



ATHLETIC COUNCIL MINUTES

March 20, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- 1.1 **CARRIED:** Motion to add #48 to 5.1 Combining of Schools Applications; Silver Creek/Forestville in the sport of Unified Basketball
- 3.1 **CARRIED:** January 22, 2024 Section VI Athletic Council meeting minutes
- 5.1 **CARRIED:** Combining of Schools Applications, numbers (1) through (48)
- 5.2 **CARRIED:** Senior All Star Applications, letter (a)
- 6.3.1 **CARRIED:** Treasurer's report (Appendix B)
- 6.4.2 **CARRIED:** Implement a split classifications after opt-out pilot for 2 years, 24-25 and 25-26, in the sports of Boys and Girls Soccer

ATTENDANCE (Voting Members - *) **Absent**

<u>Executive Committee</u>		<u>Fall & Winter State Champions:</u>	<u>Frontier</u>
President*	Maureen Donahue	<u>East Aurora</u>	Greg Witman, AD
President-Elect*	Dave Lilleck	Brian Lombardo	coach Jill Wierzba
Superintendents' Rep.*	Jeff Sortisio	Emilia O'Leary, XC SA	Kayla Gleason, SA
Principals' Rep.*	Carlos Alvarez	Catherine Schoeneman, XC SA	Lea Philarom, SA
Male Rep.*	Jeff Roth	Kailyn Houghton, XC SA	Lillie Bogdan
Female Rep.*	Marisa Dougherty	Owen Rung, XC SA	<u>Depew</u>
Past President	Brett Banker	Shane Fraser, XC SA	Coach Ray Cooper
Executive Director	Mark DiFilippo	Henry Bindig, XC SA	Maddie Nagel, SA
<u>Committee Chairpersons</u>		Sam Ervin, XC SA	Emma Felton, SA
Charter Classification	Jeff Sortisio	Walt McLaughlin, Coach	Bob Skoczylas, AD
Chemical Awareness	John Grzymala	Kevin Beale, Coach	<u>Chaut Lake</u>
Combining of Schools	Jeff Sortisio	<u>Portville</u>	Joanne Meadows-Head Coach
Extended Eligibility	Mark DiFilippo	Emily Jordan-Sr Athlete	Ava Olson- Captain
Finance	Steve Penhollow	Lilly Bentley- Sr Athlete	Brynn Engdahl- Captain
Hall of Fame	Jim Dunnigan	Ava Haynes-Sr Athlete	<u>Sweet Home</u>
Modified	Bergman/Libroch	Kelly Unverdorben-coach	Derek Baker - H.S. Principal
Nominations	Dave Lilleck	Beth Colligan-AD	Brenton Baker - Athlete
NYSAAA	Jeff Roth	<u>Lake Shore</u>	Izeal Bullock - Coach
Safety	Matt McKenna	Daryl Besant, AD	<u>Girls Bowling Composite Team</u>
Sectional Intersectional	Mark DiFilippo	Emma Langdon, SA	Jessica Holtz - Frontier
Sportsmanship	Ames/ Graczyk	<u>West Seneca</u> - 3 students, coach	Madison Ciminelli - Frontier,
Transfer	Mark DiFilippo	<u>Will North</u> – Kristin, Cam and Jeff Catrabone	Wynter Winkfield - Amherst
Veterans	Jim Trampert	<u>Frewsburg</u> - Miles Moore, Grady Moore, Connor Dean, Aidan McCleery, head coach Bruce Johnson and Terry Gray	Allie Ventry - Niagara Falls
Guests	Pat Burke, NFL		Coach Jerry Carroll- Cheektowaga Coach Bill Rodgers- Niagara Falls Chair Dan Kaplan
	Danielle Vallas, D&G Wellness		

<u>League</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
BUFFALO		
Superintendents Rep./AD*	Aubrey Lloyd	TBA – Assistant Superintendent of Athletics
Principals' Rep.*	Michael Morris, South Park	Eric Johnson, Burgard
Female Rep.*	Dr. Ramona Reynolds	Syble Smith (McKinley, Volleyball & Swim Coach)
Male Rep.*	Steve McDuffie	David Kelly (Olmsted, Golf, Swim & Tennis Coach)
CHAUTAUQUA CATTARAUGUS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (CCAA)		
Superintendents' Rep.*	Steve Penhollow, Falconer	TBA
Principals' Rep.*	Jason Halpaine, Randolph	TBA
Female Rep.*	Carol Zirkle, Fredonia	Greg Lauer, Fredonia
Male Rep.*	Kevin Salisbury, Southwestern	Greg Lauer, Fredonia

ERIE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE (ECIC)			
Superintendents' Rep.*		Sean Croft, Starpoint	
Principals' Rep.*		Tim Wiles, Cleveland Hill	Steve Smith, Alden
Female Rep.*		Carrie Vetter, Iroquois	Daryl Besant, Lake Shore
Male Rep.*		Dave Hack, Orchard Park	Jason Iwankow, Eden Vince Dell'Oso, Starpoint
NIAGARA FRONTIER LEAGUE (NFL)			
Superintendents' Rep.*		Dan Ljiljanich, Niagara Wheatfield	Greg Woytila, North Tonawanda
Principals' Rep.*		Trevor Brown, Kenmore	Andrew Auer, Lew-Port
Female Rep.*		Lindsay Bergman, Kenmore	Matt McKenna, Niagara Wheatfield
Male Rep.*		Joe Contento, Niagara Falls	Matt McKenna, Niagara Wheatfield
NIAGARA ORLEANS LEAGUE (NO)			
Superintendents' Rep.*		Jacob Reimer, Barker	Mark Kruzynski, Medina
Principals' Rep.*		Steve Dimitroff, Akron	Dan Bedette, Newfane
Female Rep.*		Joel Reed, Medina	Mariah LaSpina, Albion
Male Rep.*		John Grzymala, Roy-Hart	Eric Valley, Medina
SUPERINTENDENT REPRESENTATION (BOCES)			
Erie 1 BOCES*		Jon MacSwan, Cleveland Hill	TBA
Erie 2 BOCES*		Scott Taylor, North Collins	TBA
ON BOCES*		Mark Kruzynski, Medina	TBA
CA BOCES*		Kaine Kelly, Randolph	TBA

ATHLETIC COUNCIL MINUTES

1.0 CALL TO ORDER (M. Donahue)

Commenced: 11:32am

- 1.1 ***Motion to add #48 to 5.1 Combining of Schools Applications; Silver Creek/Forestville in the sport of Unified Basketball***
CARRIED
Taylor/Salisbury

1.2 Pledge of allegiance

2.0 Presentations & Awards

2.1 D & G Wellness

2.2 Fall State Champions

1. Portville Class C, Girls Volleyball
2. Chautauqua Lake, Class D, Girls Volleyball
3. East Aurora, Class C, Boys & Girls XC
4. Emilia O'Leary (East Aurora), Cross Country
5. East Aurora, Boys Soccer Team, Class B

