

MINUTES
Annual Meeting
North Dakota High School Activities Association
January 28, 2013 - Bismarck, North Dakota

The Representative Assembly Meeting of the North Dakota High School Activities Association was held Monday, January 28, 2013 at 8:00 A.M. at the Bismarck Ramkota Inn. President Ulland welcomed the membership, called the meeting to order, and declared a quorum had been established.

President Ulland introduced the Board of Directors and staff to the membership and thanked the membership for their dedication to North Dakota students.

President Ulland explained to the delegation the 2012-2013 Distinguished Student, Mandi Egeland from Grand Forks Red River was unable to address the General Assembly due to an illness.

On behalf of the Canvassing Committee, chair Kirsten Baesler reported the results of the ballots for NDHSAA Board positions.

1. Membership to the Board of Directors from the Class B Southwest Region for a four year term – Brad Rinas, Washburn Superintendent
2. Membership to the Board of Directors from the NDASSP for a four year term – Todd Bertsch , Fargo South High School Principal

Special Presentation made by President Ulland and Executive Secretary Sylling to Dr. Wayne Sanstead in appreciation of the contributions and dedication during his years of service to the NDHSAA from 1987-2012. Dr. Sanstead addressed the membership telling them he was delighted to serve on the NDHSAA Board of Directors. It was a learning experience and a wonderful comradeship with Board members. He is especially appreciative that as much attention is given to fine arts as to sports in the NDHSAA. Students are served well by this fine organization by Board members and NDHSAA staff. He relished the opportunity to serve and thanked the membership for their support and North Dakota schools and support of NDHSAA.

Exec Sec report:

1. NFHS/NDHSAA/NDIAAAA Public Service Announcements were played for the membership. Every radio station in North Dakota was sent these announcements. Member school support of these announcements in home communities is appreciated. Sylling emphasized the need to make every effort we can to make sure our activities stay educationally based.
2. The Constitution & By-Laws committee and the NDASP will be looking at NDHSAA academic eligibility rules. By fall of 2013 it is expected this committee will recommend changes in academic eligibility.
3. Unfortunately, Mandi Egeland, 2012-13 Distinguished Student, could not address the assembly. She truly represents our Distinguished Student ideals. Last year was the smallest number of applicants for the Distinguished Student. Member schools are encouraged to recognize a student within their school and select him/her for the Distinguished Student award locally as well as state-wide. It is an opportunity for

member schools to recognize a junior that is a step ahead, a true leader in your school. The Distinguished Student program is one of the most worthwhile programs at NDHSAA. Farmers Union Insurance provides scholarships to all finalists. The Distinguished Student receives a \$2,000 scholarship, the runner-up a \$1,000 scholarship and the other four finalists receive \$500 scholarships for this program. If member schools would like NDHSAA to assist your school when recognizing these students locally, contact the NDHSAA office. Applications must be postmarked by April 1st.

4. Beginning the fall of 2013 all coaches who work with student-athletes in grades 9-12 must be certified. This is a worthwhile effort to educate coaches throughout ND. Verification of coach certification for schools will be sent to NDHSAA prior to April 1st each year. On this form all coaches and assistant coaches in grades 9-12 will be listed and whether they are certified. The first time a coach shows up on a form as non-certified they will receive a warning. For each additional coach there will be a fine assessed. There have been questions regarding what courses qualify for the fundamentals of coaching requirement for certification. The NFHS has a Fundamentals of Coaching course that is not required but recommended. The fundamentals of coaching should not be a sport specific course. It should not be about the Xs and Os of coaching. The course should deal with the philosophy of coaching. Sport specific courses would count toward the renewal requirement. We will again send out the information regarding coaches education. This information will also be on the NDHSAA website.
5. January 2012, Region 7 was granted permission for a 2-year experiment with the format of region Basketball and Volleyball tournament. The experiment is for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 school years. The board felt it was important to develop guidelines for other regions who may choose to request an experiment. The region requirement for Class B volleyball and basketball tournaments is as follows: The region tournament shall be a bracketed tournament with a minimum of 8 teams. How regions get to those 8 teams would be spelled out in a proposal to NDHSAA. There will be no approval for plans having less than 8 teams in their region tournaments brackets.
6. Constitution & By-Laws committee has been busy. The “Less than 50” rule recommendation allows 7th and 8th grade students that are elevated and participate in high school competition the ability to move back to junior high competition. The recommendation continues to allow 5th & 6th grade students to play for junior high teams if their enrollment in junior high is not over 50 in all sports except wrestling and football. This allows local control of junior high athletics, but allows smaller schools to use 5th & 6th graders to maintain their junior high programs. The Board heard the recommendation and will vote on adoption in March.
7. TV bid specifications were approved by the Board of Directors. NDHSAA is exploring webcasting of non-televised region and state games as a new source of revenue. A consultant will meet with the media committee and the Board of Directors in February to explore options.
8. Legislative updates include: House Bill 1028, a concussion bill with more clarification passed the House Committee. House Bill 1248, a school calendar bill did not make it out of committee. If this bill were to come back, it would have huge implications to the NDHSAA calendar.

9. There was discussion of a ruling from the Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights which has implications to all member schools. The United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) published a report that underscored that access to, and participation in, extracurricular athletic opportunities provide important health and social benefits to all students, particularly those with disabilities. These benefits can include socialization, improved teamwork and leadership skills, and fitness. The GAO found students with disabilities are not being afforded an equal opportunity to participate in extracurricular athletics in public elementary and secondary schools. The DOE document is available on the NDHSAA website. A major concern was athletics and activities may be viewed as a right and not a privilege.
10. Thank you to the staff and board for their commitment as well as the membership for supporting student activities. Reminded member schools “We work for you”.
11. In closing, Sylling shared a quote from a 2012 Distinguished Student application. “You don’t need to be the best to make a difference.” We live in a culture that tells us we have to be the best. This quote tells us we can all make a difference.

President Ulland thanked the membership for their attendance and attention and declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Schell
Asst. to the Exec. Sec.