

District Basketball Chair Notes
Ramkota, Bismarck, ND
March 20, 2015

The Class B District Chair meeting was held on March 20, 2015 at the Bismarck Ramkota. Chairman Brannan called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with 16 districts represented. Upon introductions, chairman Brannan welcomed the district chairpersons and thanked them for representing their district.

The Executive Director thanked the member schools for past service as District Chairs. Sheets were passed around to allow each member to complete information on the 2016 Basketball District chairperson and each district's recommendation for district and region sites, dates and managers. Fetsch informed the chairs of the approval process and timeline for approving district and region sites.

Each district was given the opportunity to present their district's recommendations, which are listed as submitted.

District 1-----Chris Swenson, Supt. Wyndmere HS

1. Mercy rule in basketball. Jay Townsend from Fairmount surveyed Athletic Directors on implementation of a mercy rule. The results were in overwhelming support of a mercy rule. Approximately 100 responses were received from athletic directors, superintendents and officials. Of those, there were about 40 responses in favor of implementation of a mercy rule. Just about every other sport has a mercy rule. District 1 feels it is better for play, for athletes and for the game. This is not a request for exactly what process should be used to implement a mercy rule, it is just a recommendation of implementing a mercy rule in basketball. District 5 will vote no as the NFHS basketball rulebook, Rule 5 section 5.3 says by mutual agreement you can shorten the time in a quarter. Discussion included the current rule is not used. It has been a good thing in football, however the rule is not always implemented correctly. District 12 is in favor of a mercy rule. District 6 feels that schools are dealing with declining participation. District 11 is in favor of a mercy rule. In the past, most of the basketball coaches have been opposed to implementation of a mercy rule. District 9 does not like the mandatory point system for a mercy rule, would like it optional and call it common sense rule with the losing team making the decision of implementing. Vote: 6-9

District 2-----Dale Nordick, AD Northern Cass HS

1. Mercy Rule in Basketball – covered previously.
2. Questioned the process and timeline for super-region for volleyball and basketball. Fetsch informed the group of the Super-Region Ad-Hoc meeting later in the day.

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

1. No items submitted
2. Baseball coaches questioned why coaches are required to wear a uniform in baseball when it is not required in any other sport. Executive Director Fetsch and Assistant Director Fletschock indicated coaches are not required to wear uniforms. Officials are not enforcing the rule correctly.

District 4-----Randy Rice, AD Grafton HS

1. No items submitted

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

1. We ask that the NDHSAA staff be directed to do a study/comparison of football coop enrollment calculations where a team's enrollment and division placement be determined by a formula where 10% of the guest school's population be counted in the enrollment for each participant they send to the host school, up to 100%. For example if the cooped school sends 3 players, then 30% of their enrollment is counted, 7 players, then 70%, and so on. We ask that the office share this information with the membership, and with the football committee for consideration and possible adoption of this formula for calculating enrollments in future football plans. Discussion: District 15 questioned how schools would know enrollment numbers 2 years in the future. District 12 indicated they do not have students in other cooped schools that participate although the enrollment numbers for those schools are used in determination of the plan. **Vote: 13-3**
2. We ask that students in schools who are not in a coop be allowed to participate in football in another school that shares a boundary with their district of residence. The students would have to declare their intent to participate. If a student wished to change teams after participating, that student would be subject to transfer eligibility rules. The 10% per participant enrollment factor could be used in this situation. This would allow students living in the western part of a district to play on a team to the west and the students living in the eastern part of a district to play on a team to the east. The goal is increased participation and decreased travel for participants. Discussion: Herman indicated students would declare their school for

football participation as a 7th grader and feels the process would give more kids a chance to participate. District 3 indicated the process would be a paperwork nightmare. District 15 questioned who would decide where the student would play. A school district may have students playing on several different teams. District 1 felt it could create a loophole causing schools to dissolve coops and then play with the same school they were cooped with. Vote: 1-14

3. Other non-voting: What is the future of district chairs? Fetsch indicated the district chair process would be used in some way as indicated in the NDHSAA Constitution & By-Laws.

District 6-----Shawn Kuntz, Supt/AD Wishek HS

1. District tournament site and region tournament site cannot be the same. No discussion. No vote requested.
2. State wrestling ticket distribution. Would like to see a better process for state wrestling ticket distribution. No discussion. No vote requested.

