



ERIE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE

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

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

AD MEETING – 9/13/2021

12:00 PM Room A219-Tech

Erie I BOCES

Opening Remarks:

Rich Gray

Welcome:

-Introductions: Welcome everyone. Fall has been a challenge. Transportation is going to be a huge challenge also.

-Division Breakouts 5 minutes Discuss school spectator procedures that apply to your individual schools. Divisions I, II, III and IV to discuss indoor procedures or any type of any individual school issues or any ideas about spectators and fans. Some schools can accommodate fans and some cannot. Take a 5 minute break for division discussion.

Division I: Volleyball procedure. Frontier being strict in trying to temperature checks and have spectators sign in. No one else in Division I league doing same. Frontier may drop. Basketball a concern of wearing masks for players in the winter in basketball. Hopefully things change. Impossible for boys/girls to run up and down court with masks.

Division II: Previous year wearing full mask during basketball games was difficult. Athletes constantly on/off process. Unable to keep mask on all time like expected. Starpoint is a Niagara County school so regulations not as strict as is in Erie County. Starpoint for volleyball, athletes must mask up 100% of the time until play. Once playing masks removed and play begins. Try to comply as much as possible as Erie County. Non forcing of mask because of concern of issues. Williamsville directed to have masks on at all times and during competition. That is the direction that we have right now. I have to follow protocol.

Division III: Each school in division pretty consistent. Lakeshore parents pretty respectful. Signs up everywhere. Masks on, social distancing, when possible. The only time there is a struggle with mask is when athletes watching varsity or football comes out for practice. On the bench masks worn at all times. During game play they are on person. No masks worn outside at Lakeshore.

Division IV: Each school in division same with masks whether indoors or outdoors. Indoors, strictly enforced. Something will be said if no mask worn. Encourage social distancing indoors. With size of gyms try to limit athletes crossing paths from different schools.

- Golf Chairperson: Need.

League needs a golf chairperson. Scheduled championship is at Diamond Hawk on October 12, 2021. Without a chairperson some decisions must be made. A) are we going to host championship and continue; b) and if ECIC hosts how to accomplish. Course reserved and food

ordered for golf championship. No information relative to qualifications, how many qualify, who takes care of this information. We have a dire need for a chairperson. Without a chairperson do we host the championship? iWanamaker app used for golf. If every school in golf can download the app it makes rankings so much easier. Ranks using GPS and on what courses games is being played. iWanamaker support team is very helpful. Concern if no chairperson in golf other sports will conclude no need for chairperson. Chairperson needed for any and every sport.

Motion to enter Athletic Council

1st Vinny Dell'Oso (Starpoint)

2nd Marissa Fallacaro-Dougherty (West Seneca)

Motion approved

Athletic Council

Rich Gray

-Vote needed on COS under New Business

- Combining of Schools: B/G Basketball SGI & W. Valley V/JV
- Boys Swim : Jamestown & Southwestern Varsity
- Unified Basketball : West Seneca East & West
- Boys Tennis : Eden & N. Collins
- B/G Track : Eden & N. Collins

Motion to approve combining of schools

1st Vinny Dell'Oso (Starpoint)

2nd Marissa Fallacaro-Dougherty

Motion passed

- Budget Preparation to be discussed at next official council meeting.

President's Report

Rich Gray

Approval of Minutes from 6/8/21

Motion to approve minutes

1st Jason Iwanko (Eden)

2nd Pat Cauley (Hamburg)

