

**SECTION SEVEN ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING**  
**New York State Public High School Athletic Association**  
**December 7, 2017 9:30am Baxter Mountain Inn**

**MINUTES**

1. Call to order and attendance

Officers: C. Mazzella, B. Norcross, P. Curry

Staff: M. Walentuk

MVAC: M. Mills, J. Toney, M. Douglas, D. Snide

CVAC: V. McMillan, J. Harrica, G. Myers

Executive Committee: C. Staves, P. Curry, T. Farrell

CVAC Executive Secretary: M. Farmer

MVAC Executive Secretary: R. McAuliffe

Absent Excused: S. Broadwell, K. Lopez, J. McDonald, B. Larrow

Confirmation of Proxies

M. Farmer for B. Larrow

R. Sutphen for J. McDonald– **Staves, Harrica**

**APPROVED**

2. Approval of October 5, 2017 Minutes – **Curry, Myers**

**APPROVED**

3. Financial Report – Walentuk – **Harrica, McMillan**

**APPROVED**

- Check into the cost for the Cross Country events at PSUC
- PHS Booster Club charged for parking – look into that for Invitationals.
- Assignor Error issue – Section has to pay when assignors are part of the issue.
- Discussion:
  - Assignors’ hands are tied. The fans are the issue. In 3-5 years we are going to have major issues with officials. The coach and abuse of officials is problematic. We have to be careful about “We don’t want these 3 people”. This can come back to bite us. In volleyball we get 2 new officials and lose 3. Volleyball is easy to officiate yet we lose officials. We need to do everything possible to promote positive issues with officials. The average age of officials is getting higher and higher each year.
- Payment fee for scrimmages is \$30 according to officials’ contract.

a. Review of Fall Championships

- On the whole the fall profited more than the previous years.
- The weather was nice for the outdoor sectionals which can be attributed to higher attendance.

- Gymnastics ran at a deficit as in prior years. A suggestion to lower expenses is to have the BOCES print shop make programs if schools are going to invoice the Section.
- Volleyball profited due to hosting Regionals. Next year Section VII will have to travel for regionals.
- Cross Country ran at a deficit due to FAT timing expense. Suggestions for next year include asking the CVAC to pay for FAT timing at the CVAC championship meet and to continue with bib sponsorships to help offset some costs.
- Girls Swim profited and had a packed house to watch a very competitive Sectionals.
- Soccer profited the most due to good weather and hosting five regional games.
- Football profited more than last year due to the fact of hosting two additional regional games.
- On a whole this was a good season due to an increase in regional games and good weather. We know this may not always be the case.

b. 2017-18 Budget to Date

- Through the fall season we are over 50% of the way to our projected revenue with Post Season Receipts.

c. Finance Committee –

- Finance Committee will convene at 8:30 prior to next meeting on 1/25

4. Conference reports/concerns – **Staves, Harrica**

**APPROVED**

a. CVAC

- Some of the CVAC coaches and teams have an issue with the patches. In sports like track & golf, sectional championship teams don't get a patch. When a team wins a sectional championship get a patch. In track, golf, swim.

1. Discussion:

- Do other sections give out patches?
- Historically it's the difference between the team and individual sport. BB moves on as a team. Track doesn't. The patches recognize the champion. Slowly seeing team/individual lines combined. For instance XC and bowling.
- **See what other schools/sectionals are doing and report back at next meeting.**
- Joe Staves is being recommended for the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame. Josh Harrica completed the application.

b. MVAC

- Boys and Girls Soccer Committee met in the fall asking CVAC to discuss Class C seeding.
- Class C is seeded by league record.
- In the past it wasn't a big deal with a few amount of teams (2 or 3). Now we have more teams because teams play in different divisions with different amount of games. Is the strength of schedule the same?
- Asking the Section committee and coaches, if the CVAC would consider seeding the same as Class D more holistically.
- Why not do it holistically for all classes
  - Class B is clean because everyone plays each other home/away and is housed in Division 1 of the NSL

5. Executive Director Report – Walentuk

a. Actions of the Executive Committee

- Approved Boys Swim merger between PHS (host) and Seton Catholic
- Approved Boys Swim merger between AuSable Valley (host) and Saranac
- Approved Girls Bowling merger between Peru (host) and Chazy

b. Actions of the Appeals Committee

- Approved Mixed Competition requests for one male to compete on PHS Competitive Cheer team.
- Approved Mixed Competition request for four males to compete on NAC Competitive Cheer team
- Approved Hardship Transfer for student attending Seton Catholic

d. Sportsmanship Promotion for Winter Season

- Went through the bullets of the letter that was sent to media outlets.
- Chris Mazzella spoke to coaches at CVAC meeting. “Sportsmanship starts in practice. Also at parent meetings make sure they aware of this. ADs have to address sportsmanship issues with parents. Start early to be consistent.”
- Social media – Gives ADs a backing in dealing with the issues. The ADs should have a discussion about what goes into the handbooks. Are the schools going to adopt the sportsmanship guidelines of the Section/State?
- Some schools ADs are not at high profile contests. Is sportsmanship consistently being enforced?
- Suggestion to add the Sportsmanship brochure to the Section7.org website.

