

CHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

1. Roll Call

Roll call taken by Cathy Lenz-Higgins. Not in attendance were Tony Exum, Ty Gray and Alex Halpern.

2. President's Welcome & Report

President Ryan West expressed his gratitude to the Board for meeting virtually. He also shared his thoughts on the success of the January Legislative Council meeting, highlighting the great dialogue with the proposals presented. This dialogue demonstrated the importance of having two meetings per year.

Spring sports has officially started and championships for winter sports are in completion stages. Championships included ski, wrestling, hockey, girls swim and spirit; all very successful and a true representation of what educationally based activities/athletics looks like.

He thanked Rashaan for a very successful Hall of Fame event. The re-launch of the Inside Out Coaching was well-received and had good in-person turnout. The CASE winter conference was held recently held and he, Commissioner Krueger and Ryan Silva presented.

Commissioner Krueger introduced new CHSAA Board member Nancy Hopper, who will be representing CASB.

3. Approval of Minutes, Probation & Restriction Review

The motion to approve the Minutes of the January 29, 2024 meeting was made by Ryan Silva and seconded by Joe Brown. Motion carried.

The motion to approve the Probation Removal List was made by Robert Framel and seconded by Jim Flanigan. Motion carried.

The motion to approve the Restriction Removal List was made by Sara Crawford and seconded by Joe Brown. Motion carried.

4. Finance Update

Director of Finance, Sarah Vernon-Brunner, presented a recap of January's budget. Currently, our net income has exceeded the budgeted expectations.

The motion to approve the budget report was made by Alfie Lotrich and seconded by Emma Martinez. Motion carried.

She informed the Board that in April she will be presenting the proposed budget for the 2024-2025 year.

5. Legal Update

Commissioner Krueger presented the Legal Update.

He gave an update on legislative bills currently moving through the State Legislature. The Commissioner as well as CHSAA Lobbyist, Joan Green-Turner, have been working with Senator Exum and Senator Coleman on a proposed bill. CHSAA did not take a formal stance on these bills as they pertain to youth sports/activities and do not include the scholastic space. CHSAA involvement was to provide background and reference information.

The Commissioner also noted that he testified on a separate bill related to requirements for CPR/AED and first aid training for youth & recreation coaches. Again, CHSAA did not formally take a position on this bill; the Commissioner spoke as a subject matter expert and provided insights on how the scholastic structure has operated relevant to these requirements.

The Commissioner gave thanks to the athletic/activities directors at the school level for their diligence in speaking with parents and the importance of upholding the membership bylaws. It has had a major impact on the reduction of appeals we have had.

The Commissioner shared that he, Alex and Associate Commissioner Bethany Brookens have already met to begin the review of the bylaw book for editorial and realignment changes.

The next NFHS Legal meeting will be held in April. He and Alex will be attending this meeting along with Associate Commissioner Brookens.

The motion to approve the Legal Report was made by Jim Flanigan and seconded by Nancy Hopper. Motion carried.

6. Director Reports

Cameron Wright, District 4 representative, shared a concern regarding competition with non-CHSAA schools and how it affects/ factors into RPI/stats. Discussion followed and it was determined that CHSAA staff will provide some recommendations and this topic will be an agenda item for August BOD retreat/meeting.

7. Bylaw Proposal Review for April Legislative Council
(Please note, bylaw numbers will change with the addition/elimination of proposals prior to posting the draft Legislative Council packet on March 11th)

The CHSAA staff presented bylaw proposals being prepared for the April Legislative Council meeting.

Proposals ADM 1-7 related to changes in the CLOC process which the CLOC Task Force and CLOC committee reviewed and asked the staff to move forward to the membership. These proposal changes included the timeline of submission of enrollment numbers, use of a three-year average, CLOC appeal protocol, sport offering declaration timeline.

ADM 8 would allow additional options for concussion training for coaches. The SMAC committee has approved the use of an online course which will be accessed via the rSchool platform.

ADM 9 speaks to the Transfer process. Review of other state's transfer rules helped create the verbiage for ADM 9. This proposal states that student athletes are not eligible to participate until they have been approved by the State Association. This proposal would clarify current transfer bylaw verbiage.

ADM 10 speaks to Coach Ejections and associated consequences. This proposal grants CHSAA staff flexibility in assigning consequences that were previously not possible, such as ejections at the end of a season. It was suggested that including the Inside Out Coaching course could better align with intended consequences of an ejection. The proposal was reviewed by District Athletic Directors at a recent meeting, and they felt that schools should be held accountable, suggesting a \$100 fee per ejection as an acceptable action.

Discussion followed regarding accountability of officials in this process. Staff shared that Assistant Commissioner Mike Book and Commissioner Krueger are reviewing a process to review numbers of ejections occurring and which officials are issuing them..

ADM 10 Sunday Contact for Ice Hockey and Skiing.

Due to the increase of popularity in these sports, the availability to access facilities for practice has become very restrictive. Ice times currently available to schools for practice/games is very limited and typically involves the option of either being held very early in the morning or late evenings. The Ice Hockey Committee and CHSAA staff have been asked to allow Sunday contact to allow for an increase in the options available to practice. The concern is if this does not pass, the number of participating teams may need to be reduced.