2.3 Winter State Champions

1. Cameron Catrabone (Will North), Wrestling, Division 1, 152lbs
2. Matt Trim (Maple Grove), Wrestling, Division 2, 215lbs
3. Miles Moore, Grady Moore, Connor Dean, Aidan McCleery (Frewsburg), Boys Swimming, 200 Free Relay
4. Jaxon Bruzgul (Orchard Park), Boys Swimming, 50 Freestyle
5. Emma Langdon (Frontier/Lake Shore), Girls Gymnastics, All Around & Bars
6. Lea Philarom (Frontier/Lake Shore), Girls Gymnastics, Vault
7. Kayla Gleason (Frontier/Lake Shore), Girls Gymnastics, Floor
8. Brenton Baker (Sweet Home), Indoor Track & Field, High Jump
9. Lillie Bogdan (Frontier), Indoor Track & Field, 1500 m
10. West Seneca East, Boys Bowling Div 2
11. Depew, Girls Bowling Div 2
12. Girls Bowling Composite Team – Abbie Derby (Jamestown), Madison Rondeau (Friendship/Hinsdale), Allie Ventry (Niagara Falls), Wynter Winkfield (Amherst), Jessica Holtz (Frontier)

3.0 MINUTES (M. Donahue)

- 3.1 ***Motion to approve the January 22, 2023 Section VI Athletic Council meeting minutes***
CARRIED
Zirkle/Brown

4.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (M. DiFilippo)

4.1 Notice of Claim

There is a pending lawsuit against Section VI regarding an incident that occurred at a December 2023 boys ice hockey event between a student and ticket taker.

4.2 Assistant Executive Director Position

The open position was posted March 14, 2024. The deadline to apply is April 17, 2024. The Executive Committee will begin conferring to schedule interview dates.

4.3 Baseball/Softball Update

As mentioned at last meeting, the WNYUA (Group 5) was dissolved by the NYS Softball Association this year, in advance of the spring 2024 season. The Niagara Frontier Softball Board and Cattaraugus County Softball Board agreed to cover the WNYUA territory. The softball assignments were recently made and JV and varsity levels are covered. There is concern with modified level coverage.

It was noted that there are issues with WNYUA (Group 5) baseball coverage at the V and JV levels. It was noted that the NYS officials groups determine the boundaries of what schools fall within the officials groups' jurisdictions. M. DiFilippo has reached out to the state, providing two years worth of data, to request change in jurisdiction to alleviate the lack of coverage.

4.4 Fall AD Workshop, August 19, 2024

The mandatory AD workshop was originally scheduled for August 21 and has now been changed and confirmed for **Monday, August 19, 2024**. At this workshop, the Section VI launch of the Inside Out program will take place. The intent of this program is to assist athletic directors develop character coaches. The NFL and the Buffalo Bills are funding this program. There is no cost to Section VI. Sections 1 and 8 have already implemented this program. Section 5 plans to launch its program at the same time as Section 6. Three zoom training sessions are scheduled in October, November, and December.

M. DiFilippo to request to move this date to Monday, August 19 in consideration of the state action item to move the football start date to August 21.

4.5 Fall Coaches Meetings

The new format of leagues meeting separately and then linking together virtually as a Section is working out nicely. For planning purposes, all coaches meetings will be scheduled the Wednesday before the start of the season. The fall coaches meeting date is Wednesday, August 21.

4.6 Girls Wrestling

This 23-24 year, there was a significant increase in participants. Discussions pertaining the procedures of Girls Wrestling are ongoing.

Not all school programs have the numbers to compete one on one, but athletic directors are encouraged to have their female wrestlers compete against other females. At present, female wrestlers are permitted to wrestle males. It was noted that the weight classes between females and males.

Additionally, A. Conti, chairperson is retiring. The vacancy for the position will soon be posted.

4.5 All-Star Basketball

M. DiFilippo asked council members to share with their respective leagues that only seniors are permitted to participate in sanctioned all-star contests representing their school. In addition, there are several non-sanctioned events known about, including Buffalo's Best and 716 vs. 585. Participating student-athletes in a non-sanctioned event should not wear their school's team uniform. Underclassmen who represent their school in a non-sanctioned event lose eligibility in that sport.

5.0 COMMUNICATIONS (M. DiFilippo)

5.1 *Motion to approve of Combining of Schools Applications, numbers (1) through (48)*

CARRIED

Ljiljanich/Taylor

Fall

- 1) Football, New, **LJ Bennett**, FLO, East, MST, MEC, Res Lab ***ADD BURGARD***, V, JV, 2001, AA
- 2) Cheer GameDay, **Eden**, North Collins, V, 7/8/9, Need BOE, 308
- 3) Cheer GameDay, New, **Franklinville**, Ellicottville & West Valley, V, 7/8/9, 211
- 4) Cheer GameDay, **Portville**, Cuba Rushford, V, 299
- 5) Cross Country BG, New, **Bflo Culinary Arts**, Emerson, V, 7/8, 510, B
- 6) Cross Country BG, **Falconer**, Cassadaga Valley, V, 7/8, 298, C
- 7) Cross Country BG, **Franklinville**, Ellicottville, V, 7/8, 187, D
- 8) Cross Country BG, **JFK**, Cheektowaga, V, 7/8, TBA
- 9) Cross Country BG, **Panama**, Sherman, Clymer, V, 7/8/9, 178, D
- 10) Cross Country BG, **Pioneer**, Holland, V, 548, B
- 11) Cross Country BG, **Silver Creek**, Forestville, V, 7/8/9, 266, C
- 12) Cross Country BG, **Tapestry**, Global Concepts, V, 343, C

- 13) Field Hockey, Holland, East Aurora , V. JV, 7/8/9, Need BOE, 480, B
- 14) Field Hockey, Kenmore East, Kenmore West, V. JV, 1116, A
- 15) Gym G, Frontier, Lake Shore, V, Need BOE, 1495,
- 16) Soccer B, Cassadaga Valley, Falconer, V, 7/8/9, 314, B
- 17) Soccer B, Ellicottville, Franklinville, 7/8/9 only, 87, C
- 18) Soccer B, New, Hutch Tech, Cul Art, Emerson, V, JV, 1586, AAA
- 19) Soccer B, New, LJ Bennett, MEC, Res Lab, South Park, V, JV, 1288, AAA
- 20) Soccer B, New, Riverside, L DaVinci, V, JV, 397, B
- 21) Soccer B, Salamanca, Cattaraugus LV, V, 363, B
- 22) Soccer B, Tapestry, HSCS, V, 621, A
- 23) Soccer B, Westfield, Brocton, V, 7/8/9, 215, C
- 24) Soccer B/G, Pine Valley, Gowanda, V, 7/8/9, Need BOE, 255, B
- 25) Soccer G, Falconer, Cassadaga Valley, V, JV, 78, 314, B
- 26) Soccer G, New, International Prep, Culinary Arts, Emerson & McKinley, V, 1979, AAA
- 27) Soccer G, New, Lafayette, Performing Arts, V, 620, A
- 28) Soccer G, Silver Creek, Forestville, V, 266, B
- 29) Soccer G, Westfield, Brocton, V, 7/8/9, 201, C
- 30) Swim G, Allegany-Limestone, Ellicottville, V, 311
- 31) Swim G, Chautauqua Lake, Westfield, V, 264
- 32) Swim G, Frewsburg, Falconer, V, 324
- 33) Swim G, Kenmore East, Kenmore West, V, 1442
- 34) Swim G, New, LJ Bennett, MEC & Research Lab, V, 514
- 35) Swim G, Olean, Portville & Franklinville, V, 606
- 36) Swim G, New, Panama, Maple Grove, Clymer, ADD Sherman, V, 427
- 37) Swim G, New, Performing Arts, Leonardo DaVinci, V, 427
- 38) Swim G, Southwestern, Jamestown, V, 1258
- 39) Swim G, Springville, West Valley, V, 422
- 40) Tennis G, New, Burgard, McKinley, V, 1011, D1
- 41) Tennis G, New, LJ Bennett, MEC, V, 444, D2
- 42) Volleyball B, East Aurora, Holland, V, JV, 789, Need BOE, 459, D2
- 43) Volleyball B, Eden, North Collins, V, JV, 7/8, Need BOE, 320, D2
- 44) Volleyball B, New, International Prep, Riverside & Lafayette, V, 769, D2
- 45) Volleyball B, Kenmore East, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442, D1
- 46) Volleyball G, New, Culinary Arts, Emerson, V, 672, A
- 47) Volleyball G, West Valley, Franklinville, V, JV, 78, 158, D
- 48) Unified Basketball, Silver Creek, Forestville, V, 345

