



SECTION VI *newsletter*

November 2006

Volume 13 Issue 2

N.Y.S. PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.



Next Athletic Council Meeting

November 15, 2006

Lunch 11:00 am

Meeting begins at 11:30 am

Erie 1 BOCES Education Campus,
355 Harlem Rd., W.Seneca,
Building B, Room B2b

Action Items:

Approvals for Senior All-Star and
Outside Agency Contests

Discussion Items:

Proposed Budget 2007-2008

Open Tournament

Software used for Central Management
of Officials

ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2006-2007

Sept. 20, Nov. 15, Jan. 17,

March 21, May 16

All Athletic Council meetings are held at

11:30 am – Lunch served at 11:00 am

Erie 1 BOCES Education Campus,
355 Harlem Rd., W.Seneca, Building B

Mark your calendars!

Section VI

355 Harlem Road
West Seneca, NY 14224

(716) 821-7299

(716) 821-7365

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cszczesny@e1b.org

This Newsletter is available
at our Web site:

www.section6.wnyric.org

click on News

SECTION VI CONGRATULATES MEMBER SCHOOLS FOR ACADEMICS!

Albion, Clarence and Williamsville East

Receive the 2005-2006 Scholar-Athlete “School of Distinction” Award



Albion (L to R) Dr. Ada Grabowski, Superintendent, Dan Monacelli, Principal, Student Athletes - Eric Liddle & Catherine Lyman, Dick Diminuco, A.D.



Clarence (L to R) Dr. Thomas Coseo, Superintendent, Student Athletes - Chris Skubis and Melissa Rogers, Joseph Gentile, Principal, Greg Kasubski, A.D.



Williamsville East (L to R) Dr. Howard Smith, Superintendent, Dawn Bak, A.D., Student Athletes Meghan Scheidemann and Zach Miller, Neal Miller, Principal, Dr. Rusin, A.D.

The “School of Distinction” award is the highest award handed out in the Scholar-Athlete program and is in its fourth year of existence. NYSPHSAA announced that three Section VI schools have achieved the status of Scholar-Athlete “School of Distinction” for 2005-06: Albion, Clarence, and Williamsville East. They earned the award by having 100% of their varsity sports teams earn above a 90.0% grade point average. Albion sponsors 17 interscholastic varsity sports, while Clarence and Williamsville East both sponsor 29. Walter Eaton, NYSPHSAA Assistant Director, presented the awards to representatives from the three schools at the Section VI Athletic Council meeting, Wed. Sept. 20 at Erie 1 BOCES Education Campus in West Seneca. The purpose of the “School of Distinction” award is to unite varsity coaches in challenging their teams to achieve a statewide honor in addition to the already established Scholar-Athlete Team Award which was initiated in 1991-1992 school year.

*Congratulations to the
Section VI Schools
of Distinction!*

NEWS FROM THE STATE OFFICE

Toll-Free (866) 598-2816 • www.nysphsaa.org

NYSPHSAA Office Report October 2006

(also available on the state website www.nysphsaa.org)



STRUCTURE & POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Ad Hoc Committee will be meeting on October 5th to review all aspects of the NYSPHSAA. Please contact your representatives prior to their next meeting which is scheduled for November 29, 2006 with any suggestions you may have so that we may provide the very best opportunities for our student athletes.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -

October 30, 2006

The following items were approved:

2007-2008 DUES INCREASE - The NYSPHSAA dues will be increased by \$50 per school district (\$750.00) and 5 cents per student (80 cents).

Wrestling - The use of the Communicable Skin Disease Form for the 2006-2007 season. In addition, wrestlers with oral braces are required to wear a mouth guard covering the braces. Approved for the 2007-2008 season: 22 Points for the individual wrestler and multiple entries in tournaments.

BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2008

The dates for the NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament will be March 14-16, 2008.

GIRLS LACROSSE - A waiver for the 2007 season to permit the wearing of uniforms that do not meet the new numbering requirement. Be advised that for the 2008 season uniforms will be required to have 6" numbers on the front and 8" numbers on the back and centrally on the uniform.

