

**NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**  
1161 Route 130, P O Box 487 Robbinsville, NJ 08691

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
April 14, 2021

**In compliance with Executive Order 107, the Executive Committee meeting was held remotely via Cisco's WebEx Meetings platform.**

**Roll Call** - The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at the NJSIAA Administration Building in Robbinsville, New Jersey, was called to order by the President, Steve Shohfi, at 11:02 am.

The following members were present: Mohammed Abdelaziz, Greg Bailey, Jeff Baldino, Maureen Bilda, Joseph Bollendorf, Dr. Brian Brotschul, Kevin Carty, Jr., Jason Corley, Joanne Dzama, Derek England, Judy Finch-Johnson, James Gaffney, Brendan Galligan, Edward Grande, Robert Grauso, Dr. G. Kennedy Greene, Dr. Kimberly Gruccio, Geoff Haines, Robert Haraka, Mary Liz Ivins, Todd Jorgenson, Kurt Karcich, Monsignor Michael Kelly, Raymond Kiem, Howard Krieger, Timothy McElhinney, Tony Mitchell, Thomas Mullahey, Sean Olson, Leon Owen, Christopher Penna, William Quirk, Scott Ridley, Senator Paul Sarlo, Frank Torcasio, Beverly Torok, Bill Vacca, Paul Vizzuso, Denis Williams, Assemblyman Benjie Wimberly, and Dr. Robert Zega. Also present: Colleen Maguire, Chief Operating Officer; Kim DeGraw-Cole, Jack DuBois, Bill Bruno, Al Stumpf and Tony Maselli, Assistant Directors; and Steven P. Goodell, Esq. and Scott Miccio, NJSIAA Counsel. The following sportswriters were in attendance: Darren Cooper, *NorthJersey.com*; Brian Deakyne, *nj.com* and Mike McGarry, *Press of Atlantic City*. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.; Paul Popaduik, Principal at Montgomery HS; and Bill Librera, Principal at Watchung Hills HS

Mr. Shohfi welcomed new committee member, Brendan Galligan, who is replacing Dominick Miletta and representing the New Jersey School Board Association.

**Approval of Minutes** - A motion was made by Tom Mullahey, seconded by Mary Liz Ivins, to accept the minutes of the February 12, 2021 Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried with one abstention (Galligan).

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**Executive Committee Legislation Polling Update – Steve Shohfi**

Per the Bylaws, any legislation approved by the Executive Committee shall be forwarded to the membership and the membership shall be polled. In February, twelve pieces of legislation passed by the Executive Committee were sent to the membership. All action taken by the Executive Committee was approved by the membership.

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**Chief Operating Officer Update – Colleen Maguire**

First, Ms. Maguire recognized the success of the girls wrestling individual tournament over the past two weekends. It was fantastic to witness the appreciation and expressions of gratitude from the girls and their coaches over both weekends. Kim Cole and the members of her wrestling committee are to be commended for their countless hours of hard work over the past few months. Ms. Maguire also thanked Williamstown HS, Union HS, and Phillipsburg HS for their willingness to host the girls.

**NJSIAA Alert Updates - Recap** – Since last meeting, the association made some updates to the spring sports guidelines that were based on actions taken by the governor's office. In accordance with Executive Order No. 232, which was issued in March, NJSIAA will permit out-

of-state competition during Season 4 for outdoor sports only pursuant to the latest New Jersey state travel restrictions. Therefore, an NJSIAA member school may only compete against out-of-state opponents from Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York and Connecticut. This applies for home games and away games. If an NJSIAA member school travels to an out-of-state opponent in one of these four states, it may only be out of state for less than 24 hours; therefore, no overnight travel is permitted. Out-of-state competition for indoor sports continues to be prohibited.

Approximately two weeks later, Executive Order No. 234 was issued which changed the outdoor capacity limits. Therefore, during Season 4, there will be an outdoor gathering limit of 200 persons which does not include the athletes, coaches, referees, trainers and other individuals who are necessary for the event. This 200-persons limit is for all spectators, which includes parents and/or guardians.

