

MINUTES**North Dakota High School Activities Association
March 22, 2013, Fargo, ND**

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association held their meeting on March 22, 2013 in Fargo. President Ulland called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Members present: Ulland, Olson, Auch, Roaldson, Martin, Ham, Brannan, Helvik, Hall, Wiberg, Baesler,

Upon additions to the agenda, motion by Auch to approve the agenda. Second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board was previously supplied minutes of the January 26, 2013 meeting for review. Motion by Martin to approve minutes as read. Second by Hall. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board was previously supplied minutes of the February 19, 2013 special meeting for review. Motion by Wiberg to approve minutes as read. Second by Ham. Motion carried unanimously.

The Executive Secretary presented the financial report including balance sheet, detailed budget and investment report. Motion by Helvik to approve the financial report. Second by Auch. Motion carried unanimously.

The Executive Secretary presented the fall financial report. Fall tournaments showed an overall decrease in net income. Motion by Brannan to approve the financial report. Second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed cooperative sponsorship dissolution requests:

1. McClusky, Turtle Lake-Mercer and Underwood, junior high girls' basketball, 2013/14
Motion by Brannan to approve. Second by Wiberg. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Pingree-Buchanan and Kensal in boys' and girls' basketball, grades 7-12, 2013/14
Motion by Olson to approve. Second by Helvik. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Medina and Gackle-Streeter, girls' basketball, grades 7-12, 2013/14
Motion by Martin to approve. Second by Auch. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Pingree-Buchanan and Kensal, volleyball, grades 7-12, 2013/14
Motion by Olson to approve. Second by Wiberg. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed cooperative sponsorship applications:

1. Napoleon and Gackle-Streeter in wrestling, 7-12, 2013-14, no fee
Motion by Ham to approve. Second by Roaldson. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Turtle Mountain Community and Bottineau in wrestling, 7-12, 2013-14, no fee
Motion by Roaldson to approve. Second by Hall. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Williston Trinity Christian and Trenton in boys' basketball, 9-12, 2013-14, no fee
Motion by Auch to approve. Second by Brannan. Motion carried unanimously.
4. McClusky and Turtle Lake-Mercer, junior high girls' basketball, 2013-14, no fee
Motion by Brannan to approve. Second by Roaldson. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Medina and Pingree-Buchanan in girls' basketball, 7-12, 2013-14, no fee
Motion by Hall to approve. Second by Helvik. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Medina and Pingree-Buchanan in boys' basketball, 7-12, 2013-14, late fee
Motion by Wiberg to approve. Second by Martin. Motion carried unanimously.

In the Executive Board report Scott Ulland provided a report of penalties assessed for member school violations.

1. Grafton High School self reported girls' basketball team played one too many varsity games.
 - a. Penalty: Letter of reprimand, girls' basketball program on probation for one year and \$1,000 fine assessed.
2. Minnewaukan School self reported junior high basketball player played too many semesters.

- a. Penalty: Forfeit of games student played in and on year probation for junior high basketball program.

Larry Helvik, media committee chair, provided a media committee report. BEK Communications appeared before the media committee to appeal the denial of media passes for state tournaments. Committee recommendation is to deny request from BEK Communications for media passes for state tournaments. BEK Communications does not qualify as a traditional broadcast resource according to NDHSAA policy.

BEK Communications requested NDHSAA adjust the television bid specification "NDHSAA will not allow live televised coverage of any NDHSAA sponsored event that would conflict with any televised event covered in this bid." Recommendation to deny the request. The bid process was completed using the television contract specifications as written.

Television bids were opened on March 15th in Bismarck. Committee recommendation is to accept Forum Communications bid pending negotiations of the additional comments received with the bid. NDHSAA has been pleased with the North Dakota NBC's partnership and thanked them for past service. Both bids met the specifications. The committee further recommended one person from the office and one person from the media committee meet with Forum Communications to negotiate the additional comments contained in the bid. ND NBC and Forum Communications were both represented at the Board meeting.

Motion by Baesler to accept the media committee recommendation to accept the Forum Communications television bid and begin the negotiation process. Second by Ham.

Baesler offered an amendment to her motion to accept Forum Communications television bid adding the clarification of bullets 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11 on the Forum Communications additional comments. Second by Ham.

Discussion included the fact this amendment would limit discussion of the other bullets.