5.2 **Motion to approve of Senior All Star Applications, letter (a)**

CARRIED

Grzymala/Zirkle

- a) Baseball & Softball, N-O/ G R exceptional Sr Game on 6/4/24 at Medina Veterans Park, sponsored by Medina CSD

6.0 **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

6.1 Combining of Schools Committee (J. Sortisio)

Nothing to report

6.2 Charter Schools Classification Committee (J. Sortisio)

Nothing to report

6.3 Finance Committee (S. Penhollow)

6.3.1 **Motion to approve of the Treasurer's report** (Appendix A)

CARRIED

Ljiljanich/Zirkle

6.4 Sectional/Intersectional (M. DiFilippo)

6.4.1 Boys & Girls Soccer Semifinals

The Section VI Boys Soccer Committee wants to move away from conducting semifinals at neutral sites and schedule at the higher seed. The Section VI Girls Soccer Committee wants to remain as is, utilizing

neutral sites for semifinals. The Sectional/Intersectional Committee was charged with reviewing the matter. At present, S/I committee members are discussing the matter with their respective leagues and will make a recommendation at their April 10 meeting to move forward for action at the May 15, 2024 Athletic Council meeting.

6.4.2 Motion to implement a split classifications after opt-out pilot for 2 years, 24-25 and 25-26, in the sports of Boys Soccer and Girls Soccer

CARRIED

Fallacaro-Dougherty/Salisbury

6.5 Safety (M. McKenna)

Nothing to report

6.6 Modified Committee (L. Bergman, M. Librock)

6.6.1 Rolling agenda

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1X_iVIWi-nmrYKJ5C3laJsbgWXMozuray1XyZb79uuto/edit

6.7 State Executive Committee/Central Committee

a) Superintendent (J. Sortisio)

Nothing to report

b) Principal (C. Alvarez)

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

M DiFilippo will email a google voting doc on April 12 for following items to provide M. Fallacaro-Dougherty (Female Representative) and J. Roth (Male Representative) direction to vote at the May 1, 2024 NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting. Deadline to vote is April 16, 2024, close of business. (Appendix B).

6.7c1 Drone Policy – Law Enforcement

6.7c2 Appeal Procedure – Protest Procedures and Use of Video

6.7c3 Sportsmanship Rule – Clarification

6.7c4 NYSPHSAA SAAC – Add NYSPHSAA SAAC Student to all NYSPHSAA Standing Committees

6.7c5 Spring Sports – adopt earlier start date of Monday, week #36 starting in 2025

6.7c6 Hall of Fame Program – Revisions to policies and operating procedures

6.7c7 Football – request to start practice on Wednesday of week #7

6.7c8 Football – modify the combined practice requirements

6.7c9 Girls Volleyball - adopt a 3-day tournament starting in 2024

6.7c10 Skiing – waiver for a permanent representation rule (6 to 3)

- 6.7c11 Boys/Girls Bowling – permit use of rotating at large berths to eliminate pacer teams at state tournament
- 6.7c12 Boys/Girls Bowling – allow bowlers to compete in both team and composite events starting in 2025
- 6.7c13 Girls Ice Hockey – adopt new regional rotation for 2024 regional quarterfinals
- 6.7c14 Softball – adopt NFHS rules starting in 2025
- 6.7c15 Boys Lacrosse – classification cut-off numbers

6.8 Extended Eligibility (M. DiFilippo)

Nothing to report

6.9 Chemical Awareness (J. Grzymala)

6.9.1 NYSPHSAA Leadership Conference

From March 27th to March 28th, 20 student athletes and 4 Section VI ADs - John Grzymala (RH) Nate Bourke (Kenmore) Amy Damato (Lackawanna) and Jay Iwankow (Eden) will attend the NYSPHSAA Leadership Conference.

6.9.2 Attended the SADC Conference on March 14th at Saratoga

6.9.3 May 2024 Athletic Council Meeting -- Mental Health Presentation

6.10 Transfer/Foreign Student (M. DiFilippo)

Reports were emailed to the Executive Committee

6.11 Sportsmanship (J. Graczyk, D. Ames)

6.11.1 Sportsmanship Survey, due by April 8th

As of March 19, 75% of member schools completed the survey. Section VI's goal is to have 100% completion. The next NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2024.

6.12 Veterans (J. Trampert)

6.13 Mixed Competition (C. Alvarez)

6.14 Nominations (D. Lilleck)

6.14.1 Principals' Representative Position Update, term expires June 2024 (Action Item May 2024)
Incumbent, C. Alvarez, intention to renew confirmed
1 challenger

6.14.2 President-Elect Position, term July 2024 – June 2026 (Action Item May 2024)
1 application received

6.14.3 Boys Golf Chairperson Vacancy (remaining term, through June 30, 2025)

6.14.4 Fall Sports Chairs Terms Expiration June 30, 2024, new term July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027
incumbent renewals: N. Bourke (Girls Swim Co-Chair), P. Cary (Girls Swim Co-Chair), W. McLaughlin (Boys Cross Country Co-Chair), J. Longo (Boys Cross Country Co-Chair), P. Szymanski (Girls Cross Country), J. Sirianni (Football), K. Stoldt (Football Assistant), J. Buscaglia (Girls Gymnastics), T. Marquardt (Boys Soccer), C. Durr (Girls Soccer), J. Fildes (Girls Soccer Assistant), K. Janese (Girls Tennis), W. Stefani (Boys Volleyball), D. Schrufer (Girls Volleyball), J. Otto & J. Costello (Girls Field Hockey Co-Chairs) (Action Item May 2024) (*No Challengers)

6.15 Corporate Partners (M. DiFilippo)

Nothing to report

6.16 Hall of Fame (J. Dunnigan)

Nominations will be accepted up until the May 15, 2024 Athletic Council meeting. Council members are encouraged to have their leagues and member schools submit nominations.

