

CHSAA Board of Directors
Wednesday, June 5, 2024
Minutes

1. Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Cathy Lenz-Higgins. Assistant Commissioners Justin Saylor and Rashaan Davis not in attendance as Justin is attending an NFHS meeting and Rashaan is leading the Student Leadership Camp. All Board members in attendance.

2. President's Welcome and Report

President Ryan West thanked the Board for their support through the spring sport season, which was very successful. He thanked outgoing members Emma Martinez and Shawn Terry for their work on the Board. Jeff Hollway, Athletic Director at Kent Denver, will be replacing Shawn Terry. Shared major accomplishments of the year:

- Women in Leadership conference (Jenn Roberts-Uhlig & Bethany Brookens)
- Officials (Mike Book) - Continued growth in number of officials
- Budget recovery from pandemic (Sarah Vernon-Brunner)
- Classification fee passed eliminating T & PF (Sarah Vernon-Brunner)
- Approval of shot clock usage for varsity levels
- Sanctioning of flag football

3. Approval of Minutes, Probations & Restrictions

Motion to approve Minutes of the April 22nd Board meeting was put forward by Nancy Hopper and seconded by Emma Martinez. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Probation Removal List was put forward by Joe Brown and seconded by Mike Jobman. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Restriction Removal List was put forward by Wendy Dunaway and seconded by Sybil Booker. Motion carried.

4. Finance Update

Finance Director, Sarah Vernon-Brunner reviewed the current budget through April 2024. Items highlighted:

- CHSAA received Employee Retention Credits(CARES Act from the pandemic) in January 2023 and this is being audited by the IRS. The IRS claims that we are a government agency instead of a 501-c3, so this is being refuted by CHSAA. Further updates will be given as the audit progresses.

Year-To-Date Budget Review

The budget report through March was reviewed at the last meeting, so this update includes one additional month. Through April, revenue was \$5,350,205, expenses were \$5,072,532, and the net income was \$277,673. Items highlighted for April were:

- Main revenue in April came from Student Leadership Summer Camp registrations, Officials registrations, corporate sponsorships, and interest income.
- Expenses in April outside of operating expenses included Legislative Council, spring championships, and music festivals expenses and judge payments.
- Spring championships are still being finalized and will be reviewed, along with year-end numbers, at the August Board meeting.

The motion to approve the current budget through April 2024 was put forward by Alfie Lotrich and seconded by Ryan Silva. Motion carried.

2024-2025 Budget Review

The original budget was presented to the Board at the April meeting. After seeing actuals through April, some minor changes were made to the 2024-2025 budget:

- Revenue adjustments - net change of \$9,394:
- Decreased coaching registration
- Increased tee shirt royalties
- Increased Sports & Activities income

Expense adjustments - net change of \$37,575:

- Decreased cost of Legislative Council meetings
- Increased corporate insurance expenses due to renewal costs
- Sports and activities increased for basketball and wrestling due to rising venue costs.

The net income for the updated budget is \$188,766.

The motion to approve the 2024-2025 Budget was put forward by Cameron Wright and seconded by Heidi Voehringer. Motion carried.

2024-2025 Ticket Prices

Sarah reviewed the following proposed ticket price increases for the 2024-2025 year. Please review with your districts as a vote will be taken at the August meeting.

- Gymnastics - \$2 increase (\$10 a ticket)
- Wrestling, early rounds of State event - \$1 increase; Ticket prices for Finals at State Wrestling will remain at \$20.
- Flag Football - Playoff structure still being created/reviewed. Ticket pricing will be shared at the August meeting.

5. Legal Update

Legal Counsel, Alex Halpern, shared that there is a possible appeal involving a family and their lawyer. Will be working with Commissioner Krueger on a response to their appeal.

He shared that the bylaw book was long overdue for clerical edits and revisions. Working with Mike Krueger and Bethany Brookens to clarify verbiage.

6. Directors Reports

Wendy Dunaway, Colorado Department of Education

Wendy shared that mental health and wellness programs are readily available to schools. Please review their website to see what is offered as there are many resources available to support our students and staff. Discussion of the SMAC web page on the CHSAA website, which is also a great resource. Need to continue being diligent in this area.

Nancy Hopper, Colorado Association of School Boards

Nancy shared that she would like to see a continued focus on student leadership opportunities.

Joe Brown, District 2

Shared that there is growing interest in changing the season of sport for girls golf. Spring weather is a huge detriment for girls golf vs. fall weather for the boys. Commissioner Krueger and Assistant Commissioner Mike Book shared that this too is on the CHSAA radar to see if combining seasons is a possibility. There will be a task force assembled to gather data to see if this change is feasible.

Commissioner Krueger shared that a task force has been assembled to evaluate the transfer process and options, including the concept of one free transfer. Task force will be meeting on June 11th for the first time.

Discussion of interest in the addition of girls ice hockey, confusion of co-op vs. school(s) without a program and districts without a program.

Robert Framel, Colorado Association of School Executives

Inquired about next steps for the CLOC Task Force, and Commissioner Krueger shared that he will be reviewing this during his update. Discussion followed. He spoke about the dissolution of the Sprint Medley and the need to add additional qualifiers. Discussion about working with the Track Committee to submit change requests/ideas.

Jim Flanigan, District 6

Jim shared that beginning next year, boys volleyball championships will be held at Fountain Fort Carson with two classifications.

Sara Crawford, District 3

Sara spoke about equality in 1A track. Assistant Commissioner Jenn Roberts Uhlig shared that there have been discussions with coaches and athletic directors. She asked that proposals be presented to the track committee. She encouraged 1A schools to bring a group proposal to the track committee.

