

Athletic Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2015
Vista/Van Patten Country Club
10:00 a.m.

Please share this information with your Chief School Officer!

Attendance:

Adirondack: Jason Humiston; Scott Smith; Hillary Haskell

CHVL: Pat Light; Jodi Mazzeo; Rick Arket

Colonial: John Gallo; Tom Kostrzebski; Dale Wotherspoon

Foothills: Brian Mazza; Chip Corlew; Mike Calvella

Patroon: Scott Steltz; Dominick Pitaniello; Terry Nash

Suburban: David Sunkes; Peter Sheehan; Regan Johnson

Wasaren: Donna VanZandt; Eric Papandrea; Duke Beck

Western: Charlie Karker; Phonsey Lambert; Penny Hardenstine

Minutes

- ❖ Nick welcomed everyone. He advised that there were two additions to the agenda that the Section office received yesterday morning from NYSPHSAA. Time will be provided to caucus prior to voting on these proposals.
 - Baseball “2-day Championship” Proposal – Ed Dopp will review the proposal.
 - Football “6 Classification” Proposal – Bob Dorrance and Gary VanDerzee will review the proposal.
- ❖ President’s Report - Nick Fitzgerald
 - Wayne is not here today. He doing a presentation to the WWSHE BOCES. The Superintendents requested that he review changes and updates for the year.
 - Cross Country Sponsorship - DC Sports
 - Nick introduced Bob Brown and Dan McGraw from DC Sports. Nick explained that we are working with DC Sports as a sponsor for our cross country championships.
 - Bob advised that there is going to be an On-line store to order apparel for the cross country championships.
 - Information will be forwarded to all Athletic Directors within the next couple of weeks.
 - Bob reviewed the process for ordering. If ordered during the on-line time frame, it will be available for pick up at the sectional championships.
 - We are asking for your assistance to get the word out to your teams.

- Each Athletic Director and coach will receive a gift. Please stop by the booth to say hi and pick up your gift.
- Al added that this is something that we are taking off the plate of the coordinators. The section will receive a revenue share.

➤ Section Finances

- Patrick Diggin

- Audit –
 - You should have the report from Marvin & Company at the next meeting. There is no reason to think it won't be a clean report.
- 2014-2015
 - Last year's budget projected a \$15,000 loss, which turned into just under \$20,000 at the end of the year. We actually thought it may even end up being larger after the fall and winter seasons.
 - Cash balances – starting the year was \$460,000, and as of June 30th it was \$439,000.
 - We are preparing the tax return which is due in the middle of November.
- Attorney General –
 - The last report to the Attorney General was filed on August 28th. Hopefully, they will report back that the AG office is satisfied.
- 2015-2016 Budget –
 - The process as you know takes a lot of time and effort. The process began in early July. The Section 2 office reviewed each item and prepared a rough budget. Then they met with us to discuss and finalize. The budget was presented to the Executive Committee on August 24th.
 - Again a loss of about \$18,000 is being projected. Built into that budget are some revenue streams that are coming.
 - Increase in some ticket prices: (copy attached)
 - Football – from \$3 to \$6 from quarterfinals on.
 - Boys Basketball – quarters will be \$6.
 - Girls Basketball – quarters will be increased from \$3 to \$4.
 - Ice Hockey – all contests will be \$6.
 - The Executive Committee is looking to be pro-active for the future. The Section is developing a history of information that you can now look at. There is a trend in the two big money making sports (basketball & football) of lower gate admissions over the last three years. There are many factors that account for this. Gate admissions accounts for 66% of the Section's revenue and are affected many unknowns.
 - The Executive Committee has looked to find a way to have a more fixed income. They have established a plan to increase dues \$200 a year over each of the next three (3) years. It could happen that in the second or third year you don't need it. However, it needs to be put out there so you can budget for it. This would start with 2016-2017 school year. This was reviewed and supported by the Audit Committee.
 - Why not keep dipping into the excess fund? There was much discussion, both pro and con on this subject. The Executive Committee gave this a great deal of consideration. The answer is what if you get a lawsuit. Section

1 has 9 outstanding lawsuits. This could be devastating. Also, prices for everything are going up. Down the road there will be a change in staffing. At the present time you do not pay benefits. That will most likely change.