6.17 Unified Sports (D. Ames)

Forty-eight schools or 1100 student athletes participated in the Unified Bowling 2024 culmination event. Fifty-two percent who participated were special needs athletes, which doubled from last year.

Schools who currently do not have unified programs were encouraged to investigate the opportunity.

7.0 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 All WNY Scholar Athlete (J. Roth)

8.0 STATE COMMITTEE REPORTS (informational only) Appendix C

8.1 CAC Minutes, January 10, 2024

9.0 GUEST REPORTS

9.1 NYSPHSAA (C. Joyce)

- Video Review – (Reference Male/Female agenda item 6.7c2) Predominantly against NYSPHSAA rules. Only select sports offer video review if the infrastructure is available and in state finals where a video monitor is available on the sideline or at the scores and only to approve last minute shots or something that can be clearly defined table.
- Private Schools – The state office received numerous inquiries after four (4) private schools won state championships in the sport of Girls Basketball. Section VI is the only section that does not have private schools as members. In 2016, there was a state committee that was convened to review the matter of private schools. A private school winning does not create justification for removal, it is the Sections' responsibility to vet private schools to reclassify them, to censure or sanction them for violations of transfers rules, and to prove recruitment. If this is another statewide issue that needs to be revisited, a section needs to bring it forward at a state meeting. NYSPHSAA has been advised, legally, that there has to be solid justification for removing private schools.
- Transgender Athletes – In light of Nassau County passing a law not permitting transgender ath to compete within county facilities. NYSPHSAA continues to advise everyone to follow SED guidance to allow any student to participate in the gender they identify with. If there is an issue, an appeal may be made to the Commissioner of Education and it will be handled on a case-by-case basis. The state attorney general office and the state legislature are investigating ways to counter to Nassau County ruling.
- NFHS – The authenticating mark is going up to .50 to 5% of the price to align with the price of industry standards. NYSPHSAA is requesting the NFHS to reconsider before the pricing goes into effect for the 25-26 school year.
- Regional Rotation for 6 Class Sports – NYSPHSAA encourages sections to be prepared to vote on regional rotations at the July 2024 state meeting.
- NYSPSHAA Foundation Update - NYSPHSAA has added fundraising to ticketing at the state level. NYSPHSAA is hoping that each Section will conduct a fundraiser this year.

9.2 NYSAAA Report (J. Roth)

10.0 **SPORTS REPORTS**

Nothing to report

11.0 **OLD BUSINESS**

12.1 Section VI CBPM Ad Hoc Committee Update (B. Banker)

The Executive Committee will review the proposed changes to the by-laws and policy manual at their April 17, 2024 meeting. Pending their support, the proposed by-laws and policy manual will be a discussion item at the May 15, 2024 Athletic Council meeting and an action item at the June 12, 2024 athletic council (virtual) meeting.

12.0 **NEW BUSINESS**

Nothing to report

13.0 **GOOD OF THE ORDER/ADJOURNMENT**

13.1 ***Motion to adjourn***

CARRIED

Ljiljanich/McDuffie

APPENDIX A
Section VI NYSPHSAA, Inc.

Treasurer's Report

As of March 14, 2024

Mar 14, 24

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1043.1 · Northwest CD	305,737.34
1050 · Arbiter Pay	13,393.16
1030 · Bank of America Checking	347,909.53
1040 · Bank of America Money Market	26,000.84
1043 · Northwest Savings Bank	120,129.84

Total Checking/Savings	813,170.71
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Total Current Assets	813,170.71
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TOTAL ASSETS	813,170.71
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY	0.00
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	Dedicated Amounts	Approx expenses to date		
State Championships	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 55,000.00		
	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 55,000.00	\$	155,000.00

FUND BALANCE	\$ 658,170.71
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New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

Drone Policy – Law Enforcement

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote

Presenter:

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

Proposal:

Consider revising the NYSPHSAA Drone Policy to address law enforcement. Proposed revisions:

*"The NYSPHSAA Executive Director has the authority to grant an exception to this policy to ~~law enforcement~~, public safety agencies, NYSPHSAA media partners, or other entities or individuals; **the use of drones by law enforcement agencies does not require approval from the NYSPHSAA Executive Director.** Any request for an exception to the policy must be submitted to the Executive Director at least a week prior to the event. The exception is limited to the specific event requested and requires the consent of the host venue."*

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

Law enforcement agencies work cooperatively with school districts and should not require approval from NYSPHSAA to operate a drone during a high school interscholastic event.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA staff

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Handbook Committee supports this proposal.

Attachments:

Revised Drone Policy

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024



Appeal Procedure – Protest Committees & Use of Video

- ☐ Action Item
- ☒ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Vote

Presenter:

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

Proposal:

Consider revising the NYSPHSAA Appeal procedures to address when the committee meets and to clarify the use of video is not permissible. Proposed revisions:

"All questions and/or protests as to game/meet rules or as to the conduct of the game or meet shall be heard and decided by the game/meet committee established by that Section or State Sport Championship Committee as the case may be prior to play continuing; and all such decisions shall be final with no right of appeal. In any case, video may not be used to overturn an official's decision unless the rules clearly provide for the use of video (i.e., ice hockey, cheerleading, basketball, etc.)."

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

NYSPHSAA addressed several situations this fall pertaining to protest committees. NYSPHSAA staff and Sections continue to answer questions pertaining to the use of video to overturn an official's decision. The proposed revisions will help to clarify and emphasize the use of video is not permitted.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA staff

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Handbook Committee supports this proposal.

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

Sportsmanship Rule – Clarification

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE

Presenter:

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

Proposal:

Consider revising the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship rule to read:

"Spectators and/or anyone involved in interscholastic athletics shall not be permitted to use vulgar/offensive or racially/culturally insensitive language or engage in any racially/culturally insensitive action. NYSPHSAA Sections may sanction, censure or place schools on probation that fail to address derogatory or inappropriate behavior deemed harmful to physical or mental well-being for those involved in interscholastic activities."

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

At the request of the NYSPHSAA DEI Committee, the NYSPHSAA Central Committee approved the addition of language to the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship rule to address the use of vulgar/offensive or racially/culturally insensitive language or engage in any racially/culturally insensitive actions. For clarity, the rule should not only apply to "spectators" as it currently states.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA staff

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Handbook Committee supports this proposal.

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024



NYSPHSAA SAAC – ADD NYSPHSAA SAAC STUDENT TO ALL NYSPHSAA STANDING COMMITTEES

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Note

Presenter:

Jayda Perry, NYSPHSAA SAAC Leader

Aiden Pearl, NYSPHSAA SAAC Leader

Proposal:

Consider approval to add a NYSPHSAA SAAC member to all NYSPHSAA Standing Committees (CAC, Philosophy, Budget/Audit, DEI, Handbook, Modified, Safety, Sportsmanship, SADC).