CROSS COUNTRY - A variation in classification numbers for two years, beginning in the 2007-2008 school year. AA 1083 and above, A 712-1082, B 468-711, C 290-467 and D 289 and below.

TRANSFER LANGUAGE - "Students who *transfer* from any school may enroll in the public school district of their residence *or private school within that district's boundaries* shall be exempt from the Transfer Rule. Such a transfer without penalty will only be permitted once in a high school career. (*change in italics*) Under Exemptions of the Transfer Rule - "A student of a military employee who is transferred to an active

military base may enroll in the non-public school closest to their residence and maintain eligibility if the student enrolls in a nonpublic school immediately following the change in residence."

CONFERENCE -

Eligibility and Standards

Once again the NYSPHSAA and NYSAAA are partnering to organize a two-day conference scheduled for **November 27-28, 2006** at the Holiday Inn – Turf, Albany. The NYSAAA will be offering NIAAA Leadership Training Courses on November 27th. On November 28th the NYSPHSAA will conduct a seminar on rules, regulations and eligibility designed for athletic administrators and sports coordinators. A more detailed brochure will be mailed this month.

FUTURE RULE CHANGES

Boys Lacrosse - In 2008 all jerseys shall be of a single, solid color with specific trim specifications (NFHS rule 1-9-1).

Wrestling - A wrestler caught cheating on the hydration test will be an ineligible wrestler for the remainder of the season.

ON LINE COACHING COURSES

The NYSPHSAA has partnered with SUNY Cortland in offering the New York State

Coaching Certification Courses on line - an asynchronous web-based program. Go to www.cortland.edu/physed for registration information.

STATE WEBSITE

The Association has now completed its transition away from iHigh to host all of its sports information. All NYSPHSAA championship schedules, results, records, and news will now be hosted on nysphsaa.org and we will no longer be using iHigh's website services. All sports information e-mails should go to sports@nysphsaa.org.

HALL OF FAME

Nominations sought for Class of 2007

Pupil Benefits has sponsored the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame since its inception four years ago. The Hall of Fame recognizes individuals for their outstanding contribution to high school athletics in the categories of administrator, coach, athlete, official and contributor. Nominations must first receive the endorsement of the Section and be received by the NYSPHSAA by the **December 15th** deadline. Nomination forms are available from the section and state association office.

Happy Thanksgiving!

FALL 2006 CHAMPIONSHIP DATES and SITES

Girls Tennis	November 4-6	Eastside Racquet (3)
Cross Country	November 11	Warwick Valley HS (9)
Boys Volleyball	November 11	Orchard Park HS (6)
Boys Gymnastics	November 11	SUNY Brockport (5)
Girls Volleyball	November 17-18	Glens Falls Civic Center (2)
Field Hockey	November 17-18	Alliance Bank Stadium (3)
Girls Swimming/Diving	November 17-18	Erie Community College (6)
Girls Soccer	November 17-18	SUNY Cortland/Homer HS (3)
Football Semis	November 17-18	East-Dietz Stadium (9), West-Rochester (5)
Federation XC	November 18	Bowdoin Park (1)
Boys Soccer	November 18-19	Hall of Fame, Oneonta (4)
Football	November 24-25	Carrier Dome (3)
		November 24 D-4:00, A-7:00,
		November 25 C-12:00, AA-3:00, B-6:00



Section 6 veterans met in September of this year for a golf outing and dinner at Danny's South

Section VI Veterans Honored

The Section was pleased to host another annual celebration in honor of Section VI veterans on Wednesday September 13, 2006. A Section VI Veteran is a school-retiree who has dedicated much time and energy to Western New York athletes with service to Section VI. The Veterans each year are invited to a golf tournament followed by cocktails and dinner, once again held at Danny's South Restaurant in Orchard Park.

Congratulations and sincere thanks are extended to all Section VI Veterans. These individuals have dedicated their time and energy to the athletes of Section VI and throughout New York State for many, many years. Section VI is extremely grateful for their commitment to and love of interscholastic athletics! We are grateful for their many contributions!! If you are aware of a veteran who has not received notice of the Recognition Day, please call the Section office 821-7299!