Associate Commissioner Bethany Brookens explained that the ski season is shrinking due to lack of snow and availability of the mountain for practice and championships. Allowing for Sunday contact will allow coaches an appropriate amount of time with the students, otherwise there may be a loss of programs.

Communication and messaging to the membership regarding Sunday contact will need to be clear and consistent.

ADM 11 Sunday Contact - State Events

Due to the popularity of some sports, we are experiencing issues with venue availability for championships. To continue hosting at neutral sites and reduce the time missed in the classroom, the option of holding events on a Sunday would create opportunities for the Association. CHSAA has hosted championship events on Sunday's in the past when weather conditions pushed the event later into the weekend. Staff noted the continual concern that students are missing too much class time and this option, if passed, would help minimize the amount of time students miss in the classroom. It was also shared that many States allow for Sunday competition for the reasons noted.

Discussion regarding litigation in other states due to religious conflict on Sunday's. Importance for messaging that CHSAA is being thoughtful about using Sundays, and that we do not overuse the situation. Adding the verbiage "when deemed advisable" would help with clarification. The other benefit is that additional fans would be able to attend without work conflicts. Concerns were that having this option eliminates a rest day for athletes and officials. Would need to have specific hours that would be available.

ATH 12 Girls Flag Football

Discussion on the proposal for girls flag football. The Commissioner informed the board that the proposal had been presented and approved by the Equity, SMAC, CLOC, and Budget committees. It was noted that the proposal would be included in the packet for the upcoming April board meeting and would be voted upon by the Legislative Council the following day.

The CLOC proposed having two classifications for girls flag football based on the number of teams participating, with a minimum of 50 teams. It was also mentioned that Justin Saylor would be the commissioner overseeing girls flag football if the membership approves sanctioning.

The committee recommends to the board that the proposal for girls flag football be supported. It was noted that the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) does not currently have a rulebook for flag football. Efforts are underway to work in conjunction with other state associations to create one. Flag football is noted as the fastest-growing female sport and is slated to be an Olympic trial sport in 2028.

Currently, nine states have already sanctioned flag football, and 32 states are currently piloting the sport. Additionally, college scholarships are now available for flag football. There was discussion about the potential impact on certain fall sports, but it was shared that six out of ten participants in flag football did not participate in any sports in the fall, indicating a significant new participation demographic.

Flag football is also highlighted as one of the lowest-cost athletic sports, requiring only flags and footballs, with jamboree tournaments allowing for three games in one day on a regular-sized football field.

NFHS is working on expanding their involvement in flag football, though full sanctioning is not currently in place. It is believed that NFHS will move forward with sanctioning, and efforts are underway to create a rule book.

ATH 2 Ice Hockey Season of Sport

This proposal moves the start and end dates of the Ice Hockey season providing 3 additional days in the season. This will allow flexibility in scheduling championships with the venues we use for these events. (if needed)

ATH 3 Spring Calendar

This proposal was presented to the Legislative Council in January, but did not pass. Staff feels the membership was not fully educated on this proposal and not aware of the consequences of it not passing. Additional education needs to be done prior to the April meeting via the CADA/CHSAA outreaches.

ATH 4 6 Season of Sport

This proposal will be removed if ATH 3 is passed at the Legislative Council meeting. These proposals adjust the 4 sports calendars to eliminate calendar conflicts with events occurring on/after Memorial Day weekends.

8. Commissioner's Update

Commissioner Krueger shared the 2024-2025 Strategic Plan which aligns with our budget priorities.

- * Coach education & game management
- * Unified esports
- * Unified flag football
- * CHSAA coach tests (meeting the needs of our coaches, first year coaches, and out-of-building coaches)
- * Sporting behaviors (policy and procedures for coaches and spectators)

9. Associate Commissioner's Update

Associate Commissioner Bethany Brookens spoke on preparations of the upcoming basketball championships.

10. Staff Updates

a. Assistant Commissioner Jenn Roberts-Uhlig

The SMAC committee is piloting a Pre-participation Evaluation form (PPE). After the pilot year, this form would then be required for use by the CHSAA membership. This form is currently being used by a large number of States. The form has more in depth questions concerning the health of

the student athlete. This will allow further discussion between the coach, trainer, parent and athlete to share concerns they may have.

Commissioner Krueger thanked Jenn and Audra for the work they do with the SMAC committee. This new form is one of the biggest things we can do to protect our Colorado kids.

The Head, Heart & Heat program is in the process of getting a new image/update. Information will remain the same, but documentation and available information will have a new look.

b. Assistant Commissioner John Sullivan

The Wrestling committee met earlier this week. Pleased with how well the tournament went this year. Slight increase in ticket sales. The NFHS calendar will affect the slated weekend for next year's tournament. The use of Ball Arena is a priority and CHSAA adjusted the calendar accordingly to continue using. With the addition of a second classification in girls wrestling, the format of the the championship tournament will need to be adjusted.

12. Meeting Review

Next meeting will be Monday, April 22, 2024

13. Adjourn

President Ryan West adjourned the meeting at 11:30am