

**MINUTES****North Dakota High School Activities Association  
April 19, 2016, Valley City, ND**

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association held their meeting on April 19, 2016 in Valley City. President Wiberg called the meeting to order at 10:57 am.

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

Members absent: Schafer, Vollmer

Upon additions to the agenda, motion by Hall to approve. Second by Roaldson. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Roaldson to approve the consent agenda. Second by Dahlen. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent agenda items:

- 1) Approval of Minutes
  - i) March 18, 2016
  - ii) April 12, 2016
- 2) Financial Report
  - i) Balance sheet
    - (1) February 2016
    - (2) March 2016
  - ii) Budget
    - (1) February 2016
    - (2) March 2016
  - iii) Savings/investments
    - (1) February 2016
    - (2) March 2016
  - iv) Winter Tournament Financial Report
- 3) Coop Dissolutions
  - i) Jamestown and Montpelier, football, 7-8, 2016-17
  - ii) Jamestown and Montpelier, football, 9-12, 2017-18
  - iii) Trenton and Williston Trinity Christian, football, 7-8, 2016-17
  - iv) Griggs County Central, Midkota, Barnes County North, Pingree-Buchanan and Kensal, football, 7-12, 2017-18

Jason Wiberg, Executive Committee chair, reported Executive Committee action. There were three schools with self-reported violations and one late coop dissolution request.

Self Report

- Park River High School reported an out of season coaching violation. The school will receive a letter of reprimand and report a plan to educate coaches to NDHSAA by June 6, 2016.
- Hazen High School reported use of an ineligible student in a region music contest. The school will receive a letter of reprimand.
- Langdon Area reported moving grade 7 and 8 St. Alphonsus players to grade 9-12 teams. The cooperative sponsorships between Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus were created in 1983 and include grades 7 and 8. Upon realizing the error, Langdon Area self reported and requested approval to change all coops between Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus to 7-12 coops. The Executive Committee recommends approval of the coops as requested with no late fees.

b) Late Coop Applications

- (1) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, baseball, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
- (2) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, boys basketball, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
- (3) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, girls basketball, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
- (4) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, boys cross country, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
- (5) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, girls cross country, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee

- (6) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, boys golf, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
  - (7) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, girls golf, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
  - (8) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, football, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
  - (9) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, boys track and field, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
  - (10) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, girls track and field, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
  - (11) Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus, volleyball, 7-12, 2015-16, late fee
- c) Langdon Area Area High School late fee waiver request

Motion by Wiberg to approve Executive Committee report including approval of the Langdon Area and St. Alphonsus coops with no late fees. Second by Rinas Motion carried unanimously.

Shannon Faller, Alexander High School Principal, appealed the NDHSAA Executive Board decision to place Alexander on probation through the 2016-17 school year for allowing a junior high basketball team to play a high school team. Motion by Rinas to deny request to overrule the Executive Board decision to place Alexander High School on probation for 2016-17. Second by Manley. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Hall provided a Constitution & By-Laws Committee report with potential language changes to Part II, Article IX: Awards By-Law. A draft of proposed By-Law changes was distributed to the Board for review in March. NDHSAA staff presented the proposed change at the NDIAAA conference in April and held round-table discussion to gather feedback. The athletic directors were in favor of the changes to the Awards By-Law with no specific concerns brought forward. The committee recommends the amendment be brought to the membership for a vote in October.

The committee discussed the transfer rule concerning divorce and legal separation interpretation in Article XIV – Section X or the NDHSAA Constitution & By-Laws.

Motion by Hall to approve Constitution & By-Laws Committee report. Second by Dahlen. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a letter from Fargo North High School administrators requesting an addition to the out-of-season coaching rule in Board interpretations.

The proposed change would add:

At any time during the off-season, coaches of team sports who are also parents may instruct/coach their own children who have participated in a contest as members of their school team in that sport and/or are in grade 7-8 programs that feed into grade 9-12 programs. There may be no other members of the coach's program or the feeder program on the same team.

Specifically, a member of Fargo North's coaching staff requests allowance to coach his child's out-of-season team. The player/child is competing on a non-school team with no other Fargo North players. This addition to the out-of-season coaching regulation would be allowed only under the circumstance in which a parent, who is a coach for a grade 9-12 team his/her child either plays on or is in a grade 7-8 feeder system for, and the child/player are involved in an out-of season team that has no other team members of the coach's team or feeder team playing.

Motion by Stedman to approve the additional language in the out-of-season coaching regulation as requested beginning immediately. Second by Bertsch. Roll call vote: Rinas - yes, Manley - yes, Roaldson - yes, Hall - no, Baesler - yes, Dahlen - yes, Bertsch - yes, Stedman – yes, Wiberg – no. Motion carried: (7-2)

Bertsch, reported on the Fine Arts Committee meeting concerning the qualifying ratio for State A Vocal/Strings and the effect on the size of the contest and venues. This issue will be addressed at the music advisory. Staff member Bubach wanted the Board to know this issue would be coming forth possibly at the Fine Arts Review in May.