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

The NYSPHSAA SAAC discussed different ways for the student perspective to be more prevalent in decision making process within NYSPHSAA. After thorough discussion, the committee felt it was important to include the student perspective in the standing committee discussions. It will help students understand the processes and provide a perspective to the adults working on behalf of the student-athletes. Overall, the student perspective is crucial for adults making decisions, as it brings valuable insights, promotes inclusivity, and contributes to the creation of policies and practices that better serve the needs of the student-athlete population.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA SAAC December 3, 2023 Meeting

Budgetary Impact:

None.

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA SAAC student selection would be volunteer based. The student would serve in an Ex-Officio capacity to provide a student perspective (non-voting).

Attachments:

List any attachments

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

SPRING SPORTS – Adopt Earlier Start Date of Monday of Week #36 Starting in 2025

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote

Presenter:

Spring Sport Coordinators & State Committees

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Spring Sport Coordinators/Committees are seeking approval to start the Monday of Week #36 beginning in 2025.

Effective Start Date:

Spring 2025

Rationale:

The boys/girls lacrosse and baseball (battery week) committees proposed earlier start dates at the October Executive Committee meeting and the proposals were defeated. It was recommended that all spring sports be canvassed to gauge their interest in a "combination" proposal to start week #36.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Executive Committee in October 2023

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

- Each Sport Committee met to discuss and vote on this proposal. Results are below:

Baseball – In Favor (10-0)

Softball – In Favor (6-4)

Boys Golf – In Favor (7-2-1)

Girls Golf – Opposed (0-10)

Flag Football – Opposed (0-8)

Boys Lacrosse – In Favor (7-1)

Girls Lacrosse – In Favor (6-2)

Outdoor Track – In Favor (6-4)

Boys Tennis – Opposed (2-8)

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback

N/A

Date Revised: January 16, 2024

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee – January 31, 2024

HALL OF FAME PROGRAM – Revisions to Policies and Operating Procedures

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE

Presenter:

Joe Altieri, NYSPHSAA Assistant Director/Program Liaison

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame Committee is seeking approval of revisions to its Policies and Procedures document effective immediately.

Effective Start Date:

Immediately

Rationale:

NYSPHSAA and the HOF Screening Committee is tasked with periodically evaluating the HOF process to ensure it is efficient and up to date. The proposed revisions are items that need updates in the manual due to technology, shifting of dates and procedures that allow for better efficiency from the nomination to the selection process.

The HOF Committee last met in 2017 and made revisions then.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame Committee meeting on December 14, 2023.

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

Per the HOF Policies and Operating Procedures, all action of the Screening Committee is confidential (Article IV, Section 2e) therefore committee names will not be stated in the proposal or are in the meeting minutes.

Attachments:

See attached items proposing to be approved.

CAC Feedback:

N/A

Proposed language or current policies to be revised:

1. **Article III, Section 1 and Article IV, Section 2:** Revise to “Proposal for changes to Executive or Central Committee.”
2. **Article IV, Section 1i:** Remove annual meeting requirement; change to “as needed and determined by NYSPHSAA Staff”.
3. **Article IV, Section 2b:** Establish, in writing, the universal deadline of January 29th for all applications. Add “digital” copies of nominations. Change date from March 15th to February 15th for distribution of nominations. Change February 15th to March 15th for review of nominations.
4. **Article IV, Section 3:** Add “scores shall be tallied from Screening Committee evaluations then a cut-off be established to advance the top candidates to the Selection Committee”. Add “scores shall be tallied from Selection Committee and the top six candidates will be selected for induction.”
5. **Article VI, Section 6:** Clarify language for requirement of five (5) supporting documents not including a section endorsement letter.
6. **Article VI, Section 2:** Nomination forms are required to be submitted online.
7. **Article VII, Section 1:** Revise date of notifying inductees to May 5th.
8. **Article VII, Section 2:** Revise plaque as the award to “Each inductee will be honored with a tangible award at the induction ceremony.”

Proposed new protocols or concepts to be added:

1. **Article III, Section 1:** Establish policy on NFHS nominations after NYSPHSAA inducts individuals.
2. **Article VI, Section 9:** Consider recommending all sport committees to submit one candidate every three years.
3. **Article IV, Section 1 and Article V, Section 2:** Establish policy on Screening or Selection Committee members nominated for consideration.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

FOOTBALL – Request to Start Practice on Wednesday of Week #7

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

*Vote
MAI*

Presenters:

Scott Barker, NYSPHSAA Section V Football Coordinator
Gary Vanderzee, NYSPHSAA Football State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Football State Committee is seeking approval to allow NYSPHSAA member football programs to start football practice on Wednesday of Week #7 (currently football starts Saturday or Week #7).

Effective Start Date:

August 2024

Rationale:

The following points have been noted as reasons why the committee would like to move forward with this:

- Required 10 days of practice (football is the only fall sport that requires 10)
- Current start date does not allow flexibility or absence of a student-athlete before Game 1
- Current start date requires practices over entire Labor Day Weekend
- Fiscal strain for districts opening up schools over Labor Day
- This proposal builds in 2-day flexibility for eligibility
- Allows for safer progression of practice with a holiday weekend
- Accounts for possible missed practices/games over Jewish holiday

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Football Committee at its December 2023 meeting.

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Football State Committee voted 10-1 in favor of this proposal at its January 8, 2024 zoom meeting. This proposal makes it necessary for NYSPHSAA to seek approval from the New York State Education Department to extend beyond the NYSED 15-week limitation for Fall sports. Dr. Zayas will make this request.

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

FOOTBALL – Modify the Combined Practice Requirements

- ☐ Action Item
- ☒ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

York MAY

Presenters:

Gary Vanderzee, NYSPHSAA Football State Coordinator
Ken Stoldt, NYSPHSAA Football Assistant State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Football State Committee is seeking approval to modify its combined practice requirements. The request would be to add letter "F" to the guidelines to read:

F. 11-man football may conduct 11-on-11 drills for a maximum of 10 offensive and 10 defensive plays.

Effective Start Date:

August 2024

Rationale:

Teams are given an opportunity to practice game-like scenarios utilizing the full schematics of 11-on-11 football. This minimal participation provides a healthy progression to a full scrimmage or contest.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Football Committee at its January 8, 2024 Zoom meeting.

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Football State Committee voted 10-1 in favor of this proposal at its January 8, 2024 zoom meeting.

Attachments:

None

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL – Adopt a Three-Day Tournament Starting in 2024

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote

Presenter:

Peggy Seese, NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Committee is seeking approval to adopt a three-day, bracketed tournament starting with the 2024 season.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

The addition of a 6th class has greatly extended the day of semifinal competition. The 2023 tournament was bracket play and the doors opened at 7:00 am on a Saturday and finished at 11:15 pm. Even if pool play was conducted, the day would have been shortened some but not significantly.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA State Committee Meeting in November 2022, then again in March 2023. A possible three-day tournament schedule was further discussed during and after the 2023 tournament in November and it was agreed to go forward with the proposal for a three-day tournament. In March 2024, the committee meets for its annual meeting and will discuss a suitable schedule with the staff.