Also, there was an Administrative Order issued last week that removed the 150-person limit on indoor capacity limits – sports activities now must stay under 35% of the capacity of the room, inclusive of all individuals present (participants through spectators). Removing the 150-person limit is significant in allowing two parents or guardians attend the finals of both the girls and the boys' individual wrestling tournament. However, yesterday, a statement was issued confirming that parents/guardians will not be permitted to attend this coming weekend's boys' regional tournaments. This is out of respect for all host sites, some of which had pre-set limitations, as well as our commitment to run all regional events for both the boys and the girls under the same rules and conditions.

NJSIAA is remaining fluid and updating its guidelines as timely as possible to stay up to date with all guidance coming from the governor's office. Ms. Maguire thanked NJSIAA's counsel, Scott Miccio, for his guidance keeping up with these orders.

NJSIAA 2021-2022 School Year Banned Substances List – One Reading – Voice Vote – Steroid testing was suspended in 2020-2021 but will resume in the 2021-2022 school year. A motion was made by Derek England, seconded by Maureen Bilda, to approve the 2021-2022 List of Banned Substances/Categories. Motion carried unanimously.

NJSIAA Sports Rule Committee Realignment – One Reading – Voice Vote – A proposal to realign NJSIAA sports rules committees was distributed. The goal is to ensure that these committees have a defined role and responsibilities, and to ensure that there is a consistent framework used by each sport for the voting members on each committee. There is a recommended range of voting members based on the number of participating schools in each sport that will drive the overall size of the committee. A motion was made by Jason Corley, seconded by Joanne Dzama, to approve the proposed realignment of NJSIAA's Sports Rules Committees. Motion carried unanimously.

COVID-Compliance Package Part 2 – First Reading – Voice Vote – Ms. Maguire has received concerns regarding the start of the 2021-2022 school year and student-athletes that may want to transfer back to the school they were attending prior to the pandemic, and related shut down of schools in March 2020, or student-athletes that may still be lacking the necessary credits to start the 2021-2022 school year. Last month, Ms. Maguire met with the Executive Committee officers and NJSIAA attorneys to draft a proposal which was distributed to the Executive Committee. The proposal will allow any student-athlete to transfer back to the school that they were enrolled at and attending on March 16, 2020 without consequence if the "transfer back" occurs on or before September 1, 2021. Any transfer that occurs after September 1, 2021 will be subject to our normal transfer rule and may be subject to the 30-day sit period.

This proposal will also extend the credit waiver request process through the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year. Given the uncertainty of the remainder of the school year for many school districts, there may be a need for flexibility at the start of the school year, though by the start of the second semester the association fully expects that all student-athletes will have had adequate opportunity to get back on track academically therefore this waiver request protocol will be in effect for participation during the 1st semester of the 2021-2022 school year only. Ms. Cole and Mr. Stumpf have reviewed 120 COVID credit waiver requests this year. There are many students having a hard time academically or struggling with mental health issues, so this waiver has given a hook to play sports and achieve academic success and helped students make more connections to get back on track.

Robert Grauso asked about if a fall athlete who transferred to a non-public school for in-person learning would have to sit because they transferred due to the pandemic. Mr. Goodell advised Mr. Grauso to speak to him after the meeting to determine the eligibility of this specific scenario. Robert Haraka asked if an athlete receives a COVID credit waiver, are they eligible for the full fall season. The answer is the waiver is good for the full fall AND winter season, but by spring 2022, athletes will have to adhere to the normal eligibility rules. This proposal is extending the process in place this year (which was due to expire in Spring 2021) in to fall/winter next year to help students get caught up.

A motion was made by Joseph Bollendorf, seconded by Danny Robertozzi to approve this COVID-Compliance Package Part 2 proposal in its first reading. Second reading will take place in May. Motion carried unanimously.

