

MINUTES**North Dakota High School Activities Association
September 16, 2014, Valley City, ND**

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association held their meeting on September 16, 2014 in Valley City. President Hall called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

Members present: Hall, Roaldson, Baesler, Bertsch, Brannan, Martin, Wiberg, Rinas, Dahlen, Manley, Stedman

Upon additions to the agenda, motion by Baesler to approve the agenda. Second by Dahlen. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board was previously supplied minutes of the August 13, 2014 meeting for review. Motion by Brannan to approve minutes as read. Second by Roaldson. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Fetsch presented the financial report including balance sheet, detailed budget and investment report which was made available prior to the meeting for review. Motion by Manley to approve the financial report. Second by Bertsch. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Edward Jones Authorization and Agreement Form. Motion by Wiberg to change the NDHSAA Edward Jones authorized representative to Matthew Fetsch. Second by Martin. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed cooperative sponsorship dissolution requests:

- a. Minot and South Prairie in football, 7-8, 2015-16
Motion by Brannan to approve. Second by Wiberg. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Minot and South Prairie in wrestling, 7-8, 2015-16
Motion by Brannan to approve. Second by Wiberg. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Fordville-Lankin and Park River in girls' golf, 2014-15
Motion by Wiberg to approve. Second by Roaldson. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed cooperative sponsorship applications:

- a. TGU-Granville and TGU-Towner in one act play, 7-12, 2014-15, no fee
Motion by Wiberg to approve. Second by Rinas. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Velva and Sawyer in football, 7-12, 2015-16, no fee
Motion by Rinas to approve. Second by Martin. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Bismarck Public Schools and Martin Luther in gymnastics, 7-12, 2014-15, no fee
Motion by Rinas to approve. Second by Bertsch. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Bishop Ryan and South Prairie in football, 7-12, 2015-16, no fee
Motion by Brannan to approve. Second by Martin. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. Bishop Ryan and South Prairie in wrestling, 7-12, 2015-16, no fee
Motion by Brannan to approve. Second by Martin. Motion carried unanimously.
- f. Grafton and Fordville-Lankin in softball, 7-12, 2014-15, no fee
Motion by Roaldson to approve. Second by Wiberg. Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Washburn and Wilton, football, 9-12, 2015-16, no fee
Motion by Wiberg to approve. Second by Brannan. Motion carried unanimously.
- h. Washburn, Wilton and Wing, football, 7-8, 2015-16, no fee
Motion by Manley to approve. Second by Wiberg. Motion carried unanimously.
- ~~i. Surrey and Nedrose, football, 9-12, 2015-16, no fee~~
Surrey requested no action on cooperative sponsorship request.

Steve Hall reported on executive board committee actions.

- Ineligible Oak Grove student participated in cross country meets through a cooperative sponsorship with Shanley. Incident self reported by Oak Grove. Student was eligible in West Fargo school district through a parental move, however attended Oak Grove.

- Oak Grove has had a number of previous violations. A letter of reprimand will be issued and Oak Grove will report to NDHSAA an action plan stating how they will address the determination of student eligibility in coop teams. Shanley/Oak Grove will also forfeit the individual points earned by the ineligible participant in the two events in which the ineligible participant participated.
- Central Cass self reported a volleyball player participated in too many sets. NDHSAA will issue a letter of reprimand to Central Cass. Central Cass forfeited the contest in which the infraction occurred.

Motion by Baesler to approve executive committee report. Second by Stedman. Motion carried unanimously.

Brad Rinas, realignment committee chair provided the Board with an update on the Class B basketball and volleyball Ad-Hoc Committee progress and made a recommendation to the Board for the 2015-16 district/region placement for Nedrose.

- There will be an ad-hoc committee meeting to discuss super regions on September 24 in Carrington.
- Placement of Nedrose in District 12 for basketball and volleyball.

Motion by Stedman to approve realignment committee report. Second by Bertsch. Motion carried unanimously.

