



ERIE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE

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

Athletic Directors' Meeting 10/4/2021

10:30 AM Activity Board

11:30 AM Lunch

12:00 PM Meeting

Erie I BOCES

Room B-3A & B

Opening Remarks:

Rich Gray

-Division Breakouts Transportation in winter with regard to basketball. Some schools use a 5:00 p.m. start. Buses not available until 4:15 p.m. Discussion regarding pushing back start time to a 5:30 p.m. or later start.

Division I: Second draft due October 7, 2021. Going back to check schedules to accommodate some schools who will have difficulty commuting to farther schools for a 5:00 p.m. start. Mix of 6:00 p.m.; 5:30 p.m. and some close school 5:00 p.m. starts. Discussion regarding reiterating to all volleyball coaches' boy/girls, that the teams have to wear masks while they are playing. If a team went to a school and the other team was not wearing a mask, the game could be protested. Not sure how this would play out. Possibly going in the favor of the team that protested that was concerned about non-mask wearing team.

Division II: 5:30/6:00 p.m. works for most schools. Schools can work with each other with regard to an earlier time. Discussed single/double bus for JV/Varsity transportation. Most schools trying single buses, doubling up seating capacity more difficult.

Division III: Discussion regarding start times. Most schools in division trying 5:00 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. start times, with pre-communication if going to be late. Few schools having transportation issues, few were not.

Division IV: Discussion regarding 5:00 p.m./5:30 p.m. start time. If necessary arrangements could be made between school if alternate time necessary. Not allowing cheerleaders to attend away contests in Division V games, because of gym space and transportation. Division V implementing no cheerleaders for division away games. Discussed masks and trying to discuss with coaches and players.

Athletic Council

Rich Gray

-nothing to add at this time

President's Report:

Rich Gray

Approval of Minutes from 9/13/2021 Meeting

Motion to approve minutes

1st Jason Iwanko (Eden)

2nd Jason Lehmbeck (Clarence)

Motion passed

- Cheerleading Game Day: Difficulty when meetings are virtual and non-relay of messages. Athletic Directors should have a say when big decisions are made.
- Schedules: Do best as Athletic Directors to stay on the deadlines provided by ECIC office. When schedules are ready indicating 1st draft, need date within a week or two of when the draft should be returned. Understand that everyone is busy, but schedule still must be kept. Maintain deadline of production of schedule changes. Like to try to get schedules out earlier than usual. Spring alignments to be discussed, voted on and the sent to Athletic Directors. Spring to be out 1st week of November. Comprise next year's fall alignment in February. Comprise 1st draft of Winter out by end of May so the coaches would have over the summer and they would not be due until 1st week of September. This was tried several years ago and it seemed to work fairly well. Please meet deadline for current drafts.

Suggestion to change the design for ECIC to be voted on. Maybe creating a twitter page for ECIC promoting division championships and the league considering size of the league.

Executive Director's Report:

Jim Graczyk

- ATC availability for Championships: Any athletic trainer availability for any of the championships, please advise Jim Graczyk. Using Marcy for ½ of tennis. No one else assigned. Discussion with Josie from Excelsior Orthopedics. Need athletic trainer. ECIC would be happy to use other athletic trainers and pay for these trainers based upon a certain fee.
- Championship update: Cheerleading and golf championships scheduled and moving forward. Golf to be finalized after meeting with committee. Tennis all set, no worry of rain because inside. Golf coach count. Anyone sending 2 golf coaches? (2) added to count.
- Office Communications/Procedure: Discussed with regard to scheduling.
- Modified wrestling 1/24/2022: In need of a host. Lake Shore not available to host. If no one able to host, this event will not take place or date will need to be moved. Lake Shore scheduled to host. Amherst, Williamsville North, and Maryvale if one of these schools could host the meet, no schedule changes necessary. Please advise if you can host.
- Combining of Schools: Winter/Spring: Any other combination of combining of schools?

- WSE/WSW/Depew wrestling: Paperwork to be provided for combining. League approval needed. Email vote to follow. After approval provided to section for approval.

Activity Board:

Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty

- Spring Alignments Drafts: Activity board review. Made a few adjustments. Adjustments to be made and alignments sent out.

Jamestown: Modified baseball-out
 Varsity Baseball-out
 Varsity Track-out

Track: currently there are five (5) divisions, Division I -5; Division II-6; Division III-6; Division IV-5; Division V-6. With removal of Jamestown there could be 4 divisions of 7. Concern with adding an additional meet to Division I due to transportation. This creates an additional day to look for 2-3 busses. Looking towards 5 divisions to spread out meets. Schedule as many meets as you can without concern of the unknown. The less meets scheduled the more difficulty there could be in the future. Make 4 divisions with 7 schools.

Division I: Lancaster, Clarence, Williamsville North, Orchard Park, Frontier, West Seneca West, and Hamburg

Division II: Sweet Home, Williamsville East, Starpoint, Williamsville South, Amherst, West Seneca East, and Iroquois.

Division III: Cheektowaga, Pioneer, East Aurora, Maryvale, Lake Shore, Eden/North Collins, and Depew.

Division IV: Springville, Tonawanda, Lackawanna, Alden, Cleveland Hill, John F. Kennedy, and Holland.

Looking for feedback from chair individuals. Discussion regarding teams playing a non-league/league match (which is done in swimming). Like having option of invitations and only 1 meet per week. Would 4 divisions bring us in line with swimming? No because swimming has cross-over meets. Vote to take place in November. Discuss with track coaches regarding potential of alignment 4/5 after removing Jamestown. Vote to take place on November 1, 2021, meeting.