District 7-----Rick Smith, AD Four Winds HS

1. Undergarments (tights, headbands, armbands, etc.), why can't they be school colors? Why do they have to match? Discussion: This is a NFHS rule.
2. Wrestling: How can wrestlers who have never won a match or 1 win make it to state? Discussion: If there is not an 8 or 16 person bracket the bye's do not work correctly. Bye's would be randomly drawn. If an 8 or 16 person bracket is not used, mathematically it shows that the bracket is not equitable. This is also dependent upon the number of wrestlers within a weight class. No vote requested.

District 8-----Brad Fitzgerald, AD St. John HS

1. Running clock for girls and boys basketball in the second half when a team is up by 30 points. Only stops for timeouts or injury. – Covered in previous discussion.

District 9-----Jerome Slag, AD New Salem-Almont HS

1. Assignment of region officials. Wondering if something could be written down to pass on to patrons. NDHSAA indicated there was a change this year. Previously an official could work only one tournament, either a region or state tournament. This was changed this year so officials can work two tournaments. Determinations are made by coaches' votes. Some officials are not permitted to work region and state because they do not have a day camp. NDHSAA can put something on the NDHSAA website with the process of determining officials for region and state tournaments. No vote requested.
2. Region basketball tournament sites. Region 5 is having difficulty finding a host for the boys' Region 5 tournament due to the size of the tournament. Would like help from NDHSAA to help persuade sites to host. No vote requested.

District 10-----Brad Rinas, Supt. Washburn HS

1. No items submitted

District 11-----David Hoff, AD Bottineau HS

1. BB mercy rule – Previously discussed.
2. 3-class discussion. Wanted to know if this is being discussed at all. The 3 class system was discussed a couple years ago. No vote requested.
3. JV discussion-JV playing district games-Is it the real JV? Discussion: Anything that counts in standings needs to be considered as a varsity contest. No vote requested.

District 12-----Peg Person, Prin/AD Berthold HS

1. Golf in the fall for boys and girls. Vote: 6-9
2. Are we looking at having a protective charge line coming in basketball? Discussion: Coaches advisory will discuss this. This was implemented in Class A this year and Class B would like feedback from the coaches and officials on how it went this year. Fletschock indicated all Class A coaches and officials are proponents of this rule. This leads to discussion of why are Class A and B are not the same. Example: Halves vs. quarters. Wiberg indicated the charge arc has been good for kids. It protects kids and helps coaches coach differently. **Vote: 13-2**
3. Region tournament prices are getting to be quite high for our patrons. Some regions pay more in venue charges than in rent. Many regions were charged a venue fee. Region 3 paid \$6,100 in venue charges plus the rent of the facility of \$700 per day. No vote requested.

District 13-----Kelly Pierce, AD Scranton HS

1. Arc in the lane for basketball – discussion previously discussed.
2. Cross country – changing race from 4K to 5K – discussion. Fletschock indicated there is sweeping change across the country to change distance for girls' cross country races from 4K to 5K. There are only 4 states

that have different distances between girls' and boys' divisions. District 13 is opposed to changing to a 5K distance because they feel participation numbers may be affected. Younger runners would have a hard time running a 5K and participation would be discouraged. There is a lawsuit in progress in Kansas concerning different distances for boys' and girls' cross country races. Kansas' defense feels this is a reverse Title IX issue because they argue a shorter course for girls' helps keep participation up. Fletschock will keep an eye on the outcome. Class A is fine changing to 5K. Vote to change from 4K to 5K: 3-10

District 14-----Randy Johnson, AD Hazen HS

1. Arc in the lane for basketball – discussion. Previously discussed.
2. Cross country – changing race from 4K to 5K – discussion. Previously discussed.

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

1. Would like to see the voting results of officials. Partially discussed previously in District 9. Discussion – Need not put a vote count on necessarily but the results should be shared. This issue was brought up in District 8 last year and the bottom line was coaches are not voting. There are 13 schools in their region and only 7 coaches vote. This created a situation of officials having one vote received a contract for a region game. If coaches are not voting, the results are affected. Posting would possibly make officials not want to officiate if they are going to be listed. Tough to get officials. District 12 believes the process should be shared, but not the results. There has to be an element of trust in the people assigned to do their job. Everyone does not have a need to know. Years ago in the BULLETIN it used to be listed who did not vote. That was removed from the BULLETIN at the request of coaches. Would like to have only the officials that have officiated in specific regions listed. NDHSAA office made the change to the drop down list last year to include only those officials who have attended a day camp and added the home city of the official to the list. No vote requested:

District 16-----Michael Bergstrom, Asst. AD Ray HS

1. No items submitted

Going forward:

1. NDHSAA staff be directed to do a study/comparison of football coop enrollment calculations where a team's enrollment and division placement be determined. Vote: 13-3
2. Charge arc in the lane for basketball. Vote: 13-2