Call for the question on the amendment.

Roll call vote: Ulland – no, Olson – no, Auch – no, Roaldson – no, Martin – no, Ham – no, Brannan – no, Helvik – no, Hall – no, Wiberg – no, Baesler – no. Amendment to the motion defeated unanimously.

Discussion as follows:

Forum Communications and ND NBC were provided opportunities to address the Board and answer any questions concerning bids.

The Board questioned one of the stipulations concerning streaming rights, especially of non-broadcast games. If an event is not televised, the Board would request the ability to keep streaming rights. Streaming rights were not included on the NDHSAA television specifications, however both bidders added streaming rights as additional items in their bids.

Board members questioned the minimum number of games per tournament, which is four (4). In clarification, the NDHSAA bid requested a minimum of four (4) games per tournament be televised.

Board members questioned covering signage in the arena from other media outlets (i.e. television and/or radio stations) during the tournament.

Also questioned was whether it was a normal stipulation to request delaying the broadcast of tournament game highlights until the evening session was concluded for that day.

Committee recommended Sylling be involved with negotiations due to his past history and Wiberg be the media committee representative due to his proximity and the fact he has three years left on the board.

Forum Communications, represented by Bill Marcil, CEO of Forum Communications, stated KVLV has done a wonderful job in the past and Forum Communications will do an equal or better job in the future. The Public Service Announcements in the proposed bid was a minimum amount. Forum Communications can also add print as another media avenue. They would withdraw the digital rights specification if requested. A market not currently pursued by television is the NDHSAA music competition. Marcil added the potential for televising the NDHSAA music competition would be something that could be explored. Television stations in the Forum package include WDAZ in Grand Forks, KBYM in Bismarck, KMCY in Minot, KXMD in Williston and KXMA-2 in Dickinson.

Jim Wareham, Valley News Live general manager represented ND NBC explained their history of 25-30 years of broadcasting NDHSAA events. Over 30 years and 700 games they have never had a service failure. He urged NDHSAA to look at the track record they have had over the past years and know there would be no difference in the future. They would like to continue to provide a great service. ND NBC offered to withdraw the digital rights, if that is an issue. ND NBC would like digital taken out of the bid completely and be allowed to re-bid. When questioned on high definition coverage Wareham assured the Board ND NBC's conversion is and has been ongoing and games next year would be in HD. Also noted was ND NBC's bid offered double the number of Public Service Announcements included in Forum Communications bid. Shawn Kelley, Operations Manager, added additional PSAs would allow us to draw attention to NDHSAA and all the good things that are happening.

Roll call vote on motion to accept the Forum Communications television bid and begin negotiation process. Olson – yes, Auch – yes, Roaldson – yes, Martin – yes, Ham – yes, Brannan - No, Helvik – yes, Hall – yes, Wiberg – yes, Baesler – yes – Ulland - No
Motion carried.

Helvik reported results of the February 20th meeting with Chuck Schmidt from the Arizona Interscholastic Association regarding webcasting and the NDHSAA website. Schmidt offered Brian Bolitho, AIA Director of Business Media and Jason Urasky, AIA programmer, analyze NDHSAA and MVP sites and make recommendations on their findings. Upon analysis of both MVP and NDHSAA websites it was determined both are maintainable from the current code base, but the recommendation would be to start over with a common code base for the NDHSAA to manage and control. This opportunity would allow the NDHSAA to start with a modern framework allowing easier management and user interface. In figuring high, Schmidt estimated we could do what we need to do on our sites for \$30,000.

Also discussed the option of sharing a computer programmer between NDHSAA and AIA allowing both associations to benefit from the use of common code, shared modules and access to a computer programmer.

Arizona would like to hire another programmer but do not have enough work for an additional person. Additional programmer would be between \$50,000 and \$60,000 and they would be interested in a shared computer programmer.

Sylling recommended we continue to pursue this option. He will bring additional information to the April meeting if this is something we would like to pursue.

Motion by Auch to move forward with Arizona to craft a proposal to work with a shared programmer on changes to MVP and NDHSAA sites. Second by Roaldson. Motion carried unanimously.

Sylling will meet with the Executive Director from Arizona at the NFHS legal conference in April and bring information back to the NDHSAA Board at their April meeting.

