



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

May 15, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

3.1 **CARRIED:** Approval of the April 17, 2024 Section VI Executive Committee meeting minutes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Attendance: (*indicates present)

- *President, M. Donahue
- *President-Elect, D. Lilleck
- *Past-President, B. Banker
- *Superintendent Representative, J. Sortisio
- *Principals Representative, C. Alvarez
- *Female Representative, M. Fallacaro-Dougherty
- *Male Representative, J. Roth
- *Executive Director, M. DiFilippo

1.0 CALL TO ORDER (M. Donahue)

Commenced: 9:37am

The June 12, 2024 Executive Committee meeting will be held in person. The June 12, 2024 Athletic Council meeting will be held via Zoom.

3.0 MINUTES (M. Donahue)

3.1 *Motion to approve the April 17, 2024 Section VI Executive Committee meeting minutes*

CARRIED
Lilleck/Roth

4.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (M. DiFilippo)

At the following athletic council meeting, M. DiFilippo will request a motion to amend the athletic council agenda, removing 5.1 #23 (BPS is holding on the merger of Bennett and Alt Ed. Basketball programs), remove 4.4 (d) (East Aurora no longer intends to go independent, change 4.4 € from Girls Soccer to Girls Volleyball and 5.1 #72 to be removed because it is a repeat.

4.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval for Clarence for participate in Division 1 Boys Ice Hockey for the 24-25 school year.

Per the Section VI Constitution, Article 12 Classification, 12.3 3 Schools must compete within their sectional classification numbers for all sports except Ice Hockey. In the sport of Ice Hockey, teams may move up from the small school division to the large school division. The Ice Hockey exemption will be reevaluated annually.

Concern continues about the contradiction of equity, inclusion, and opportunity, and competition and how they don't always align.

The history of the move to change this constitutional item was reviewed. At the May 2023 athletic council meeting, the motion to remove this exception to the constitution was carried. However, per article 10 of the constitution, after an approval of an amendment to the constitution by the athletic council, each member school district must then submit a ballot vote. The results of the ballot vote did not meet the 2/3 minimum to initiate the constitutional change.

BELOW IS THE EXCERPT FROM THE MAY 2023 ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Motion to remove the exception for Boys Ice Hockey within 12.3 of Article 12 Classification of the Section VI Constitution.

CARRIED 18 in favor, 8 opposed
Jeff Roth/House

~~*12.3 Schools must compete within their sectional classification numbers for all sports except Ice Hockey. In the sport of Ice Hockey, teams may move up from the small school division to the large school division. The Ice Hockey exemption will be re-evaluated annually.*~~

The Sectional/Intersectional Committee thought it was important to be consistent and equitable across all sports. It's also thought that with the implementation of the 6 classes that more schools would inquire about moving classifications.

With the approval of this action item and because this is a Constitutional item, a post card ballot will be sent to all school districts. Athletic directors, principals, and superintendents are expected to sign their ballot. A 2/3 vote in favor will enact the removal of the exception to 12.3 of Article 12.

Subsequent results of the post card ballot.

9 districts did not submit a vote

8 districts abstained

For the change to occur, 38 votes in favor were needed. There were only 32 votes in favor and 25 Against, which does not meet the 2/3rd minimum vote to initiate the change. Therefore, the constitution will remain unchanged, and Ice Hockey will continue to have the ability to request to play up a classification.

4.1 Mandatory AD Workshop – Wednesday, August 21, 2024

This date was changed to August 21 to accommodate the football start date. A venue with classroom style seating is being sought.

4.3 The Football start date for the fall is Monday, August 19. All levels of football may begin on this date. All other fall sports may begin the following Monday, August 26.

4.4 **AC ACTION ITEM:** Approval Independent Status for the following schools:

- a. Cassadaga Valley independent status in the sport of Girls Tennis for fall 2024
- b. City Honors independent status in the sport of Girls Volleyball for fall 2024, Softball for Spring 2025
- c. CSAT in the sport of Girls Soccer for fall 2024, Baseball and softball for spring 2025
- d. **East Aurora in the sport of varsity Boys Soccer for fall 2024**
- e. Global Concepts in the sport of varsity **Girls Volleyball** for fall 2024
- f. Lackawanna in the sport of varsity Girls Soccer for fall 2024
- g. Niagara Falls in the sport of Boys Basketball for winter 24-25
- h. West Seneca West in the sport of varsity Boys Basketball for winter 24-25

4.5 DHR Case Update

Section VI was cleared of the charges of one of the recent DHR cases.

