



May 2014

During the May 2nd Executive Committee meeting I was encouraged to see the 22 member committee favorably vote to permit a modified football pilot program. The program will allow Section IV modified teams to play by a set of revised rules, in an effort to encourage more students to play modified football. The New York State Board of Regents also declared cheer a sport in New York on April 30. This action will provide for greater safety requirements for student-athletes, and also encourage more students to participate and require certification for coaches.

I believe we need to continue to examine ways in which we can not only maintain participation levels, but find ways to increase participation. The football pilot and cheer becoming a sport will hopefully increase the number of students who participate and provide these students with the opportunity to experience education based sports. We must remain focused on ensuring we are preparing students for the next level of life and not for the next level of competition.

Robert J. Zayas
NYSPHSAA Executive Director

PARTICIPATION SURVEY:

The NYSPHSAA Participation Survey deadline is quickly approaching on **Friday, May 23**. Schools are asked to complete the online survey to ensure the NYSPHSAA and the NFHS are provided with accurate figures pertaining to the number of students participating in interscholastic athletics.

Schools can complete the online survey by accessing the following on the NYSPHSAA website:

<http://www.nysphsaa.org/Participation>

For information about the NYSPHSAA Participation Survey

please contact Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director, at 518.690.0771 or rzayas@nysphsaa.org



CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING:

The NYSPHSAA Central Committee meeting will be at High Peaks Resort on July 29-31 in Lake Placid.

The meeting notice will be distributed to all Central Committee members, Section Executive Directors and Past Presidents in the coming weeks. The agenda and meeting packet will be released on Monday, July 14th.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

The NYSPHSAA Executive Committee met on Friday, May 2nd in Troy. The Committee voted on several key issues impacting the association's membership.

The committee voted to table the elimination of the academic advantage waiver until the October 23rd Executive Committee meeting. Data pertaining to the topic will be presented to the Central Committee during the July 29-31 meeting to allow Sections to have a thorough discussion. A survey has been e-mailed to the NYSPHSAA transfer committee in an effort to collect the data.

Another transfer eligibility regulation which was not passed was to require parents to be legally separated to serve as one of the exemptions of the transfer rule; currently parents do not have to provide proof of separation. This action item was returned to the sections for further discussion.

Section X Superintendent representative, Paul Harrica, was nominated to fill the role of 2nd Vice President of the association by the nominating committee. Mr. Harrica's nomination will be voted upon at the upcoming Central Committee meeting.

Modified football will have a bit of a different look in the Fall of 2014 as the Executive Committee approved the use of revised rules for a Section IV pilot program to examine the use of rules more similar to the high school game in an effort to increase participation. Other Sections will be afforded the opportunity to seek approval for the implementation of the pilot in their Sections during the July Central Committee meeting.

The Executive Committee defeated the use of NFHS rules in all applicable sports as well as revising the girls' basketball shot clock from 30 seconds to 35 seconds.

REGENTS DECLARE CHEER A SPORT:

The New York State Board of Regents declared cheerleading a sport to begin with the 2014 Winter Season. The NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee met at the NYSPHSAA offices on May 20 to discuss proposals to present to the Central Committee July 29-31. Proposals will include some of the following items:

- Representation requirement of two regular season competitions to be eligible for post season.
- Practice requirements of 10 (team) and 8 (individual).
- Coaching certification requirements for 2014-2015 school year to include AACCA, First Aide/ CPR/ AED, Concussion, School violence and prevention, and Child abuse.
- Two competition divisions (I & II), with a total of five total classifications.
- The maximum number of competitions will be proposed as 12 with at least one night's rest between competitions.



MIXED COMPETITION:

The Mixed Competition Ad Hoc Committee is recommending the use of guidelines to the Central Committee to assist schools, Superintendents and Sections in determining a “*significant adverse effect.*” Currently, SED regulations permit a male to participate on a team organized for females as long as he does not have a significant adverse effect. The NYSPHSAA membership has requested clarity upon this regulation.

The Ad Hoc committee has created the following guidelines which will be presented to the Central Committee in late July:

A response of “yes” to one or more of the questions below, could determine a “significant adverse effect.”

Proposed guidelines are:

- 1. Will the athlete be “advantaged” by the rules of the game?*
- 2. Will participation result in a student of the opposite gender being displaced from the team?*
- 3. Will the participation affect the opportunity of the other students to participate in such competition (i.e. tryouts, practice and games)?*
- 4. Does the student exceed the physical standards of the sport they wish to participate as per NYSED guidelines?*
- 5. Has the student participated in the sport previously on an all-male team?*



UNIFIED SPORTS:

Unified Sports will be voted upon as an “*Official Program of NYSPHSAA*” at this summer’s Central Committee meeting in Lake Placid. Currently, 12 Section II schools are conducting a Unified basketball pilot program. The pilot will conclude with a culminating event to be held at the Glens Falls Civic Center on May 31st following a six game regular season.

The NYSPHSAA and Special Olympics of New York have teamed up to bring this exciting program to the students of New York. A press conference was held on April 22 at Columbia High School to announce the partnership between both organizations.



FALL AD MANDATORY ELIGIBILITY WORKSHOPS:

The 2014 Fall Athletic Director mandatory eligibility workshops will be held throughout the state in August, September and October. All NYSPHSAA member schools are required to have a representative attend this workshop which will provide an overview of key eligibility rules and regulations. The calendar of workshops is:

I	September 15
2	October 8
III	October 9
IV	October 7
V	August 26
VI	August 25
VII	September 23
VIII	September 19
IX	September 16
X	September 11
XI	September 18
Makeup	October 14 (NYSPHSAA Office)

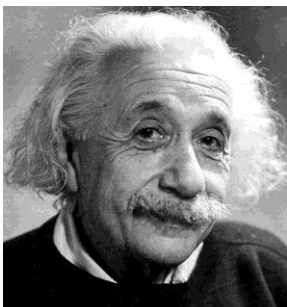


LOOKING AHEAD:

May 23	Participation Survey Due
May 26	Memorial Day
May 29-31	Boys tennis Championships
May 31	NAIA Five Star Leadership application due
May 31-June 2	Boys Golf Championships
June 1	Section's Community Service Challenge Winner due to NYSPHSAA
June 4	Boys Lacrosse East/ West Semi-Finals
June 6-7	Girls/ Boys Track & Field Championships
June 6-7	Girls Lacrosse Championships
June 7	Boys Lacrosse Championships
June 13-15	Girls Golf Championships
June 14	Softball Championships
June 14	Baseball Championships
June 30	School of Distinction deadline
July 29-31	NYSPHSAA Central Committee (Lake Placid, NY)



QUOTE TO REMEMBER:



“Creativity is intelligence having fun.”

- Albert Einstein

NYSPHSAA SPONSORSHIP RECOGNITION

