

Class B District Chairperson Meeting
March 16, 2012-9:00 A.M.
Bismarck Ramkota Inn

The Class B District Chair meeting was held on March 16, 2012 at the Bismarck Ramkota Inn. Chairman Ulland called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all districts represented.

Chairman Ulland welcomed the district chairpersons and thanked them for representing their district. Each district representative introduced themselves and identified their district.

The various districts have submitted the following agenda items for discussion. The Executive Secretary reminded the group before each item is submitted to the NDHSAA Board for consideration it must receive approval from a simple majority of the districts.

The wording of the recommendations from each district is recorded exactly as submitted by the district chairperson. Comments from the meeting follow each recommendation.

District 1-----Pat Adair, Prin/AD Lisbon

1. Wrestling not count regional dual as the match limit. – With wrestle-backs, the teams reach their match limitations prior to the region dual tournament.

Discussion – District 7 Michaelson agreed, it is a negative to count the region duals in the regular season limitation. District 11 Grochow compared this with basketball that does not count districts and regions for the regular season. District 15 Cranston voiced agreement. District 5 Herman stated when the state dual tournament was put into place, the Board indicated each region determine which teams will advance to the state meet unlike other activities. The Executive Secretary led discussion on how dual wrestling is handled.

2. Drop 3rd place game at regional basketball tournament. Feel the game is meaningless and will prevent loss of school time.

Discussion – District 15 Cranston shared his opinion stating there is a place for that game and fans for those two teams will come to support their team for that game. This game provides the younger players an opportunity to play in the region in front of a bigger crowd. District 12 Krueger asked if the 3rd place game at the state tournament should also be dropped. Michaelson stated the third place game at region gives closure. District 10 Dick suggested it allows another 8 teams to end their season with a win.

3. Establish uniform shot clock for boys and girls basketball. Looking for something more uniform.

District 2-----Tom Milbrandt, Ath. Dir., Maple Valley

1. Coaching Box. Seems to be different specs in every gym. One possibility is making it the length of the bench. Every coaching box seems to be different in adjusted to their own facility. If this is allowed, that is how the rule should be written.

Discussion – Cranston shared this is a common occurrence. Each school should have the responsibility to make the 14 ft. box work the best way possible in each gym. District 6 Dietzman felt the coaching box was not being enforced. District 9 Pierce indicated the problem is when it has to be placed where the step goes into the bleachers. District 5 Herman stated there should be a distance from where the box is placed from the score table.

Vote – Develop a uniform plan to allow flexibility for equal placement of coaching boxes in each facility. 16-0

2. Fall Golf. Courses are in much better condition in the fall. Courses are easily accessible statewide. Concerned with the quality of the courses in the spring and they are less used in the fall making it easier to secure courses for competition.

Discussion – Pierce indicated with volleyball and football, it would be difficult for small schools and felt it would kill a program with too many activities for the fall season. District 12 Krueger asked if schools can share athletes much like golf and track do now. Pierce also asked to look at the number of coaches you would need if golf was in the fall. Some districts indicated they had schools that did not allow an athlete to compete in more than one sport in a season. District 14 Lunde stated fall golf makes sense with the course availability but in several years the schools would be back discussing moving it back to spring because of how it affects the fall participants. Michaelson shared where there has been a state golf tournament with rain, it could be delayed in the spring but in the fall with an early storm, what would be done? Cranston stated there is better course availability and the quality of play improved with participants playing during the summer. The Executive Secretary asked if going into the fall, how early are you willing to start? Pierce suggested having a split season with part in the fall and part in the spring. The group thought this would be difficult with seniors.

Vote – Move golf to the fall. 5-10

3. FB Plan. Use more current numbers instead of numbers from October 2011. Enrollment numbers are fluctuating throughout the state. Example, MV and Enderlin have lost 8 and 16 (24 total) students since those numbers were used to develop FB division numbers.

Discussion – Concern of the numbering system with flux of the population caused by people moving west. Board member Moe shared the need for documented numbers from DPI fall reports which forces placement earlier.