- The Executive Committee wants to preserve the fund, not use it up.
- Questions:
 - Is there a magic number that we need to stay at?
 - There are several thoughts out there. One is that you should have 1 to 1 ½ times your expenses. You are nowhere near that. You are at about ½.
 - Hopefully, there will be years that you will add to that fund.
 - The ball contract that kicks in next year will help. That is a 5-year contract. Then what? That is another unknown.
- **Motion by John Gallo; 2nd by Scott Steltz to approve the 2015-2016 budget.**
Discussion:
Vote: Passed Unanimously

➤ Friends & Neighbor –

- Approval for Grapeville Christian – **Voting Item**
 - **Motion Charlie Karker by 2nd by Dave Sunkes to accept Grapeville as a Friends & Neighbor for the 2015-2016 school year.**
Discussion:
Vote: Passed unanimously

❖ Executive Director's Report

- Nick Fitzgerald

➤ Nick congratulated the following schools that received the NYSPHSAA Scholar/Athlete Team School of Distinction.

- Ballston Spa
- Burnt Hills
- Columbia
- Saratoga Catholic
- Shaker

➤ Sport Coordinators –

- Boys Volleyball
 - New (Fall) Coordinator – John Coletta
 - ◆ Contact Info: 312-9361; colejohn@shenet.org
 - (Winter) Coordinator – We still need a winter coordinator.
 - ◆ Please contact the Section 2 office if you have anyone interested.
- Baseball –
 - We need a coordinator to replace Rico Frese.
 - ◆ We do have one person that is interested. If you have anyone else interested, contact the Section office.

➤ Professional Development

- Athletic Placement Process for Interschool Athletic Programs – (Guideline Sheet attached)
 - Wayne will review the APP further at the upcoming mandatory workshop.
- Transgender Guidelines – (Copy attached)

- Wayne will review these guidelines in more detail at the mandatory workshop on September 30th.
- New Forms –
 - International Student (subject to the Transfer Rule also)
 - ◆ Questionnaire Form
 - ✓ This is just a form to assist you in determining the level of play a student may have had in the country. It will also assist the Transfer Committee as all International Students are subject to the Transfer Rule.
 - ◆ Approval Form – When you complete this form and submit it to the Section 2 office, you will be notified of the decision in writing.
 - Mergers –
 - ◆ New Merger – The form has been updated as Joe Sapienza is the new Chair and we have replaced a couple of the members.
 - ◆ Renewal of Existing Merger
 - ✓ There is now a one-page form to assist the Merger Committee with renewing existing mergers.
 - ◆ All forms go to Joe Sapienza now at Voorheesville.
 - ◆ The new forms are also available on the Section 2 website.
- Important Reminders
 - Cross Country – If your league has approved the use of spikes for modified cross country – you must provide injury data after the 2015-2016 season.
- ❖ Internal Control Officer - Al Roy
 - Warrants Since Last Athletic Council Meeting
 - #30 – 6/4/2015 – 177 items - \$19,352.08
 - #31 – 6/9/2015 – 186 items - \$27,157.50
 - #32 – 6/18/2015 – 82 items - \$24,324.28
 - #33 – 6/22/2015 – 24 items - \$32,838.63 (Brown Coach)
 - #34 – 6/25/2015 – 12 items - \$3,3919.52
 - #01 – 7/22/2015 – 6 items - \$1,383.50
 - #02 – 8/18/2015 – 10 items - \$6,177.48
 - Sectional Fee Schedule
 - We have established a staffing level for post season competition when hosting a contest.
 - These are maximums. If you need additional ones, please contact the Section office for approval.
 - Ticket prices: The sheet with the changes are on the website.
 - Cheerleading championships admission will be \$10.
 - Cross Country On-Line Store –
 - Please take advantage of this. We are modeling this after the State Association’s model.
 - Audit:
 - One issue was that there are two lines for cash counter signatures and only one signature. We realize that sometimes you don’t complete the necessary paperwork right after the contest.
 - New CRV

