Finch Johnson, to accept second reading of the proposed fine structure as presented by Colleen Maguire. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget Update – A hard copy of the 2017-2018 budget will be distributed at the 5/3/2017 meeting. In June, a roll call vote will be taken.

Finance Committee Update – Elaine McGrath

February/March 2017 Checkbook – A motion was made by Kathy Goldenberg, seconded by Beverly Torok, to accept the February and March check registers, which was approved by the

finance committee as well as our monthly approvals according to policy. Motion carried unanimously.

Program Review

Softball Three Umpires at Sectional Semi-Final Round – 2nd Reading – A motion was made Robert Grauso, seconded by Suzanne Cooley, to utilize three-person umpire crews in softball beginning at Round 3 (Sectional Semi-Final). Motion passed second reading unanimously.

New Fall Sports Start Date – 1st Reading – Soccer already opens on 9/5/17. A survey was sent to Athletic Directors and the overwhelming consensus was to keep the starting dates for all fall sports (excluding football) the same. Girls Tennis was always September 5, 2017. Soccer received approval from the Executive Committee during the January and February meetings to change the start date to September 5, 2017. The soccer start date change prompted conversation relative to the other fall sports. This proposed change would adjust the start date for competition for Cross Country, Field Hockey, Gymnastics and Girls Volleyball to September 5, 2017, joining Girls Tennis and Boys and Girls Soccer. A motion was made by Rob Haraka, seconded by Steve Shohfi, for a one-year pilot to change Section 8 Start of Regular Schedule to have the following fall opening dates after six days of practice

1. Girls Tennis September 5, 2017 (no change)
2. September 5, 2017– Cross Country, Field Hockey, Gymnastics, Soccer (already approved by the Executive Committee), Girls Volleyball
3. August 31, 2017 – Football

Program Review Committee approved the proposal unanimously. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

Football Summer Period – 1st Reading – A motion was made by Rob Haraka seconded by Dr. William George, to create a summer period from Sunday June 11 thru Sunday August 6 with on field practice per day restricted to 2 ½ hours (Weight room lifting session, classroom sessions are NOT INCLUDED in the 2.5 hours), Football helmets/mouthpieces are permitted and protective equipment may be issued for attendance at prospect camps or 7v7 (third party camps) with board approval. Program Review approved this proposal 6-0. Mr. Vacca expressed confusion how NJSIAA has jurisdiction over summer period when he thought it was up to the local board of educations. Mr. Dubois said it falls under the sportsmanship policy and it is a recommendation, requested by the Football Committee. If a local board of education does not agree with the policy, the school can follow their district's mandate. Motion carried with one opposition (Bill Vacca.)

NJSIAA Official Football Practice Start Date – 1st Reading – A motion was made by Rob Haraka, seconded by Dr. George, to change the official football practice start date from Wednesday, August 9, 2017 to Monday, August 7, 2017. Mandatory heat acclimatization protocol would begin on 8/7 – no early heat acclimatization would be permitted. The heat acclimatization protocol would be as follows:

- o DAYS 1-2: Helmets ONLY
- o DAYS 3-5: Helmets and Shoulder Pads ONLY
- o DAY 6: ALL Equipment may be worn

Proposal passed Program Review Committee 6-0. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

Football Non-Public Group II Pilot Proposal To Double Opponent's Group Size – 1st Reading – This proposal did not pass through Program Review.

Permitting Three Schools to Form a Cooperative Sports Program in Ice Hockey – 1st Reading
– A motion was made by Rob Haraka, seconded by Dr. George, to allow a tri-op cooperative sports program in ice hockey, but roster cannot exceed 30 students. Originally the proposal wanted to max out at a 25-student roster, but the Ice Hockey Committee requested 30 students. Only 20 can dress so this helps others develop. Proposal passed Program Review Committee 6-0. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

Establishing Seasonal Deadline Dates for Cooperative Sports Program Applications – 1st Reading – A motion was made by Rob Haraka, seconded by Steve Shohfi, to establish the following firm cooperative sports deadline due dates:

Fall – applications due by May 1st of the prior year

Winter – applications due by October 1st

Spring - applications are due February 1st.

These dates are consistent with state reports and the Executive Committee dates for approval prior to each season. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

Establishing 3rd Ice Hockey Group Classification – One Year Pilot – 1st Reading – Currently there are two public groups in the ice hockey tournament – each with 49 schools per group. A motion was made by Robert Haraka, seconded by Tom Mullahey, to create a third public ice hockey championship division so each group would have 32/33 schools in each. This is more consistent with groupings for other sports, gives another school a championship opportunity, and eliminates the out-bracket game. Motion passed first reading unanimously.

Report of Counsel – Michael W. Herbert, Esq. –

1. Steve Goodell Update – Thanks to the generosity of the Executive Committee, Ms. Maguire presented Steve Goodell with many Wawa and Starbucks gift cards. Mr. Goodell was scheduled to come home yesterday and will continue his rehabilitation from home.
2. Litigation - There is a prospective appeal to the Department of Education regarding an eligibility matter and two hearings are coming up.

Old Business/New Business - none

Adjournment - There being no further business, a motion was made for adjournment by Kathy Goldenberg, seconded by Judy Finch Johnson. Meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Timko
Executive Director

SJT: In