



**Athletic Council Meeting**  
**September 16, 2020**  
**MINUTES**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- 3.1 **CARRIED:** May 13, 2020 Athletic Council meeting minutes
- 5.1 **CARRIED:** Combining of Schools, numbers (1) through (29)
- 5.2 **CARRIED:** Friends & Neighbor applications, letter (a)
- 6.2.1 **CARRIED:** Place Health Sciences Charter School Boys Basketball in Class AA for the 2020-2021 Winter Season
- 6.3.1 **CARRIED:** Treasurer's Report
- 6.6.c.1 **CARRIED:** Direct J. Graczyk, Boys Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Girls Representative, to support to change designation from individual to team/individual and adopt the NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Tennis State Team Championship in addition to the state (individual) championship format already in place – to begin in Fall 2021 (girls) and Spring 2022 (boys). 1
- 6.6.c.2 **CARRIED:** Direct J. Graczyk, Boys Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Girls Representative, to support to utilize NCAA Rule for two libero system in Boys Volleyball 2
- 6.6.c.3 **CARRIED:** Direct J. Graczyk, Boys Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Girls Representative, to support a waiver of rule 9.2.4.3 in Girls and Boys Volleyball and allow players to go to the bench and then switch sides. 3
- 6.6.c.4 **CARRIED:** Direct J. Graczyk, Boys Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Girls Representative, to support adding additional value parts for the uneven bars to the current NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Technical Handbook 4
- 6.6.c.5 **CARRIED:** Direct J. Graczyk, Boys Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Girls Representative, to support permanently adopting the 2018 pilot that established a structure, training and scoring format for the NYSPHSAA Competitive Cheerleading Championships 5
- 6.6.c.6 **CARRIED:** Direct J. Graczyk, Boys Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Girls Representative, to support modifications to the scoring areas of the State Scoresheet for Competitive Cheerleading 6
- 6.6.c.7 **CARRIED:** Direct J. Graczyk, Boys Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Girls Representative, to support implementing Game Day Cheer Regional Competitions in the fall of 2021 to be held during week #17 on the NYSPHSAA calendar 7
- 6.6.c.8 **CARRIED:** Direct J. Graczyk, Boys Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Girls Representative, to support permitting annually approving sites to host Boys Ice Hockey regional contests 8
- 6.6.c.9 **CARRIED:** Direct J. Graczyk, Boys Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Girls Representative, to support implementing a two-year pilot program to change from the current At-Large Procedure for the NYSPHSAA Championship to an Automatic Qualifying Procedure effective for the 2020-2021 season 9
- 9.1 **TABLED:** Approval of the Winter 20-21 pre-season reports
- 10.1 **CARRIED:** Post card ballot results for 2020 fall sports and post season play



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**1.0 CALL TO ORDER (Brett Banker)**

Commenced: 11:41am

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Adam Stoltman was thanked for his service as Section VI President (July 2018 – June 2020)

1.3 Discussion/Review Post Card Ballot

Erie 1 BOCES Superintendents requested a survey be sent amongst their membership. There was an 88% return rate; 75% of those that replied were in favor of starting in September. Those results elicited a post card ballot.

Over 70 districts submitted votes through the ballot process with 67 pledging their support for a September 21 start date. It is recommended that the Section move forward with fall sports - cross country, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, soccer, girls swimming and girls tennis. Competitive cheerleading, football and volleyball had already been shifted to March 1. The Section continues to work with their coaching chairs to discuss the issues associated with post-season play for the allowable fall sports. It remains the right of each district and league to engage in their own decision-making process and commit to all of the allowable sports, some selected sports or even none.

**2.0 INTRODUCTIONS & AWARD PRESENTATIONS (Brett Banker)**

2.1 Sportsmanship Promotion Survey Award Winner

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| a) Niagara Frontier League | North Tonawanda                                       |
| b) Niagara Orleans League  | Akron   |
| c) ECIC                    | Depew & Starpoint                                     |
| d) Chautauqua              | Chautauqua Lake                                       |
| e) Cattaraugus             | Portville   |
| f) Independent             | Tapestry  |
| g) Buffalo Public Schools  | City Honors (PS 195) & Frederick Law Olmsted (PS 156) |

2.2 NYSPHSAA School of Excellence Scholar Athlete Award 2019-2020

- |                 |                      |                       |
|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Alden         | • Lockport           | • Royalton-Hartland   |
| • Amherst       | • Maple Grove        | • Starpoint           |
| • Ellicottville | • Maryvale           | • West Seneca East    |
| • Fredonia      | • Medina             | • West Seneca West    |
| • Hamburg       | • Niagara-Wheatfield | • Williamsville East  |
| • Holland       | • Portville          | • Williamsville South |