Motion passed

Executive Director's Report

Jim Graczyk

- Schedules: Fall schedules no changes every day, done; Winter schedules are 99.9% done and Spring alignment is in the process of being prepared. Activity Board check of beds numbers for accuracy. Hopefully by next week if not earlier a draft of spring alignment will be provided to athletic directors. Please review for accuracy.
- Officials: There are not enough officials to cover games. Modified games with officials are lucky. If you move from selected dates you are moving to dates of other leagues. If games moved, diminish chance from an already bad situation to obtain an official. Cannot provide something that is not there. Moving games not an issue but be aware that it is next to impossible to obtain an official. Are we running a modified program if there are not enough officials? We need to find different alternatives to recruit officials. No

new people. Part of the officials' agreement is to actively recruit officials. Numbers are not seen. Like idea of using parent/coach or someone on school other than school base official who could now be used for Lakeshore when not signed up for Lake Shore. Works for West Seneca wants to do West Seneca games and next year unable to use because one-year eligibility. Have a shortage, would rather call coach, run as scrimmage. Kids can play. Not in favor of school based official based on one-year. Contractual to have 2 officials on varsity volleyball. Slots for 2 so contractually should fill 2. We are going to be unable to fill 2 slots for volleyball. Suggestion to have modified games at dismissal time. Fill games with 2/1/1. Do you need advance notice of locating an official? Couple days advance notice would be good. Advance notice of no officials helps locate officials for uncovered games setting up with PE, parents, etc. Lake Shore used school based official on as a chaperone. Situation will not get better if no change in how business is completed. Using own person for game as long as indicated as a scrimmage.

- Arbiter: All schools using Arbiter. Must information section office by end of month that all schools using Arbiter.
- F. Hockey – 2 divisions:
- Coaches Meetings: Feedback: Nothing to share by group. Question of way to find out if there was attendance by a coach. No knowledge of an attendance list.
- Buffalo Bills Girls' Flag Football: Buffalo Bills sponsoring a girls' flag football which was discuss last May. Jets and Giants are doing the same. Interested, we can acquire more detailed information. It may be a sport for the spring for those schools that wish to compete. Eligibility rules must be followed. It could be considered a pilot, but all rules must be followed. Todd Nelson did not provide much information. Start date? How many games played? Todd just indicated to let him know if interested. Possible information meeting. No date as of yet.
- Niagara Frontier League: Unified sports schedule by their league only. They would only play NFL teams and if you would like a non-league you would find someone else. Does ECIC wish to follow this as well. ECIC has enough to take care of own league. NFL traveling out, difficult with population of athletes and out late. Interest in doing something different better for the athletes. Discussion to take place continue on as is without NFL or change to league structure. Difficulty recruiting officials. Many schools looking for custodians, teachers, subs, bus drivers, etc.
- Athletic Directors Meetings: Held monthly, all discussion, ideas take place during meeting.
- Athletic Council Meeting: Held every other month run by Steve Smith at which time votes take place.

Activity Board:

Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty

- ECIC Girls Swim Proposal: 3 championships to take place. Division I, II, and III division championships which was well received. This would take place this year and discussed that if venue was available it would be worthy of completing this. Removal from proposal was determination of using the division placements for the upcoming alignments for next year. Need to locate a venue or use Clarence for II and III. If scheduled originally for Clarence in the morning you may now be in the afternoon.
Division I: Maryvale on Friday October 22, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. warm-up with a 6:00 p.m. start.
Division II: Clarence on Friday October 23, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. warm-up with a 10:00 a.m. start
Division III: Clarence on Friday October 23, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. warm-up with a 2:00 p.m. start.
- ECIC Boys Tennis presentation – Paul Biddle: Creation of a modified boys and girls tennis team. Numbers good. Tennis chairs presented information. What could be done to get numbers up. Discuss with tennis coaches of possibility of having a spring combined girls and boys modified tennis team, modified A/7-8-9 team. Presented realignment for boys' tennis. Goes back to a constant discussion among the group about aligning based on competitiveness instead of beds. They were advised that it would be a much bigger discussion than just tennis and we just cannot do this just for tennis.
- Spring Alignments 2022: A few changes to be made. Submitted to athletic directors with input after review. Return email by vote.
- Boys Golf Chairperson: vacant

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

State Meeting Report

Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty

Items to be discussed at Section meeting on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, which will be voted on in October. Biggest conversation is Classification Cut format as well as classification format. Need more discussion, more presentation.