Motion by Bertsch to approve the Fine Arts Committee report. Second by Manley. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Hall, Combined Tournament Committee chair, reported the following recommendations emanating from the April 4, 2016 meeting.

Changes in ticket prices as follows:

- (1) Eliminate the tournament ticket for east region boys and girls basketball and boys hockey.
- (2) Change boys region hockey tournament prices to follow Class A basketball region prices.
  - a. Add a daily ticket to East and West boys hockey: Adult \$10.00 – Student \$5.00
  - b. Change the price of the West Region boys hockey tournament ticket to: Adult \$10.00 – Student \$5.00
  - c. Remove the 3 – game session price from West Region boys hockey ticket prices
- (3) Change the state wrestling adult reserved tournament ticket price to \$42.00

Motion by Hall to approve the change in ticket prices as proposed. Second by Dahlen. Motion carried unanimously.

Update state tournament site schedule as follows:

- a. Place the 2018-19 State Hockey Tournament in Fargo

Motion by Bertsch to approve placement of the 2018-19 state hockey tournament in Fargo. Second by Manley. Motion carried unanimously.

Eliminate the spirit award for Class B basketball tournaments. This award was previously discontinued at Class A basketball tournaments. The number of schools having cheerleaders has diminished and the Combined Tournament Committee no longer feels this is a necessary award. Wiberg brought up the need for a way to promote sportsmanship in member schools. Motion by Hall to eliminate the spirit award for Class B basketball tournaments beginning in 2016-17. Second by Rinas. Motion carried unanimously.

Hall brought up the issue of dimming of lights before the championship game of each tournament. This is handled by local tournament management and the Combined Tournament Committee had no recommendation to change.

Steve Hall, Tournament Committee Chair, presented recommendations for 2016-17 winter sport region tournaments as follows:

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>SITE SELECTED</b>
<b>BASKETBALL - Girls</b>	
Region 1	Fargo - TBA
Region 2	GF Betty
Region 3	Jamestown Civic
Region 4	Devils Lake
Region 5	Mandan
Region 6	Minot Audi
Region 7	Dickinson Trinity
Region 8	Watford City
<b>BASKETBALL-Boys &amp; Girls Combined - Class A</b>	
East Region	Fargo
West Region	Bismarck
<b>BASKETBALL - Boys</b>	
Region 1	NDSCS
Region 2	GF Betty
Region 3	Jamestown Civic
Region 4	Devils Lake
Region 5	Bismarck - TBA
Region 6	MSU Dome
Region 7	Dickinson Trinity
Region 8	Williston State
<b>HOCKEY - Boys</b>	

East Region	Grand Forks
West Region	Bismarck
<b>TENNIS- Girls</b>	
East Region	Fargo
West Region	Minot
<b>WRESTLING</b>	
Class A	
East Region	Grand Forks Central
West Region	Williston
Class B	
Region 1	Ellendale
Region 2	Mayville
Region 3	Rolla
Region 4	Beulah

Motion by Manley to approve the 2016/17 region tournament sites as proposed. Second by Hall. Motion carried unanimously.

Hall presented recommendations for 2016-17 fine arts state sites as follows:

<b>Event</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>
<b>State B Plays</b>		University of Jamestown	University of Jamestown
<b>State Debate</b>			Fargo Metro Schools
<b>State A Plays</b>			LRSC
<b>State A Speech</b>			Jamestown HS
<b>State A Music</b>			VCSU
<b>State B Speech</b>	Mandan HS	Mandan HS	Mandan HS
<b>State B Music</b>			BSC

Motion by Hall to approve the fine arts state sites through 2019-20 as proposed. Second by Rinas. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a letter from Tom Milbrandt, Athletic Director at Maple Valley High School, on behalf of Region 1 schools requesting the Board consider scheduling the final night of the 2017 Region 1 Girls Basketball Tournament on a Wednesday evening. Of the 13 schools in Region 1, ten schools were in favor of the proposal and three opposed holding the final night of the tournament on a Wednesday evening.

Motion by Roaldson to table the Region 1 Girls Basketball Tournament request. Second by Stedman. More information will be available for the Board to make a decision in June. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Fetsch proposed a seven-year activity calendar that would go through 2022-23 for Board review and approval. The Board previously approved the activity calendar dates through 2018-19. Fetsch proposed changing the 5-year activity calendar to a 7-year activity calendar to bring the activity calendar in line with the site rotation calendar. The proposed calendar added three years to the activity calendar.