e. Motion to consider approval of revised Bowling Bylaws – **Myers, Harrica**

**APPROVED**

- Asked to separate the CVAC bylaws from the Section VII bylaws.

f. Fall Championships T-shirt update

- Pre-order approved for gymnastics. The coordinator went above and beyond by and tallied them and did the pre-order. Some people didn't know there were going to be t-shirts. Getting the word out earlier will help generate more sales.
  - Vendor wasn't prepared for the soccer sectionals.
  - Vendor buyouts for State Events that have contracts in place for specific vendor. NYSPHSAA does a cash buyout of \$250 or \$500.
    - We figure out the cash buyout
    - Vendors contact teams with order form.
    - Write into the RFP that they have to provide the cash for buyouts
- g. Sideline Press Credentials
- Question is who is allowed on the field?
  - Chris Joyce answered - Bonafide media. "Have to let us know ahead of time to have credential. Each school is allowed one photographer. They cannot sell their photographs. We have media policy online at NYSPHSAA. Are we liable for photographers. We dealt with this fall."
  - At football sectionals we had live stream on the sidelines.
  - We should take NYSPHSAA policy and use it to draft a policy for Section VII.
- h. Discussion Items from October 5<sup>th</sup>
- Request from Swim Coordinator on Meet Manager – PHS/CVAC splitting the cost.
  - NSL Division Reps – Who decides who the division reps are? How do we proceed? Even representation in division 2?
  - Motion to approve DASA training for coaches in Section VII - **Myers, Staves APPROVED**
  - Outdoor Track & Field Sectional Date
    - Decided to give them parameters and a deadline.
- i. Potential Athletic Trainer CoSer
- Athletic Trainer – invaluable at schools, maybe a great option. Superintendents were made aware.
- j. Central Committee Positions
- Ask NYSPHSAA when the terms are up?
  - Sandy Schanck reported back the terms:
    - John McDonald 2018
    - Joe Staves 2019
    - Patricia Ryan Curry 2020
    - Tim Farrell 2021

- Motion to approve Tim Farrell to Central Committee through 2021 – **Staves, Curry** **APPROVED**

k. Other

l. Important Dates:

- January 25<sup>th</sup> – Section VII Athletic Council Meeting
- February 2<sup>nd</sup> – NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting

6. NYSPHSAA Reports

a. NYSPHSAA Office Report – Chris Joyce

- New scholar athlete program 4,000 more kids and 150 more team recognized.
- Traffic safety committee – Studies show seat belt use is coming down for high school age students. The Governors safety commission will come to school with car and promote “Battle of the Belt.” They award prizes. Contact Chris Joyce if your school is interested.
- Competitive Cheer had two bids for hosting the state championships
  - OnCenter and RIT –Committee voted 5 to 3 for RIT and NYSPHSAA staff for RIT – bids on NYSPHSAA website

b. Highlights October 12, 2017 NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting

- Transfer Rules
- Combining of teams
- Football classification
- Ice hockey issues

c. Modified Committee Report – McMillan

- Next meeting March/April

d. CAC Report – Curry/Broadwell

- Next meeting 12/15 for bids for sports

e. SAAC Report – Douglas

- Nothing

f. Other

g. February 2, 2018 Executive Committee Meeting: Hilton Garden Inn, Troy, NY

- **Action Items:**

**i. Was discussed that we will revisit these items again at next Athletic Council meeting on 1/25 prior to deciding our yes/no vote at February 2<sup>nd</sup> NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting.**

- Consider approval of to revise five classification cut-off numbers.
- Consider approval of 2018-19 School Enrollment numbers.
- Consider approval of Albany Times Union Center as the site of the 2019-2021 Wrestling State Championships.
- Consider approval of Gore Mountain, Bristol Mountain and Whiteface Mountain as the future sites of Ski State Championships.

- Consider approval of AMF Strike-N-Spare (Syracuse) as the site of 2019-20 Bowling State Championships.
- Consider approval of \_\_\_\_\_(TBA) as the site of 2019-20 Cheer State Championships (bids due 12/1)
- Consider approval of Deerfield Country Club (Rochester) as the site of the 2019-20 Girls Golf State Championships.
- Consider approval to adjust Regional Rotation when byes allow direct berth to States in baseball.
- Consider approval of game ending procedure in baseball.
- Consider approval of waivers of the representation rule for various Sections in several sports.
- Consider approval of Friends & Neighbors and new member schools.
- **Discussion Items:** Consider approval of waivers of the representation rule for various Sections in several sports.
- Consider approval of Friends & Neighbors and new member schools.
- Consideration to support revised age requirements within NYSED regulations for Unified Sports.
- Discussion of the use of NCAA Basketball rules for Girls Basketball compared to NFHS Basketball rules.
- Consideration for approval to allow for the ability of modified scoring in regular season girls' golf w/ Section/League approval.
- Revise NYSPHSAA Golf Rule 11.08.2 (Championship Golf) to remove markers being able to point out rulings.
- Approved Senior All-Star Contests & Combining of Teams