Budgetary Impact:

\$900 electric, \$200 garbage, \$300 personnel. Court and building rental would not be increased because NYSPHSAA is already occupying the building and has the court set up that Friday morning. With this proposal, some teams would now play Friday afternoon/evening but would not incur additional travel expenses. They would simply play a day earlier. Competition would start no earlier than 3:00 pm on Friday so teams can travel in the same day.

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Committee supported this proposal 10-0 during a January 5th Zoom call.

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee – January 31, 2024



SKIING – Waiver for A Permanent Representation Rule (6 to 3)

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote

Presenter:

Dennis O'Brien, NYSPHSAA Alpine State Coordinator
Bob Underwood, NYSPHSAA Nordic State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Skiing State Committee is seeking approval for a permanent waiver of the Representation Rule reducing the minimum number of races from six (6) to three (3). This would be for all sections participating in alpine or nordic skiing.

Effective Start Date:

Immediately

Rationale:

Due to the unpredictability of sufficient snow each season in NYS, the committee is requesting a lower number of races to accommodate those sections who cannot conduct more than three meets prior to the sectionals.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Skiing State Committee meeting on December 13, 2024

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Skiing State Committee voted 11-0 in favor of this proposal at its December 13, 2024 Zoom meeting.

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback:

N/A

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

BOYS/GIRLS BOWLING – Permit Use of Rotating At-Large Berths To Eliminate Pacer Teams at State Tournament

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote

Presenter:

Mike O'Connell, NYSPHSAA Boys Bowling Coordinator
Eileen Shultis, NYSPHSAA Girls Bowling Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Bowling State Committee is seeking approval to permit the use of rotating at-large berths when a division (1,2 or composite) has an odd number of teams competing in the NYSPHSAA Bowling Championships. At-large berths would eliminate pacer teams at the State Tournament and be a part of the state tournament competition.

Effective Start Date:

Winter (March) 2025

Rationale:

Each year the host section is responsible for providing a different "pacer" team for each session due to the odd number of teams that are competing. This is done so teams are not bowling alone on a pair. Securing pacer teams requires the host section to recruit and get students out of school for Friday competition and ask them to volunteer Saturday and Sunday as well. It is a challenge to secure students all day for three days. Furthermore, this proposal would alleviate the management of the pacer teams during the tournament (lane assignments, hospitality, etc) and alleviate the concern of providing quality bowlers to pace with another teams.

It is proposed to establish a schedule which will specify which section will be awarded an at-large berth in each division of the NYSPHSAA Bowling Championships. The schedule will consist of sections who have ten (10) or more competing schools for each of the respective divisions.

Proposal Originated:

Section VI- Dan Kaplan at the NYSPHSAA Boys/Girls Bowling State Committee meeting on October 13, 2023.

Budgetary Impact:

There is no cost to NYSPHSAA as the lineage for the at-large teams would be the same as the pacer teams. There would be typical travel costs (lodging, transportation, meals) for rotating sections to send an additional team to the State Tournament.

Notes:

The Boys and Girls Bowling State Committees supported this proposal with a 16-0 vote at their October 13th meeting.

CAC Feedback:

CAC voted 8-1 in support of this proposal.

Date Revised: January 12, 2024

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

BOYS/GIRLS BOWLING – Allow Bowlers to Compete in Both Team and Composite Events Starting in 2025

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote

Presenter:

Mike O'Connell, NYSPHSAA Boys Bowling Coordinator
Eileen Shultis, NYSPHSAA Girls Bowling Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Bowling State Committee is seeking approval to allow bowlers to compete in both the team and composite state tournament events at section discretion. It is currently not permitted.

Effective Start Date:

Winter (March) 2025

Rationale:

The composite division was created to recognize the top bowlers from each section, but currently a bowler competing in the team event is ineligible to participate as an individual in the composite division. This proposal allows the best bowlers to be eligible to bowl in both the team and individual events at the state tournament at the discretion of the section.

In place of a High Series award in the composite division, this proposal would now allow a NYSPHSAA State Champion, Runner Up and 3rd place finisher to be awarded.

Proposal Originated:

Mark Foeder and Brian Usselman, Section V Bowling Coordinators

Budgetary Impact:

There is no cost to NYSPHSAA.

If a section chooses to send additional bowlers, typical travel costs (lodging, transportation, meals) will be incurred by the section.

Notes:

The Boys and Girls Bowling State Committees supported this proposal with a 16-0 vote at their October 13th meeting.

CAC Feedback

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

GIRLS ICE HOCKEY – Adopt New Regional Rotation for 2024 Regional Quarterfinals

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote

Presenter:

Carl Normandin, NYSPHSAA Girls Ice Hockey Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Ice Hockey State Committee is seeking approval to adopt a new Regional Rotation and At-Large plan for its 2024 regional quarterfinals due to Section V announcing their intentions to participate in October.

Effective Start Date:

Winter 2024

Rationale:

On October 18th, Section V informed the girls ice hockey committee and NYSPHSAA they would officially participate in girls ice hockey. This necessitated the committee to meet and develop a revised regional rotation and add an at-large rotation for its postseason playoffs. This sport culminates its season with a Regional Championship (a Final Four), and it is necessary to re-organize the round (quarterfinals) leading up to the final four to include Section V. Adding Section V also required the committee to establish an at-large rotation to fill the byes. See attached proposed brackets and at large rotation.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA State Committee Meeting in October/November/December

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The Girls Ice Hockey State Committee supported this proposal with a 7-0 vote at their Dec 6, 2023 meeting.

Attachments:

- An overview of how the committee has handled the inclusion of "new" teams/sections for postseason play.
- Proposed brackets and at large rotation

CAC Feedback

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.

**GIRLS ICE HOCKEY – Adopt New Regional Rotation for
2024 Regional Quarterfinals – CONTINUED**

Additional Information:

Here is a brief overview of how the Girls Ice Hockey committee has utilized the practice using an “out-bracket” concept for the inclusion of any “new” teams/sections for a fair and equitable advancement to its NYSPHSAA Regional Final Four Tournament. *This concept has also eliminated any possibility of a single team participating in a section from advancing “straight” to a Final Four berth without having to play in some sort of a playoff event.*

Prior to the 2012-13 winter sports season, Girls Ice Hockey was only represented by the following Sections: ¾ (3 and 4 combined), 6, 7, 10. This made for an easy tournament advancement as each Sectional winner would automatically advance to our culminating event. *This was prior to NYSPHSAA recognizing this event as a “Regional” Event.*

In 2013-14, the Girls Ice Hockey Committee submitted a proposal for consideration of their High School tournament event to be recognized as a NYSPHSAA Regional Championship event based on the criteria. It was approved and has remained a “NYSPHSAA Regional Championship”. In the 2019-20 season, our season was cancelled due to the Covid - 19 pandemic.

In the 2021-22 school year, Section 1 sponsored two (2) new teams which necessitated a discussion on a temporary solution by the committee to include Section 1 in the postseason for the Regional Championship. The committee met after each coordinator had discussed options and came to the recommendation that we create an “Out-bracket” for the tournament which would/could be rotated annually among the participating sections for that season.