NJSIAA Calendar Committee Proposal – First Reading – Voice Vote – When the Calendar Committee first convened in January 2020, a survey was sent out to all stakeholders regarding various topics surrounding the NJSIAA sports year. What became loud and clear from these survey results was a need for consistency and a need to minimize and/or eliminate overlapping seasons.

Approximately 35% of our membership has a total enrollment for our classification purposes of 450 or less, which averages to approximately 150 students per grade. These schools are extremely dependent on multi-sport athletes and multi-sport coaches to continue offering all their sports. Also, Ms. Maguire encourages multi-sport participation during the teenage years and not solely for the physical benefits. Participation in multiple extracurricular athletics provides more exposure to a more diverse group of peers than would typically come with their school day or their social gatherings and the ability to find commonality with others to work together is an essential skill for success in the future. Realigning the association calendar and bringing consistency to every season will increase the opportunities and likelihood for student-athletes to participate in multiple sports during their entire high school career.

The proposal focuses on three primary goals – consistency, equity, and flexibility. Two members of the committee, Paul Popaduik (Principal, Montgomery HS) and Bill Librera (former athletic director at Chatham HS and current Principal at Watchung Hills HS) spoke to the committee on behalf of the proposal. Ms. Maguire also thanked current Executive Committee members Kurt Karcich and RJ Kiem along with Drew Seibel and Darren Groh for their efforts and support on this committee.

The committee solicited feedback from Superintendents, Principals, NJSIAA staff and the individual sports committees. The proposal aimed to provide minimal overlap between seasons, a break between each season, a comparable season length for every sport, and give maximum flexibility for schools to manage their sport seasons. Most importantly, the goal was to reset the priority of interscholastic athletics, which is an extension of the school day and should engage as many students as possible. Sports help with mental and social health, give a student a sense

of belonging to their school and a connection to their community. The purpose of high school sports is not to help elite athletes obtain a scholarship. The proposal, if approved, will go into effect beginning with the 2022-2023 school year to give schools adequate time to prepare. The following guidelines are applied to each season.

- Approximately 18-day preseason for strenuous sports.
- Regular season range of 49 – 53 days.
- Consistent, and reasonable, maximum number of games across all sports, where applicable.
- Schedule breaks in between seasons.
- Elimination of early start waivers and other exceptions.

A proposed calendar by season for each of the next two scheduling cycles, or four years was included in the proposal. For fall, the Football season dates provided are suggested dates that will be determined separately and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on June 7, 2021. The Girls Tennis season and post-season dates may be subject to change due to special circumstances surrounding availability of tennis courts for state tournaments and daylight savings time. For all other sports, this calendar provides a consistent 49-day regular season. All Group Finals should be played on or before the second Sunday prior to Thanksgiving to ensure most student-athletes have a necessary break before the start of the winter sports season. Sports committees will determine the viability of continuing any post-season beyond a Group Final (i.e. Tournament of Champions); however, they will not be allowed to reduce the regular season to accommodate post-season play beyond the Group Final, and will not be permitted to schedule such events beyond one week from the end dates listed. The committee did not want to sacrifice games for the majority to accommodate the few athletes in post season.

For winter, there will be an optional 3-day tryout period available for all sports on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving Day. This tryout period will not count towards the six days of practice and one day of rest requirement. This calendar provides a consistent 53-day regular season for all winter sports. Because many winter sports have both a team and an individual element, the Committee recognizes the post-season schedule for some sports may have to differ from the dates provided. All Group Finals should be played on or before the post-season end dates listed to ensure most student-athletes have a necessary break before the start of the spring sports season. Individual-based post-season events may need to be scheduled beyond the dates listed but may not extend beyond one week from the end dates listed. Sports committees will determine the viability of team-based post-season competition beyond a Group Final (i.e. Tournament of Champions); however, they will not be permitted to reduce the regular season to accommodate post-season play beyond the Group Final and will not be permitted to schedule such events beyond one week from the end dates listed.