2.3 NYSPHSAA School Distinction Scholar Athlete Award 2019-2020

- Allegany-Limestone
- Clarence
- Lancaster
- Pioneer
- Wilson

### **3.0 MINUTES (Brett Banker)**

#### **3.1 Motion to approve of the May 13, 2020 Athletic Council meeting minutes**

**CARRIED**

**Zirkle/Rabey**

### **4.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Timm Slade)**

#### **4.1 Officials Contract - Negotiation Team 2021**

A reminder was given for Leagues were asked to submit the name of a representative to sit on the Negotiations Team. The NFL has indicated their representative. Negotiations are expected to begin January 2021.

#### **4.2 Fall Sports – Plan Bs**

Discussed during item 1.3

#### **4.3 Venue Policy (Plan B)**

Last year, the athletic council approved to void the venue policy due to Section VI moving to the higher seed in team sports throughout post season for the fall 2020.

#### **4.4 Diversity Committee**

President Banker will implement a Diversity Committee this year. League representatives will be sought for the committee.

#### **4.5 Post Season/Daylight Savings**

Daylight savings will be taken into consideration for the fall season as not all member schools have lights.

#### **4.6 Athletic Council Alternates**

Council members are asked to provide alternates to ensure representation for their respective League.

#### **4.7 Open Tournament?**

There will not be an open tournament (everyone qualifies) for post season fall 2020. A 500 league record will be required to be eligible for fall post season. This is a direct result of concern of daylight savings. Sports Chairpersons will be reminded of this change.

#### **4.8 Post Season Seeding Criteria**

The Section will move to the number of contests played as opposed to the number of contests that were originally scheduled.

#### **4.9 Boys Golf Chairperson Vacancy**

The Section is still looking to fill the Boys Golf Chairperson position. If a replacement is not found, we will not be able to have a sectional tournament this fall.

### **5.0 COMMUNICATIONS (Timm Slade)**

#### **5.1 Motion to approve Combining of Schools, numbers (1) through (29)**

**CARRIED**

**Rabey/Sukdolak**

#### **Fall**

1. Swim G, Allegany-Limestone, Ellicottville, V, 335
2. Volleyball B, Eden, North Collins, V, 7/8, 386 D2

#### **Winter**

3. Bowling B/G, **Clymer**, Sherman, V, 132 D2
4. Indoor Track B/G, **Fredonia**, Westfield, V, 376
5. Swimming B, **Fredonia**, Cass. Valley, V, 384
6. Swimming B, **Olean**, Allegany Limestone & Franklinville, V, 604
7. Wrestling, **Fredonia**, Silver Creek, Forestville, Brocton, V, JV, 513 D2
8. Wrestling, **Olean**, Allegany Limestone, V, 7/8, 591 D2

### Spring

9. Baseball, **Bennett**, Alt Ed., V, 297 B
10. Baseball, **Burgard**, Performing Arts, V, 761 A
11. Baseball, **Emerson**, Buffalo Culinary Arts, V, 494 B
12. Baseball, **MST**, East Community, V, 697 A
13. Baseball, **MEC**, Research Lab, V, 296 B
14. Baseball, **Panama**, Clymer, Sherman, V 7/8/9, 160 C
15. Baseball, **Silver Creek**, Forestville, V, 7/8/9 242 C
16. Lax B, **City Honors**, All BPS HS, V, A
17. Lax B, **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, V, JV & 7/8, 1118 A
18. Lax G, **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, V, JV & 7/8, 1118 A
19. Softball, **Emerson**, Buffalo Culinary Arts, V, 494 B
20. Softball, **I-Prep**, Performing Arts, V, 895 A
21. Softball, **MEC**, Bennett, Research Lab, V, 423 B
22. Softball, **MST**, East Community, V, 697 A
23. Softball, **Riverside**, Burgard, V, 507 A
24. Softball, **South Park**, Davinci, Alt Ed., V, 1056 AA
25. Tennis B, **Eden**, North Collins, V, 386 D2
26. Tennis B/G, **Emerson**, Buffalo Culinary Arts, V, 496 D2
27. Track B/G, **Clymer**, Panama, Sherman, V, 179 D2
28. Track B/G, **Eden**, North Collins, V, 7/8, 386 D2
29. Track B/G, **Silver Creek**, Forestville, V, 7/8/9 252 D2

#### 4.2 Motion to approve of Friends & Neighbor applications, letter (a)

**CARRIED**

**Ginestre/Bradley**

- a. West Seneca Christian School (pending application)