- A copy will be attached to the minutes.
 - Al reviewed the revised form.
 - New Athletic Directors, please remain after the meeting to receive your financial training.
 - If you have already received the training, this will serve as your annual update.
 - ❖ State Report - Ed Dopp
 - Summary of Summer Meeting (attached)
 - Ed reviewed the synopsis of actions from the July 28th NYSPHSAA Central Committee meeting.
 - Items 3, 4 & 10 we continue to support the action taken.
 - Item 15, 16 & 17 – (APP students and the transfer rule)
 - ◆ This will take effect 2017-2018. You need to articulate to your coaches and parents. Students that go thru this process next year will then be subject to the transfer rule in 2017-2018. Make sure this is pointed out.
 - #26 & #27 –
 - ◆ Approved Unified Sports basketball rules. But defeated coaches having to take an additional course to coach Unified Sports.
 - ✓ We realize that the AC directed us to vote in favor of the additional course. However, after receiving additional information and the Section central committee representatives discussed it, we felt we should vote against it. Our coaches are already certified coaches and we didn't feel it was necessary to add a course.
 - Questions:
 - #23 – Refers to football.
 - ◆ Yes it does.
- ❖ NYSPHSAA – - Joe Agostinelli
 - Joe advised that he is the Director of Communications at NYSPHSAA.
 - Section 2 celebrity Bob Stulmaker retired as of August 30th and Joe introduced Kristen Sautoni who has been hired to take over some of Bob's duties.
 - NYSPHSAA News will now be e-mailed directly to all AD's.
 - The next NYSPHSAA Executive Committee is October 22nd at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy, NY. The agenda will be available on the website the first week of October.
 - Questions:
- ❖ Committee Reports
 - Eligibility - Chris Culnan
 - Alphonse Lambert is replacing Joe Sapienza on this committee.
 - Representation:
 - Reminder: Students need 6 games to be eligible to represent in Sectionals.
 - Reminder: Illness or injury only. Other circumstances has been removed.
 - Officials - Wayne Bertrand
 - Nick advised that:
 - The 2015-2016 school year is the last year on this agreement.
 - Negotiations have begun.
 - Constitution/Mixed Competition/Sr. All Star - Wayne Bertrand

- All Star – Please follow the deadlines.
- Modified - James Schlegel
 - Modified Football program. Need to track the injuries. Need to get the reports to the Section 2 office and NYSPHSAA (Todd Nelson).
 - 3-Point Shot has been raised again.
- Classification - Ed Dopp
 - For clarification, all classifications have been set for this year.
 - Information and forms will be sent out around October 1st. Deadline for returning will be October 16th. It is essential that sport coordinators respond.
 - Meeting Dates for 2015-2016
 - Fall – October 23rd
 - ◆ The Committee will present its recommendations to Executive Committee on October 29th. These recommendations will be an action item on the November Athletic Council agenda.
 - Winter – February 25th
 - Spring – May 20th
- Transfer - Pete Bednarek
 - New Forms – (attached)
 - Pete reviewed each of the forms.
 - These are all three (3) part forms.
 - If all you need is the sport history, call the school and send it to Risè and we will move it along.
 - ◆ Residency – (Incoming Students)
 - ✓ In the past we have not tracked this. Now we do.
 - ✓ When you submit the form you will receive as with all of these a notification that the student can now practice. However, cannot participate until approved.
 - ✓ This was part of the new regulation.
 - ◆ Divorced/Legally Separated Parents
 - ✓ Documents need to be attached to this form.
 - ◆ RSDR
 - ✓ This does not involve a physical move.
 - ◆ Health & Safety/Financial Waiver/International
 - ✓ Financial – family must show a reduction of income, etc.
 - ✓ Health & Safety – fairly difficult to substantiate. We are require documentation from the sending school administrator. We will work with you on this.
 - ✓ International – The new questionnaire will assist with this.
 - Questions:
 - ◆ Homeless: Submit the form and we will ask for some documentation from your school to substantiate this.
 - Future Meeting Dates for 2015-2016
 - October 13, 2015
 - October 27, 2015

