

## **ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 21, 2009 AGENDA ITEM 5.2 (and 9.10)**

### **Sectional/ Intersectional Committee response to the NYSPHSAA Fiscal Concerns Committee recommendations**

At the meeting 1/7/09, the Sectional Intersectional Committee discussed the 13 recommendations of the NYSPHSAA Fiscal Concerns Committee. The general response was that the benefit of any action taken must be weighed against the overall cost savings. The 13 recommendations and the specific responses are listed below:

1. Supporting the use of telephone conference calls and video conferencing for NYSPHSAA meetings to reduce the travel reimbursement costs for the NYSPHSAA and Sections.  
**AGREE** Section VI could save well over \$10,000 annually on travel costs for sportchairs and others who attend meetings at the State office.
2. Support the use of officials from the host section at all NYSPHSAA regional contests. Officials at semi final and final contests will be reviewed in the future.  
**DISAGREE** The *perception* is that officials from the section participating in the contest tend to favor their section's team. This creates problems with control of the game as well as control of the crowd. This issue should be treated as *sport specific* and/or *crowd specific*. Also, the cost savings needs to weighed against the benefits gained.
3. Support a moratorium on the expansion of NYSPHSAA tournaments as it pertains to participation.  
**AGREE**
4. Support the use of centralized sites for all NYSPHSAA Championship competition.  
**DISAGREE** Rotation of sites is preferred to give all sections the opportunity to remain at home for competition as well as showcase their local facilities. If centralized sites are used, officials could not be from the host section (item 2).
5. Support the reduction of the maximum number of contests permitted during the regular season. Sports with 24 contests be reduced to 20, sports with 20 contests be reduced to 18 and sports with 18 contests be reduced to 16. Wrestling would be reduced to 19 points (5 tournaments) and football would be reduced by one contest. Junior Varsity and Freshmen programs would be reduced by two (2) additional contests and the modified program would be reduced by two contests.  
**DISAGREE** Competition is the core of why we exist. Athletes learn valuable life-long lessons from participation. Removing contests would be a major step backward for public school athletics in New York. The de-emphasis on athletic competition may drive away families with gifted student-athletes to private schools, prep schools, or other neighboring states that do not have these same restrictions. Having the autonomy to reduce an athletic budget at the district level rather than to reduce the number of contests is preferred.
6. Support the reduction of the number of classes and divisions in team and individual NYSPHSAA championship competition.  
**DISAGREE**
7. Support the reduction of participants in NYSPHSAA Championships in individual and combination (team/individual) sports.  
**DISAGREE**
8. Support the reduction of tournaments (multi school competition) for team and individual sports.  
**DISAGREE**
9. Support the establishment of a maximum number of scrimmages permitted by a team to: Varsity, JV and freshman – 2 scrimmages and Modified – 1 scrimmage.  
**DISAGREE**
10. Support the reduction of Central/Executive Committee meetings to three per year. (Constitutional change)  
**AGREE** The Central Committee meetings could be reduced from 3 to 2 per year. Expenses at each state meeting could be reduced i.e.: less costly meals, limiting coverage for past-presidents to attend, etc.
11. Support the establishment of a team travel restriction for all member schools limiting out of state team travel to competition with bordering states only.  
**DISAGREE** This should be the district's option.

12. Support the establishment of a moratorium on the following NYSPHSAA (mandated) workshops such as Safety, Life of an Athlete, Sportsmanship and Chemical Health workshops.  
**AGREE** However the mandatory Athletic Director Workshops should be continued.
13. Support eliminating participation in the NFHS Student Leadership Conference.  
**AGREE** The benefit to these conferences is not readily seen at the district level.