4.6 Coach Suspension/Appeal Update

The Section VI Appeals Committee amended a recent ruling by the Executive Committee for a Stage 2 appeal.

4.7 NYSPHSAA Schools Without Boundaries Committee

M. Fallacaro Dougherty volunteered to be the Section VI Representative.

5.0 COMMUNICATIONS (M. DiFilippo)

5.1 **AC ACTION ITEM:** Approval of Combining of Schools Applications

Fall Sports

1. Cheer GameDay, Existing, **East Aurora**, Holland, V, 460, C
2. Cheer GameDay, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, 7/8 ONLY, 1122, A
3. Cross Country BG, **New ADD V, West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 7/8, 1429, A
4. Field Hockey, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 7/8/9, 1122, A
5. Golf B, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 1429, A
6. Gym G, Existing, **Williamsville East**, Sweet Home, V, 1476, one div
7. Gym G, Existing, **Williamsville South**, Amherst, V, 1272, one div
8. Soccer B, **New, Silver Creek**, Forestville, V, 789, 266, B
9. Soccer B, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, JV & 7/8, 1429, AAA
10. Soccer G, **New, Tapestry**, BASCS, V, 642, A
11. Soccer G, **New ADD Var, West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, JV, 1429, AAA
12. Swim G, Existing, **East Aurora**, Holland, V, 476
13. Swim G, **New, Fredonia**, Dunkirk, Forestville, Pine Valley ADD Cass Valley, V 1148 pending CCAA approval
14. Swim G, Existing, **Olean**, Portville, V, 539
15. Swim G, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 1429
16. Tennis G, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 1429, D1

17. Volleyball B, Existing, **Cheektowaga**, JFK, V, JV, 789, 631, D2
18. Volleyball G, **New, Middle Early College**, LJ Bennett, V, JV, 444, B