Motion by Manley to approve the proposed seven-year calendar. Second by Stedman. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a letter from Patti Aanenson, Northeast region track meet manager, requesting the Board consider allowing a 2:00 pm start time for the Northeast Region meet on Friday, May 19, 2016. Motion by Hall to deny the request. Second by Dahlen. The Board felt not enough information was provided to change the Board regulation. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director's Report included:

- 1) Fetsch reported information from a meeting with the Bismarck Public Schools athletic administration concerning the future of the Bismarck girls hockey program. Dave Zittleman, Bismarck Public Schools athletic director, provided a report to the Board on the girls hockey program. The Board discussed philosophy of Class A coops at length and whether Class A coops supported the purpose of coops, which is to enhance participation. Roaldson discussed the option of Jamestown moving from NDHSAA Class A girls hockey to the Under 19 club hockey program as Jamestown is not able to field viable teams at the level of the larger cooped programs. He does not feel girls hockey has a level playing field for all teams. Rinas brought up the possibility of creating coop guidelines dependent on participation. Baesler indicated she felt the Bismarck schools should be forced to take another look. Fetsch indicated if that path is chosen, NDHSAA would need to look at all coops, not just the Bismarck girls hockey coop. Staff member Bubach indicated there are two separate issues that need to be addressed. The issue of Class A coops and the issue of girls hockey. Originally the Bismarck girls hockey coop was put in place to grow girls hockey. The Bismarck girls hockey coop has grown and the longer it is in place, the harder it is to dissolve the coop. Bismarck has proven they have enough kids because they have a JV program in addition to their varsity program. Only two of the 11 girls' hockey teams in North Dakota have JV teams. The possibility of bringing back the past practice of renewing coops every 3 years was discussed. Hall cautioned the Board they would have to look at this issue globally rather than coop by coop. Manley questioned whether large coops are in line with the NDHSAA philosophy of coop previously adopted by the Board. The NDHSAA Board has the ability to change the current philosophy with consideration of the purpose of cooperative sponsorships. Baesler questioned whether Executive Director Fetsch should send a letter to Bismarck Public Schools explaining the Board's concerns and require an updated plan concerning the future/dissolution of their girls hockey coop. The second issue the Board should consider is to review NDHSAA cooperative sponsorship philosophy. Fetsch indicated the Bismarck schools are aware of complaints NDHSAA received concerning the girls hockey coop. Roaldson suggested a letter be sent to all Class A superintendents and school board presidents explaining the Board is looking to re-evaluate Class A coops with a reminder of the coop philosophy. Wiberg suggested Fetsch communicate with Bismarck and request a plan rather than an overview of their program. Evaluation of coops would be difficult for NDHSAA staff or the Board to determine as circumstances are different for each coop. The overall feeling of the Board is Bismarck's girls hockey coop does not align with the NDHSAA coop philosophy. Bertsch felt it was fair to ask the question of Bismarck as to what is their plan. Fetsch will send a letter to Bismarck Public Schools discussing information provided at the Board level and inquiring specifics of their plan and how NDHSAA can help facilitate changes to their girls hockey coop.
- 2) Fetsch reported on the NFHS legal meeting, which was held in Indianapolis in April. The following issues were presented.
  - i) Legal separation
  - ii) Home-school transfers
  - iii) Eligibility of F1 and J1 students.
  - iv) Some states have Board regulations concerning schools that challenge state associations mandating payment of legal fees by the member school if the association is not found at fault.
  - v) Social media was discussed. For example, NDHSAA staff researched social media posts by media specialist applicants and ruled out some applicants based on their social media presence.
  - vi) Classification systems in other states was discussed. Forcing non-public schools to play at a higher level would not be recommended by NDHSAA legal counsel.
- 3) NFHS Network Summit was also a part of the legal meeting. NDHSAA is in year 3 of a 5-year contract with the NFHS Network for broadcast/streaming rights to some post-season tournaments. NFHS Network recently offered an amendment to all extensions due to lower than anticipated revenue. In order to pay off the debt to investors they are looking at leveling amounts paid to associations. Fetsch will have more information for the media committee in June.
- 4) Construction was completed last week for an office for Tom Mix, NDHSAA media specialist who will begin at the Association May 2, 2016.

- 5) Fetsch informed the Board of the retirement supper which will be held the evening of June 13, 2016.
- 6) Aimee Copas, NDCEL director requested NDHSAA move their August 4, 2016 region administrator meeting date as they scheduled the NDCEL Fall Boot-camp conference for the first week in August, in conflict with one of the NDHSAA mandatory administrator meetings. The meeting in Valley City on August 4, 2016 will be moved to August 11, 2016.

The next NDHSAA Board meeting will be held June 13-14, 2016 at the NDHSAA office in Valley City.

President Wiberg declared the meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Brenda Schell  
Assistant Director

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_