



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 7, 2016

Highlights

- 4.1 **CARRIED** Approval of the February 10th, 2016 Section VI Executive Committee meeting minutes

Action Items for the Athletic Council

- 4.1 **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the January 20th, 2016 Section VI Athletic Council meeting minutes
- 6.1 **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of Combining of Schools Applications
- 6.2 **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of Senior All Star Applications
- 6.3 **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of Outside Agency Applications
- 7.6.1 **ACTION ITEM:** When 18 or more schools are in a specific classification, the classification must be split (i.e. A1, A2)

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA

Attendance (* indicates present):

- *Brett Banker, President
- *Al Gens, President-Elect
- *Mike Wendt, Superintendents' Representative
- *Jim Spanbauer, Principals' Representative
- *Jim Graczyk, Boys' Representative
- *Marisa Fallacaro, Girls' Representative
- *Jeff Rabey, Past President
- *Timm Slade, Executive Director
- *Don Scholla, Treasurer

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Commenced 9:05am

B. Banker
bbanker@ktufsd.org

2.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

B. Banker

bbanker@ktufsd.org

2.1 Combining of Schools Appeals for the Athletic Council

Representatives from Buffalo Public Schools, the Bemus Point (Maple Grove) School District, and the Chautauqua Lake School District will be present at the following athletic council meeting to appeal the declination of their following respective combining of schools requests.

a) **Maple Grove** (Bemus Point) and Chautauqua Lake, Football JV & V, 16-17

Dr. Jeff Rabey, Combining of Schools Committee Chair, reviewed the timeline of events that led up to today's appeal.

The Combining of Schools Committee, consisting of a representative from each league within Section VI, met on January 14, 2016 and began by reviewing the current Section VI Policy 120: Combining Teams for Athletic Participation; the current data from the fall 2015 season, pertaining to the Combining of Schools, along with a list of champions; the current Section VI Forms / Reports for the Combining of Schools; and the definition of "dominance" when referring to a combined sport.

The Section VI Policy 120: Combining Teams for Athletic Participation states, "The combining of teams from two or more schools to form a single team may be permitted by the Section in order to foster the emergence of a new sport, support a school that has a declining number of participants in a sport and/or financial reasons." Furthermore, Policy 120.2 states, "Schools will combine teams for a period of one year. Classifications will be determined by utilizing the newly adopted criteria and graduated structure below. An annual application and approval will be required at various levels. (see 120.3)" Finally, Policy 120.2a states, "The school(s) with the higher(est) classification number will be known as the Host School. For every school that is combining with the Host School, a percentage is dependent upon the association's "5 sport classification cut off numbers: Class AA = 50%, Class A = 40%, Class B = 30%, Class C = 30% and Class D = 20%."

In addition, the Section VI Athletic Council has also supported the utilization of the following factors when making decisions on combined teams and determining the level of "Dominance": Won a sectional championship, High placement at sectionals, Requests or approval by schools/leagues/sport chair, Transfers, Teams' appropriate level of competitiveness, Returning players, Schedule and Program history.

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In addition to dominance, the Section VI Athletic Council supports having a maximum number of four (4) schools combining for a sport, however also provides for an appeal process under unusual circumstances, in order to go above four (4) schools.

Ultimately, the Section VI Athletic Council reserves the right to deny a combined sport for any of the reasons stated above, with the opportunity of the Host School (largest school) to appeal to the New York State Public High School Athletic Association.

Understanding the rationale and history to the evolution of the Section VI Policy 120: Combining Teams for Athletic Participation and the data from the past two years of the Maple Grove (Bemus Point) and Chautauqua Lake combined sport of varsity football, it was the position of the Section VI Combined Sports Standing Committee not to recommend the continuation of the combined team at the C Classification for the fall of 2016. This decision was due to the factors of established dominance; after winning two straight Section VI Championships, returning approximately 22 players from Maple Grove and 7 players from Chautauqua Lake for a 74% return rate for the fall of 2016 and in the 2015 season the combined team won all regular season Section VI games by an average of a 31 point spread.

The Chautauqua Lake and Maple Grove (Bemus Point) School Districts appealed to the Section VI Athletic Council's Executive Committee on February 16, 2016. At that appeal hearing, the Districts contended that they did not combine to dominate the sport and that their understanding of dominance was "stacking a team" or combining to strategically achieve a state title. Furthermore, the Districts believed that if they had to play at the B Level, the Districts would jeopardize the safety of their student athletes, as they believed the players at the B Level are bigger and stronger.