Section VI Hall of Fame Nominees Sought

Each year, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association recognizes individuals for their outstanding contribution to high school athletics in the categories of administrator, coach, athlete, official and contributor, by inducting them into the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame. All nominations must receive the endorsement of the Section and be received by the NYSPHSAA by **December 15th**.

Almost every district, at one time or another has had an athlete, coach, administrator or someone in another capacity who merits consideration for this distinction. We've seen successful high school athletic careers lead to successful collegiate and professional careers.....we've witnessed coaches amass won-loss records which seem insurmountable by today's competitions. These are the people we need to nominate!

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the section office, contact Cindy 821-7365 cszczesny@e1b.org. Please forward your completed nominations to the Section VI office as soon as possible! Section VI nominations will be reviewed for completeness. Section endorsement must be attached before submission to the state office.

The 2007 honorees selected will be inducted into the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame at the annual meeting in August of 2007.

Section VI loses a Veteran and Good Friend

George R. Gardner, a long-time Section VI Veteran and Annual Veteran's Golf-outing Chairman, passed away October 4, 2006.

Mr. George Gardner served the Maryvale School District from 1951 to 1982 where he was the first to coach varsity football, basketball, and baseball. George was also the first male physical education teacher and the first director of athletics.

Additionally, he served the district as vice principal of the high school.

Along with Dr. Samuel Bennett, Mr. Gardner planned and designed the track, football stadium, soccer fields, baseball diamonds, and the three-hole golf course. He also worked with the school architect in planning the indoor physical education facilities in the primary and high school building.

George was indeed a "Maryvale Man," and expressed great satisfaction in laying the ground work for Maryvale's fine athletic program. In fact, he and his students were responsible for choosing the Maryvale maroon and white school colors as well as coming up with the name "Flyers". As a result of his many contributions towards the fine Maryvale Tradition, Mr. Gardner was inducted into the Maryvale Athletic Wall of Fame in 1997.

The New York State Education department invited Mr. Gardner to serve on physical education and recreational panels. He was also invited to serve on a similar panel in Washington, DC.

The sports world has indeed lost a true pioneer in the world of high school sports. The many athletes that have been touched by him, thank him. May he rest in peace. George is also pictured in the Veterans Dinner photo above (back row far right).



Section VI Directory 2006-07 Updates

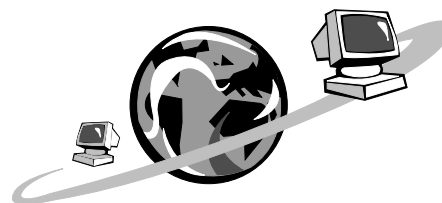
Please mark the following changes (noted in bold) on the appropriate pages of your Directory.

Page #

- 2 Executive Committee Supt Rep: **Jeff Rabey, Lake Shore, 926-2336**, (fax) 549-6407, [jrabej@lakeshore.wnyric.org](mailto:jrabey@lakeshore.wnyric.org)
- 3 NFL Supt Rep: **Vincent Vecchiarella, NT, vvechiarella@ntschoools.org, 807-3600**, fax 807-3631
- 5 **Swimming (B) James Graczyk, Pioneer Central, (W) 492-9351, (H) 863-0319, (C) 863-0314, Fax 492-9350**
- 5 **Swimming (B) Co-Chair Al Fritzing, Heim Middle School, (W) 626-8600, (H) 692-8330, Fax 626-8626**
- 12 Orchard Park- James Trampert's new address: **Orchard Park Middle School, 60 S.Lincoln Ave., Orchard Park, NY 14127 fax 209-6338**
- 27 Lackawanna High School: AD office phone **827-6720**
- 32 N.Tonawanda Superintendent: **Vincent Vecchiarella**
- 34 Pine Valley Superintendent: **Peggy Sauer**
- 39 Westfield AD Bob North cell & home: **753-0969**
- 47 Boys Soccer Group 20 President German Lesmes (C) **785-0268**

Winter Sports Handbooks 2006-2007

Winter Sports Handbooks are available on the Section website www.section6.wnyric.org Click on *Handbooks, Forms and Information*. Hard copies have been distributed to Athletic Directors and head coaches (via your AD). Boys swimming will be sent as soon as it is completed.



