

MEETING REPORT

Meeting: Baseball Committee

Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 @ 10:00 AM

Topics Discussed:

- 1) Welcome & introductions
- 2) 2019-2021 tournament bid opening and recommendation
- 3) Spalding baseball
- 4) Program proofing
- 5) NYSPHSAA Handbook
- 6) NYSHSAA Hall of Fame
- 7) Modified program
- 8) Baseball record minimal standards
- 9) Baseball rule changes
- 10) Run Rule and Regional rotation proposals
- 11) Tournament packet to be distributed May 1, 2018
- 12) Regional schedule – baseballs & plaques
- 13) Tie breaker system for regionals only
- 14) Semi & finals schedule & match-ups
- 15) Pitch counts & use of a computer program
- 16) Sectional concerns

Attendees:

- 1) Al Roy State Coordinator
- 2) Phil DiRucco Section Coordinator
- 3) Mike Demagistris Section Coordinator
- 4) Tom Meiss Section Coordinator
- 5) Terry Raymond Section Coordinator
- 6) Jason Bunting Section Coordinator
- 7) Rob Perry Section Coordinator
- 8) Jim Manchester Section coordinator
- 9) Don Lang Section coordinator
- 10) Mike Gillespie Section Coordinator
- 11) Dave Steele Section Coordinator
- 12) Ryan Cox Section Co-Coordinator
- 13) Dennis Maloney Section Co-Coord
- 14) Steve Nolan Modified Rep
- 15) Tim Harkness Co-Tournament Dir.
- 15) Matt Ferraro Co-Tournament Dir.
- 16) Ron Gabriel Pres. of Umpires Assoc.

Joe Altieri

Kristen Jadin

Robert Zayas

Chris Joyce

Todd Nelson

Chris Watson

Items Discussion/ Action Taken:

K. Jadin provided all with the sectional baseball distribution list. Brian Kelly, Spalding rep, was unable to attend, but on his behalf, Al and Kristen requested that if there are any issues with the baseball to be specific, not just to say a coach didn't like the ball. They need this information to review & improve the product.

R. Zayas reviewed the Section X proposal to revise the classification cut off numbers which is going to the Executive Committee on February 2, 2018.

Joe explained the bid process and asked that only the Section appointed representatives remain in the room, others were asked to wait outside.

The bids from Niagara Falls HS, Section 6; Cooperstown, Section 3; and Binghamton, Section IV were opened and discussed. After initial discussion, the office staff left to discuss on their own in order to make their recommendation. Each section rep was provided time to discuss each Proposal and give his opinion. After much discussion a motion to recommend the bid be awarded to Binghamton was made by P. DiRucco, seconded by M. Demagistris. A vote was taken with 10 yes votes and 1 no vote. Therefore the baseball committee recommendation is to award the bid to Binghamton. The office staff returned and informed the baseball committee that their recommendation is for Binghamton also.

T. Raymond made a motion that Tim Harkness be appointed as the assistant state coordinator, seconded by P. DiRucco, passed unanimously.

T. Nelson explained the new process for proofing the program.

R. Zayas displayed the new NYSPHSAA handbook and reviewed the baseball section to insure the rules listed are what are used. One rule was a duplication of the NFHS rule book and will be eliminated.

J. Altieri is accepting nominations for the NYSPHSAA Hall Of Fame, deadline is January 22, 2018, which must receive section approval. Athletes and coaches have not been represented well in past years.

T. Nelson and S. Nolan discussed Modified. NYSPHSAA wants to provide a positive experience for these athletes and questioned if changes are needed to make Modified baseball more attractive. Discussion regarding bats at -3 or should we allow possibly -5; the use of metal versus molded rubber cleats. Football, track and cross country now permit metal spikes. Are we putting in rules that are more restrictive which discourages athletes to not participate. Please discuss these issues and any others at your sectional meetings.

C Watson asked for input regarding state records for pitchers season and career ERA; season and career batting averages. At present there is no minimum requirement to qualify. All agreed there should be a minimum to qualify, but at this time the committee was not comfortable in setting those thresholds. This is another item to discuss at sectional meetings.

R. Gabriel distributed and discussed the rule changes for 2018. He also provided the officials clinic schedule and invited all section coordinators to attend a session.

A. Roy explained the two proposals being submitted to the Executive Committee on 2/2/18. The original 10 run rule proposal included having two games added to the allowed number of contests. The CAC rejected this and the proposal was re-written to ask for a two year trial during which time sectional coordinators would track the number of innings lost due to the pitch count rule. The CAC agreed with this change. Discussion followed with several comments indicating the 10 run rule is not needed. A vote was taken with 5 in support and 6 against. As this proposal is on the agenda for the 2/2/18 Executive Committee meeting and most sections have already been discussing it internally, Al will present the proposal and indicate the feelings of this committee at today's meeting. The second proposal is in reference to the issue of Section IX Class D receiving a bye to the state semi finals as the other sections in its region did not have a Class D school. The proposal is to move section 2 from the region with Sections VII & X. Everyone agreed it was only fair to have everyone play a regional game and not advance directly to the state semis.

P. DiRucco asked about the possibility of implementing the college rule where the pitcher can be named as the DH and continue in that role after being removed from the mound. R. Gabriel indicated it was discussed at the NFHS rules committee and no action taken. He then asked if it would be possible for Section I to experiment with this rule. T Nelson indicated it would have to be a two year pilot program available to all sections.

T. Harkness & M. Ferraro discussed the tournament packet that will be distributed to all sectional coordinators on May 1, 2018. The packet will contain information regarding the hotels assigned to each class, schedules etc. This packet is to be given to each sectional champion along

with the regional participant certificates.

Baseballs, plaques and regional certificates were distributed.

The regional and championship schedules were discussed and explained.

The tie breaker system was discussed and explained. This tie breaker system has never come into play and is only to be used to determine the regional representative to the state championship.

R. Zayas had a concern that as this schedule was written in 2003 and never approved by the Executive Committee that if we had to use it we could be questioned. He will present it at the Executive Committee meeting on 2/2/18 for approval.

R. Cox asked if the rule requiring pitch count chart to be verified each ½ inning and at the end of the contest was being complied with. Most of the section reps indicated that at the varsity level the rule was complied with. If a coach doesn't comply the section is responsible to impose punishment as it deems fit. Another item for sectional reps to discuss and stress the importance of at their sectional meetings.

R. Zayas indicated that he has been solicited by Stat Track to be the official and required platform to track pitch counts. After discussion it was determined we can't institute requirement for the 2018 season and the office staff will conduct further research for future discussion and possible action.

The baseball committee reports were reviewed for the sections' concerns.

Section XI will not have a Class D school this year, so the adjustment to the regional schedule was made. Section IX will travel to Section 2 on Saturday 6/2 and Section X will travel to Section VII on Saturday 6/2.

Once the times of the regional contests are determined there will be no adjustments. As Saturday 6/2 is an SAT day it is suggested that start times be later if at all possible.

No further business to discuss, motion by T. Meiss, seconded by T. Raymond, meeting adjourned at 3:10 P.M.

Next Meeting: Friday, June 8 @ 11:00 AM
--

Respectfully submitted

Al Roy
State Baseball Coordinator