For spring, the golf season and post-season dates may be subject to change due to special circumstances surrounding availability of golf courses prior to Memorial Day weekend. The Boys Tennis season and post-season dates may be subject to change due to special circumstances surrounding the availability of tennis courts for state tournaments. This calendar provides a consistent 52-day regular season for all spring sports. All Group Finals should be played on or before the post-season end dates listed to ensure most student-athletes have completed their season. Sports committees will determine the viability of team-based post-season competition beyond a Group Final (i.e. Tournament of Champions); however, they will not be permitted to reduce the regular season to accommodate post-season play beyond the Group Final and will not be permitted to schedule such events beyond one week from the end dates listed. Spring dates were pushed back to avoid snow and collecting uniforms when it was nice out.

The committee analyzed the maximum number of games rule. To accommodate the new regular season guidelines, the maximum number of games for some sports have been reduced depending on a corresponding reduction in the sport's current regular season length. For

consistency, the proposed maximum number of games are the same for those sports that are of the same physical nature and/or have similar physical requirements. The maximum number of games does not include participation in one county or league/conference-based tournament, and the NJSIAA state tournament. A county or league/conference-based tournament is defined as a single elimination tournament not to exceed 32 teams, limited to a maximum of five games. Teams may still participate in both a county and a league/ conference tournament, but one of these tournaments will count toward the maximum number of games.

The below table summarizes the new maximum number of games by sport:

Sport	No. of Games
Baseball	24
Basketball	22
Cross Country	14
Fencing	16
Field Hockey	18
Football	10
Gymnastics	14
Ice Hockey	20
Lacrosse	18
Soccer	18
Softball	24
Swimming	16
Tennis	24
Track & Field – Spring	14
Track & Field – Winter	14
Volleyball	24

Non-strenuous sports bowling and golf will not have maximum number of games per season.

To allow leagues, conferences, and schools maximum flexibility to schedule based on their needs and circumstances, there will be no weekly maximum number of games for any sport. However, those sports that currently prohibit competition on three consecutive days will continue to prohibit such activity. The maximum number of games does not include participation in individual-based competition for sports such as cross country, swimming, tennis, etc. Individual-based competition is determined by whether a team score is calculated. For instance, if a team score is calculated at an individual-based event, regardless of the number of participants from the team, then this competition will count towards the maximum number of games. If a team score is not calculated, then the event will not count towards the maximum number of games. The sports that currently prohibit competition on three consecutive days are: Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Gymnastics, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, and Swimming.

Last, in order to maximize competition opportunities, schools will be permitted to schedule regular season events during the NJSIAA post-season in every sport but may not exceed the total maximum number of games listed above. The only exception to this rule will be for wrestling, team wrestling matches will continue to be prohibited once the NJSIAA District Tournament starts. NJSIAA post-season tournament competition will take priority over regular season games in every sport when assigning officials. No competition will be permitted beyond the last scheduled post-season championship event in each sport, the last post-season championship event represents the end of that sport's regular season.

Tony Mitchell asked why the baseball season, compared to the basketball season, was only shortened by one game because it's a busy time of year with programs, graduations, etc. Getting in 24 games is hard and the coaches will want the full 24 games. Ms. Maguire explained that since the tournament begins before Memorial Day, the goal is to give schools that may not participate in the state tournament the opportunity to get games in late May/early June. Secondly, the amount of allowable basketball games was decreased substantially because the number of days in the basketball season was significantly shortened. Since the number of days in the baseball season stayed relatively in line with years past, the committee didn't need to significantly reduce the number of allowable games. That said, the Baseball Committee can monitor if teams are playing the full 24 games and if not, it can be reduced in the future. Also, there is no longer an A, B, C option for basketball. And last, maximum games do not include county and state tournament games. Ms. Cole also added that in baseball / softball, you can play multiple games in one day whereas with other sports, you may only be able to play one game. Mohammed Abdelaziz asked if there will still be a determined number of games that must be played by cutoff. Ms. Maguire explained that there will be changes made to qualifying for tournaments in some sports, but those specific details have not yet been determined. Timothy McElhinney asked why early season waivers are problematic, and why they should be reduced. Mr. Goodell explained that there are two types of waivers. One is the individual waiver for one school to play out of state, which is not as significant as the second type waiver, which results in moving a start date for an entire season for the whole state. The association has hard dates but had to keep moving them each year through waiver requests, based on that calendar year. This caused schedulers to have re-do all the schedules. If an individual school has an issue, and it does not affect everyone else, that is different. Also, a school always has the right to request a waiver. Robert Grauso asked if heat acclimatization will still start three days before. The answer is no. Heat acclimatization starts on the first practice day of the schedule.