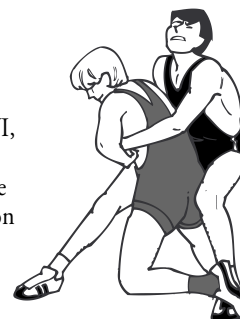
Section VI Website Update www.wnyric.org/section6

Handbooks for 2006-07 winter sports are now available. Note that the sectional competition schedule is posted and updated as soon as changes are known. Please check it on a regular basis! Don't forget to check the Section VI *Bulletin Board* - look for positions open, posting of contests needed by schools, and current sports and fingerprinting information. Also posted are Coaching Certification classes being offered throughout Section VI.

Click on *officials* to find clearance status of sports officials. Officials now can register with League Minder and track their payment for contests worked in the pilot schools for Central Payment of Officials through BOCES *When was the last time YOU tuned in to your web site???*

Section VI Football/ Basketball/Wrestling Program Ads

For the 2006-2007 school year, Section VI has contracted with Leo Kaminsky, SPORTS LINK VI, for solicitation of ads for the Football, Basketball and Wrestling Programs. The Program Committee is looking forward to 100% involvement of Section VI schools in its endeavor to showcase and promote our local schools through an event program booklet!



Dates to Remember 2006-2007

- Nov. 15 Deadline for All-WNY Fall Scholar Athlete applications to the Section office
- Nov. 15 Athletic Council meeting, 11:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca
Executive Committee meeting, 9:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca
- Nov. 17 Deadline for submission of BEDS data to the Section VI office
- Nov. 27-28 NYS PHSAA Conference on Eligibility and Standards, Holiday In Turf, Albany
- Nov. 29 NYS PHSAA Structure and Review Committee meeting
- Dec. 6 Post Season Meeting - Fall Sports
7:30 PM at Erie 1 BOCES, West Seneca
- Dec. 1 Deadline for **Fall Scholar/Athlete Team Award** Applications to the state
- Dec. 13 Executive Committee Meeting Distance Learning sites TBA
- Dec. 15 Nominations for 2007 NYS PHSAA Hall of Fame are due to the state office



*****2007*****

- Jan. 3 Sectional/Intersectional Committee meeting on Distance Learning
- Jan. 17 Athletic Council & Exec Comm meetings, at Erie 1 BOCES, West Seneca
- Jan. 26-27 State Executive Committee Meeting, The Saratoga, Saratoga Springs

Transportation Policy Reminder

The following recommendations of the Transportation Committee were approved by the Section VI Athletic Council in May 2006 as a two-year experiment:

TRANSPORTATION POLICY*

Team Sports:

1. Schools will make their own arrangements for transportation for their athletes involved in state competition in team sports.
2. Section VI will be financially responsible for transportation costs as follows:
 - \$3.50 per mile on the grid. \$1.00 of this amount is the state reimbursement to the section for bus costs and \$2.50 is the portion the Section will finance.
 - Bus layover: A flat fee of \$350.00 per night per additional game played. This amount will be applied towards the total cost related to a required bus layover. This fee will not be paid unless the additional night stay is required for additional competitions for the state championship. The fee will be adjusted if the required layover is on Long Island.
3. Districts will be reimbursed for transportation costs incurred by the district as per the formula in item 2.