In the 2022-23 school year, Section 2 sponsored one (1) new team which necessitated a discussion on a temporary solution by the committee to include Section 2 in the postseason for the Regional Championship. The committee met after each coordinator had discussed options and came to the recommendation that we revise the current “Out-bracket” for the tournament which would/could be rotated annually among the participating sections for that season.

In the 2023-24 school year, Section 5 is sponsoring one (1) new team which necessitated a discussion on a temporary solution by the committee to include Section 5 in the postseason for the Regional Championship. The committee met after each coordinator had discussed options and came to the recommendation that we revise the current “Out-bracket” for the tournament which would/could be rotated annually among the participating sections for that season.

Of note: The “Out-bracketing” committee takes into consideration:

- The previous out bracket matchups for that season’s rotation
- More importantly, we also plan for time, travel and if there are unique costs involved.
- The # of Out bracket contest(s) that are needed to properly advance teams, while whittling down to a final four group in a timely manner.
- The number of Sectional Representatives/Champions has changed each year for the last three (3) seasons. This item is a good scenario for girls’ hockey as we have gained three (3) new sections and have maxed out the # of sections for our sport as Sections 8 & 11 do not sponsor boys or girls ice hockey.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

GIRLS ICE HOCKEY – Adopt New Regional Rotation for 2024 Regional Quarterfinals – CONTINUED

Proposed Rotation for 2024:

Girls Ice Hockey	Revised		Revised
Quarterfinals	2022	2023	2024
At Sec. 10 ½'s followed (Semi & finals) 2022	1 vs 3/4 at 10		
Neutral site mid-week 2023		2/7 vs 1 at 9	
NEXUS Center 2024			1 at 2/7 5 at 6 Neutral sites
Nexus Center 2025			
Nexus Center 2026			
Nexus Center 2027			
Final Four	2022	2023	2024
At Sec. 10	1/3/4 vs 6 10 vs 7		
At Sec. 3/4		1/2/7 vs 10 6 vs 3/4	
NEXUS Center 2024			1/2/7 vs 3/4 5/6 vs 10

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

SOFTBALL – Adopt NFHS Rules Starting in 2025 Season

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote MAY

Presenter:

Jim Wright, NYSPHSAA Softball Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Softball State Committee is seeking approval to adopt NFHS Rules starting with the 2025 season.

Effective Start Date:

Spring 2025

Rationale:

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA State Committee Meeting in December 2022

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The Softball State Committee supported this proposal with a 6-5 vote at their December 6, 2023 meeting.

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback

Provided after January 10th meeting.

USA vs NHFS

[illegible]

USA vs NHFS

[illegible]

Boys Lacrosse – Classification Cut-Off Numbers

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote MAY

Presenter:

Jim Amen, NYSPHSAA Boys Lacrosse Coordinator

Proposal:

The Boys Lacrosse Committee is seeking approval to change the current classification cut-off numbers for the 2025 season. Below are the recommended changes.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Cut-off Numbers</u>	<u>Schools</u>
Class A	1036 and Up	81 schools
Class B	728 – 1035	81 schools
Class C	727 – 450	82 schools
Class D	449 and Down	82 schools

Effective Start Date:

Spring 2025

Rationale:

The Boys Lacrosse Committee believes that all classes should be divided as equally as possible. After reviewing the current cut-off numbers, the committee feels an adjustment should be made to equally divide the classes.

Proposal Originated:

Boys Lacrosse Committee Zoom meeting in November.

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The Boys Lacrosse State Committee voted 11-0 in favor of this proposal at its January 9, 2024 Zoom meeting.

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback:

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.



CHAMPIONSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, January 10, 2024

CAC Members Attending: Greg Ransom (Chair), Mike Andrew (Team Sports), Jamie Harter (Ind. Sports), Deb Ferry (At-Large), Josh Harrica (At-Large), Eileen Troy (At-Large), Mark Ward (At-Large), Susan Reid (At-Large), Kathy Hoyt (Executive Director). Absent with notice: Adam Stoltman (Superintendent), Carlos Cotto (At-Large)

Staff/Officers Attending: Joe Altieri (CAC Liaison/Assistant Director), Dr. Robert Zayas (Executive Director), Todd Nelson (Assistant Director), Kristen Jadin (Assistant Director), Lexi Swatt (Director of Sports Information); Tim Mullins (Vice President), Julie Bergman (Immediate Past President); Absent with notice: Russell Bartlett (President)

Coordinators Attending: Tom Wells (Outdoor Track), Peggy Seese (Girls Volleyball), Eileen Shultis (Bowling), Carl Normandin (Girls Ice Hockey), Jim Amen (Boys Lacrosse), Chris Horgan (Girls Tennis)

Call to Order by Chair Greg Ransom at 10:03 am. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2023 meeting. **MOTION by Mark, SECOND by Julie. CARRIED 9-0.**

Greg offered Dr. Robert Zayas opening remarks. Dr. Zayas reported on the progress of the Ad Hoc committee which has met several times since October. This committee is focused on addressing the inequities of regional rotations brought forward by Section 1 last year. They are currently discussing ideas and options, which include “guiding principles”, to solve the concern. Mike Andrew added Chair that Tim Mullins has done a terrific job keeping that committee on task.

PROPOSALS

(These items will be presented as discussion or action at the next Executive Committee Mtg)

Outdoor Track 3rd Division – Girls Coordinator Tom Wells explained the proposal. Joe noted that financial figures were added in the budgetary impact due to the Executive Committee requesting the staff look closer at finances of state championships and proposals. Eileen asked if this will be an added cost to the section. Joe stated it depends on how you hold your sectional tournament but would likely be. Jamie asked if there’s a concern with the hotels with the amount of additional athletes participating. Tom responded its always a challenge in Middletown but sections get it done. He has researched hotels in some of the sections that can host and believes they can handle a larger state tournament.

During the CAC-only discussion, Jamie continued to express the concern of hotels. Julie suggested considering 2026 as the first year of this (also when there would be a new bid). Deb asked if this is our largest sate tournament. Joe stated yes, it will now be approximately 1,700 athletes (plus coaches) participating. Greg noted Middletown has a concern running the event and how it impacts its school. Joe reported he had a conversation with Dave Coates, Athletic Director at Middletown HS, and at this point in time they are willing to host with an additional 2-3 hours each day, preferably tacked on to the end of the days.

MOTION by Deb to support the proposal. SECOND by Josh. CARRIED 9-0.

Boys/Girls Bowling Establish At-Large Rotation – In place of the coordinators, Joe Altieri explained the proposal. Julie asked if there was an additional cost for awards. Joe stated no, we currently award three High Series awards for each gender and would simply now award a champion, runner up and 3rd place for each gender instead of High Series. Greg said he is a little leery of their 10-team limit for this proposal. Joe explained the 10-team minimum helps with quality of the tournament as opposed to small sections in a division who may have weaker at-large/second place teams. Greg noted you could have quality with just 7-8 teams in a section in a division and asked about the numbers in each division. Todd reported Sections 7 and 10 would be eliminated in the at-large rotation because they are the only two sections below 10 teams in a section in a division. Joe recalled that was the data the committee discussed and ultimately helped them determine the 10-team minimum.