A motion was made by Dr. Brian Brotschul, seconded by Rob Haraka, to approve the proposal to change the NJSIAA sports calendar, in its first reading. Second reading will take place in May. Motion carried with one opposition (McElhinney) and one abstention (Quirk).

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**Legislative Update - Paul Anzano** - Mr. Anzano's tracking report of current legislative bills was distributed. Right now, there is no legislation impacting high school sports under active consideration. Currently, the legislature is on a budget break though the Budget Committees have been meeting daily to review the Governor's proposed 2021-2022 budget. The Assembly Committee will review the DOE budget within the next two months. Mr. Anzano does not expect NJSIAA to be a focal point of discussion. The association will not ask for a state subsidiary as was done last year. As restrictions are being lifted, the Governor's office has been communicating regularly with the NJSIAA and now recognizes the association as an organization that should be consulted with before decisions are made. Rob Haraka questioned the status of the legislation addressing coaches and multiple years of tenure. Mr. Anzano believes it passed the Assembly but is being held in the Senate. Multiple education-based organizations have opposed the bill. Senator Sarlo shared that there were not enough votes in the Senate for the bill to pass.

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## **Assistant Director Reports**

### **Kim DeGraw-Cole**

**Eligibility Committee & Eligibility Appeals Committee Updates** –The Eligibility Committee reviewed 17 waiver requests on 4/13 and has tried to be sympathetic during these difficult times, especially when reviewing credit waiver requests. The next meeting is May 11th. The

Eligibility Appeals Committee met on 3/24 to review two cases and will meet again this afternoon for an emergent hearing involving a possible athletic advantage transfer. The decision today will impact whether a wrestler can participate in this weekend's wrestling individual tournament. The committee will also meet again on 4/28.

Status Report on Eligibility and Transfers – There were 2,067 transfers in the system. Of the 2,067 transfers, 285 are pending former school response; 162 were immediately eligible due to a true bona fide change of residence, and 1,027 were immediately eligible because they didn't play varsity at their former school. For 111, the ineligibility period applies and 421 were immediately eligible because they were COVID-19 compliance transfers. Of this 421, 75 were Non-Public to Non-Public transfers, 78 were Non-Public to Public transfers, 110 were Public to Public transfers and 125 were Public to Non-Public transfers, 12 are out of state / unknown determination of school status and 21 are due to school closings: 32 had affidavit issues pending and 24 were denied due to affidavit and no participation. 3 other requests are under review because more information is needed. Below is transfer trend data:

**Sports Specific Transfers:**

- Football: 232 with 111 Immediately Eligible
- Basketball: Boys 146 with 92 Immediately Eligible
- Basketball: Girls 61 with 42 Immediately Eligible
- Ice Hockey: 17 with 15 Immediately Eligible
- Swimming: 23 with 8 Immediately Eligible
- Wrestling: 71 with 33 Immediately Eligible
- Winter Track: 42 with 17 Immediately Eligible

**Total Transfers (Varsity and non-Varsity)**

- Transfers from Public to Non-Public: 495
- Transfers from Public to Public: 1055
- Transfers from Non-Public to Non-Public: 205
- Transfers from Non-Public to Public 401

NJSIAA Legislative Process Timeline 2021 – Two sectional meetings will take place virtually on April 27<sup>th</sup> and April 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 am via Cisco Webex. During the sectional meetings, the one piece of football legislation is open for discussion, clarification, and input. The sponsors of the legislation may make any revisions to the legislation and submit the final proposal to the Executive Committee for ballot approval at the May 12<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting. All proposals must be provided to the member schools by May 15, 2021. The NJSIAA Annual Meeting will take place on June 7, 2021.

