



ERIE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE

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

Phone: (716) 821-7262 • Fax: (716) 821-7291

Athletic Directors' Meeting – 4/13/21

In-Person Meeting

Microsoft Teams

12:00 PM

Opening Remarks:

Vinny Dell'Oso

Divisional Meetings:

Not enough league membership to carry out divisional meetings.

Fall II Check-in: Divisional meeting was to check in to see how everyone was doing with fans for fall check in. Schools going on pause. Cheer on pause at Starpoint. Many other schools facing this as well.

President's Report:

Vinny Dell'Oso

Approval of Minutes from 3/2/21 Meeting

Motion to approve minutes

1st Brian Wild (Lancaster)

2nd Jason Lehmbeck (Clarence)

Executive Director's Report:

Jim Graczyk/Kiel Illg

- *Spring Schedules Update:* All schedules in Arbiter by end of 4/13. Modified track will not be available until schedule approved. Wrestling will not be available due to changes to alignment and lack of teams. Email to follow to league acknowledging schedules complete in arbiter and ready for review.

- *Officials Update :*

Fall: Volleyball officials a problem. Lack of officials for this sport is a problem at this time. Filling in Varsity/JV with 2 when possible. Modified a problem with lack of officials and may not have enough officials to fill all if any slots. If lack of officials there may only be one official on Varsity and JV and none for modified.

Spring: unknown as to availability at this time. Cross-over on officials because of overlap of seasons. Officials are ranked for both fall and spring sports. Covid an issue as to which officials will be available. Opportunity to seek officials from other groups, however, those groups will have few if any are available since they will be experiencing the same problems.

- **ECIC Executive Director/Athletic Director Update:** ECIC Executive Director posting is posted on WNYRIC. If anyone believes they know of a great candidate, please share the information and direct them to the WYNRIC website. Posting closes in a couple of weeks. Update to be provided at May Athletic Director's meeting of continued process.

- **Activity Board Nominations and Vacancies:** Discussed at last meeting. There are a number of activity board positions available. Individuals available names listed in minutes from last meeting. Anyone else wishing to volunteer to be considered for position, please provide nomination by May. Available individuals to be discussed at May Athletic Directors' meeting and vote to take place at May Athletic Council meeting.

Activity Board:

Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty

- **Boys Swimming Divisional Alignment and Proposal:** Update received from Sharon Groden and Jim Graczyk regarding schedule and officials.

Boys Swimming and Diving: proposal same as last year. Jamestown to be removed for boys swimming. Jamestown participated in CCAA past year in boys and girls swimming due to Covid. Move was good for Jamestown. Decision to continue in the CCAA into the next year.

Question: Will this be a yearly request moving forward?

Answer: How ECIC would like to proceed would be find. Currently it was a yearly request for this current year. When request to the CCAA executive committee to accept Jamestown in CCAA for next year, there was not an end date that was requested. Competition to take place in CCAA beginning in 2021-2022 school year.

Question: Is it your intention to remain in the CCAA for boys/girls swimming.

Answer: Yes

This would be a voting item for next Athletic Council meeting. Discuss with swim coaches. Any voting items will be May Athletic Council meeting. Last Athletic Council with voting items.

- **Modified Track/Field Schedule and Invitational:** Emilio Mancino, provided to league. Received by Activity Board to be provided to general membership. All programs are hosting 2/3 competitions except for Lackawanna. WSW competitions held at WSE. Lockport and Niagara Falls not participating this year. Mainly dual meets, but a few tri-meets. Provide direction to office to input in Arbiter.

- **ECIC Track/Field Divisional Championships:** Situation with Covid, things different that previous years. ECIC chairperson have provided a proposal for championships which would be division based. Each division would have a championship, Division I, Division II, Division III, Division IV, Division V at 5 separate venues. There are (2) proposals suggested.

1) one day event from 10-4 with 180 athletes. Track expert from Holland believes it would be a little less. Boys/Girls competing.

2) Longer day, boys and girls split with 90/90 or 70/70.

Activity board discussed possible hosts. West Seneca willing to host Division II and Division III

Less complications of no spectators. Other schools with similar agreement of no spectators. Thoughts from group with running ECIC championships, having large group of athletes in the same venue, starting lineup, etc.

