

NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee
October 15, 2009 9am
Conference Call

Minutes

- I. **Attendance** – Dave Goddard (section 1), Cathy Stanilka (section 2), Brad Dates (section 3), Patti Murphy (section 4), Dave Boundy (section 5), Douglas Ames (section 6 – excused) Donna Moody (section 7), Glen Maisch (section 9), Martha Slack (section 10), Lou Stellato (officials), Mary Onken (officials).

- II. **Ejection Free Program** – An update was given regarding this program. The office staff is continuing to look for a sponsor of this program. One potential sponsor has asked for a list of schools that would have qualified for this program. About half of our sections have reported the schools that were ejection free last school year. A request has been made to the representatives from the section to ensure their section has reported the results from last year. Every section representative reported that the section has a system in place to report any disqualifications of a coach or player. The office staff is willing to compile the final list if sections would send either a list of schools that were ejection free or a list of schools that had an ejection. Brad and Glen each recommended a potential sponsor and the office staff will follow up. If anyone else has any ideas for a potential sponsor, please feel free to contact Todd Nelson.

- III. **Sportsmanship Promotion Program** - All of the section reps were thanked for promoting this program. Congratulations to all of the sectional plaque winners. A nice job by all of the sections in recognizing the section winners at the mandatory AD workshops this fall. Elmira City School District, Commack Central School, and Beacon City School district were recognized as the state banner award winners. Each school was honored at the Hall of Fame Dinner in Lake Placid this past summer. The committee has decided to establish an annual date for the assessments to be completed by our member schools. The date will be April 15th annually. The section reps will need to submit the member schools for consideration for the state banner award by May 10th annually. Last years' results of the survey will be purged from the database on November 2, 2009. Donna Moody (section 7) asked if the program could be improved to take in account schools that do not have cheerleading. She was hoping that schools that do not have cheerleading could check a box "not applicable" instead of marking "1", which has an effect on the final score. The office staff will work with our programmer to see if this issue can be addressed.

- IV. **Citizenship Through Athletics Course** – This course will be offered at the NYSAPHERD conference on November 18, 2009 at Turning Stone Casino. The NYSPHSAA will also offer the course on February 3, 2010 in the NYSPHSAA office at 10am. Brad Dates suggested putting a description about the CTA course on the NYSPHSAA website and advertise the course as well. A flyer will be produced to promote the class as well. Some instructors are offering the class within their sections as well. The committee highly encourages administrators, educators, and coaches to participate in a class during the year.

- V. **Sportsmanship Manual** – Patti Murphy (section 4) reported that she is continuing to put a draft together for a NYSPHSAA sportsmanship manual. She will email a draft copy to all representatives for their input. Many of the members thanked Patti for taking on this project and felt it would be very beneficial to the sections.

- VI. **Penalty of the sportsmanship standard** – Glen Maisch brought up the issue of when a coach or player should serve their penalty if they are disqualified during the last game of the season. All of the section reps felt that the penalty should be immediate, but sections 1,2,3,7 and 9 would like to take this topic back to their sections for further discussion. Sections 4 and 5 were definitely opposed to serving the penalty during the same season. The concerns that were raised revolved

around seniors not serving a penalty because they are graduating and will not participate the next season. Some of the section reps also would like to explore the possibility that a coach or player that receives a second disqualification penalty would be required to take a sportsmanship course, either the NFHS sportsmanship course or the CTA course. This should be discussed at the section level before the next sportsmanship meeting.

VII. Consequence for coach not serving penalty – In the handbook it states that if a player participates in a game they are not eligible for, the team must forfeit the game. If a coach is disqualified from a contest and does not sit out the next regularly scheduled game or is present on site during the game and has not served their penalty, he or she must serve the penalty in the next regularly scheduled game. The committee was asked if a further penalty should be imposed on the coach or team. All of the reps felt that a penalty should be imposed on the coach. Most felt that the coach should be dismissed but that would be a local school district decision to make. Some of the reps felt that the team should have to forfeit the game. The reps felt that a coach would not want to be the reason a team had to forfeit a game. They felt that this would help ensure that the coach is following the rule. Another suggestion would be to require the coach to complete a sportsmanship course. The reps were asked to take this issue back to the sections for further discussion. The handbook committee will also be discussing this topic. This topic will be on the spring agenda for further discussion and possible recommendation.

VIII. Sectional Concerns -

Section 1 – Dave Goddard reported that his section continues to struggle with spectator behavior. They are having difficulty with certain behavior allowed at one school and not allowed at another school. Many of the other reps expressed a similar concern. All of the reps feel that as an educational based program we need to be modeling and teaching the proper behaviors when it comes to interscholastic athletics.

Section 5 – Dave Boundy stated that section 5 would like to address internet stuff that goes on in relation to interscholastic athletics. They would like to have a speaker come in to share with athletic administrators the dangers and trouble that the internet and other technological advances can cause within a school system and athletic program.

All of the sectional representatives wanted to express that sportsmanship is an issue that all of the sections have concerns about and needs to be addressed constantly. When we have our discussions, many of the issues that affect your school, league or section, are happening in other sections across the state. We appreciate the opportunity to bring these issues to the committee to help improve our athletic programs and support one another throughout the state.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2010 at the NYSAAA Conference in Saratoga NY at 1:30pm.