Wrestling Season 3 Update – The beginning of the season was impacted by shutdowns and quarantines. The NJSIAA in response to its member schools, devised a virtual weigh in plan (approved by the NFHS) that was utilized to keep the students as safe as possible. The Girls Wrestling Seeding Committee selected 95 wrestlers (Seed 1-8 and two alternates) in the 11 weight classes. The South Seeding Committee selected 88 wrestlers (Seed 1-8 and two alternates) in the 11 weight classes. The committees reviewed the application forms submitted by coaches identifying the wrestlers' accomplishments. There were numerous changes throughout the week, however all brackets were filled with available wrestlers. The Girls Region Wrestling Tournament was conducted at Union HS and Williamstown HS on April 3, 2021. Ms. Cole expressed gratitude for Union HS and Williamstown HS staff, especially Linda Ionta and Dean Insana for hosting the Girls Region Wrestling Tournaments. At the North Region, 78 wrestlers competed for 11 North Region Titles. At the South Region, 74 wrestlers competed for the 11 South Region Titles. The top 4 wrestlers in each Region competed at the 2021 Girls Wrestling Championships on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at Phillipsburg HS. The brackets were full, with 88 wrestlers competing for a state title. The day is split into two sessions, with six weight

classes competing in the morning session and the remaining five weight classes competing in the afternoon session. The event was live streamed on nj.com and two adult parent/guardians per wrestler were permitted entrance to the event.

The Boys Wrestling Combined Region Tournament will be conducted at four locations: North I at Mt. Olive HS; North II at Union HS; Central at Hunterdon Central HS and South at Cherry Hill East HS. Securing sites for this tournament was extremely challenging, so a huge thanks to Mark Grilo, Linda Ionta, Jesse Spencer, and Mike Beirao, along with their staffs for hosting the boys' regions on April 17th and April 18th. The weight classes will be split into four sessions over the course of the two days. A total of 224 wrestlers per site will have the opportunity to compete for a Region Title. Total overall: 896 wrestlers. The selection process began on Sunday, April 11 by the four Region Selection Committees. On April 12<sup>th</sup>, the four Region Seeding Committees seeded the top 16 and alternates. The Seeding Committee for the State Tournament will meet on April 20th. The top four wrestlers in each of the 14 weight classes, from each Region will compete at Phillipsburg HS on April 24th and April 25th for a state title. Once again, the wrestlers will be split into two session over two days. The event will be live streamed on nj.com and two adult parent/guardians per wrestler will be permitted entrance to the state event. Ms. Cole thanked Greg Troxell, Superintendent and Tom Fisher, Athletic Director, and the Phillipsburg staff for hosting both the girls and boys state wrestling championships.

Girls Lacrosse and Softball Sports Update – Dates for girl's lacrosse have not changed. All girls lacrosse coaches have established Lax Numbers accounts to input schedules and report scores. As of 4/8/21, there were over 90 schools without accounts. Directions to set up accounts are on the NJSIAA website. We intend the group finals to be played at high school sites. Some schools under consideration include: Mt. Olive HS, Sparta HS, Rancocas Valley HS, and Hunterdon Central HS. Tournament of Champions quarterfinals and semifinals will be played at the site of the higher seed. The Tournament of Champions Final will be played at a high school site to be determined.

Softball Update – Dates for softball have not changed. The group finals and Tournament of Champions games will be played at Ivy Hill Park.

