



ERIE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE

355 Harlem Road • Building C, • West Seneca, NY 14224

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Athletic Council Minutes 01/12/2021 via Webex 12:00 PM

Minutes taken by Sharon Groden

Roll Call:

Absent: Steve Smith, Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty 12:24 p.m.; Joe DiMartino 1:04 p.m.

President's Report:

Kiel Illg

Welcome Jim Graczyk recommended from Executive Board as Interim Executive Director. After approval of Erie1Boces board, Jim Graczyk's first day will be January 14, 2021.

Office Report

Kiel Illg

Treasurer's Report Nov/Dec 2020 emailed to all.

University Orthopedics provided athletic trainers for the cross country championships which are usually scheduled for one (1) day event. This year it was necessary to schedule the championship for cross country over a two (2) day period. Higher expense due to adding a day to championship for both days. Total disbursements \$3,913.28.

Funds received from golf championships, membership dues from NYSAAA, and spectator passes.

Proposed Budget for 2021-22 Option A & B

- Option B includes NYSAAA. Difference between Option A & B.

- Calculated Dues 2021-2022 provided via email. Any concerns, contact President Kiel Illg. Due to current plan for full time Executive Director, future dues will be increased. Dues pay salaries of Executive Director, secretarial staff. Current rate has used parts of the fund balance to offset cost. Year 2022-2023 dues to increase to pay for salaries and health insurance, there must be an increase in dues. Costs include additional assigners built into the cost.

- Low Risk Winter Schedules:

These are proposed league end dates that were provided by ECIC and not approved by the section as of yet. Marisa currently at meeting and report to follow. Marisa reports that the dates below are the confirmed dates.

- a. Bowling- 3/5/2021 league end date meeting scheduled with office to updates for scheduling.

- b. Swim- 2/28/2021 league end date meeting scheduled with office to update for scheduling.

Review of current schedules to move to alternate dates. Schedules are not final. Communication to be forwarded when schedules completed by Friday, January 15, 2021. Review for corrections or additions and return to the office for changes.

Activity Board

Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty

- 2021-2022 Alignments Discussion
Alignments provided next week for fall and winter of 2021-2022. Review alignment. Voting at Athletic Council meeting on March 9, 2021. Discussion over sports with extra team/extra school. Due to no ties, the rotation in Division I.

Old Business

- **Action Item - Modified Swim-** What Schools are not fielding a team that had intentions to. (Roll Call)
Determination as to teams fielding a team or not fielding a team.
Planning to offer; remove of no approval or no numbers; moving forward wish to create a schedule. Sweet Home, Orchard Park virtual swim.
Participation 19 Nonparticipation 10

New Business

Action Items:

- **Approval to Accept the Treasurer Report for Nov/Dec**
Motion to accept treasurer's report for Nov/Dec
1st Rich Gray-Hamburg
2nd Brian Hickson-Cheektowaga
Motion passed
- **Approval of ECIC Proposed Budget 2021-2022**
Motion for approval of ECIC proposed budget for 2021-2022
1st Vinny Dell'Oso-Starpoint
2nd Rich Gray-Hamburg
Budget A (5) Budget B (25)
Approved Option B
- **Approval of Combining of Schools Applications:**
Motion for approval of Combining of Schools applications
1st Jason Przybyz-Cleveland Hill
2nd Jason Iwanko-Eden
 - a. Cross Country- B/G Pioneer & Holland
Approved 28 favor-0 against

- b. Boys Volleyball-
 - i. East Aurora & Holland (V, JV, & 7/8)
Approved (26) favor – (0) against
 - ii. Eden & North Collins (V, JV, & 7/8)
Approved (28) favor – (0) against
- c. Golf Boys- East Aurora & Holland (V)
Approved (28) favor -0 against
- d. Cheerleading- East Aurora & Holland (V)
Approved (28) favor – 0 against

- Section Six Nomination Committee Member (Discussion & Vote)

Section VI requesting individual from ECIC for their nomination committee. Representative participates on interviews for any open positions within Section VI providing league representation. Nomination for replacement of Chuck Amo. Vote to be tabled. Form to be provided for voting purposes. Nominated participants added to form to be sent as a closed vote to Athletic Council.

