

**MINUTES****North Dakota High School Activities Association  
May 4, 2017, Valley City, ND**

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association held their meeting on May 4, 2017 in Valley City. President Rinas called the meeting to order at 10:45 am.

Members present: Rinas, Vollmer, Carlson, Manley, Bertsch, Sorlie, Privratsky, Dahlen, Stedman, Schafer

Members absent: Baesler

Others present: Ann Longie, incoming Mandaree Superintendent, Mike Jensen, Mandaree Athletic Director, Carolyn Bluestone, current Mandaree Superintendent

Upon additions to the agenda, motion by Manley to approve the agenda. Second by Carlson Motion carried unanimously.

Upon additions to the consent agenda, motion by Vollmer to approve. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent agenda items:

- 1) Approval of Minutes
  - a) March 17, 2017
  - b) March 23, 2017
  - c) April 21, 2017
- 2) Financial Reports
  - a) Balance sheet
    - i) February 2017
    - ii) March 2017
  - b) Budget
    - i) February 2017
    - ii) March 2017
  - c) Savings/investments
    - i) February 2017
    - ii) March 2017
  - d) Preliminary Winter Sports Financial Report
- 3) Coop Applications
  - a) Bismarck and Hazelton-Moffit-Braddock in girls swimming, 7-12, 2017-18, no fee
  - b) May-Port-CG, Hatton, Northwood, Hope-Page, Central Valley, and Hillsboro in boys hockey, 7-12, 2017-18, no fee
  - c) Burke Central and Kenmare in boys cross country, 7-12, 2017-18, no fee
  - d) Burke Central and Kenmare in girls cross country, 7-12, 2017-18, no fee

Brad Rinas, Executive Committee Chair, reported on committee actions from April 3, April 18 and May 4 meetings.

**April 3, 2017**

- Determined penalties for Mandaree High School for violation of the NDHSAA Constitution and By-Laws, Part Two, Article VI, Sections IX and X concerning sportsmanship.
  - Mandaree High School shall submit a plan of action to NDHSAA by September 21, 2017 to address sportsmanship expectations within their school district.
  - Mandaree High School shall submit a report to the NDHSAA Executive Director prior to March 15, 2018 detailing the implementation of the 2017-18 action plan.
  - Mandaree High School is placed on probation through the 2018-19 academic year.
  - Any subsequent violations of NDHSAA By-Laws or regulations prior to June 30 2019 may result in a monetary fine, loss of home games during future basketball seasons

and/or suspension from NDHSAA membership for a period of time to be determined by the Executive Board.

#### April 18, 2017

- Late Coop application
  - a. Harvey and Fessenden-Bowdon, softball, 7-12, 2016-17 was forwarded to the full Board and approved at a special Board meeting on April 21, 2017.

#### May 4, 2017

- High school building closing – eligibility considerations were discussed. This issue was addressed by the full Board on May 4, 2017.
- School violations
  - Williston – use of an ineligible baseball player
    - Prescribed penalty was administered with a letter of reprimand and forfeiture of games in which the ineligible student participated
- Late Coop Application
  - Trenton and Alexander in football, 7-12, 2017-18 was denied by the Executive Committee. Motion by Dahlen to approve the Executive Committee report. Second by Bertsch. Motion carried unanimously.

Mitch Carlson, Constitution & By-Laws Committee Chair, provided the Board with a committee report. The committee recommends the following amendment to Part II, Article V, Section II of the NDHSAA Constitution & By-Laws which will offer an electronic ballot for the Board member elections for a second reading. Nominations and timelines remain the same as past practice.

Amendment Proposed:

#### Part II, Article V, SECTION II:

**Board Members shall be nominated at the annual meeting of the Representatives of the Association, hereinafter called the Representative Assembly, and shall be elected by mail electronic ballot, such ballot to shall be prepared by the Secretary and mailed delivered to member schools on or before January 1<sup>st</sup> following the nomination and shall be submitted to the Secretary before January 15<sup>th</sup>. The ballot is valid if the envelope in which it is mailed is postmarked before midnight January 14<sup>th</sup>.**

- **Should any member move from the state profession, change into a different class school or different area of representation, cease to be an administrator or athletic administrator, or should the secondary principals representative cease to be a principal of a member school his/her position shall be declared vacant immediately and a new member appointed by the Board to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting when the regular procedure of nomination and balloting shall be followed to fill the vacancy of the remainder of the term of office.**

Motion by Privratsky to propose amendment of Part II, Article V, Section II of the NDHSAA Constitution & By-Laws concerning electronic ballots for Board election and if passed to take effect immediately. Second by Stedman. Motion carried unanimously.

The committee discussed NDHSAA By-Law concerning enrollment by the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the semester. Draft verbiage was provided to the Board for review. Many scenarios were discussed and the committee would like to resolve as many issues as possible before implementing a change in verbiage. Committee recommends NDHSAA Staff review and edit draft as discussed and bring to the June Board meeting.

