



ERIE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE

355 Harlem Road • Building C, • West Seneca, NY 14224
Phone: (716) 821-7262 • Fax: (716) 821-7291

Athletic Directors –3/2/21

Webex/Teleconference

12:00 PM

Minutes taken by Sharon Groden

Opening Remarks:

Vinny Dell'Oso

Hoping everything going well with basketball, bowling, unified and all other sports.

President's Report:

Vinny Dell'Oso

Approval of Minutes from 2/2/21

Motion to approve minutes

1st Jeff Wheaton, Amherst

2nd Ben Drake, Jamestown

Motion Passed

Executive Director's Report:

Jim Graczyk

Matt Libroek conducting a First Aid/CPR course at East Aurora on March 16, 2021 between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Email to be provided.

Winter schedules

Officials provided for winter schedules. Assigning (2) officials for modified when available. Modified basketball officials. Double header officials available for JV and Varsity. Concern about two officials for boys but not girls. Possibly schedule one and one if two not available. Some officials are only boys and some officials only girls. Working this year only with Benji Bluman and Mike Talluto to cross over boys/girls to allow more official availability. Concern relative to verbal/email agreement with officials' organization to pay the officials doubling up on games to pay two full fees for the season. No official MOA available. MOA must be provided to business office otherwise officials paid via contract which is 2/3 of the second game fee (lower amount). Suggestion to request Section VI to provide official MOA. West Seneca and Alden needed MOA in writing. Back to back of officials not frequently happening. Received a copy of an email from Tim Slade and Chris Hope. Requested MOA. No MOA available. Officials required to submit Form X for West Seneca and Alden to receive full fee. Section paid official full fee per Form X. Basketball season repeating process of back to back officials on games. Request official MOA for full fee. Section VI indicated there is no official MOA. Only Email provided. No MOA problem for some schools.

Fall II Schedules

Fall II schedules available for Varsity and JV. Modified scheduled to be determined. Review for changes.

Spring Schedules

Working on securing dates with chair individuals for dates. Contacted chairs for input relative to dates. Avoid Sunday and holiday scheduling. Track unsure as to how handling sectional level so not sure on dates. Section VI decided to move spring sports up a week and end a week earlier. Issue concern affecting volleyball, football with the players that participate in both sports. Major impact on wrestling. Major impact on lacrosse girls and boys because of two (2) weeks overlap. Coaches coach both sports. Sport/level overlap and playoff overlap. Football situation if team does not make play-offs, everyone exiting towards the spring sports. Decision to move up a week may put the athletes in a bind as to which sport to play causing lack of team participants. Suggestion that league start date to commence May 10, 2021. Discussion to take place at Athletic Council meeting. Motion item for vote at Athletic Council meeting on March 9, 2021

Softball chairperson wishing to end eight (8) days earlier than section dates. Must finish by June 18, 2021.

Modified Football Schedules

Schedule 4/5 game season. Week 1 for some schools to start on April 7, 2021 as a scrimmage and then play 4 games scheduled for April 14, 21, 28, and May 5. If school has enough practices could use April 7, as a game. Option of school if school has number of practices. Interest in scrimmage on April 7, interest in a game on April 7, no interest at all. Determination of 4 or 5 game schedule. Answer depends on whether Commence modified football as Varsity and JV on March 22, 2021. Clarification as to 4/5 games. Not to schedule more than five (5) games. Schools to reach out to Executive Director with preference of schools to schedule. Any groups that have a B team should not play a 7/8 team. 7th grade group not to be matched up with any 7/8 if possible. Modified a 7/8/9 question. Tonawanda, East Aurora, Eden, Lakeshore 7/8/9. Frontier and Lancaster having 2 teams. Will there be 2 teams in the spring.

ECIC Cheerleading Championships

Consideration of a virtual ECIC championship be scheduled. Ideas about having officials at one place. Consideration for Zoom or WebEx meeting and judged remotely.

Activity Board:

Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty

- Change in spring start date, proposed to stay with original date of May 10, 2021. Proposal to be discussed at Athletic Council meeting.
- Officials/masks notice that ECIC schools are wearing masks. Other leagues not wearing masks or even on person. Section not enforcing or mandating officials to wear masks. Defer questions concerning official non-use of mask to Section VI.
- Softball Chair Concerns to stay with softball end date of Section VI which is the same as other spring sport end date.
- Football concerns for safety. Input from entire membership before proposing a safety concern in writing to Section VI on behalf of ECIC. Concern that may teams playing first Thursday and with football being a federated sport, students must have 10 practices in before they are eligible for that first Thursday game. There are only 10 dates. You have 10 dates that you have to practice before the

first eligible game on Thursday. Also leads into Easter break. Major concern regarding safety for high contact sport such as football with athletes practicing 10 days in a row in order to be eligible to play the first game on Thursday. Past practice there was 2 weeks, plus scrimmage. Condensed season understandable, but such a high contact sport not to take in consideration of player safety in order to schedule 2 playoff games is concerning. Suggestion to Section VI to offer that first week as a scrimmage week pushing back games by 1 week with the last week being just a match up game as opposed to conducting 2 games during the playoffs. Still a total of 6 games. Scrimmage could be scheduled with officials. Scheduled for discussion and vote at Athletic Council meeting on March 9, 2021.