4. Concerned over what is going on out west with no districts (regionals only). We support them wanting to do it but we don't want that pushed on us.

Discussion – Chairperson Ulland indicated at this point it is not mandatory. Pierce asked if District 9 and District 10 must have permission to change the post-season similar to Region 7, and do they also have to petition the Board for an additional two games. The Executive Secretary replied this would be up to the Board as Region 7's plan was approved on a two-year basis. Currently, it may have to be something that would

mirror what currently has been approved. Pierce indicated they are looking at a possible plan. District 3 Aanenson indicated their region is also talking about a possible plan. Michaelson shared their region is also talking about changing their plan to be similar to Region 7.

5. Clean up JH Regulations. The following seem to contradict each other.

#3 page 1. 7th and 8th grade students elevated to teams consisting of any grades 10 through 12 are no longer eligible for JH competition.

#3 page 2. Once a JH student in a school with a 7th and 8th grade enrollment of 50 or more competes on a HS team, he/she is no longer eligible for the JH team. Note: The exception to this rule is in the sports of track, CC, and wrestling for all schools as well as in all sports for school with a combined enrollment of less than 50 in the 7th and 8th grade. There seems to be confusion with what schools can use.

No discussion followed.

District 3-----Patti Aanenson, AD Larimore

1. Super Regional - Is it possible for other Regions to participate in the Super Region format?

Already discussed.

2. Officials Education - It has been expressed that it is too easy to become an official and maybe more education should be implemented.

Discussion – Krueger - there is a progression for education for officials. It would be helpful to go back to live meetings allowing coaches and officials to work out some concerns. District 12 would like to see live meetings for basketball to help with judgment items such as rough play, etc. This recommendation is also from District 12 and will wait until they have made their recommendation for a vote.

3. Coaching Box - The location as per the drawing does not work in a lot of gyms. Teams are sitting on steps or so far down the bleachers there is not enough room. Could the dimensions be adjusted based on each gym/bleacher set up?

Already discussed.

4. Basketballs - The coaches and players did not like this year's basketballs. Do the bid balls have to be used for tournament? They would like to return to the previous style. Did Nike get the state bid? May the coaches opt to use a different ball for tournaments?

Discussion – The Executive Secretary informed the group the basketball that was being used is no longer being made. There is a concern to go to a bid process, which could possibly lead the Board to accept the bid for an inferior ball. In order to get a good price for a basketball, we need to go through a volume buyer. To avoid going into a bid, we are looking to continue with the current brand with the best price, which is what the member schools want. District 15 Cranston is concerned if there is going to be a change again, schools need to know if there will be a different ball prior to ordering for the next year. The Executive Secretary re-emphasized the current ball is in place because the old

ball is no longer being used. The new ball is considered a better ball but needs a break-in period. The whole objective is to attempt to save money for the member schools.

District 4-----Sandy Laxdal, Prin/AD Cavalier

1. Move Golf to the Fall.

This was previously discussed

District 5-----Matt Herman, Prin/AD Ellendale

1. Athletic Directors from District 5 would like to recommend to the district chairs for the 2013-2014 season have an option to have a 4 team regional tournament on Tuesday and Thursday on an experimental basis. (In a 5-6 team district such as ours next year, only sending the top two to the region tournament instead of all but one or two would put more emphasis on our district tournament and make for a more competitive regional tournament) – We would like to see how this setup works and compare it to the super regional option to evaluate the pros and cons of each. (We would like to have the option to try this for VB, BBB, and GBB).

Discussion – Consider allowing a region to try a different region plan to have from which to compare with Region 7. District 10 Dick - if you go to a four-team region, it would allow for a super B state tournament.

District 6-----Robert Dietchman, Prin/AD Napoleon

1. Statewide all-activities pass for athletic directors.

Discussion – Mandan Athletic Director Jungling informed the group the NDIAAA agreed the NIAAA (national) pass should be considered for regular season.