Individual sports:

1. Section VI will make the arrangements for transportation for all athletes involved in state competition in individual sports.
2. Section VI will be financially responsible for transportation costs as follows:
 - \$3.50 per mile on the grid. \$1.00 of this amount is the state reimbursement to the section for bus costs and \$2.50 is the portion the Section will finance.
 - Bus trip requiring more than one night stay: A flat fee of \$350.00 will be paid for by the Section if the trip requires more than one night. This amount will be applied towards the total bus cost. The fee will be adjusted if the trip is to Long Island.
3. The Section will back-bill the schools for the following:
 - The difference between total transportation costs and the amount the Section will finance (as per the formula in item 2).
 - The costs of meals for the athletes (as it has in the past).
 - The amount to be back-billed will be calculated per athlete competing for each district.

LODGING

Section VI will remain financially responsible for lodging at state competitions as per the established policy.

MEALS

Districts will remain financially responsible for all meals at state competitions as per the established policy*

**This policy is posted on the Section 6 website. Click on Forms and Info, then Financial Responsibility.*

Annual Classification of Schools: BEDS Reporting

As per NYSPHSA Executive Committee action in January 2003, the Section VI office is collecting the BEDS numbers from each member school. They will be reviewed for accuracy and filed electronically by the Section office with the state association. Each Athletic Director has been requested to submit to the Section VI office, a copy of the actual BEDS Building Report Form (page 3) that was sent to SED. This information will be used by NYSPHSA to calculate the classification of member schools for athletic purposes. It will also be used by the Section VI Football Committee for class projections.

Also note that because, for athletic classification purposes, we must count ALL students in ALL buildings housing grades 9-11 and ungraded, an *Addendum for Enrollment Numbers* must be completed for each adjustment made to a school building's reported enrollment numbers. Please review the memo recently distributed by the Section office and submit the Classification Addendum if you have a shared services situation.

Please send this information as soon as possible (but no later than **NOV 17**) to: **Section VI, 355 Harlem Rd., West Seneca, NY 14224 OR fax: 821-7352**. If you have any questions, please call the section office 821-7299.

Centralized Payment of Sports Officials



The program launched by Erie I BOCES in cooperation with Section VI for centralized payment of sports officials by Erie I BOCES in September 2005 has moved into its second year of operation. Officials for girls soccer, boys soccer, field hockey and cross country receive one paycheck from Erie I BOCES for all contests/meets worked in participating districts

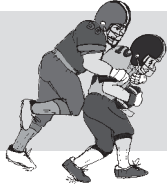
within a monthly pay period. The web-based software approved by the Section to facilitate this program is League Minder. The program will continue for payment of boys and girls basketball officials in the winter and then boys and girls lacrosse and track officials in the spring.

Though the program has operated successfully, it is not meeting the needs of all Section VI member schools. For the winter season, the ECIC is using TheArbiter to assign officials. The Section is currently investigating TheArbiter as the program to handle the Central Management of Officials. During this time of transition, all winter officials are requested to not only register on-line with LeagueMinder as required by a Section Athletic Council decision in May 2005, but also to register with TheArbiter and **keep their availabilities up-to-date in both**. This will assist with the assigning of all officials that are shared by multiple leagues.

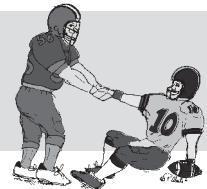
Section VI extends its gratitude to all sports officials and to the participating districts for their cooperation with this program for Central Management of Sports officials. It was developed not only to ensure payment of officials in a timely, efficient and cost effective manner but also to maintain compliance of sports officials with SAVE legislation across the Section.

Welcome Aboard!!

Congratulations and welcome to the new Section VI representatives recently appointed by the Section VI Executive Committee: Jim Graczyk, Pioneer and Al Fritzing, Williamsville – Boys Swimming Co-chairs. Section VI is looking forward to sharing their energy and enthusiasm for interscholastic sports!



Always a winner...



By Doug Ames, Section VI Sportsmanship Coordinator
Newfane High School 778-6560 — dames@newfane.wnyric.org



Olean – (L to R) Walter Eaton, Coach Paul Ksionzyk, AD Don Scholla, Student Athletes - Gina Palumbo and Adam Griffith, Coach Carolyn Smith

New York Good Sports Program

Exemplary sportsmanship programs were recognized by NYSPHSAA as part of the New York Good Sports Program at the Section VI Athletic Council meeting September 20, 2006. **Olean** was presented the **State Award** at the NYSPHSAA Central Committee meeting this past summer at the Holiday Inn on Grand Island. **Frontier, Kenmore West and Barker** were recognized for their outstanding efforts in promoting good sportsmanship at Section level. Congratulation to all!