Winter Sports

19. Basketball B, **New, East**, Pathways, V, 298, B
20. Basketball B, **New, Performing Arts**, Leo DaVinci, V, JV, 567, A
21. Basketball B/G, **New, Culinary Arts**, Emerson, V, JV, 672, AA
22. Basketball B/G, **New, I-Prep**, Lafayette, V, JV, 817, AA
23. Basketball B/G, **New, LJ Bennett**, Alternative Ed , V, JV, 351, B
24. Basketball B/G, **New, MEC**, Research Lab, V, JV, 304, B
25. Bowl BG, Existing, **Allegheny-Limestone**, Olean, Portville, V, 663, D1
26. Bowl BG, Existing, **Clymer**, Sherman, V, 130, D2
27. Bowl BG, **New, Culinary Arts**, Emerson, V, 477, D2
28. Bowl BG, Existing, **Hinsdale**, Cuba-Rush, Friendship, V, 243, D2
29. Bowl BG, Existing, **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442, D1
30. Bowl G, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 1429, D1
31. Bowl Unified BG, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 1429
32. Cheer Competitive, Existing, **East Aurora**, Holland, V, 460, C
33. Hockey B, Existing, **Iroquois**, Alden, V, 669, D2
34. Hockey B, Existing, **Lockport**, Niagara Falls, V, 2691, D1
35. Hockey B, Existing, **Sweet Home**, North Tonawanda & Depew, V, 1360, D1
36. Hockey G, Existing, **Frontier**, Orchard Park, Lake Shore & Franklinville, V, 2681
37. Hockey G, Existing, **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, Grand Island, Lockport, V, 3151
38. Hockey G, Existing, **Lancaster**, Alden, Depew & Iroquois, V, 2445
39. Hockey G, Existing, **Starpoint**, Niagara-Wheatfield, Lewiston-Porter, V, 1993
40. Hockey G, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, Hamburg, Eden, Holland, V, 2579
41. Indoor Track B/G, Existing, **Allegheny-Limestone**, Olean, Portville, V, 663
42. Indoor Track B/G, Existing, **Dunkirk**, Silver Creek, Forestville, V, 617
43. Indoor Track B/G, Existing, **Falconer**, Randolph, Frewsburg, Maple Grove, V, JV, Fresh, 771
44. Indoor Track B/G, **New, F LOImsted**, City Honors, Burgard, MST, East./ Perf Arts, V, 2047
45. Indoor Track B/G, Existing, **Holland**, East Aurora, V, 476
46. Indoor Track B/G, **New, Hutch Tech**, South Park, Emerson, Cul Arts, V, 2173
47. Indoor Track B/G, **New, McKinley**, LJ Bennett, MEC, Research Lab, V, 1523
48. Indoor Track B/G, **New, Riverside**, I-Prep, Lafayette, LDVinci, V, 1333
49. Rifle, Existing, **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442
50. Swim B, Existing, **Dunkirk**, Silver Creek, Forestville, V, 673
51. Swim B, Existing, **East Aurora**, Holland, V, 476
52. Swim B, Existing, **Frewsburg**, Southwestern, Jamestown, Falconer, V, 1828
53. Swim B, **New, Hutch Tech**, Cul Arts, Emerson, IPrep, V, 2071
54. Swim B, Existing, **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442
55. Swim B, **New, LJ Bennett**, MEC, Research Lab, V, 476
56. Swim B, **New, McKinley**, East, V, 934
57. Swim B, Existing, **Panama**, Clymer, Sherman, V, 195
58. Swim B, **New, Perform Arts**, LD Vinci, V, 399
59. Swim B, **New, Olean**, Allegheny-Limestone, Franklinville, Portville, V, 1035
60. Swim B, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 1429
61. Swim BG, Existing, **Roy-Hart**, Barker, V, 365
62. Wrestling B, **New, Franklinville**, Hinsdale, West Valley, V, JV, 78, 208, D2
63. Wrestling B, Existing, **Gowanda**, Pine Valley, V, 789, 265, D2
64. Wrestling B, Existing, **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442, D1
65. Wrestling B, Existing, **Portville**, Cuba-Rushford, V, 316, D2
66. Wrestling B, Existing, **Roy-Hart**, Barker, V, 365, D2
67. Wrestling B, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, Depew, V, 7/8/9, 1839, D1
68. Wrestling B/G, Existing, **Chautauqua Lake**, Panama, Clymer, Westfield, V, 789, 535, D2 Boys
69. Wrestling B/G, Existing, **East Aurora**, Holland, V, JV 476 D2 Boys, Girls 560
70. Wrestling B/G, Existing, **Fredonia**, Forestville, Silver Creek, V, 494, D2 Boys, Girls 657
71. Wrestling B/G, Existing, **Lafayette**, All other BPS Schools, V, JV, 7539, D1 Boys
72. Wrestling B/G, Existing, **Kenmore East**, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442, D1 Boys

5.2 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of Senior All Star Applications

- a) BPS Senior Baseball All Star Contest, 5/29/24 at Sahlen's Field

b) BPS Senior Softball All Star Contest, 5/28/24 at Canisius College

6.0 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Combining of Schools Committee (J. Sortisio)

6.1.1 Boys & Girls Swim and Indoor Track – 100% of BEDS Combined Teams Proposal

The combining of schools committee is tasked with reviewing and making recommendation on a proposal to use 100% of the BEDS numbers beginning with the 24-25 school year. This only affects the class meets in these sports. There are no NYSPHSAA team championships, team championships are just at the sectional level.

6.2 Charter Schools Classification Committee (J. Sortisio)

Nothing to report

6.3 Finance Committee (S. Penhollow)

6.3.1 **AC ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the Treasurer's report (Appendix A)

6.4 Sectional/Intersectional (M. DiFilippo)

6.4.1 **AC ACTION ITEM:** Approval of moving Boys and Girls Soccer Semifinals to the higher seed

6.7 State Executive Committee/Central Committee

a) Superintendent (J. Sortisio)

Nothing to report

b) Principal (C. Alvarez)

Nothing to report

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

The following discussion items are actions items for the June 12 zoom meeting. (Appendix B)