2. Inclusion of a ‘dead period’ during summer vacation

a. Identify a ‘week’ during the summer in July in which ‘no’ sporting activities could take place including summer leagues, camps, etc.

Discussion – Aanenson stated they considered the dead period to be during the State Coaches convention. Herman concurred and also stated it is something that needs to be taken care of in their own schools.

3. Open Gyms

a. “Open Gyms” need to be designated “sport specific”

■ Considerations in question—safety and effectiveness of having more than one sport at a time operating during open gym hours

District 7-----Karla Michaelson, AD Carrington

1. Are super regions the future for VB, GBB, and BBB teams in the state?

Previously discussed.

2. Coaching certification (grades 7-12 or 9-12)

Discussion – Where is coaching certification at this time? If pursued, could it be 9 through 12 rather than 7 through 12. Board President Swiontek stated there is continued discussion and consideration is being made for 9 through 12.

3. Will Minot be able to host the state boys basketball tournament in 2013?

Discussion – Chairman Ulland stated at the Large Tournament Committee meeting, the Minot delegation assured the committee they would have an additional 1,300 rooms. The question was raised what will be the rate?

4. Shot clock has been a positive move in Class B basketball!

District 8-----Jared Blikre, Prin/AD Rolette

1. Switch BBB/GBB seasons back. (Girls season first).

Discussion – This recommendation is mostly for post season attendance. Gaugler asked if switched back would the overlap with volleyball and girls' basketball be an issue again.

VOTE: Switch boys' basketball and girls' basketball seasons, girls' season first. 9-6

2. Change shot clock to the same time for BBB/GBB or get rid of 10 second rule for GBB.

Discussion – Districts 12 and 16 recommend and agree both should be 35 seconds.

Vote – Set time for shot clocks to be 35 seconds for both Class B boys' and girls' basketball. 13-3

3. Allow for more flexibility with the coaches box. (Ex: "x" amount from center line).

Already discussed

4. Implement a NDHSAA directed evaluation system for basketball officials similar to what some other states use. Use it to select officials for postseason tournaments.

Discussion – It was stated currently, it would be financially restrictive. Herman stated the selection process needs work.

5. Allow tape on wrestling headgear, but stipulate there may be no writing or decorating of the tape.

Discussion – Staff member Fetsch clarified this is a National Federation rule.

6. Reduce the number of wrestling weight classes for Class B. (Down to 12).

Discussion – Ulland indicated this has been previously addressed and we have already favored the 14 weight classes

7. Criteria for seeding for state wrestling tournament: In order to use placing at the previous year's state tournament as seeding criteria, a wrestler has to have wrestled at least 10 matches in the present season. This would be for 1st or 2nd place seeding at state only.

a. There have been a couple instances where a wrestler has been injured basically the entire year, and wrestles a couple of matches at the end of the year and based on those wins and their state placing from previous year, they have been seeded #1 or #2 at the state tournament, and they don't think this is fair to the wrestlers who have wrestled the whole season.

Discussion – Fetsch indicated the Wrestling Advisory Committee has already addressed this issue and will bring forward adjustments.

District 9-----Curt Pierce, Supt. Center-Stanton

1. Mercy Rule - over a 30-point lead, shot clock is still used, game clock runs for everything other than timeouts and free throws in the second half.

Discussion – Cranston voiced agreement. Asked if there was any thought of when it gets to 30 points in the second half, the clock runs even if the score goes under 30. Michaelson – with running clock, you are taking time away from kids who might play toward the end of the game.

VOTE: Time continues to run even when score goes under 30. Clock will stop only for time-outs and free throws. 8-8

2. Super Region - do we need permission from the NDHSAA to go with the same format as Region 7 for the 2013-14 year.

Previously discussed.

District 10-----Brandt Dick, Supt. Underwood

1. No Agenda Items

District 11-----Scott Grochow, AD Rugby

1. Move golf to the Fall
Previously discussed.

2. Regional tournaments on sites that are not used for districts.

Discussion – Not intended to bring to a vote but wished to bring up for discussion. Cranston – if there is a facility that can be used that is not a home court or court that was used for a district tournament, it should be considered for the region.