- February 23, 2016
- Sportsmanship (Bad)/Mergers - Joe Sapienza
 - All DQ's need to be submitted to Joe Sapienza.
- Sportsmanship (Good) - Mike Leonard
- Safety/Chemical Health Awareness - Rick Knizek
- Audit Committee - James Schlegel
 - The Audit Committee reviewed and strongly endorses the 2015-2016 Budget and the three (3) year dues increase plan.
- ❖ Sports Committee Reports – None
- ❖ League Concerns – None
- ❖ NYSAAA - None - Scott Stuart/Tom Kostrzebski
- ❖ COA/NYSHPERD - None
- ❖ Old Business - None
- ❖ New Business – **Time will be granted to caucus after both proposals have been presented.**
 - Football – 6 Classification Proposal - Bob Dorrance
 - Over the summer our original 20% formula was tabled. We then again reviewed this. The biggest issue is the large difference from the low end to the high end of a class (AA). This will go to the Championship Advisory Committee on September 30th and a possible vote at the October 22nd NYSPHSAA meeting. We do not have another Athletic Council meeting before the NYSPHSAA meeting to take back to our leagues.
 - It got tabled several times. Class D schools wanted to see something different.
 - This was a State Football Committee unanimous decision.
 - Proposed Classifications: (attached is a sheet that indicates the present class of all Section 2 schools and the classification based on the proposed 6 classification numbers.)
 - Questions:
 - Since the numbers in each class will change, does this change the sectional format?
 - Each section would have to decide on their sectional format.
 - Other sports wanting to do the same?
 - That is not our problem. Football is the only sport that is classification and no one has jumped on board. We can only address our issue.
 - Opportunity to play out of section is great.
 - If this flies, it will be an uphill battle. It will afford schools the opportunity to play out of section.
 - How would this affect Class D?
 - In our Section the D's would lose one school.
- ❖ Baseball 2-Day Championship Proposal
 - Ed Dopp gave a brief overview of the proposal.
 - This is in the best interest for health/safety and quality of play.
 - This is going to Championship Advisory Committee on September 30th.
 - Two sites will be used.
 - This is a Two-year experimental proposal starting with the 2016-2017 school year.
- ❖ **Time to caucus was granted.**

- **Motion by Scott Stuart; 2nd John Gallo to vote in favor of the 6 classification proposal for football at the October NYSPHSAA meeting.**

Discussion:

- **Just would like to make sure we fill the gaps in schedules as well as possible.**

Vote: 21-yes; 3-no (Passed)

- **Motion by Dave Sunkes; 2nd Chip Corlew to vote in favor of the 2-day baseball proposal at the October NYSPHSAA meeting.**

Discussion:

Vote: Passed Unanimously

❖ **Adjournment: 11:50 am**

- **Motion by Dale Wotherspoon; 2nd by Charlie Karker to adjourn.**

Discussion

Vote: Passed Unanimously

Future Meetings

Athletic Council Meeting	Executive Committee Meeting
November 18, 2015	October 29, 2015
Vista/Van Patten Country Club	Section 2 Office - Saratoga
10:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.

Mandatory Athletic Director Workshop

September 30, 2015

Vista/Van Patten Country Club

7:30 a.m.

League Presidents Meeting

October 5, 2015

NYSPHSAA Office

9:00 a.m.

Reminder

Mailing Address is:

433 Broadway, Suite 303

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866