6.7.1 Ticket Prices

6.7.2 Handbook – Forfeit Exception for Football

6.7.3 NYSPHSAA Transfer Form for Waivers and Exceptions

6.7.4 Cheerleading: Fall Start Date

6.7.5 Cheerleading: Update Required Coaching Course

6.7.6 Girls Team Tennis: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principles

6.7.7 Boys Soccer: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principals

6.7.8 Girls Soccer: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principals

6.7.9 Field Hockey: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principals

- 6.7.10 Girls Volleyball: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principals
- 6.7.11 Girls Volleyball: Revise State Tournament Format Back to Pool Play
- 6.7.12 Football: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2029 Using Guiding Principals
- 6.7.13 Football: Move 8-Man Regional Championship to week #22 and conduct it at JMA Dome during 11-Man Finals; establish regional rotation
- 6.7.14 Football: Revision to NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Penalty
- 6.7.15 Boys Wrestling: Early Weight Certification Date
- 6.7.16 Girls Wrestling: Automatic Qualifiers
- 6.7.17 Girls Wrestling: Representation Rule
- 6.7.18 Girls Wrestling: Waiver of the Maximum Number of Tournaments
- 6.7.19 Girls Wrestling: Waiver of the NFHS 1.5% Weight Loss Plan (Appendix B) Continued
- 6.7.20 Girls Wrestling: Adopting the USA Junior Rules
- 6.7.21 Boys Ice Hockey: Revision to Goalie Warm-up
- 6.7.22 Boys Ice Hockey: OT During Regulation Season
- 6.7.23 Boys/Girls Bowling: Split Composite Division into Division 1 & 2
- 6.7.24 Boys/Girls Bowling: Modify D1/D2 School Team Division to use 6-man format
- 6.7.25 Outdoor Track & Field: Establish Classification Cut-Off Numbers for 2025
- 6.7.26 Unified Sports: Sports Offering/Rules Modifications

6.8 Extended Eligibility (M. DiFilippo)

Nothing to report

6.10 Transfer/Foreign Student (M. DiFilippo)

Reports were emailed to the Executive Committee for review.

6.13 Mixed Competition (C. Alvarez)

6.13.1 NYSED Mixed Competition Regulatory Amendments (Appendix C)

This item will be explained by R. Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director at the following athletic council meeting.

6.14 Nominations (D. Lilleck)

6.14.1 **AC ACTION ITEM:** Approval of C. Alvarez as Principals' Representative, term July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2028

6.14.2 **AC ACTION ITEM:** Approval of Brett Banker as President-Elect, term July 2024 – June 2026

6.14.3 **AC ACTION ITEM:** Approval of Jacob Reimer (Barker) as Boys Golf Chairperson Vacancy (fulfill the current term, through June 30, 2025)

6.14.4 **AC ACTION ITEM:** 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), J. Longo (Boys Cross Country), W. McLaughlin (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. Costello (Girls Field Hockey), and J. Otto (Asst. Girls Field Hockey Chair)

6.15 Corporate Partners (M. DiFilippo)

Nothing to report

7.0 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 All WNY Scholar Athlete (J. Roth)

9.0 GUEST REPORTS

9.2 NYSAAA Report (J. Roth)

10.0 SPORTS REPORTS

10.1 **AC ACTION ITEM:** Approval of Fall 2024 pre-season reports: Boys Soccer (with the exception of the non-player personnel proposal), Girls Soccer, Boys Volleyball (with the exception of the tiebreaker proposal), Girls Volleyball, Cross Country, Football, Girls Field Hockey, Girls Swimming (with the exception of the Girls Swimming combined teams percentage proposal), Girls Tennis, Girls Gymnastics (Appendix E)

11.0 OLD BUSINESS

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

The Constitution is already approved. The proposed Bylaws will be acted on at the June 2024 athletic council Zoom meeting. M. DiFilippo recommends for a standing committee to be established to constantly review the policy manual.

The Bylaws will be emailed to the council with the minutes of today's meetings in advance of the June 12 athletic council meeting.

12.0 NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Foreign Exchange Student Concern (J. MacSwan) Appendix F

13.0 GOOD OF THE ORDER/ADJOURNMENT

13.1 *Motion to adjourn*

CARRIED

Sortisio/Lilleck