District 12-----Lyll Krueger, AD Surrey

1. Switching of Boys and Girls Basketball back to Girls first and Boys second.
Previously discussed.

2. Keep Football Divisions the same size as before. (done)

3. District 12 wants to keep District Tournaments.

4. Rough play in basketball. To have Live Basketball rules clinics instead of On Line. Maybe this would help with rough play?

Discussion – Once again, discussed live rules clinics. Also, the mercy rule should eliminate some rough play.

VOTE – Conduct live rules clinics for basketball – 5-11

5. Having Shot Clock in Girls the same as boys. (35 second)

Previously discussed.

District 13-----Kevin Morast, AD Hettinger

1. Propose following college girls basketball rule of eliminating the 10 second back court rule.

Discussion – Cranston informed the group this was discussed at the coaches meeting where it was felt if you can deny a team for 10 seconds, reward the defense. Fetsch indicated 72% coaches were opposed. There was no vote.

2. A straw poll is requested on the elimination of all JH rules from the NDHSAA by-laws and using local control.

Discussion – It was shared there is a school in Dist 13 that is willing to draw up an amendment to eliminate that part of the Constitution & By-Laws and leave control of junior high to the local school. The result of a straw vote to give the school direction as to if there is any support for this action was 6-9.

3. To re-propose the 2 region system for Class B wrestling – Still qualifying 16 from each weight class to the state tournament.

Discussion – Would like to see the top 16 wrestlers rather than wrestlers with a few or no wins on their record but still advancing by place. Fetsch indicated the Wrestling Advisory Committee has already addressed this issue and will bring forward adjustments.

VOTE – 6-6

District 14-----Mitch Lunde, AD, Beulah

1 Seeding the VB, GBB and BBB as follows: The head coaches of the qualifying teams electronically rank the other seven teams 1-7. The high and the low rankings are thrown out and then the five remaining scores are averaged. The four lowest averages are ranked 1-4, and the remaining four teams are randomly drawn. Ties are broken by pulling the vote of the other tied teams coaches and then re-calculating the remaining votes.

VOTE – 12-4

District 15-----Randy Cranston, AD Watford City

1. Coaches Box—Have placement in discretion of home school (keep it 14 ft)
2. New Basketball—Mixed feelings however pick one and stay with it
3. Super Regional—With only 6 teams in our district and 8 in the other our feeling was we might as we go to it as it is unfair financially and in fairness of making to regionals
4. Mercy Rule—30 or 40 points in 2nd half
All were previously discussed.
5. Insurance and coverage / percentage of gate at District and income from t-shirts
Discussion – The group was reminded post-season events are NDHSAA tournaments in which the entire income could go to the association but the major portion of the proceeds go to the schools.
No vote
6. Switch boys and girls season back to where they were 11 years ago (Girls to the fall / boys stay winter)—Women College coaches would be able to recruit more, officials wouldn't have to be gone 5-6 days each week, gates would be better.
No vote.
7. If not 6-Move boys back to later season.
This was previously voted upon during District 8 presentation.
8. AA football should have at least 20 teams.
Discussion – The question was raised would these teams come down from AAA or up from A? Lunde indicated it would be best to have 20 teams for scheduling purposes. There will always be schools that get left out. Cranston – this happens only in the AA level with the current divisioning. Krueger indicated their division of 9-man currently is a good scheduling process. Moe informed the group this would be for 2015 season as the current plan is in place. Lunde - with the new plan not being until 2015, there is no vote requested at this time.

District 16-----Celeste Thingvold, Prin/AD, Bowbells

1. Shot clock times should be the same for boys and girls
2. What basketballs are being used for next year?
3. Coaches box placement
4. Same districts for basketball and volleyball. Questioned why Stanley was not left in their district but was moved

All of District 16 recommendations had previously been discussed.

Chairman Ulland thanked the group for their hard work.

There being no further action, Chairman Ulland declared the meeting adjourned.

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