- ECIC Passes worked well for ECIC in the fall. Email to Section questioning federated sport procedure of football and lacrosse regarding spectators and possible pass distribution. Does ECIC need passes for fall II along with spring continuing with 2 spectator's policy. Use roster instead of passes for fall II sport of volleyball only. Move ECIC passes to spring sports. Action item for Athletic Council meeting on March 9, 2021 for voting.

Section VI/NYSPHSAA report: *Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty, Vinny Dell'Oso, and Dave Hack*

State Meeting Report *Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty*
No Report, couple of items to be reported to Executive Committee

Committee Reports

Sectional/Intersectional *Jason Przybysz*

Reminder for B group for boys' basketball, boys' basketball sectionals have a B1, B2, and B3 for this year only. Also a tie breaker formula including a point differential when post-season starts the top 8 teams from each group will qualify. This is only for the 8th and 9th spot. Coin flip still used for 1st and 2nd, 2nd, and 3rd. Not fair to eliminate a team from playoffs based on a coin flip. Girls' basketball stays the same with B1 and B2. All regional state championships are cancelled. Discussion regarding May 3, spring start date.

Modified *Daryl Besant*
No Report

Safety *Brian Wild*
No Report

Chemical Awareness *Brian Wild*
No Report

Finance *Vinny Dell'Oso*

2020-2021 coordination fees discussion that there will not be an adjustment for members schools who choose not to participate in the regular sports programs due to the circumstances surrounding COVID. Coordination fees are based upon a spread of services provided by the Section. Also, sports programs, the committee agreed not to generate a 2020-2021 sports programs in the

sports of boys' ice hockey, boys' basketball, girls' basketball. Those minutes are posted on the Section website.

Sportsmanship

Sandy Gauthier

Sandy to send out a sportsmanship promotion survey. Asking for 100% participation. Deadline is April 12, 2021. Appreciate participation before April 12, 2021.

Charter Schools

Jeff Wheaton

No Report

Combining of Schools

Daryl Besant

No Report

Recruitment of Officials

Brian Hickson

No Report: Is there are new contract currently in negotiations. New representative needed to replace Mark DiFilippo.

Old Business:

- Proposed Fall and Winter 2021-2022 Alignments. Vote to take place at Athletic Council meeting on

March 9, 2021. Correction on Winter alignment to be sent. Wrestling Cheektowaga and Pioneer flip divisions. Fall alignment, Lake Shore to be included in alignment for girls' JV soccer.

New Business:

- **Softball Sectional dates and concerns (B. Wild)**

First point of concern is sectional dates and graduation dates. ECIC chair spoke with coaches. Concerns were mainly graduation dates with start dates of the sectionals of 6/21; 6/22/ 6/23 and moving forward possibly having conflict with graduation. State allows students to participate in sports past graduation if they do not physically receive their diploma and would still be eligible for game in the afternoon of graduation day. Concern with student playing a game and also participate in graduation. Major tournament at the end of June, however, sectionals will conclude prior to 6/26 or 6/ 27. Allowed to schedule games 6/28; 6/29; or 6/30 concern is shortage of officials due to large tournament. Concern about scheduling of graduation on multi-purpose field. League games not impacted which would include the full season. Playoffs to be completed before graduation. Ending of games on 6/17 to allow reschedule to 6/18 or 6/19 if necessary.

- **Buffalo News lack of reporting results – scores (B. Wild)**

What happened to school athletic coverage in Buffalo News. Why no write-up in Buffalo? News to promote students as in the past. Letter written to News in the fall. Response from News was that they were unable to do any more publication of student athletes due to cost cutting measures by Buffalo News. Suggestion to send letter to Buffalo News on behalf of whole league expressing our concern that they no longer will publicize school athletics. Comment regarding sending special stories. Look into a more comprehensive website in order to promote school athletics.

- Potential snow removal. Craft a plow with PVC pipe. Directions upon request. Great Lakes Athletic Fields will do snow removal. A-Turf recommends a Pro-Tec pusher.

Good of the Order:

Next meeting Date:
Athletic Director - April 13, 2021
Athletic Director – May 4, 2021
Athletic Director – May 10, 2021