

NYSPHSAA Softball Committee Meeting
NYSPHSAA Office
December 18, 2017

In attendance: Section 1-Todd and Susan; Section 2- Mike; Section 3- by phone Kerry; Section 4- absent (new rep Ed Swartout); Section 5- Bob; Section 6-Marisa; Section 7-Ralph; Section 8-Chris; Section 9-Tom; Section 10-Allen; Section 11-Jim by phone and Melissa; NYSPHSAA-Joe, Olivia, Chris W., Chris J., Kristen, Todd, Robert and Joe; Micki-modified; NYSSO-Aileen and Jim

Meeting called to order 10:06 by Cathy Allen. Introductions around the table.

Approval of minutes from June 9 2017. Jim B had one correction that he thanked the group for getting listed of preferred officials to him (rather than evaluations). Bob moved to accept minutes and Mike seconded. Motion passed.

NYSPHSAA Joe reminded committee that vouchers are made available for those that need them. Reminders regarding need for receipts were shared as well. Joe also pointed out that championship outline for Fall 2017 through Spring 2022 were provided on a sheet for each attendee and that softball is in 2nd year of 3 year contract and will be seeking proposals shortly. Joe also reported that the Hall of Fame nominations can be made by anyone and can be made online. These nominations are due Jan 21 this year which is a change of date from previous years.

Robert then reported on NYSPHSAA handbook changes using a power point presentation. Sport committees need to review their handbooks in conjunction with NYSPHSAA handbook. (*one item to note that USA Softball is new name for ASA) Discussion followed regarding clarifications between waivers and committee rules as listed NYSPHSAA Softball Rule in handbook (18.08). Each of the NYSPHSAA Softball rules 18.08 were reviewed. Jim Berkery offered some thoughts. Discrepancies between committee handbook and NYSPHSAA handbook are the concern. History was shared and discussion continued. Run rule will require some further research to locate Executive Committee approval. Jim W is wondering who's responsibility it is to check equipment—Jim B replies that there is a new rule for umpires to check equipment presented by teams. Chris would like further discussion about pitching interpretation (touch-and-go). The group will discuss this further later in the meeting. "Blood rule" discussed extensively. USA Softball rulebook includes a thorough blood rule (Rule 9). Discussion then moved to the 3 game invitational tournament rule and possible clarification. The interpretation is that if a bracketed tournament with an outcome, this is the rule. Conversation then moved to the tie breaker rule, which was clarified. Unannounced sub will need to move from NYSPHSAA handbook rules 18.08 to waiver section 18.07. Metal cleats rule and the tie breaker rule moved to waivers also (from 18.08 to 18.07). Jewelry rule from USA Softball reviewed and compared to NYSPHSAA handbook.

Todd: Todd thanks Micki for her service. Todd also thanks group for proofing program and announces new software used for proofing this upcoming year.

Kristen: Shared the Softball Section Distribution sheet with the group for Jan 15 shipment. These are for Sectional tournaments. Cathy turned the committee's attention to the post seasonal play distribution sheet included in packets. This will be covered under Regionals on agenda.

Chris Watson: confirms how home teams are determined in tournament. As for state records, he is asking for committee's input on parameters for minimum season baselines for consideration in order to be considered or included in the state records maintained by NYSPHSAA. The committee is asked to go back to discuss with coaches to be shared at June meeting.

NYSSO –Jim Berkery shared handouts and reported on umpire's school last fall. Jim reports the officials will require equipment to be available outside the dugout for inspection. He responded to a couple of questions regarding this. Dead ball appeal rule has changed slightly also as to who can request the appeal and he draws attention to this on his handout. Jim also shared new web address for organization.

State Softball Modified Coordinator Report –Micki reported on modified committee areas to be studied including rebranding (modified to middle school) and mirroring of high school sports. She asked for input from this committee. Modified run rule and pitching distances were particularly mentioned. Todd brings up that the modified committee is also looking at how restrictive the rules are for modified (number of games or scrimmages) in order to keep athlete interest in participating so as not to lose athletes to outside (non school) teams. Todd reports that in Feb the night's rest rule (one night from two nights) will be voted upon. Increasing the number of double headers allowed (2) might help. Marisa moves to allow a 3rd double header with league and section approval. Susan seconded. Motion passes.

Jim Wright has to leave meeting at this time. Meeting breaks for lunch.

2017 State Tournament Report Attendance down a bit. All went well. Committee asked for input on last year's tournament.

2018 Regionals to be held May 31- June 2 (SAT exam)

Testing Dates June 9 (ACT exam). June 5 Regents date

Regional sites, times and dates: Bob asks if he could hold regionals on Sat rather than Fri. Robert answers that it is up to sections to determine specific dates. Discussion followed regarding regional dates. Establishing a time range is discussed and Joe reminds the group of the necessary timeline to have such a change approved for 2019. Cathy asks for volunteers to work with Jim and herself on such a "window" timeline proposal. There were no volunteers so Jim and Cathy will work on it. The tie breaker points sheet is not in NYSPHSAA handbook so is not to be used because it's never been approved. The Regional Schedule was reviewed.

Certificates for regionals-how to distribute? These will not be discontinued as per vote at last meeting, but will be given to sectional champions.

Ball and plaque distribution sheet was reviewed

AED Provision Sheet needed for all regional sites and will be sent out.

Emergency Preparedness Sheet

Officials' fees-new fee structure in place. \$100 per game this year for regionals. \$20 per chapter for travel.

Handbook and directory revisions (reviewed earlier)

Section Reports and Concerns

- 1 nothing to report
- 2 nothing to report
- 3 nothing to report
- 4 absent
- 5 nothing to report
- 6 nothing to report
- 7 nothing to report
- 8 nothing to report
- 9 nothing to report
- 10 nothing to report
- 11 nothing to report

Coordinator Concerns Cathy shared some thoughts. If the committee comes up with a proposal, she feels perhaps more thought should be given to its development and supporting information in order to facilitate appropriate timing for NYSPHSAA calendar of meetings toward approval. She suggests a process for the committee that would include working on a proposal and bringing it back to the committee following time to be shared in home sections to be sure it's what the group intended and to answer any questions that come up. Discussion followed. It was difficult to work on the 4 new proposals that came out of last June's meeting.

Old Business

4 proposals from June meeting status report (discussed under coordinator concerns)

2 day tournament discussion—Jim W says location is key to the need for a 2 day tournament. Quality of the game is impacted by single day tournament. What other team sports do is discussed, along with other points.

New business

Spaulding orders per Section (discussed earlier)

Tournament Bids 2020-2022 – at this meeting in one year

Hall of Fame nominations and deadlines (discussed earlier)

Ralph asked about the "Mudville" Hall of Fame events proposed to be part of the tournament festivities. He suggests opening ceremonies could include an invitation to current and new Hall of Fame members to participate as a recognized group. The group seems in general agreement.

Section 6 is asked if they play 7 inning (at least) games in sectionals. Marisa believes if it's an official game (4.5 min), it's considered "complete".

Aileen asks for review of 4 proposals

- Elimination of tie breaker: approved

- Elimination of regional certificates: not approved

- Run rule for regional and state play (12 runs): approved

- Sectional final complete game (play at least 7 innings): not approved

Pitching interpretation reviewed. Hands are to come together.

Distribution of extra game balls is completed.

Next meeting June 8 2018 South Glens Fall HS noon

Adjournment Ralph motions, Marisa seconds 1:44 PM adjournment