Motion to accept nominations within ECIC for nominations committee Section VI.

1st Matt Adams-Holland
2nd Pat Cauley – Hamburg

Nominations:

Chris Mucica	accepts nomination
Brian Hickson	recinds nomination
Daryl Besant	recinds nomination

No other nominations

Chris Mucica appointed Section VI nomination committee

Motion passed

Section VI/NYSPHSAA

**Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty
Vinny Dell'Oso/Dave Hack**

The following items are to be reviewed by member Leagues in preparation to provide J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, direction at the January 2021 Athletic Council meeting on how to vote at the February 2021 NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting. (Appendix E)

1. Action Item - Approve 2 division classification cut-off proposal

The NYSPHSAA Executive Committee is proposing to change the general 2 division cut-off number to the following:

Division I 505-up
Division 504 -below
Effective start date Fall 2021

Discussion: There was discussion that Cheektowaga, Iroquois, West Seneca East would be affected. Those three (3) plus Eden, North Collins, and some smaller schools more in the southern tier. With 599 there may only be 100 athletes affects competition and competitiveness. This proposal is different than three (3) years ago. The original proposal was:

Division I 600- up
Division II 599-down

Section III requested numbers be reversed, made reversed proposal at state level. Combining of schools into 2/3 school mergers are in Division II which have created power houses and are winning sectionals in individual sports, i.e. track and field.

Motion for approval of 2 division classification cut-off proposal

1st Vinny Dell'Oso-Starpoint

2nd Ken Partell-Alden

Approved –(6) against (23)

2. Action Item - Approval of 5 - sport classification cut-off proposal

***Items 21 & 22 are extremely important as school placements will be dramatically affected if approved.**

The NYSPHSAA Executive Committee is proposing to change the general 5 sport classification cut-off numbers to the following:

AA 800-up
A 420-799
B 246-419
C 135-245
D 134-down

Effective start date fall 2021

Discussion: There was discussion that general enrollment has declined over the last ten (10) years and is continually down. Drop in numbers causes significant changes. Decreasing numbers over time works better.

Motion for approval of 5 sport classification cut-off proposal

1st Marisa Fallacaro-West Seneca

2nd Vinny Dell'Oso-Starpoint

Approved (4) against (25)

3. Action Item - Approval of School of Distinction/Excellence merged team requirement proposal.

Consideration of approval to remove the merged team requirement from the School of Distinction and School of Excellence Applications.

Effective Spring 2021

Discussion: If two (2) schools merged for hockey and one (1) school does not make it academically and your school does not have required number of athletes or it is a 6/9 ratio, the team would not win the award, even if all your kids met that criteria.

Motion for approval of School of Distinction/Excellence merged team requirement proposal.

1st Pat Cauley-Hamburg

2nd Jeff Wheaton-Amherst

Approved (24) against (4)

4. Action item - Approval of Sportsmanship Official's Card proposal – Add “including racial or discriminatory comments or slurs.”

Consideration of approval to add “including racial or discriminatory comments or slurs” to the Sportsmanship Official's card that is read at the beginning of each NYSPHSAA contest.

Discussion: Necessity or purpose for wording to be included on official's card. Schools deal with these types of issues often. When situation arises, issue is dealt with. What is motivation to including information on card? Purpose to look good as an association. Development from Section VI as a concern due to past history within Section VI with boys' and girls' lacrosse as well as concerns that were proposed by Buffalo as well as what has happened around our country. Request of officials to pay more attention to the language being used by the athletes. Supervision to pay more attention to language of parents, etc. Should be an understood rule of not tolerating racial slurs. Necessity to add and reading at beginning of game as well as the statement read over loudspeaker, it allows an overall advantage as opposed to individual warnings. There are major issues in boys' and girls' lacrosse. Is it appropriate to include in sportsmanship statement which will force the hand of the official?