During Activity Board representatives to provide information to their superintendents, Division I: Clarence will check into possibly hosting with the current logistics without spectators.

Division II and Division III: West Seneca willing to host Division II and III which would be 2 separate days unless another school wished to host one. Date for ECIC June 12, 2021. West Seneca East hosting both one on June 10, 2021, and one on June 12, 2021.

Division IV: No current host

Division V: Holland—Division V, Holland does not have a steeplechase, they are willing to host without spectators but unable to run steeplechase;. Alden has steeplechase so they would be able to host for Division V if Holland unable to host. If Alden has difficulty, Holland could run 5 and Alden could run 4.

Decision made before May Athletic Council meeting. Please provide information to the league office to provide to divisions.

Question: We will have divisional championships for ECIC. Moving forward with hosting regardless of no representative/host from Division IV, correct?

Answer: If we have 4 out of 5 divisions covered, we must move forward. No spectators for all divisions which would help with superintendent's approval.

Also discuss cravat of trying to have live-streaming for events. At events, districts are live streaming from local live or You-Tube channels. Option for athletes for families to watch events and goal for championships.

Section meeting scheduled for 4/14/21 to discuss the proposals from the Section VI track and field chairperson and sections are to be discussed. More direction after meeting as far as sectional scheduling.

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

- ***State Meeting Report***
No report

Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty

- ***Committee Reports:***

Sectional/Intersectional

Jason Przybysz

Meeting on Thursday April 15, 2021

Modified

Daryl Besant

No Report

Safety

Brian Wild

Meeting held last Thursday, April 8, 2021. Todd Nelson conducted meeting as Assistant Executive Director.

Concussion Management: Spoke regarding concussion management update from NYS Concussion Management and Dr. Brian Rieger. Dr. Rieger acquiring information and legislation as the Senate and Assembly. Working with State Education Department in updating the concussion law and research currently in effect. Recommended saving lives. Reminder to schools having interscholastic teams anyonecansavealife.org for more information concerning an emergency action plan, if one not already in place.

Girls Lacrosse: Recent studies regarding head gear use worn by girls' players. Studies show (Virginia), significant decrease in head injuries over a (2) year period.

Thunder/Lightening policy: Use of weather bug.com; trial with earthnetworks.com on sferic maps applications difficult to navigate and costly to the state for members and responsibility of schools. Continue to use weather bug.com.

Baseball pitch modification for spring 2021: Recommended by committee to move forward on the recommendations. Based upon April, May, and June. Proposal approved, must be approved by state officers. No information set. Waiting to hear from the state which meets on Friday. Nothing heard as of yet. As soon as approved, will forward information. Section has option to implement or be more restrictive. ECIC league scheduled to start in May, other leagues scheduled to start in April. April pitch count used. Can use April—less pitch count. Option to use as a section.

No specific safety concerns from Section VI. Next meeting schedule for September 28, 2021.

Chemical Awareness

Brian Wild

No report

Finance

Vinny Dell'Oso

Meeting this week, no report

Sportsmanship

Sandy Gauthier

Some schools no completion of sportsmanship survey. Resent over break. Need 100% participation. Please complete as soon as possible.

Charter Schools

Jeff Wheaton

No report

Combining of Schools

Daryl Besant

No report

Recruitment of Officials

Brian Hickson

No report

Old Business:

New Business:

- ***Jamestown Boys and Girls Swimming:*** Jamestown will play in the CCAA

- ***Health Sciences joining ECIC discussion:*** Received request from Health Sciences to enter ECIC membership for all sports. Inviting principal to discuss membership in ECIC. Per By-Laws must submit membership request by September 1, 2021, but will not be until 2022-2023. Voting item for Athletic Council. Schedule for next Athletic Director's meeting to speak and discuss becoming member of ECIC. Determination to be made in May or early next year if ECIC to allow Health Sciences to become member of ECIC. This will not go into effect until 2022-2023 school year as per Constitution.

Question: How many sports does Health Science offer?

Answer: Not aware of how many at present time for meeting. This will be part of the presentation for league

Federated: Varsity/JV football

Indoor boys/girls track

ECIC: Varsity girls' volleyball

Varsity boys' soccer

Varsity competitive cheer

Varsity wrestling

Freshman/JV/Varsity boys' basketball

Varsity girls' basketball

Varsity outdoor track boys/girls

No JV or modified sports.