Motion by Ham to approve the media committee report. Second by Brannan. Motion carried unanimously.

Larry Helvik, Realignment Committee Chair provided a recommendation to assign Central McLean to the north region for softball.

The committee also discussed girls' basketball, boys' basketball and volleyball regions. It was noted realignment of regions must be discussed considering all of the cooperative sponsorship changes. NDHSAA will have to explore significant changes to regions to create a long-term solution. Timing is essential and the creation of 2-year plans for basketball and volleyball may be explored.

Baesler indicated cooperative sponsorships lead districts to delay their decisions on consolidation. Cooperative sponsorships allow schools to stay open with a lower enrollment because schools can coop to maintain sports and activities without the student base to maintain programs on their own.

Motion by Auch to approve realignment committee report. Second by Hall. Motion carried unanimously.

As per the NDHSAA strategic plan, recommendation for change in the less than 50 rule was made by the Constitution & By-Laws Committee. The language changes allow junior high students in all sized schools the ability to move to high school competition and back to junior high competition. Fifth and sixth grade students will continue to be eligible for junior high competition in non contact sports only in schools with junior high enrollments less than 50. Exact wording of the change appears below. Highlighted areas have been added and words with a strike through will be removed. The change will become effective fall 2013.

PART TWO - ARTICLE XIV- RULES OF ELIGIBILITY - INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION II (Page 23 of Part II-Q: 2 & 4)

2. Q: May a student play on the high school team if he/she is in the seventh or eighth grade?

A: This is possible under this rule but the assumption is that the practice of playing seventh or eighth graders will be limited to the small school where available participant numbers may be limited. In schools maintaining grades 7-8-9 as a unit, competition in those grades between other Junior Highs within the city and nearby area is recommended, rather than encouraging children at the Junior High School level to seek membership on the regular high school team. ~~In the event 7th and 8th grade students are placed on a ninth grade team that has been declared a high school team, they will remain eligible for junior high competition. Should a 7th or 8th grader be placed on a team consisting of tenth graders or higher, they will no longer be eligible for junior high competition. However, such students are eligible for participation on the high school team, but if once elevated to a high school team are no longer eligible for the junior high team in that sport during that sport season. NOTE: The exception to this rule is in the sports of track, cross country, golf and wrestling for all schools as well as in all sports for schools with a combined enrollment of less than 50 in the 7th and 8th grade. (Board approved June 2004)~~

~~The total enrollment count must take place at the beginning of each season in which this rule is applied.~~

If a junior high student is elevated and participates in high school competition they shall be able to move back to junior high competition.

Care should be exercised that dual participation on two school teams does not result in "over" participation. Individual and team limits as spelled out in sport/activity regulations shall be administered. School administrators and coaches who permit this dual participation membership must assume the responsibility of preventing over-participation.

4. Q: Are there any conditions under which a fifth or sixth grader may be a member of a high school team?

A: No, not under the present rules and regulations. However, it is possible for him/her to be a member of a junior high team if the enrollment in grades 7 and 8 ~~is less than 50~~ is not over fifty (50) with the exception of football and wrestling.

The total enrollment count must take place at the beginning of each season in which this rule is applied.

PART FIVE - JUNIOR HIGH AND SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE BY-LAWS – ARTICLE III: GENERAL REGULATIONS - OTHER REGULATIONS (Page 3 of Part V-Other Regulations: Guidelines for Jr High Competition)

General Statement:

In the junior high school if the 9th graders are kept separate for competition and teams are composed strictly of 9th graders, the regulations for each sport are exactly the same as they are for high school

teams. Whenever a team is composed of students from grades 7-8-9, 8-9, 7-8, or 7-9 these teams are limited to regulations pertaining to junior high school teams.