## 6.0 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 6.1 Combining of Schools Committee (Jeff Rabey)

*Nothing to report*

### 6.2 Charter Schools Classification Committee (Jeff Rabey)

#### 6.2.1 Motion to approve of the recommendation of the Section VI Charter School and Boys Basketball Committees to place Health Sciences Charter School Boys Basketball in C Class AA for the 2020-2021 Winter Season

**CARRIED**

**Breidenstein/DeKay**

### 6.3 Finance Committee (Don Scholla)

#### 6.3.1 Motion to approve of the Treasurer's Report

**CARRIED**

**Dell'Oso/Penhollow**

### 6.4 Sectional/Intersectional Committee (Timm Slade)

#### 6.4.1 Boys/Girls Basketball Seeding Proposal (Appendix B)

Per the Executive Committee (September 2019), the Boys Basketball Committee was asked to run their seeding proposal with 2018-2019 and 2019-2020's data. T. Slade will request

this information from the Boys Basketball Committee and present it to the Executive Committee.

6.4.2 Girls Tennis – State Team Championship Proposal (Appendix C)

6.4.3 Girls Tennis – Team Sectionals Proposal (Appendix D)

The NYSPHSAA has approved team championships in the sports of Boys (Spring 2022) and Girls Tennis (Fall 2021). Section VI will prepare for team championships in both sports. Transportation to tennis team championships will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting.

\*Concern was raised over expanding sports when the loss of contests has not been returned.

6.5 Safety (Brian Wild)

*Nothing to report*

6.6 Modified Report (Matt Librock & Julie Arnold)

*Nothing to report*

6.7 State Executive Committee /Central Committee

a) Superintendent (Jeff Rabey)

*Nothing to report*

b) Principal (Al Gens)

*Nothing to report*

c) Female Rep. / Male Rep. (M. Fallacaro-Dougherty / J. Graczyk)

**Items Approved at the July 2020 NYSPHSAA Central Committee Meeting:**

- Modify the NYSPHSAA Player Sportsmanship Standard
- Only present NYSPHSAA awards during NYSPHSAA State Championships award ceremonies beginning in Fall 2020
- Friends & Neighbors and new member schools
- NYSPHSAA State Coordinators
- NYSPHSAA Officials Contracts
- Albany Capital Center as the host of the 2021-2023 NYSPHSAA Boys Volleyball State Championships
- Cool insuring Arena as the host of the 2021-2023 NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Championships
- Revise Rule 4.22 (Game Clock) in the sport of Field Hockey
- Allow defensive players to wear a face mask on penalty corners only (with certain protocols) in the sport of Field Hockey
- Waiver of the nights rest rule and the max number of contests for JV Football Players
- Utilize 13 wrestling weight classes (currently 15) beginning in the 2020-2021 season as a two-year pilot
- Changes to the Wrestling Handbook
- Adopt 17-minute periods (currently 15 minutes) and adjust penalty times from 1.5 minor, 4 major and 7.5 misconduct to 2-minute minor, 5-minute major and 10-minute misconducts in the sport of Boys Ice Hockey beginning in the 2020-2021 season
- Adopt a 2 referee, 1 linesman officiating system for all regional and State Final Four games in the sport of Boys Ice Hockey beginning in the 2020-2021 season
- Allow a maximum of 1 relay team per school at the NYSPHSAA B/G Indoor Track/Field State Championships

- Amend Bowling Rule #5.01 in the NYSPHSAA Handbook to adopt USBC Playing Rules (Chapter No. 2 “General Playing Rules” and Chapter No. 8 “Equipment Specifications” Only) and #5.07 Waivers of USBC Rules
- Advance the 2020 state tournament at-large rotation to the spring 2021 season for Boys Tennis
- Revise the baseball pitch count restrictions

**Items Tabled at the July 2020 NYSPHSAA Central Committee Meeting (Appendix E):**

- Consider approval to amend the current NYSPHSAA Lightning and Thunder Policy
- Consideration of approval to require all sections to wrestle to a true second place finish in the Sectional Wrestling Championships beginning in the 2020-2021 season

**Action Items to provide direction for the Male and Female Representatives to vote at the October 2020 NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting (Appendix F):**