Question: Is it correct that since they are a charter school, can they petition Section VI and be placed in any league? Just confirming that this is the case if we decline their request to join ECIC.

Answer: Yes

- **Combining of Schools:** There will be a few combining of schools which will be voted on at the next meeting. West Seneca has a request to combine. This is not a complete list. The complete list will be available in May to be discussed and voted on. The list will contain the following:

West Seneca

Varsity/JV/Modified Field Hockey
Varsity Golf (boys)
Modified Cross-Country

Springville/West Valley:

Var./Modified Girls Swimming
Var./JV/Modified Girls Volleyball

Good of the Order:

Lackawanna 7/8/9 football team started the season full force. After going on break and 10 athletes did not return. Looking to look at numbers remainder of week. If numbers for Lackawanna for football low, it may be an option to fold Lackawanna modified football for the conclusion of the season.

Frontier went on pause for modified team. Reach out to opponent. Now playing Orchard Park.

Hamburg working on plans to have students attend school/sports full time. May have complications with busing situation for athletics. Possibility of buses arriving late. Looking at a few plans. May alter the start time of games 10 or 15 minutes.

Spectator situation moving to spring. Tennis match, 2 softball games, lacrosse game and a track meet. How handling situation with spectators and number of sports. Check-ins difficult with more than one event taking place. Events in stadium keep a gate list. Events in the grass (lacrosse, JV levels, middle school, games, softball/baseball, tennis) recommend that people spread out. Wear a mask and spread out.

Track rosters: Anyone setting a limit on track rosters?

(Orchard Park) Not a thought as of yet. Registration just opened. No knowledge of numbers.

(Hamburg) Not setting a limit on anything. Respectful of opponent is they wish to limit.

(West Seneca) Not looking to limit. Limit took place in the fall regular season. No limit during winter and fall II. Not looking to limit track.

(Sweet Home) Looking to limit due to a large number of athletes. Concerns with busing and have 110 athletes.

(Orchard Park) Busing will be concern for everyone. Cross Country limited in the fall due to busing. Track and field attend earlier. Group of 120 athletes going to Sweet Home will not be able to leave until 4:30 p.m. or 5:00 p.m.

(Sweet Home) Athletes 120 and other school 110, would it be better to have a separate JV meet? Possibility to look further based upon the teams that traditionally have a large number of athletes.

(Holland) What transpired for swimming situation. Was varsity only allowed to travel? All athletes traveled.

(Amherst) Spectators with multi-events. Spread out spectators and hope for the best. Orchard Park did just that in the fall. Chaperones requesting spectators to wear mask and try to stay 6 feet apart. Using lanyards removed athletes' friends. Lanyards would help reduce the number of spectators

(Lanyards) Should league order and purchase lanyards similar to the fall? Alden does not want lanyards. Some schools enforced lanyards some did not enforce lanyards. Some schools enforced the lanyard and some did not. Alden did enforce lanyard use. Tough to enforce lanyard in spring. Frontier wishes lanyards. If league require lanyards, schools must enforce use. If school does not enforce, there will be a league issue. (Starpoint) Issue in fall was visiting schools that would argue with supervisor indicating no one else enforcing use of lanyards. (Orchard Park) Parents signing in under different athlete's name because they wished to attend game. Issues at gate. Orchard Park requires lanyards. What divisions would like lanyards.

Google or Microsoft form to all the membership to vote on lanyards for the spring 2020-2021 season. Numbers needed from each school. How many athletes and office will multiple by 2 to give to the schools. Suggestion for separate colors. Varsity-red; JV-Blue; modified different color so then if a person comes with a blue tag and are attending a varsity game, that that is not the right color. Color coordinate sport/levels.

1. Provide a form for membership to vote on. Return form as soon as possible. If approved.
2. Custom design for lanyard based upon feedback.

(Sanitizing) Does anyone have or has anyone invested in the germ ninja. Price is \$3,000. Holland received a grant and purchased this item. It is a UV light sanitizer from Jay Pro Sports. Roll balls through it and it drops into a bin. Saves time. Starpoint purchased a hydrostatic sprayer. Dries instantly.

Next Meeting Dates:

Athletic Directors – May 4, 2021

Athletic Council – May 10, 2021