As a result of the appeal hearing held on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 and subsequent discussion, the following motion was presented and passed by the Section VI Executive Committee: *Motion for the executive committee to respond in writing to the appeal, supporting the Combining of Schools committee's recommendation for declination of combining Maple Grove and Chautauqua Lake in the sport of Football in Class C.*

CARRIED Wendt/Fallacaro

b) **Bennett** & MEC, East, Olmsted Football, JV & V, 16-17

Dr. Jeff Rabey, Combining of Schools Committee Chair, reviewed the timeline of events that led up to today's appeal.

At the March 14, 2016 Combining of Schools Committee meeting, the Committee, consisting of a representative from each league within Section VI decided not to recommend the new combined team of Bennett, Olmsted, East and Middle Early College at the B Classification for the fall of 2016.

This decision is based on understanding the rationale and history to the evolution of the Section VI Policy 120: Combining Teams for Athletic Participation and the data from the past two years of the Olmsted and Alternative Education with Bennett combined sport of varsity football. The factors involved include established and continued dominance with the former combined team; after appearing in two straight Section VI Championships, returning approximately 18 players for a 53% return rate for the fall of 2016 and in the 2015 season the combined team won all but one regular season Section VI games by an average of a 41 point spread. In addition, Section VI believes that with the new combined team, there will be a combined total of 807 students to recruit from for a football program, where within Section VI, the largest B Classification school only has a total of 536 students to recruit from for their football program.

It was noted that the Section VI Athletic Council has supported the utilization of the following factors when making decisions on combined teams and determining the level of "Dominance": Won a sectional championship, high placement at sectionals, requests or approval by schools/leagues/sport chair, transfers, teams' appropriate level of competitiveness, returning players, Schedule and program history.

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*****Based on the Athletic Council's decision today, and regardless of possible appeals to the NYSPHSAA, the football scheduling process will move forward.**

2.2 Chairman Letter

The Section has and will continue to follow the combining of schools process that was established by the combining of schools committee. The Section has and will continue to inform all involved parties including the respective sport chair(s) of all pertinent information throughout the application, review, recommendation, and appeals processes.

2.3 Late Combining of Schools Applications

The Section will continue to be flexible with the deadline for submission of combining of schools applications. However, the Section office staff will document applications that are repeatedly late.

4.0 **MINUTES**

B. Banker
bbanker@ktufsd.org

4.1 **Motion to approve of the February 10, 2016 Section VI Executive Committee meeting minutes**

CARRIED

Gens/Graczyk

5.0 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

T. Slade
tslade@e1b.org

5.1 a) Football Litigation

The litigation regarding the passing of Damon Janes (Westfield/Brocton Football) is ongoing. Updates will be communicated when available.

b) Workers' Compensation

An audit by the Section's former insurance carrier, New York State Insurance Fund, resulted in new charges to cover sports officials. The Section contends that it is not responsible to provide insurance coverage for sports officials due to their independent contractor status. An attorney has been contacted and apprised of the situation in the event his/her services become necessary. Updates will be communicated when available.

5.2 2015 State Coaches of the Year

The following individuals were awarded as Section VI's 2015 State Coaches of the Year. They will be recognized at the May 2016 meeting.

a) James Cavaretta, Newfane – Boys Swimming & Diving

b) Terry McMahon, Orchard Park – Boys Tennis

5.3 Section VI Hall of Fame Golf Tournament

The deadline to submit an application for participation in the 2016 Hall of Fame Golf Tournament is April 29, 2016. If the minimum number of participants is not met, the tournament will be cancelled and a corporate sponsor will be sought to fund the 2016 Hall of Fame ceremony.

5.4 BPS Request for Objective Review Update

T. Slade submitted the objective review of the 2015 Class C Championship Football game, Bennett vs. Maple Grove, held at Ralph Wilson Stadium, November 9, 2015 to the Buffalo Public Schools Assistant Superintendent.

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6.1 Combining of Schools Applications

The following combining of schools applications are action items for the athletic council meeting:

*Host school listed first in **bold & underscore**

1. **MEC** & Bennett, Boys & Girls Track Varsity, 15-16 (retroactive approval)
2. **City Honors** & Native American, Olmsted, Discovery, Boys Lacrosse 7/8, 15-16 (retroactive approval)
3. **City Honors** & Olmsted, Hutch Tech, Riverside, Boys Lacrosse JV, 15-16 (retroactive approval)
4. **Burgard**, MST Prep, Football, JV & V, 16-17
5. **Cassadaga Valley**, Falconer, Football, JV & V, 16-17
6. **East Aurora**, Holland, Football, JV & V, 16-17
7. **Eden**, North Collins, Football, JV & V, 16-17
8. **Franklinville**, Ellicottville, West Valley, Football, JV & V, 16-17
9. **Fredonia**, Brocton, Westfield, Football, JV & V, 16-17
10. **Hutch Tech**, Emerson, Perf Arts, City Honors, Football, JV & V, 16-17
11. **Medina**, Lyndonville, Football, JV, V, 16-17
12. **Riverside**, Alternative, Lafayette, DaVinci, City Honors, JV, V 16-17
13. **Sherman**, Clymer, Panama, Football, JV, V, 16-17
14. **Silver Creek**, Forestville, Football, ALL, 16-17
15. **Falconer**, Cassadaga Valley, Cross Country B/G, All, 16-17
16. **Medina**, Lyndonville, Cross Country B/G, V, 16-17
17. **Pioneer**, Holland, Cross Country B/G, V, 16-17
18. **Sherman**, Clymer, Panama, Cross Country B/G, V, 16-17
19. **Silver Creek**, Forestville, Cross Country B/G, V, 16-17, (BOE 4/7/16)
20. **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, Field Hockey, V, 16-17 (League signature)
21. **Pioneer**, West Valley, Field Hockey, V, 16-17
22. **East Aurora**, Holland, Golf Boys, V, 16-17
23. **Sherman**, Clymer, Panama, Golf Boys, ALL, 16-17
24. **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, Golf Boys, V, 16-17
25. **Ellicottville**, West Valley, Boys Soccer, ALL, 16-17
26. **Falconer**, Cassadaga Valley, Boys Soccer, V, 7/8/9, 16-17
27. **Medina**, Lyndonville, Boys Soccer, V, 16-17
28. **Silver Creek**, Forestville, Boys Soccer, V & 7/8/9, 16-17 (BOE 4/7/16)
29. **Westfield**, Brocton, Boys Soccer, V & 7/8/9, 16-17
30. **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, Girls Gymnastics, V, 16-17
31. **Ellicottville**, West Valley, Girls Soccer, ALL, 16-17
32. **Silver Creek**, Forestville, Girls Soccer, V & 7/8/9, 16-17 (BOE 4/7/16)
33. **Westfield**, Brocton, Girls Soccer, V, 7/8/9, 16-17
34. **Allegany-Limestone**, Ellicottville & Franklinville, Girls Swim, V, 16-17
35. **Chautauqua Lake**, Westfield, Maple Grove, Girls Swim, V, JV, 16-17
36. **City Honors**, Olmsted & Hutch Tech, Girls Swim, JV & V, 16-17
37. **Fredonia**, Dunkirk, Silver Creek & Forestville, Girls Swim, V, 16-17
38. **Olean**, Portville, Girls Swim, V, 16-17
39. **Panama**, Clymer, Girls Swim, V, 16-17
40. **Olean**, Portville, Girls Tennis, V, 16-17
41. **Brocton**, Westfield, Girls Volleyball, JV & V, 16-17
42. **Ellicottville**, West Valley, Girls Volleyball, ALL, 16-17
43. **Olean**, Allegany-Limestone, Portville, Franklinville, Boys Swim, V, 16-17 (*Signature required)
44. **Panama**, Chautauqua Lake, Boys Swim, V, 16-17
45. **Falconer**, Cassadaga Valley, Wrestling, V, JV, 16-17
46. **Clymer**, Sherman, Panama, Track & Field B/G, ALL, 16-17

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6.2 Senior All Star Applications

The following Senior All Star applications are action items for the athletic council meeting:

1. Silver Hoops Boys Basketball, 4/9/16, Grabiarz School, Co-sponsors, Buffalo Public Schools, Butler Mitchel Alumni Association, P.A.L., and ADPRO
2. Section VI Boys Lacrosse Senior All Star Contest, June 7, 2016 at West Seneca East High School, pending insurance.

6.3 Outside Agency Applications

The following Outside Agency applications are action items for the athletic council meeting:

1. Fall Cheer, WNY Outlaws Showdown a10/16/16 at Niagara Wheatfield sponsored by WNY Outlaw All Stars/ Niagara Wheatfield HS Insurance Pending
2. Winter Cheer, Fredonia Cheerleading and Dance Competition 1/22/2017 at SUNY Fredonia co-sponsored by SUNY Fredonia and Dunkirk HS
3. Baseball Showcase, 4/29/16 & 4/30/16 at Deithrick Park, sponsored by Southwestern HS/ Chaut. Co. Umpire Assoc.
4. Cheer for a Cure, 2/4/2014, at Niagara Falls Conference Center co-sponsored by JDRF & Section VI Insurance pending

6.0 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Combining of Schools Committee

J. Rabey

jrabey@depew.wnyric.org

- 6.1.1 The combining of schools committee will reconvene, in the near future, to review the winter 15-16 end of season reports.

6.2 Finance Committee

D. Scholla

dscholla@e1b.org

- 6.2.1 Treasurer's Report
No concerns presented.

