

MINUTES
Annual Meeting
North Dakota High School Activities Association
October 20, 2011 - Bismarck, ND

The General Assembly of the North Dakota High School Activities Association met at the Bismarck Ramkota Inn on October 20, 2011. President Swiontek called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

President Swiontek shared three initiatives he has envisioned for the association:

- Coaches Education: The membership needs to continue to pursue the requirement of Coaches Education while it is still in the control of the association.
- Strategic Plan: The development of a strategic plan for the association will provide direction and guidance in short term as well as long term planning.
- Drug and Alcohol Program: The development of a proactive program to reduce student use of alcohol and drugs throughout the state.

In closing comments, President Swiontek stated he wished to let school administrators know they are important in the continued success of activities. Co-curricular activities are extremely important to the development of students. Thank you to administrators for their continued support of activities.

President Swiontek declared a quorum.

President Swiontek introduced the NDHSAA Board of Directors and staff.

The minutes of the October, 2010 and January, 2011 General Assembly meetings were addressed. Motion by Supt. Diann Aberle, Milnor to approve the minutes. Second by Supt. Rick Jacobson, Wahpeton and carried.

The Executive Secretary presented a National Federation citation award in the sport of volleyball to staff member, Solberg.

Amendments to the Constitution & By-Laws were presented.

a. The membership was presented the following proposed amendment to Part Two, Article XIV, Section X, part b (hardship) to read:

A student who, because of hardship including, but not limited to, broken home conditions, death of parents or guardians, abandonment or other exceptional or emergency reasons, finds it necessary to **change transfer** schools, may be declared eligible for varsity competition by the Executive Secretary, provided the **member school of attendance submits and supports a hardship application and the Executive Secretary's investigation reveals verifies** the **change transfer** was necessary and there was no undue influence or recruitment. The decision of the Executive Secretary may be appealed pursuant to Due Process Procedures of Article VI, Sections **XV** through **XVII** of these By-Laws (**see Harship Appeals Flow Chart, attached hereto at page 50 and incorporated by reference (October-06) (October 2011)**)

Motion by Athletic Administrator Cory Lehman, Fargo South to adopt the amendment as proposed. Second by Athletic Administrator Randy Nelson, Shanley. A voice vote approved the amendment unanimously.

The membership was presented with an amendment to Article XIV (eight semester):

b. SECTION XI:

A student shall not participate in any interscholastic contest after his/her eighth semester in high school unless he/she is under 18 years of age, nor after his/her seventh semester, if his/her seventh and eighth semesters are not consecutive. In the event that a student has been unable to participate in an activity due to a diagnosed life threatening disease or other exceptional reason, the Executive Secretary has the power to grant/deny the student one extra year or two additional semesters of eligibility provided the member school of attendance submits and supports an extra semester(s) application establishing that he/she the student has not reached his/her twentieth birthday and the student is academically eligible. ~~A denial of eligibility under this section may be appealed by the member school attended by the ineligible student~~ The decision of the Executive Secretary may be appealed pursuant to Part Two, Article VI, Due Process Procedures of Article VI, in Sections XV through XVII of these By-Laws (see Extra Semester(s) Appeals Flow Chart, attached hereto at page 51 and incorporated by reference), provided the student has not reached his/her twentieth birthday and is otherwise eligible. ~~(October 2005)~~ (Oct. 2011)

Motion by Supt Brad Rinas, Washburn to approve the proposed amendment. Second by Supt. Hy Schlieve, Drayton. A voice vote approved the amendment unanimously.

The membership was presented with the following proposed amendment to the Constitution & By-Laws, Part Two.

ARTICLE VI—DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE

The following Due Process Procedure shall govern the investigation into alleged or contested violations of the Constitution, By-Laws, or interpretations of the North Dakota High School Activities Association by a member school (party) (see Member =Schools Complaint and Appeals Flow Chart, attached hereto at page 49 and incorporated by reference), or of appeals made pursuant to Part Two, Article XIV, Section Xb (“hardships”) (see Member Schools Hardship Exception Procedure and Appeals Flow Charts, attached hereto at page 50 and incorporated by reference) or Section XI (“eight semester rule”) (see Member Schools Extra Semester(s) Procedure and Appeals Flow Chart, attached hereto at page 51 and incorporated by reference) of the By-Laws. (Oct. 2011)

The Complaint and Appeals Flow Chart was shared.