## 7. Officials Report – Walentuk

### a. Winter Assignors:

Julie Dandrow	Boys Swim	<a href="mailto:dpi2@verizon.net">dpi2@verizon.net</a>
Paul Spilman	BB North	<a href="mailto:paspilman@gmail.com">paspilman@gmail.com</a>
Steve Stahl	BB South	<a href="mailto:stevestahl@yahoo.com">stevestahl@yahoo.com</a>
Phalon Miner	Wresting	<a href="mailto:dminer2176@aol.com">dminer2176@aol.com</a>
Mark Stata	Ice Hockey	<a href="mailto:statamp@hotmail.com">statamp@hotmail.com</a>
Bill Wrisley	Indoor T & F	<a href="mailto:wrizzz@wriznet.us">wrizzz@wriznet.us</a>

### b . Assignor End of Year Reports

- Issue with “sub-assignor completing end of season report. The “assignor” should sign off on the end-of-season report. Will reach out to organization to clarify our expectations.

### c) Officials Information Forms

- Draft a memo to CSO to chief school officers stating if an official's name is not on the list, don't process the claim form.
  - Is Southern Board basketball using Arbiter? Conflicting reports
    - Bob Sutphen going to call Steve Stahl, assignor, and have a conversation.
8. Fall Post-Season Reports: - Staves, Farrell
- a. Volleyball
    - Next year finals will be hosted at Saranac HS
  - b. Football
    - Issues with other Sections not adhering to scheduled cross-over games.
    - Head coaches still discussing possibility of scheduling JV games on Mondays to allow underclassmen to dress for Varsity games.
  - c. Boys Soccer
    - Issue discussed earlier in minutes regarding seeding in Class C for Sectionals.
  - d. Girls Soccer
    - Continued concern for unbalanced regionals between Sections 2,3,7,&10.
  - e. Gymnastics
    - Asking for Coach Bus to take athletes and coaches to states. Beekmantown has agreed. Will need go ahead from PHS and Peru
  - f. Girls Swimming
    - Hotel issue with Quality Inn of Ithaca, they released our rooms prior to arrival due to the fact that they were using old contact information. We had to spend the 2<sup>nd</sup> night of states at the Fairfield Inn that did a great job hosting us. We will book the Fairfield in the future.
  - g. Cross Country
    - Section VII will host major invitational meets in 2018 and 2019 at SUNY Plattsburgh. We will need volunteers and more track and field officials.
    - Recommendation to reach out to PHS to utilize their parking and facilities if needed.
9. Winter Pre-Season Plans – **Harrica, Staves** **APPROVED**
- a. Girls Hockey
    - Semifinals 1/31 and Finals on 2/3 @ SUNY Plattsburgh
  - b. Boys Hockey –
    - Question regarding proposal that any team that forfeits and does not reschedule a league game will be banned from Sectional play.
      - Discussion that there may be issues with this based on ice time availability and major storms such as 1998 ice storm
      - CVAC is reviewing the Ice Hockey handbook

- Semifinals 2/22 and Finals on 2/27 @ SUNY Plattsburgh
- c. Boys Basketball
  - Finals 3/3 @ SUNY Plattsburgh
- d. Girls Basketball
  - Finals 3/2 @ SUNY Plattsburgh
  - The NYSPHSAA official basketball is now the Spalding Legacy
- e. Indoor Track
  - Sectionals 2/10 @ SUNY Plattsburgh
  - FAT timing will occur for both Sectionals and Qualifiers
  - Weight throw will be a non-scoring event at Sectionals
  - Weight throw will be contested for Qualifiers
- f. Boys Swimming
  - Sectionals 2/10 @ AuSable Valley HS
- g. Competitive Cheer
  - Sectional site and date still TBA
  - Section VII has approved cheer judges
- h. Ski
  - Permission requested to seek out a Nordic ski coordinator
  - Alpine Sectionals 2/14 and 2/15 at Mt. Pisgah
- i. Bowling
  - Changed from “A” and “B” teams to Varsity and JV to be compliant with NYSPHSAA rules.
  - Sectionals 2/3 @ North Bowl Lanes
- j. Wrestling
  - State Dual Meet 1/27
  - Sectionals 2/10 @ Saranac HS

## 10. Other

- Norcross – Questioned Meal allotment amount– not a lot of money for student-athletes. Also questioned how much you pay people at Sectional events.
  - Discussion
    - look at success at state level. We have more teams going to states.
    - Fund balance gone now with changes. The new executive director position makes everyone’s lives a lot easier.
    - Improved printing and communication.
    - Treasurer’s job is to always look to save money
    - Meal allotments have been \$20 for a long time



- We had a great fall, but this happens around every third year
- We want to pay more for personnel.
- Many other Sections have legal retainers. We don't have a retainer. What happens if we get sued?
- What happens when we get two tough years in a row?
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11. Adjournment – **Staves, Harrica**

**APPROVED**

**NEXT MEETING**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**