1. Motion to direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support to change designation from individual to team/individual and adopt the NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Tennis State Team Championship in addition to the state (individual) championship format already in place – to begin in Fall 2021 (girls) and Spring 2022 (boys).  
**CARRIED, 5 Opposed**  
House/Dell’Oso
2. Motion to direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support to utilize NCAA Rule for two libero system in Boys Volleyball  
**CARRIED**  
Fallacaro-Dougherty/Zirkle
3. Motion to direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support a waiver of rule 9.2.4.3 in Girls and Boys Volleyball and allow players to go to the bench and then switch sides.  
**CARRIED**  
Dell’Oso/DeKay
4. Motion to direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support adding additional value parts for the uneven bars to the current NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Technical Handbook  
**CARRIED**  
Dell’Oso/Zirkle
5. Motion to direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support permanently adopting the 2018 pilot that established a structure, training and scoring format for the NYSPHSAA Competitive Cheerleading Championships  
**CARRIED**  
Zirkle/Sukdolak
6. Motion to direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support modifications to the scoring areas of the State Scoresheet for Competitive Cheerleading  
**CARRIED**  
Zirkle/Dell’Oso
7. Motion to direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support implementing Game Day Cheer Regional Competitions in the fall of 2021 to be held during week #17 on the NYSPHSAA calendar  
**CARRIED, 10 Opposed**  
Rabey/Graczyk

8. **Motion to direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support permitting annually approving sites to host Boys Ice Hockey regional contests**

**CARRIED**

**Fallacaro-Dougherty/Jon Roth**

9. **Motion to direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support implementing a two-year pilot program to change from the current At-Large Procedure for the NYSPHSAA Championship to an Automatic Qualifying Procedure effective for the 2020-2021 season**

**CARRIED**

**Penhollow/Breidenstein**

6.8 Extended Eligibility (Timm Slade)

COVID-19 is not a circumstance that can be used for waiver of transfer rule and most likely will not be accepted for extended eligibility.

6.9 Chemical Awareness (John Grzymala)

- The Chemical Awareness page on the Section VI website has been updated.
- The 2 SAAC Representatives are Carly Dell'Oso (Starpoint) and Nicholas Kramer (Williamsville North).

6.10 Transfer/ Foreign Student (Timm Slade)

*Reports were emailed to the Executive Committee*

6.11 Sportsmanship (Jim Graczyk & Doug Ames)

A reminder was given regarding officials and coaches appreciation days, which were approved for fall, winter, and spring seasons.

6.12 Veterans (Jim Trampert)

*Nothing to report*

6.13 Mixed Competition (Al Gens)

*Nothing to report*

6.14 Nominations (Maureen Donahue)

*Nothing to report*

6.15 Corporate Partner (Timm Slade)

*Nothing to report*

6.16 Hall of Fame (Jim Dunnigan)

Operations were suspended for this year.

6.17 Unified Sports (Doug Ames)

*Nothing to report*

## **7.0 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

7.1 All WNY Scholar Athlete (Jeff Roth)

*Nothing to report*

## 7.2 Charter Schools (Timm Slade)

*Nothing to report*

## 8.0 STATE & SECTION SPORT COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Nothing to report*

## 9.0 GUEST REPORTS

### 9.1 NYSPHSAA Report (Robert Zayas)

### 9.2 NYSAAA Report (Mark DiFilippo)

M. DiFilippo emailed all athletic directors with information regarding the NYSAAA and encouraged membership.

## 10.0 SPORTS REPORTS

### 10.1 **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the Winter 20-21 pre-season reports (Appendix G)

The start date for winter has changed since the reports were submitted.

**Motion to table the approval of the winter 20-21 pre-season reports**

**CARRIED**

**Rabey/Graczyk**

## 11.0 OLD BUSINESS

### 10.1 Motion to accept the post card ballot results for 2020 fall sports and post season play

**CARRIED**

**Rabey/Fallacaro-Dougherty**

## 12.0 NEW BUSINESS

### 11.1 Fall Sport Issues

A number of issues will need to be worked through due to circumstances surrounding COVID-19 protocols.

Girls Swimming

Girls Swimming does not and will not have a sectional venue.

Cross Country

Concern over hosting a significant number of schools at a site.

Girls Gymnastics

Section VI is working with clubs to host competitions.

T. Slade will reach out to the respective sports chairpersons for ideas regarding competition.

Classifications and handbooks will need to be adjusted for schools who choose not to participate.

### 11.2 Section VI Executive Director Vacancy

The deadline to submit applications was September 14, 2020. Interviews are forthcoming.

T. Slade was thanked for his service in the position of Executive Director over the past 11 years.



## 13.0 GOOD OF THE ADJOURNMENT

12.1 Motion to adjourn

**CARRIED**

**Rabey/Sukdolak**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Fadeley".

Beth Fadeley  
Recording Secretary