GUIDELINES FOR JUNIOR HIGH COMPETITION

~~1. Member schools with teams in both junior and senior high school may select pupils in grades 7, 8 or 9 for either junior high teams or as members of high school teams.~~

~~1.2. Seventh and eighth grade students who participate on a ninth grade team declared for high school status may still be eligible for 7th or 8th grade competition. If a junior high student is elevated and participates in high school competition they shall be able to move back to junior high competition.~~

~~2.3. A team made up of a combination of 7th and 8th grade students is considered a junior high team and is subject to those limitations as outlined in the By-Laws. Seventh and eighth grade students elevated to teams consisting of any grades 10 through 12 are no longer eligible for junior high competition. Seventh and eighth grade students may be "moved up" to a high school team.~~

~~3.4. A ninth grade team may be declared for junior high status or high school status and that team must maintain that status the entire season. Ninth grade teams choosing high school status must be comprised of at least 50% ninth grade students.~~

~~5. A combination junior high team (8 and 9 or 7, 8 and 9) may compete against a ninth grade team if such combination team has been designated as a high school team. Reference Section XIII~~

~~6. Ninth grade teams that have declared high school status MUST follow high school limitations. They must be designated as a high school team when the season begins so it is clear they cannot compete against teams with junior high status.~~

~~4.7. If a combination team (8 and 9 or 7, 8 and 9) has less than 50% ninth grade students, that team cannot declare high school status and must follow junior high limitations.~~

~~5.8. All Jr. High seasons shall be no longer than the high school season in that sport. No Jr. High participant may participate in a total number of consecutive weeks in excess of the number of weeks established for the high school season.~~

~~9. The total enrollment count applicable to 50 or less enrollment regulations must take place at the beginning of each season in which this rule applies.~~

Motion by Helvik to approve. Second by Brannan. Motion carried unanimously.

The Constitution & By-Laws Committee recommended a change in the format of the By-Laws as per the NDHSAA Strategic Plan.

Motion by Martin to approve. Second by Roaldson. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a letter from Dr. Hamid Shirvani, NDUS Chancellor and Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent with a recommendation from the ND State Board of Higher Ed/NDUS/DPI the Board strongly recommend coaches to complete the NFHS course titled "Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment".

Baesler indicated this was a request from Governor Dalrymple to Baesler and Shirvani to address bullying or abuse by coaches and/or officials. No legislation was introduced at the current session to have mandatory reporting of abuse and bullying by coaches and officials. Along with Coaches Certification being implemented both would like to see this as a link and a suggestion for schools on our Coaches Education page.

Motion by Helvik to approve addition of the recommendation to complete the "Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment" course as a recommended course on the NDHSAA Coaching Permit. Second by Olson.

Discussion indicated there are no recommendations on the current Coaching Permit checklist, only requirements. With the initial implementation of Coaches Education there is confusion among schools exactly what is required. It would add additional confusion to start adding recommendations at this time.

Motion rescinded by Helvik. Olson rescinded second.

Motion by Ham to approve the request by providing messages to our schools and a link on our website stating "In cooperation with ND DPS and NDUS, NDHSAA recommends the following course "Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment"." Second by Wiberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Athletic Review

2012-13 Advisory Recommendations for NDHSAA Board Consideration			
The following are recommendations with actions posted.			
Recommendation X:made recommendation,Y:Yes, N: No (yes-no vote)	Adv.	Athletic	NDHSAA
NDHSAA Board of Directors will Y: approve or N: deny (y-n)	Com	Review	Board
	-	1/26/13	3/22/13
District Chair Recommendations--November 16, 2012--Minot			
No items for Board vote			
Cross Country:			
1. Change Class A State Meet schedule to match the Class B -- 45 minutes between races.	x	Y(10-0)	Y(11-0)
Boys Soccer:			
1. Eliminate online rules clinics for soccer and require coaches and officials to attend a face-to-face soccer rules clinic	x	N(2-8)	N(0-11)
Football:			
AAA			
1. Make Friday the standard playoff dates for all playoff games on the NDHSAA calendar.	x	Y(10-0)	Y(11-0)
All Football Divisions			
1. Eliminate Regulation #21 that requires teams to provide their opponents with headsets.	x	Y(10-0)	Y(11-0)
2. Add to regulation #23: Unless prior mutual agreement of opposing coaches and the referee	x	Y(10-0)	Y(11-0)
Class A Girls' Golf			
1. Allow the use of distance finders	x	N(2-8)	N(9-10)
2. Require courses to be a minimum of 5000 yards before being able to be considered as a regional qualifier.	x	Y(10-0)	Y(11-0)
Boys' Tennis			
1. Change the required number of practices before the first match from 9 to 7. The date of first match would remain second Friday after season begins.	x	N(0-10)	N(0-11)
Volleyball, Class A and B Recommendations			
Class A			
1. Class A requests to use the blue, silver, and white volleyball for both regular and postseason play	x	Y(10-0)	Y(11-0)
Athletic Review Recommendation			
none			

Justin Fletschock spoke to the Board regarding a request to move the 2013-14 gymnastics season one week later. Opening Date would be November 18, 2013 with the first allowable meet December 2, 2013.