Section VI/NYSPHSAA Report:

Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty, Vinny Dell'Oso, and Dave Hack

- The Section has decided that what will take place the federated sports change how alignment is completed. Must include this in post-season report before approval. Discussion regarding girls' lacrosse alignments. Some are not happy with this decision. Athletic Directors will be able to discuss the decision by the section once post-season

report available. After review, there will be a vote. Boys' Ice Hockey, Girls Lacrosse and Football provide proposal for next year in the post-season report.

- Tennis chair for section has requested some help with an assistant chair. Alex Chambers will be the assistant chair. According to John Roth he indicates that Alex Chambers is an excellent candidate.
- Boys' basketball committee for the section has proposed that Health Science be moved to an **A** school; Tapestry a **B** school; and Global Concepts a **C** school for the upcoming year. This will more than likely be approved by the section. Possibility of an appeal. Health Science has appealed every year and will appeal again.
- Need a representative for the section for Charter schools to sit on the Ad Hoc Committee for Charter school placement. This person would represent ECIC league at the section level. Charter schools will be placed somewhere. Could possibly be ECIC. If placed in ECIC it is up to league to determine what class they are in in league. Geographically City of Buffalo would be a great place. Can ECIC initially say no to charter school. We have said no, but section has a right to place them. League could make a charter school division. All charters would be come part of ECIC league if ECIC selected by section. ECIC possibly the most organized of the leagues for them to be included in so they have some direction. Jeff Wheaton is ECIC representative.
- Combining of schools: Protocol for combining of schools after review of paperwork, need league approval first, then goes to section. Please notify league president, league executive director, and also the chairpersons, then need league approval first before section will consider combining.
- Unified Sports: Doug Ames assigned for unified sports. Unified basketball up to 35 teams. Scheduling of everyone difficult with regard to travel. Sweet Home possibly traveling to Salamanca. Long bus rides and late nights for this group of students is difficult and does not help. Consider scheduling off of league only.
- Softball: Chairperson/committee would like to consider that for semi-finals to start with 3 umpire system. Currently the 3 umpire systems is only used in finals not in semi-finals.
- Tennis: Direction is needed at next meeting. Section tennis looking to impose penalties on student athletes that are no-shows at sectionals. If you are a no-show at sectionals for team sports, you are automatically disqualified from sections, the following year. There is nothing for tennis as there is for swim, gymnastics, etc. There is no built in penalty system. In the beginning it made sense. Impose a penalty. Speaking with the tennis chairs it doesn't necessarily make sense. Only one athlete qualifies from your team and he knows he was seeded against the number 1 team, he will not have an opportunity, how do you force the athlete to show up. May not be concerned about team, may not care about coach, and don't want to show. Punishment would be to suspend the rest of the team from sectionals next year, but this athlete was a senior. No direction was provided.

- Basketball points for seeding: Boys' basketball wants to change how they seed. Lackawanna finishes 13/1; Olean same division same class finish 10/0; both schools played their league schedule. Olean has less contests. In scenario Lackawanna would be seeded higher at number (1) then Olean at (2). If they finish with equal power points. Idea is instead of using power points they want to use winning percentage. No punishment for Olean for finishing season undefeated because no one else to play. If power points are equal, the next league wins. Winning percentage, no coin flip. This seeding choice would just be for boys.
- Outdoor track for 2022 season is a 6 class meet with a state qualifier for 2 divisions. That will be a section action item.

- Committee Reports

Sectional/Intersectional

Jason Przybysz

No report

Modified

Daryl Besant

No report

Safety

Eric Rupp

No report

Chemical Awareness

Jason Iwanko

No report

Finance

Vinny Dell'Oso

No report

Sportsmanship

Sandy Gauthier

Discussing perhaps whether spectator bad behavior after a certain number of warnings to send to an online course requirement.

Charter Schools

Jeff Wheaton

No report

Combining of Schools

Daryl Besant

No report

Recruitment of Officials

Brian Hickson

Idea: Officials' contract has a freeze this year. Sat with Tim Slade February 2020, just before covid. Nothing in writing. Try to reach out to speak with official groups, but unsure how each organization trains, verses another. How much it costs to become an official. Would like some information on "what does it take to become an official" in each sport. Possibly no information anywhere on "how to become and official". Discuss with head of each organization. With support of ECIC we should start at the basic beginning and try to reach out for information on how each sport recruits officials

as a section. Anyone with information, please provide to Brian Hickson via email. Possibility of inviting seniors who will not be playing if they would be interested in officiating.

Vinny Dell'Oso: Section VI negotiating committee for officials. Discussion regarding promotion to help with recruiting of officials. Discussion with leagues seeking input on thoughts the leagues may have for recruitment of officials. Discussion regarding start-up cost for officials. Looking at costs of what it entails to become an official such as dues, fees, uniform cost, official rule book for specific sport, etc. Looking into possibly splitting the cost with officials to entice recruitment. Possibly an additional stipend if traveling beyond a certain travel limit from the home to ensure schools at a distance has assigned officials.

Old Business:

- **Discussion needed on State Classification cutoff proposal –Feb.'22 vote:** Briefly discussed changing of classifications. Please review classifications. Review as to how it affects your specific school. How does it affect ECIC in general? Discussion during November 1, 2021, meeting. Voted on in February at state level.

Modified tennis: any interest in having modified tennis

New Business:

Good of the Order:

- Review of 6 classification for discussion at November meeting. Review for own school and for league as well.
- Second draft for winter sports due October 7, 2021
- Track coaches about number of divisions and meets
- Basketball coaches about power point vs. coin toss

Motion to adjourn meeting

1st Pat Cauley (Hamburg)

2nd Marissa Fallacaro-Dougherty (West Seneca)

Motion passed

Next Meeting Dates:

Athletic Directors – Monday 11/1/2021 @E1B

Athletic Council – 11/8/2021 @ E1B