Motion by Supt. Curt Pierce, Center-Stanton to approve the amendment. Second by Keith Arneson, Northwood. A carried unanimously by voice vote.

d. Supt. Jack Maus, Grafton presented the following amendment to PART TWO, ARTICLE III:

SECTION XI, 2B: The Cooperative Sponsorship Amendment, which adds Section XI to Article III of the By-Laws, will become effective July 1, 1981, and reads as follows:

Cooperative sponsorship of any activity by two or more member schools will be considered under the following conditions:

1. Schools are to be located in the same geographical area.
2. School Enrollments:

A. All member schools of the NDHSAA will be eligible to participate in the cooperative sponsorship program.

B. When Class B schools are involved with the cooperative sponsorship of an activity and the combined enrollment of the schools involved exceeds 325 students in grades 9 through 12, these schools will compete as a Class A school in that activity. (Exception for wrestling, girls' fastpitch softball and cross country: co-op request must be approved by the NDHSAA Board of Directors.) (Last Amended January 2004)

Motion by Supt. Jack Maus to approve the amendment. Second by Supt. Kirk Ham, Park River. A roll call vote was taken with a result of 104 yes, 31 no, motion carried.

Nominating Committees for the upcoming vacancies for the Board of Directors were asked for a report:

1. Supt. Rick Diegel, Edgeley reported the nominations for the Class B southeast position on the NDHSAA Board of Directors:
 - a. Supt. Steve Hall, Kindred
 - b. Supt. Jeff Fastnacht, Ellendale

There were no other nominations from the floor. Motion by Supt. Doug Jacobson, Barnes County North to approve the nominations. Second by Supt. Steve Johnson, Lisbon. Motion carried.

2. Dr. Viola LaFontaine, Williston reported the nominations for the Class A At-Large position on the NDHSAA Board of Directors:
 - a. Supt. Doug Sullivan, Dickinson
 - b. Ath. Dir. Jason Wiberg, Devils Lake

There were no other nominations from the floor. Motion by Supt. Robert Toso, Jamestown to approve the nominations. Second by Ath. Dir. Pat McNally, Minot. Motion carried.

3. Ath. Dir. Bradley Foss, Hazen reported the nominations for the NDIAAA position on the NDHSAA Board of Directors:
 - a. Ath. Dir. Randy Nelson, Shanley
 - b. Ath. Dir. Jim Roaldson, Jamestown

There were no nominations from the floor. Motion by Ath. Dir. Troy Cody, Fargo North to approve the nominations. Second by Ath. Dir. Karen Groninger, Des Lacs-Burlington. Motion carried.

The Executive Secretary gave his report:

- Spirit of Sport is a National Federation award program to recognize students for exemplary actions. Students throughout the nation have been nominated for this award. Please review a criterion which was made available as you entered the room. If a candidate would qualify for this award, an application will be sent to the school. Each state is entitled to one nominee who will forward to Section 5 for a selection of the Section 5 nominee to forward to the National Federation.
- NDHSAA will be conducting a concussion survey following the fall seasons to gather data for further study.

- The Coaches Education Committee kicked into gear the previous day. The committee members are Dr. Steve Swiontek, chairman; NDHSCA Exec. Sec. Gelaine Orvik, NDHSAA, NDIAAA and NDHSCA member Pete Moe, Doug Johnson representing the North Dakota Council of Educators, Supt. Marc Bluestone and Maggie Townsend representing athletic administrators, Todd Olson representing NDIAAA and NDHSAA Board and Sheryl Solberg and Matt Fetsch representing the association office. There was a movement last year to implement a program for coaches' education but the schools did not adopt the initiative. The committee feels action should be taken rather than waiting for the state legislature to mandate a plan.
- The Football Committee met and began work on the new two-year football plan. Following the Dakota Bowl, a survey will be coming out to the member schools requesting information to help in the development of guidelines for the upcoming plan. Congratulations to the teams that qualify for this year's play-offs. The Dakota Bowl will be played in one day. It has become more difficult to secure a facility for this event.
- The Board approved formation of a Strategic Planning Committee to develop a roadmap for future decisions of the association.
- Beginning January the Board will begin seeking/screening to fill the upcoming vacancy for assistant to the executive secretary. The Board plans to name a selection for this position in March.
- At last count, 3,393 individuals have taken the concussion course on the National Federation website.
- Administrators need more communication among those in their school district. Changes have and are taking place in this association of member schools. The communication that needs to take place includes superintendants, principals, athletic directors and coaches.
- At the October 19th meeting, the Board approved a request to consider Fridays for Region track in the case of inclement weather. This decision can be made via communication with the association office. If the meet is held on Friday, that meet cannot begin prior to 3:00 p.m.
- Thank you to the staff for their work for the member schools.
- Thank you to the member schools to allow the association to count on the integrity of the members to follow the regulations.
- Thank you to the Board of Directors for their input.

With no further business, President Swiontek declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheryl Solberg
Asst. to the Exec. Sec.