MOTION by Mark to support the proposal. SECOND by Mike A. CARRIED 8-1.

Boys/Girls Bowling Allow Athletes to Compete in both Composite/School – In place of the coordinators, Joe Altieri explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Deb to support the proposal. SECOND by Jamie. CARRIED 9-0.

Girls Ice Hockey Regional Rotation – Coordinator Carl Normandin explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Mike A. to support the proposal. SECOND by Eileen. CARRIED 9-0.

Girls Volleyball Three-Day Tournament – Coordinator Peggy Seese explained the proposal. Deb asked if this was an additional expense for schools. Peggy stated no, because schools would still be there for the same amount of time. Julie said it should be noted there is now an instructional impact with missed school time that schools will not have a choice when to travel in. Peggy recognized that but reported numerous teams have been traveling in early anyway.

MOTION by Josh to support the proposal. SECOND by Kathy. CARRIED 9-0.

Boys Lacrosse Classification Change – Coordinator Jim Amen explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Jamie to support the proposal. SECOND by Deb. CARRIED 9-0

Girls/Boys Tennis Move to 2-3 Format for Division 2 – Girls Coordinator Chris Horgan explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Josh to support the proposal. SECOND by Sue. CARRIED 9-0

Girls/Boys Tennis Championship Site Equity/Changes – Dr. Zayas explained the proposal since the staff approached the committee with this concern and solutions to it. He indicated the need for equity with boys and girls championship sites and that he and Joe Altieri have met with the BJK National Tennis Center numerous times over Zoom to propose a solution for both tournaments to be held there. Girls Coordinator Chris Horgan added additional information on the proposal. Julie complimented Chris Horgan on a great team and individual state tournament and asked if there was any concern for more missed school time. Chris stated there is not since it's the same number of days; travel and competition days are simply moved.

MOTION by Josh to support the proposal. SECOND by Kathy. CARRIED 9-0.

Football Alternate/6th Official at State Finals – Coordinator Gary Vanderzee explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Mike A. to support the proposal. SECOND by Deb. CARRIED 9-0.

At this time, Greg announced the Sport Coordinators may depart the call so the CAC can discuss and vote on proposals.

FOR REVIEW/INPUT/CHAMPIONSHIP SITE SELECTIONS:

Game Day Cheer Championship Site Selection 2024-26 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained this is in a re-bid status due to one bid by the Washington Armory (Section 2) being submitted which was determined to be less than desirable. New bids are due January 19th and the committee/staff will meet on January 23rd to make a recommendation. He will send the bid comparison document to CAC for their input prior to the January 31st Executive Committee meeting so it can be approved at that time. It is time sensitive because of the need to contract hotels for teams at this late juncture.

Bowling Championship Site Selection 2025-27 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained the lone bid submitted by Strike N Spare Lanes (Section III). He indicated both staff and state committee agreed on Strike N Spare as the recommendation. **CAC expressed no concerns.**

Softball Championship Site Selection 2025-27 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained the lone bid submitted by Greenlight Networks Grand Slam Park (Section IV). He indicated both staff and state committee agreed on Greenlight as the recommendation. **CAC expressed no concerns.**

Girls Lacrosse Championship Site Selection 2025-27 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained the lone bid submitted by SUNY Cortland (Section III). He indicated both staff and state committee agreed on SUNY Cortland as the recommendation. **CAC expressed no concerns.**

Skiing Championship Site Selection 2025-27 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained the three bids submitted by Gore/North Creek, Whiteface/Mt. Van Hoevenberg, and Bristol/Harriet Hollister. He indicated both staff and state committee agreed on Gore/North Creek in 2025, Whiteface/Mt. Van Hoevenberg in 2026, and Bristol/Harriet Hollister in 2027 as the recommendation. **CAC expressed no concerns.**

Boys Lacrosse EAST SEMIFINALS Site Selection 2025-27 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained the lone bid submitted by Middletown High School (Section IX). He indicated both staff and state committee agreed on Middletown HS as the recommendation. **CAC expressed no concerns.**

Boys Lacrosse WEST SEMIFINALS Site Selection 2025-27 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained the lone bid submitted by SUNY Cortland (Section III). He indicated both staff and state committee agreed on SUNY Cortland as the recommendation. **CAC expressed no concerns.**

Boys Lacrosse FINALS Site Selection 2025-27 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained the three bids submitted by Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Hofstra University and Ithaca College. He indicated the staff recommended Hofstra and state committee recommended Hobart William Smith, and why there were differences in the recommendations. Sue asked where donations come from. Joe explained from companies

and individuals. They are required to submit a commitment letter in the bid then follow with payment if they win the bid. Deb asked how many championships are in Section V and Section VIII. Kathy noted there are currently three in Section VI. Joe stated there are two on Long Island in 2023-24. Deb indicated spreading out championships for the good of the state is important. Robert said he's encouraged Long Island and other sections to bid on more events. Greg asked CAC what he should like to communicate to the Executive Committee on January 31st. Deb suggested finances should be strongly considered. Tim noted basketball will play a big part in this decision since the differences in the recommendations have similar elements. Sue reinforced basketball and lacrosse should be the same decisions because of that. Robert indicated if both venues are similar then the finances determine the decision. Eileen said there are other variables in bids, not just finances. She also stated the unknowns of admission revenues. Sue said we should base our feedback on the outlined costs in the bid. Mark agreed with focusing on finances since everything else is even. He added the Executive Committee can make the decision since CAC is zeroing in on the key elements of the bid. Greg gathered the following consensus: **CAC recognizes both venues are of high quality and can host the event. The difference in expenses should be considered.**

Boys Basketball Site Selection 2025-27 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained the three bids submitted by Broadview Center, Cool Insuring Arena and Visions Veterans Memorial Arena. He indicated the staff recommended Visions Memorial Arena and state committee recommended Cool Insuring Arena, and identified the differences in the recommendations. Mark asked about attendance and revenues in Binghamton. Mike stated there was a major snow storm the first year Binghamton hosted and the following two years attendance exceeded Glens Falls. Mark stated we should go to Binghamton based on the significant financial differences. Robert reviewed attendance figures when Binghamton and Glens Falls hosted this event. Greg gathered the following consensus: **CAC recognizes both venues are of high quality and can host the event. The difference in expenses should be considered.**

INFORMATIONAL:

2023-28 Championship Dates & Sites – Joe noted the updated championship documents in the packet noting the championship recommendations above.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Josh SECOND by Deb CARRIED 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:34 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by NYSPHSAA liaison Joe Altieri; reviewed/approved on 1/12/2024 by CAC Chair, CAC members and the NYSPHSAA Executive Director prior to distribution.

Next Meetings:	Tuesday, April 9, 2024 @ 1:00 pm Tuesday, June 18, 2024 @ 10:00 am
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