7.6 Policy

M. Fallacaro

mfallacaro@edencsd.wnyric.org

7.6.1 Splitting Classes

The following is an action item for approval at the athletic council meeting:

When 18 or more schools are in a specific classification, the classification must be split (i.e. A1, A2)

7.7 State Executive Committee/Central Committee

a) Superintendent

M. Wendt

mwendt@wilsoncsd.org

Nothing to report

b) Principal

J. Spanbauer

jspanbauer@nfschools.net

Nothing to report

c) Boys Rep./Girls Rep.

J. Graczyk/M. Fallacaro

jgraczyk@pioneercsd.org / mfallacaro@edencsd.wnyric.org

Action items for the May 6, 2016 NYSPHSAA meeting include:

- Consider approval of Sections intent to participate in the 2016-2017 NYSPHSAA State Championships
- Consider approval of the following single soccer official rule:

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“It is permissible to conduct a soccer game with a single official, provided both teams agree to a single referee before the game begins”

- Consider approval of a waiver for Modified/Freshman/JV soccer teams not to comply with the NFHS “all white” soccer uniform rule for the 2016 & 2017 seasons
- Consider approval of George Hathaway as the NYSPHSAA Rifle Coordinator
- Consider approval of St. John Fisher & Cicero North Syracuse High School as the site of the Boys Lacrosse West Semi-Final for 2017, 2018, and 2019
- Consider approval of the University of Albany & Adelphi University as the site of the Boys Lacrosse East Semi-Final for 2017, 2018, 2019
- Consider approval of St. John Fisher as the site of the Boys Lacrosse Championships for 2017, 2018, 2019.
- Consider approval of Cortland University as the site of the Girls Lacrosse Championships for 2017, 2018, and 2019.
- Consider approval to move the Girls Tennis Championships to the USTA Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows for the 2017 Championships as a result agreement of discrepancies with the current location (TBD).
- Consider approval of Girls & Boys Swimming & Diving Qualifying Standards for the 2016-2017 seasons.
- Consider approval for Girls Gymnastics to abide by the same standard calendar as skiing on Weeks #34/#35.
- Consider approval of NYS Federation inclusion/revision of NYSPHSAA Tennis Championships.
- Consider approval of Friends & Neighbors and new member schools.

7.10 Transfer/Foreign Student

Reports were e-mailed

T. Slade
tslade@e1b.org

7.14 Nominations

6.14.1 Girls Gymnastics Chair Position

There are 2 candidates for the Girls Gymnastics Chair position. A. Gens is in the process of scheduling interviews. A recommendation for candidate approval will be sought at the May 2016 athletic council meeting.

A. Gens
agens@dunkirk.wnyric.org

6.14.2 Safety Chairman Position

No candidates at present. The application to apply for the position is posted on the Section VI web site.

6.14.3 Girls Swim Chair Vacancy

B. Johnson is stepping down from the Girls Swim Sport Chair position, effective June 30, 2016. The application to apply for the position is posted on the Section VI web site.

7.16 Hall of Fame

J. Dunnigan to report at the following athletic council meeting.

J. Dunnigan/B.Banker
jdunnigan@ktufsd.org / bbanker@ktufsd.org

10.0 GUEST REPORTS

10.1 NYSPHSAA

Nothing to report

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The 2016 NYSAAA award winners will be recognized at following athletic council meeting.

11.0 **OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing to report

13.0 **NEW BUSINESS**

12.1 CCAA Seeding Proposal

The following seeding proposal was submitted by P. Ksionzyk. Council representatives will be asked to discuss this proposal with their leagues as it is a possible action item for approval at the May 18, 2016 Athletic Council meeting.

Current System:

	AA	A	B	C	D
AA	+5.0	+4.0	+3.0	+2.0	+1.0
A	+6.0	+5.0	+4.0	+3.0	+2.0
B	+7.0	+6.0	+5.0	+4.0	+3.0
C	+8.0	+7.0	+6.0	+5.0	+4.0
D	+9.0	+8.0	+7.0	+6.0	+5.0

Proposed System:

	AA	A	B	C	D
AA	+5.0	+4.5	+4.0	+3.5	+3.0
A	+5.5	+5.0	+4.5	+4.0	+3.5
B	+6.0	+5.5	+5.0	+4.5	+4.0
C	+6.5	+6.0	+5.5	+5.0	+4.5
D	+7.0	+6.5	+6.0	+5.5	+5.0

12.2 Football Recommendations

T. Slade will forward Section XI's recommendations along to K. Stoldt for review with the intention of possible future implementation.

14.0 **GOOD OF THE ORDER/ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn

CARRIED

Wendt/Spanbauer

Respectfully Submitted,



Beth Fadeley
Recording Secretary

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