7. **Bylaw Clerical Edits to Articles 18 & 25**

Commissioner Krueger spoke about the bylaw book clerical edit project. Shared that reviewing every bylaw in the handbook is a tedious process. The decision to focus on two sections of the bylaw book, Articles 18 (Transfers) and 25 (Appeals), was based upon hearing confusion from the membership regarding these sections. Interpretation and intent of the language being duplicated from section to section over the years has caused items to be out of alignment and not clearly written.

During this project, nothing was added, just clarified or moved to the appropriate/correct section; Clerical edits only. Associate Commissioner Bethany Brookens spoke about re-aligning the sections and making them more readable.

Commissioner Krueger shared the process of an appeal and that individuals/families can not appeal a ruling. As outlined in the membership bylaws, the school submitting the transfer waiver holds the decision and responsibility to appeal a ruling. Parents will always want to appeal because they do not like the decision. Commissioner Krueger shared that Athletic Directors are doing a great job and taking a strong stand enforcing the membership's bylaws, this is evidenced by a significant reduction in the number of appeals this year.

Alex Halpern spoke about the "band-aids" that have been applied throughout the years and the edits that were made in the past as "quick fixes" now will be cleaned up and clarified.

Discussion followed of the strengths of our bylaws and being able to stand behind them.

8. **Commissioner's Update**

CLOC Task Force

The CLOC Task Force met and reviewed what was passed at the April Legislative Council meeting. Next step is to review and discuss success factors, or lack thereof, during classifications of programs, and the use of success factors.

The goal is to make the process more objective. At the meeting the focus was to find questions to allow us to gather data for review and discussion at the next meeting. Discussion regarding private vs. public schools and their ability to cap enrollment numbers was discussed. The task force also discussed what other states do with regards to private schools.

Strategic Initiatives

At the recent CADA meeting, Commissioner Krueger presented the AD Mentorship Program. This program will give additional support for new athletic directors. Commissioner Krueger utilized the Michigan state association's new mentoring template and worked to adjust it and rewrite it for Colorado.

Overview of the program:

- Partnering with CADA; Highly received by CADA
- State will be divided into 6 sections; The desire is to have no more than a 30:1 ratio for the mentors.
- Mentors will be retired administrators
- Mentors will be provided a stipend for their time (mileage and hotel accommodations will also be taken care of).
- Requesting funds from the CHSAA Foundation to get the program started; In future will be looking for a partner to continue the program/work.

Transfer Options Task Force

The newly established Transfer Options Task Force will meet next week. Much discussion from the membership regarding a "free" transfer option has prompted this effort. This task force will explore the options, data and possible effects of these alternative options.

CHSAA Western Slope Office

As discussed through the year, Commissioner Krueger shared the launch of the new pilot program allowing CHSAA to have a satellite office located on the Western Slope. Mike Book will have an office in District 51's athletics building. He will hold the same office hours and duties he currently holds.

Bylaw Proposals

The Commissioner requested that the Board members be proactive with their districts and bring forward potential bylaw proposals to the table as appropriate.

9. **Associate Commissioner's Update**

Associate Commissioner Bethany Brookens shared upcoming events and invited the Board to attend:

Women in Leadership - Wednesday, September 4th

Event will be held at the Evergreen Lake House. Maximum attendance is capped at 200 people, with 75 people already registered.

All School Summit - Monday, August 29th and Tuesday, August 30th

Event will be held at the Douglas County Legacy Campus and will include a SMAC/Sports Medicine Summit, New A.D. Session, and BIPOC Leaders Luncheon. Reception will be held at the View House on Monday evening. Following the meeting on Tuesday, the CHSAA Foundation is hosting a golf tournament at Arrowhead Golf Course.

10. **Staff Updates**

Mike Book

Mike Book explained that the Officials fee structure has been designed for flag football, mirroring field hockey fees. Board approval is needed to approve the flag football officials pay as the timing for review/approval by the Legislative Council (January 2025) does not align with the fall season.

The motion to approve the fee structure for flag football officials was put forward by Shawn Terry and seconded by Jim Flanigan. Motion carried.

Mike Book spoke about the new partnership with RefReps, who provide online curriculum for officiating training. The program brings information to the schools and thus far has been very well received. Poudre and Windsor school districts have joined the program. This program allows high school students training in officiating and as high school students, will be able to officiate lower level games (middle schools). Once these student officials turn 18, they will be able to officiate high school level games, with hands-on experience under their belt.

Ryan Casey

Ryan Casey shared that he has created a Participation Database. Currently only sports data is available, but the Activities portion is currently under development. This information will allow us the most accurate data we have ever assembled.

Jenn Roberts-Uhlig

Jenn explained how the upcoming year will look using the Pre-Participation Evaluation Form. The SMAC Committee has given full approval. 2024-2025 will be the piloting year, then full use will be required beginning the 2025-2026 school year. This form will open needed dialogue to ensure the safety of the student athlete. This form will be reviewed fully at the All School Summit. Coaches and Athletic Trainers are invited to attend the Summit. Jenn shared that our SMAC Committee is very well respected and many states reach out to Colorado for guidance.

Jenn spoke about CADA and the support they give CHSAA and Athletic Directors. AD Connect continues to grow.

Commissioner Krueger shared that our partnership with CADA is so very positive and highly valued. He thanked Jenn for her work with CADA. He also shared that Assistant Commissioner Justin Saylor is attending a Lacrosse meeting at the NFHS; Assistant Commissioner Rashaan Davis is at Colorado Mesa at the Student Leadership Summer Camp. He also introduced Marisa Tenorio, who is also attending the Student Leadership Summer Camp, as she is replacing Nikki Jimenez who will be moving home to Washington.

11. **Meeting Review**

Reviewed upcoming Board Retreat.

12. **Adjourn**