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### **Bill Bruno**

NFHS Heart of Arts Award – Noelle DeBiase – Mater Dei Prep HS – Noelle DeBiase from Mater Dei Prep was selected as one of eight people in the nation to receive the sectional 2021 NFHS Heart of Arts Award recipient.

Bowling Update – The Bowling Committee will be meeting on 4/15 to review the previous season.

Winter Track Update – The XC/Track committee will be meeting on 4/16 to review the winter season and to discuss the spring season.

Gymnastics Update – The NJSIAA gymnastics senior showcase is set for 4/23 and 4/24 at Brick Memorial HS. Final count of all participants will be listed on 4/17.

Spring Track – The NJSIAA spring track sectionals, groups and MOC are all set. The NFHS Spring Track Committee met on 4/8 to review track protocols.

NJSCA HOF – The NJSCA HOF will take place on 12/5 at the Jumping Brook Country Club. Nomination forms are due 6/30 and are posted on NJSIAA's website.



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## Jack DuBois

NJSIAA Hall of Fame Update – Mr. DuBois announced the next NJSIAA HOF class. After the last NJSIAA Hall of Fame, which took place in December 2018, the HOF Selection Committee agreed that the majority of future inductees should be former NJSIAA student-athletes since coaches already have their own Hall of Fame (NJSCA HOF). Coaches and administrators will only be considered if the coach/administrator is already in the NJSCA Hall of and are a proven leader in their sport or administrative area. The following student athletes, coaches, and administrators will be inducted at a ceremony in March 2022.

Student-Athletes Selected for Induction:

1. Andre Tippett- Barringer
2. Joetta Clark – Columbia
3. Christopher Ford – Holy Spirit
4. Anthony Siragusa – David Brearley
5. Kenny Jackson – South River
6. Tricia Popowski – Hoffman/South Amboy
7. Eulace Peacock – Union (POSTHUMOUS)
8. Virginia Duenkel Fuldner – West Orange
9. John Somogyi – St. Peter's New Brunswick
10. Dajuan Wagner – Camden
11. Harding William Peterson – Woodbridge (POSTHUMOUS)

Coach/Contributors Selected for Induction:

1. Bob Auriemma – Brick Township Coach – Ice Hockey
2. William Mickey Corcoran – Contributor – River Dell/Northern Highlands(POSTHUMOUS)
3. Tom Heath – CBA Coach – Cross Country
4. Tom Lopes – Official – Contributor
5. Steve Timko – Administrator – NJSIAA
6. Don Weider – East Brunswick Coach – Boys Gymnastics (POSTHUMOUS)
7. Nancy Williams – Shore Regional Coach – Field Hockey

Scholar Athlete Awards Update – As of this morning, 95 nomination forms have already been received. Nomination forms are due 4/30. The association has received positive support from its previous sponsors. There have been 24 submissions for Kearny's Bank's \$2,500 scholarship opportunity.

Boys Lacrosse Update – 98% of schedules have been entered into LAX Numbers. The seeding committee has a representative from each conference. Mr. DuBois is still looking for neutral sites for the group state championships.

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## Al Stumpf

Volleyball Update – The Girls Volleyball tournament started this week. Brackets are mostly full and there have been only three dropouts due to COVID-related issues. A new power points seeding system was used this year and for the first time ever, there have been no complaints about seeding.

The boys volleyball season has begun. Mr. Stumpf is still looking for a site for the finals and if he can't secure one, the game will be played at the higher seed.

Golf Update – The season is underway. There are 21 play dates in the season before the tournament begins, which is dictated by when Mr. Stumpf can secure the golf courses. Usually there is a six-match requirement to be eligible for the tournament but this year, the requirement was reduced to five matches to accommodate the shorter season and weather challenges. The Sectional Tournament for both boys and girls will be May 10<sup>th</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup>. The boy's Tournament of Champions will be played May 19<sup>th</sup> at Hawk Pointe Golf Course in Washington, NJ. The girls will play their Tournament of Champions on 5/18 at the North Jersey Country Club.