Fine arts committee chair, Steve Brannan, provided the Board with a report on the formation of a survey regarding Fine Arts season dates. The survey will address scheduling concerns previously brought to the board. The survey will go out to administrators and all fine arts activity advisor/coaches the beginning of October, with results to the committee at the October board meeting. Motion by Roaldson to approve fine arts committee report. Second by Manley. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Hall, Constitution & By-Law Committee chair, reported on the proposed By-Law change in academic eligibility as presented to the Board at the June 2014 meeting. NDHSAA staff outlined critical questions that will come forward concerning the proposed change. There was discussion on addressing critical areas such as summer school, online classes, distance education, trimesters, minimum class load, fully enrolled status, definition of adequate progress. Using committee feedback, NDHSAA staff will supply additional information for the committee in October. The proposed change will be presented at a breakout session at the NDCEL conference and at the NDHSAA membership meeting at 4:30 pm on October 16, 2014. Motion by Wiberg to approve Constitution & By-Laws committee report. Second by Baesler. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance/personnel committee chair, Brad Rinas, provided an update on the process and timeline for selecting a firm/individual for NDHSAA legal retainer services. Three firms will make 15-minute presentations at the Board meeting on October 15, 2014. Upon approval, legal retainer services would begin January 1, 2015. Firms to present include: Bormann, Myerchin, Monasky & Espeseth, LLP; Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.; Pearce & Durick. Motion by Dahlen to approve finance/personnel committee report. Second by Baesler. Motion carried unanimously.

Football Committee chair, Jim Roaldson, provided the Board with a recommendation for preliminary region assignments in the 2015 and 2016 football plan. The committee reviewed enrollment numbers and requests to opt up a division. Maps were provided as per the football committee recommendations. Motion by Stedman to approve football committee report. Second by Baesler. Motion carried unanimously.

Charles Miller, administrator of Nedrose school district, submitted a request to the Board to place Nedrose in districts and regions for athletics and fine arts beginning in 2015/16, the first year Nedrose will become a K-12 school. In addition, Miller requested waiving the transfer rule for those Nedrose students currently attending other districts through tuition agreements.

Motion by Rinas to grant immediate eligibility to students residing within the Nedrose school district, provided those students are enrolled on the first day of school for 2015/16 school year and to place Nedrose in region 8 for fine arts. Second by Dahlen. Motion carried unanimously.

Lyall Krueger, Surrey Athletic Director, submitted a request for the Board to waive Nedrose boys' enrollment numbers in the 2015 and 2016 football plan. Motion by Wiberg to deny request to waive Nedrose boys' enrollment numbers in the 2015 and 2016 football plan. Second by Roaldson. Discussion. History dictates all male students are counted in a football plan. This request would exempt the Nedrose students from being counted in any school. Nedrose indicated they would play a JV schedule if the coop with Surrey is not approved. Role call vote: Baesler - y, Rinas - y, Roaldson - y, Brannan - n, Manley - y, Martin - y, Wiberg - y, Stedman - y, Bertsch - y, Dahlen - y, Hall - y. Motion approved. (10-1).

The Board addressed a request from Lenny Ohlhauser, Athletic Director at Fargo Davies High School requesting consideration to allow a transfer student to be eligible for varsity competition. This is a request of NDHSAA to extend the one move for students in a divorce situation to a case in which the couple was not married but has had a change in residence. The student's mother and father were never married and have always shared custody. The Board received documentation with recognition of parentage from the Minnesota court system. Fargo Davies requested one free move allowed to students in this situation due to a divorce be allowed in the case of a couple that was never married. Motion by Martin to approve request. Second by Stedman. Roll Call Vote: Wiberg - y, Baesler - y, Dahlen - n, Brannan - y, Martin - y, Bertsch - y, Stedman - y, Roaldson - y, Manley - y, Rinas - y, Hall - y, Motion carried. (10-1)

Fetsch requested the Board provide direction on how to handle similar requests in the future. Motion by Brannan to allow the Executive Director to determine eligibility status of students within a situation of joint custody of non married couples with appeals to come to the complete board. Second by Wiberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff member Justin Fletschock provided a report on the NDOA Board of Directors meeting on September 7, 2014. The report included recommendations for consideration for 2015/16. Recommendations will be presented at the General Membership meeting in October and member input will be requested prior to Board action. The Board will act upon recommendations at the November Board meeting. Requests include:

1. 5% raise for officials fees, locked in for 2 years beginning in 2015/16.
2. Create a region or state tournament pass for registered officials for \$20
3. Waive first year registration fees for officials.

There are three NDOA Hall of Fame inductees this year to be recognized at various tournaments. The three inductees are: Jerry Stigman, Jeff Hamre, John Muckenhirn.

Motion by Martin to approve NDOA report. Second by Rinas. Motion carried unanimously.