Sportsmanship:

Few will dispute that sportsmanship should be an integral part of scholastic athletics. Our sports programs provide us with a unique opportunity to teach and learn respect for self and respect for

others. Quite frankly, as part of the educational community, if our programs do not reflect sportsmanship I'm not sure if we have anything worthwhile to promote and protect.

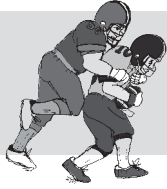
In recent years the State Association has enacted a Sportsmanship standard to address inappropriate behavior by athletes, coaches and officials. This has had a positive impact on our programs statewide. Additionally, New York Good Sports has been launched. Recently revised, it affords more high schools recognition for exemplary sportsmanship efforts. The program is based on a self-assessment process. High schools are encouraged to participate in this evaluative program, which will give direction for growth and improvement to their sportsmanship initiatives.

The state has provided your district with the "Sportsmanship Guide." Which in turn will assist

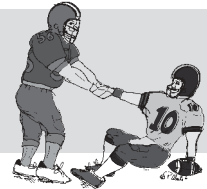
...Good Sports Finish First

Sportsmanship... We can make it happen! • Sportsmanship... We can make it happen!

Sportsmanship... We can make it happen! • Sportsmanship... We can make it happen!



Always a winner...



Sportsmanship... We can make it happen!

Sportsmanship... We can make it happen!

you in implementing efforts in your school to enhance sportsmanship. The Association along with Section VI would hope it stimulates you to share with the section your ideas, programs, or any "acts of kindness" pertaining to the Sportsmanship to the Section Coordinator for individual or school recognition weekly. I want to hear from you!

There is no doubt that we have seen improved sportsmanship reflected in our athletic programs in the section and across the state in recent years. We hope you will join us in keeping sportsmanship a top priority!



*Barker – (L to R) Walter Eaton, AD
Dave Carson, Student Athletes - Brad
Dingman and Sarah Budde, AD (05-06)
Bill Stedman.*



*Frontier – (L to R) AD Tim Marong, Student
Athletes - Kim Graham and Jake Schum,
Walter Eaton*



*Kenmore – (L to R) NFL president Joe Greco,
Student Athletes - Alexandra Dockstader and
Joe MacGavers, Walter Eaton*

...Good Sports Finish First



IT'S OFFICIAL...

by Tom Cowan, Section VI Officials Coordinator

Winter sports are upon us!! Boys and Girls Basketball are reminded that they will be paid for all games worked at the participating districts* by Erie 1 BOCES (through LeagueMinder) as part of the Central Payment of Officials program for 2006-07. (see article on page 5). Indoor Track Officials will be paid for all meets in this manner as well. This requires each official to go online to the Section 6 website to register with League Minder AND submit to the Section office a W9 form. Complete instructions are on the website.

Go to www.section6.wnyric.org.....click on *Officials*.....scan down to Registration with League Minder. Any official without a computer or email address can call the Section office: Cindy 821-7365 or Pauline 821-7581 and be registered over the phone. Thank you for your prompt cooperation with this program adopted to ensure payment of officials in a timely, efficient and

cost effective manner and to protect social security numbers from identity theft.

Also Note:

Since LeagueMinder is currently not meeting the needs for all Section VI member school as was anticipated, the ECIC is using TheArbiter for assigning officials. For this time of transition, we request that all boys and girls basketball officials also register with TheArbiter and keep their availability up-to-date in EACH system. Thank you for your continued cooperation!!

*Participating districts: Akron, Alden, Allegany-Limestone, Forestville, Franklinville, Hinsdale, Ken-Ton, Newfane, Olean, Portville, Southwestern



SECTION VI

355 Harlem Road
West Seneca, NY 14224