Motion by Roaldson to approve. Second by Auch. Motion carried unanimously.

A letter was received and read as Board correspondence from Angela Moser, Medina concerning a possible coop.

In representative reports:

- Martin brought up a concern in his area about the sport regulation of meets/games held 2 days followed by a school day for spring sport contests due to the late spring.
 - Motion by Helvik to approve a waiver of regulation that states no more than 2 days followed by a school day to all spring sports excluding soccer. Second by Wiberg. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Motion by Olson to waive the 4 match in 7-day regulation and 8 halves in 7 days regulation in girls' soccer for 12/13. Second by Auch. Motion carried unanimously.
- Brannan requested clarification on the change of Class B Golf region sites. Staff member Fetsch indicated Class B Golf region sites are approved each year.
- Olson suggested this be our last television contract and we move to media contracts in the future.
- Baesler thanked the Executive Secretary for the follow up response on the Grand Forks Red River students who acted inappropriately at the state hockey tournament. Baesler shared that response with many interested parties. Baesler also shared disappointment in the actions of fans watching region basketball tournaments.
 - Sylling noted student sections at tournaments will be addressed at the next tournament committee meeting.
 - Roaldson asked the North Dakota School Boards Association to recognize and support Athletic Director positions at member schools.
 - Auch will carry that message back to the North Dakota School Boards Association.
- Wiberg indicated at region volleyball in Devils Lake he removed some students. He talked to the administrators of their schools and to the students involved concerning appropriate behavior. He indicated if there were additional issues, they would be handled by law enforcement.
- Roaldson suggested large teams in girls' hockey look at splitting their coops to allow more teams to be competitive.
- Auch reported the School Boards Association offered an amendment to Senate Bill 1028 concerning concussions (to clean up the bill language). Senators wanted to add mandatory reporting. Auch testified NDHSAA is currently doing a concussion survey of member schools at the end of each year. Legislators would appreciate receiving the survey results.
- Helvik spoke about the need for young officials.
- Ulland reported the club hockey team in Mayville-Portland asked him if the NDHSAA Board ever considered two tiers of hockey.
- Ulland voiced his opinion on some issues with officials. Officials and some of the issues schools experience with officials was discussed at the District Chair meeting, mainly the use of 3-man crews. May-Port CG pays only for a 2-man crew and contracts the majority of their officials through the Grand Forks Association. However, officials are holding schools hostage and not allowing schools to use 2-man crews. In Ulland's opinion, he does not think NDOA is promoting this practice, but they are condoning it. When contracting officials through the Fargo Association, inexperienced officials are sent out if a 2-man crew is used. The older more experienced officials are not interested in working a game with a 2-man crew. Officials need to look at a mentoring system to assist new officials when they first start officiating.

Executive Secretary Sylling shared a letter mailed to Red River High School after the ND State Hockey Tournament concerning the actions of a portion of their student body. In their investigation, it was determined students wore inappropriate attire for approximately 30 seconds to one minute during the State Hockey Tournament. Inappropriate attire was removed by said students upon the urging of other Red River High School students. The school indicated they received calls from each student's parents and met with each student/family. As per Red River High School policy, students that are disruptive and inappropriate may be penalized by out of school suspension, suspension from events, student education and student apology. Due to privacy issues, the school was not at liberty to expand on the penalties assessed to each student. Red River High School indicated any sportsmanship issues will be addressed

and they are committed to the NDHSAA Code of Conduct. They assured NDHSAA they were extremely disappointed in the actions of these students.

If board is comfortable then no further action need be taken. Recommend the board accept their action report.

Motion by Auch to approve. Second by Martin. Motion carried unanimously.

Sylling reported all staff offers for 2013/14 were acceptable.

NFHS Summer Conference information is available on the NFHS website and conference books will be mailed to Board members when they are received.

Next meeting is April 23, 2013 in the Valley City Office.

President Ulland declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda Schell
Assistant to the Executive Secretary

Signed: _____ Approved Date: ____/____/____