President Hall requested discussion of a consent agenda for future Board meetings. Common items such as approval of minutes, financial report, and other items routinely acted upon would be covered under a consent agenda. If Board members have any questions on any item(s), they can be pulled from the consent agenda and acted upon individually. The process would be to approve the agenda including any additions, then approve the consent agenda. At the time of approval of the consent agenda, items may be pulled to act upon individually. President Hall declared a consent agenda to be used at future Board meetings.

Representative Reports

- NW representative Brannan received phone calls with a concern of private schools in large communities playing in the lowest level of football. Brannan asked the board if there was consideration of classification placement of private schools in large communities. Fetsch indicated 4 years ago the Board looked at an enrollment multiplier for private schools of 1.4%. At that time, the Board directed the Executive Director to request legal opinion. Legal opinion

cautioned against using a multiplier when classifying private schools. All other states that use some sort of multiplier have been to court concerning this issue.

- Department of Public Instruction representative Baesler indicated their department has received several requests on how the initiated measure concerning the start of the school year would affect NDHSAA sports and activities. Fetsch indicated the measure is not currently tied to NDHSAA sports and activities. Looking at the NDHSAA calendar, we could not move our sports any later in the season due to North Dakota weather. In reality, if an after Labor Day start were tied to NDHSAA activities, seasons would shorten. NDHSAA is in favor of local control over determining school calendars.
- President Hall indicated NDHSAA should have a statement of how this would affect NDHSAA activities. NDHSAA season dates are set for 5 years and venues are set for 7 years. Fetsch was directed to draft a statement concerning an after Labor Day start. Once drafted, Fetsch will receive input from the executive committee then have a conference call Board meeting to approve the NDHSAA Labor Day start statement.

Executive Director's report included:

- The Linton Public Schools submitted a By-law amendment proposal of Part IV Article III Section III. If this amendment were to pass, NDHSAA would essentially become a grade 5-12 organization. One effect would be an increase in catastrophic insurance.
 - Current By-Law:

Section III: If the total enrollment of the seventh and eighth grade pupils in a school or cooperative sponsorship school is not over fifty (50), the fifth and sixth grade pupils of the school may be permitted to participate on all the junior high teams except tackle football and wrestling. Note: The total enrollment count must take place at the beginning of each season in which this rule is applied.
 - Proposed Change:

~~Section III: If the total enrollment of the seventh and eighth grade pupils in a school or cooperative sponsorship school is not over fifty (50),~~ The fifth and sixth grade pupils of ~~the a~~ school may be permitted to participate on all ~~the~~ junior high teams except tackle football and wrestling. ~~Note: The total enrollment count must take place at the beginning of each season in which this rule is applied.~~
- Fetsch indicated Bismarck Legacy's 2014-15 status is a blended year for sports and activities. The Bismarck Legacy school building does not yet exist. For the 2014/15 school year, no cooperative sponsorships are needed to have Bismarck Legacy students participate with Bismarck High or Bismarck Century. Coops must be requested and approved by the Board for teams that are still blended in the 2015/16 school year. Coops must be requested by the end of each season this year.
- Update on Watford City school district enrollment. Once a school's 9-12 enrollment has been above 325 for two consecutive years, they move to the A classification. Under this policy, this is year 1 for basketball for Watford City because the enrollment of Watford City combined with the school(s) they are cooped with is over 325. Wrestling, cross country and softball are exempt from this policy as stated in the Constitution & By-Laws. Fetsch informed the Board Valley City has indicated enrollment may be below 325 in a couple years as their enrollment drops.
- The NFHS Network replied to the NDHSAA regarding the media committee recommendation to use the rate card for declined events. The NFHS Network indicated how we handle declined events is acceptable.
- Executive Director Fetsch and Assistant Director Morast will present at the NDIAAA Fall workshop in Mandan on September 20-22, 2014.
- State Tournaments were discussed
 - i. Boys' Tennis – October 2-4, Grand Forks
 - ii. Class A Girls' Golf – October 6-7, Jamestown
 - iii. Boys' Soccer – October 9-11, Grand Forks

The next meeting will be a conference call concerning the Labor Day start statement.

The next regularly scheduled NDHSAA Board meeting will be held October 15, 2014 at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck.

President Hall declared the meeting adjourned at 12:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda Schell
Assistant Director

Signed: _____ Approved Date: ____/____/____