- Items Passed: Amateur Rule revised, Modified FH Overtime, Volleyball B/G state tourney officials' selection, Update to Bona Fide student language, Modified Tennis Coordinator approval, School Based Official, Friends & Neighbor application process, State sport coordinators approved, B/G Tennis lineup rule, B. Volleyball : shared space & 2 Libero, Girls Gymnastics adopt Technical Handbook
- Items in need of Direction: NYSPHSAA Amateur rule, Criteria for 6th Classification, Support new regional alignments B/G Volleyball, B?G Swimming Relay Entries, Girls Tennis Regional Rotation, UTR qualifications , Cheer Minimum # contests, Boys Tennis Team 6 year cycle. (Handouts provided for all voting items).

- **Committee Reports**

Sectional/Intersectional**Jason Przybysz**

First meeting last week. Lengthy agenda. NFL would like to move league scheduling for unified sports. Something for this group to review and discussion with the teams that have unified basketball/bowling. Boys' volleyball extended to barrel rule.

Modified**Daryl Besant**

Buffalo City Schools looking at beginning modified sports. ECIC has no officials currently.

Safety**?**

Need volunteer for safety previously held by Brian Wild. Eric Rupp new representative.

Chemical Awareness**?**

Need volunteer for chemical awareness previously held by Brian Wild. Jason Iwanko new representative.

Finance**Vinny Dell'Oso**

Conducted a meeting last week.

Corporate sponsorships: Section creates revenue of \$100,000 in corporate sponsorships. Last year amount fell well short of this target. A-Turf, VSP, did not provide sponsorship. They have returned this year, but not to levels as before.

Online ticketing: State has commenced this process exclusively for championship venues. Section would roll out this procedure starting this year. This will not be the only means of purchasing tickets for championships, etc. This will be a pilot program to see how effective it will be in the hopes of possibly continuing this process. Online route has added fees for purchases. Section does receive a percentage of the added service fees charge.

Sportsmanship**Sandy Gauthier**

No report

Charter Schools**Jeff Wheaton**

No report

Combining of Schools**Daryl Besant**

No report

Recruitment of Officials**Brian Hickson**

No report

Old Business:

Girls Tennis – ECIC now has 7 spots in sectional tourney, previously 8. There was a redistribution.

- **Discussion needed on State Classification cutoff proposal –Feb.'22 vote**

New Business:

- Officials “Code Red” Thoughts and Ideas: Discussion of ideas. No non-leagues for modified sports, keep with league games.
- Cheer – **Fall is Gameday**, Winter is Competitive (regional). Still need clearer direction of qualification process for a regional championship. No clear definition of how Section VI teams qualify and how many attending.
- Championship site rotation: Review of schedule to host championship sites. During pandemic if rotation skipped where is placement for upcoming years.

SEE ABOVE FOR VOTE

- Combining of Schools: B/G Basketball SGI & W. Valley V/JV
- Boys Swim : Jamestown & Southwestern Varsity
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Good of the Order: Female representative position for Section VI on athletic council, Vinny Dell’Oso resigning from post. Suggestion of female representative in place. Attendance at section meetings is required for this position.

Motion to enter athletic council to vote on new representative for female representative position for Section VI

- 1st Vinny Dell’Oso (Starpoint)
- 2nd Daryl Besant (Lake Shore)

Motion to replace Vinny Dell’Oso for female representative position for Section VI with Marissa Dauria

- 1st Vinny Dell’Oso (Starpoint)
 - 2nd Pat Cauley (Hamburg)
- Motion passed

Motion to adjourn meeting

- 1st Matt Adams (Holland)
- 2nd Vinny Dell’Oso

Next Meeting Dates:

Athletic Directors – Monday 10/4/2021 @E1B
Athletic Council – 11/8/2021 @ E1B