The girls sectional tournament structure has changed this year. There will now be three sections (North, Central and South). The top 12 teams of each section, based on their Adjusted Team Scores, will play for the Sectional Championship and then the top three teams from each section, along with the top 50 girls in NJ (based on adjusted scores), advance to the Tournament of Champions. Tony Mitchell asked if there is any thought to moving the boys and girls golf to different seasons. Mr. Stumpf knows it has been discussed in the past, but not recently. If Mr. Mitchell wants that to be considered, he can submit a proposal to the Golf Committee for consideration in their post-season meeting.

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### **Tony Maselli**

Program Review – Field Hockey Chapter Application – The Program Review Committee met on 4/12 to review an application submitted by Cris Maloney, a field hockey official who wanted to start an additional field hockey chapter. In addition to the application, the committee considered feedback received from other field hockey official chapters, and a presentation by Mr. Maloney. After review, the Program Review Committee denied Mr. Maloney's request because the new chapter has only three committed members including Mr. Maloney. The bylaws state that to have a chapter, you must have members. A motion was made by Bev Torok, seconded by Rob Haraka, to deny Mr. Maloney's request to start a new field hockey chapter. Motion carried unanimously.

Clarification of Officials' Requirements – One Reading – Voice Vote – The NJSIAA requires that member schools use NJSIAA-approved officials for all varsity contests. Most schools use NJSIAA-approved officials for non-varsity contests as well, but there is no clear requirement that they do so. A proposal to use only NJSIAA-approved officials at all levels of competition, not just varsity was distributed. All NJSIAA officials at all levels (freshmen, JV and Varsity) must go through the registration process which includes background checks, completing the concussion course, and passing the officials test in order to officiate a NJSIAA sporting event at any level. A motion was made by Greg Bailey, seconded by Bill Vacca, to permit NJSIAA to change the wording throughout the NJSIAA handbook, officials handbook, and the affiliated agreements, to reflect that NJSIAA-approved officials should be used at all levels of competition, not just varsity. Motion carried with one abstention (Dr. Gruccio).

Officials' Affiliated Agreement Update – The three-year agreements between each individual official association and the NJSIAA expire this year. The agreements have been revamped and been through attorney review. They are ready to be sent out to all chapters once the IAABO chapter (a national organization) finishes reviewing the new agreement with their attorneys.

Baseball/Boys Tennis Update – The seasons are underway and there have been no major changes to either sport except that the season will go later into June this year.

## **Finance Committee Update – Steve Shohfi**

**Approval of Monthly Checks** – The checkbook from February 9, 2021 through April 12, 2021 was approved by the finance committee and all checks were approved per policy before they were disbursed. Mary Liz Ivins made a motion, seconded by RJ Kiem, to approve the February 9, 2021 through April 12, 2021 check registers. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Report of Counsel (Steven Goodell, Esq.)** - The lawsuit filed against NJSIAA and NJSIAA Officials by wrestling official Alan Maloney has been voluntary dismissed with prejudice. The lawsuit against Buena HS is still proceeding.

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**Old Business/New Business** – None

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**Executive Session – Personnel Update** - A motion to move into Executive Session was made by Tony Mitchell, seconded by Maureen Bilda at 12:22 pm. A motion was made at 12:36 pm to move out of Executive Session. On behalf of the Personnel Committee, a motion was made by Mary Liz Ivins, seconded by Greg Bailey, to give the title of Executive Director to Colleen Maguire, with a contractual period of 7/1/2021 to 6/30/2026 at an initial annual salary of \$140,000. A roll call vote was taken. Yes- 37; No-0; Abstain-0. For the record, though Mr. Shohfi does not normally vote as President, he remarked his vote would be Yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Adjournment** – A motion was made by Mary Liz Ivins, seconded by Tom Mullahey, to adjourn the meeting at 12:41 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Maguire  
Chief Operating Officer

CEM: ln