Motion for approval of Sportsmanship Official's Card proposal – Add “including racial or discriminatory comments or slurs.”

1st Jason Przybysz-Cleveland Hill

2nd Vinny Dell'Oso-Starpoint

Approved (27) against (0) abstain (1)

5. Action Item - Approval of Wrestling – modify the current appeal procedure used for the State Championship (Duals and Individual) proposal.

The NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee is seeking approval to modify the current appeals procedure used in the State Championships (Dual and Individual) with changes

No Discussion

Motion to approve wrestling - modify the current appeal procedure used for the State Championship (Duals and Individual) proposal.

1st Vinny Dell'Oso-Starpoint

2nd Pat Cauley-Hamburg

Approved (28) against (0)

Good of the Order:

ECIC Executive Committee Open Positions:

- **High School Principal Alternate Rep**
- **Middle School Principal Alternate Rep**

- **Championships for Sectionals**

Boys' Swim - League is concerned about boys' swimming championship for Sectionals. League would like an ECIC championship same as the girls had in the fall. Concern about not having an ECIC boys' swim meet and going right to Sectionals.

After regular season completed, one day contained no specific qualifying times, but all events were ranked for each swimmer who participated. There were no provisions applied for winter season. Appearing that the whole league was skipped over and went straight to a Sectional competition.

Adding additional meet with no qualifying times. Concern about jumping right to a Sectional without conducting a ECIC league meet.

Schedule ECIC swim championship on 2/27 as was done for girls' swim. Need must schedule 3 meets per week, switching next week. Monday/Wednesday/Friday and then Tuesday/Thursday. Concerns with overlap with Fall II if there is a fall II Waiting for governor's decision. Concern with 2/3 week overlap. Would like to eliminate Saturday. Buildings closed.

ECIC boys' swim championship will be scheduled for ECIC on 2/27 as was for girls' swim.

Modified swim: virtual modified. If we do have any schools willing to host in person meets, is there a way we could get those schools in the same division so we can play each other?

Section VI January 12, 2021 Executive meeting - Discussion concerning dates as well as end date and sectionals. Decision was that at next week's committee meeting, discussion of actual Sectional tournaments and schedule because of concerns. Boys should follow girls meets with ECIC championship and sectional meet. ECIC representatives should propose this at next meeting. No section end dates approved. No agreement on section tournament. No agreement on Section end dates only on League end dates. Waiting for information from governor on high risk sports. If high risk sports approved, then decision can be made on Sectionals and Fall II.

Need input from other leagues depending on governor's decision, high risk, Sectional, and league games. Use league cutoff date of 2/27 which is a Saturday.

HoganWillig involved in lawsuit to return to play for high-risk sports which went the lobby approach instead of lawsuit. Politician to send a letter endorsing all high-risk sports to resume immediately.

Medical Director/student athletes – Concern regarding athletes with COVID 19 and not clearing a student to play without a heart evaluation. No information.

Springville providing clearance to students who tested positive. Required doctor's signature. It did state specifically at top it was recommended but not mandatory.

Statement: After talking with our school physician, she would like me to share the following information. 15% of COVID infected people develop acute myocarditis any child with shortness of breath cyanosis, chest pain, discomfort, excessive sweating, needs to stop exercise immediately. She is waiting on a call back from the pediatric cardiologist regarding potentially meeting cardiology clearance prior to resuming PE activities and sports.

Low Risk sports start date has not been changed and is scheduled for January 4, 2021. ECIC to start rescheduling games on January 19, 2021 Schools closed on Monday, January 18, 2021. Starting schedule with January 19 with schedules. Some will have to think about Saturdays. First possible date for meet is January 26. Anyone needing to move can do so.

Motion to adjourn

1st Daryl Besant - Lakeshore

2nd Vinny Dell'Oso- Starpoint

Motion passed.