A change in the hardship application procedure was proposed to include:

1. Adding the terminology “The Board of Directors has determined that any transfer deemed to be motivated by athletics or activities shall not be approved”.
2. Edit wording from Executive Secretary to Executive Director throughout the document.
3. Edit wording from principal to administrator throughout the document.
4. Edit wording in Section B, #2 from “four ½ credit subjects” to “2.5 or more credits” as per By-Law amendment.
5. Edit wording in Section B, #3 from “enrolled in attendance in at least four ½ credit subjects” to “doing passing work in the equivalent of 2.5 or more credits” as per By-Law amendment.

- 6. Edit wording in Section B, #6 to add Softball and remove “(athletic) and (non-athletic)”.
- 7. Edit wording in Note: under “NDHSAA OFFICE USE ONLY” from “180 school days” to “one (1) calendar year” as per By-Law amendment.

Motion by Vollmer to approve the changes to the hardship eligibility procedure/application. Second by Privratsky. Motion carried unanimously.

The addition of a Board Q & A to Part II, Article XIV – Section III concerning similar season competition was discussed. The addition of Q & A # 36 is recommended to alleviate confusion.

36. Q. May the Board of Directors grant a school’s request for an exemption from the provisions of this section after a student has competed in a competition with U.S. Olympic or International ramifications?  
 A. No. Board of Directors permission is necessary prior to any competition; otherwise the penalty for violation of the rule must be applied.

Motion by Stedman to propose the addition of Q & A #36 to Part II, Article XIV, Section III NDHSAA Constitution & By-Laws. Second by Manley. Motion carried unanimously.

The addition of a spectator ejection regulation was discussed.

A draft was distributed and discussed. No Board action was recommended today. The Constitution & By-Laws Committee will continue discussion at the June Board meeting.

The committee discussed Part II, Section IX of Article XIV b concerning Special Education placement and the addition of English Language Learner (ELL) students to this interpretation was discussed. Draft verbiage was provided to the Board for review. Committee recommends NDHSAA Staff review and revise language and present to the committee at the next Board meeting. Many scenarios were discussed and the committee would like to resolve as many issues as possible before implementing a change in verbiage.

Motion by Carlson to approve the Constitution & By-Laws Committee report. Second by Bertsch. Motion carried unanimously.

Brad Rinas provided the Board with a report on the Combined Tournament Committee with the following recommendations.

Recommend placement of the state hockey tournaments in Grand Forks in 2019-20, 2021-22 and 2023-24 and in Fargo in 2020-21 and 2022-23. Motion by Bertsch to approve the tournament sites as presented . Second by Dahlen. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommend an increase in the Class B Basketball Tournament reserved ticket allotment from 126 to 175 for qualifying teams. Motion by Vollmer to approve an increase in the Class B Basketball Tournament reserved ticket allotment from 126 to 175 for qualifying teams. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommend elimination of the Parade of Athletes at all state tournaments effective immediately for the sports of wrestling, track & field and swimming & diving. Motion by Stedman to approve elimination of the parade of athlete at all state tournaments effective immediately. Second by Sorlie. Motion failed unanimously.

Motion by Vollmer to approve elimination of the Parade of Athletes at all state tournaments effective July 1, 2017. Second by Privratsky. Roll call vote: Manley-yes, Vollmer-yes, Carlson-yes, Bertsch-yes, Sorlie-yes, Privratsky-yes, Dahlen-no, Stedman-yes, Rinas-yes. Motion carried. (8-1)

Brad Rinas, Tournament Committee Chair, presented site recommendations for future fine arts state sites and 2017-18 winter sports region tournaments.

<b>Fine Arts Event</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Location</b>
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State A Plays	2017-18	Lake Region State College
State A Music	2020-21	University of Jamestown
State A Plays	2020-21	NDSU
State A Speech	2020-21	Jamestown High School
<b>EVENT</b>	<b>DATE 2017-2018</b>	<b>SITE SELECTED</b>
<b>BASKETBALL - Girls</b>		
Region 1	February 19-20-23, 2018	Fargo-SHAC
Region 2	February 19-20-22, 2018	GF Betty
Region 3	February 19-20-22, 2018	Jamestown Civic
Region 4	February 19-20-22, 2018	Devils Lake
Region 5	February 19-20-22, 2018	Mandan
Region 6	February 19-20-22, 2018	Minot Audi
Region 7	February 19-20-22, 2018	Dickinson Trinity
Region 8	February 19-20-22, 2018	Ray
<b>BASKETBALL - Boys &amp; Girls Combined - Class A</b>		
East Region	Feb. 27, March 1-2-3, 2018	Fargo
West Region	March 1-2-3, 2018	Bismarck
<b>BASKETBALL - Boys</b>		
Region 1	March 5-6-8, 2018	NDSCS
Region 2	March 5-6-8, 2018	GF Betty
Region 3	March 5-6-8, 2018	Jamestown Civic
Region 4	March 5-6-8, 2018	Devils Lake
Region 5	March 5-6-8, 2018	Bismarck Event Center
Region 6	March 5-6-8, 2018	MSU Dome
Region 7	March 5-6-8, 2018	Hazen
Region 8	March 5-6-8, 2018	Williston State
<b>HOCKEY - Boys</b>		
East Region	February 13-16-17, 2018	Grand Forks
West Region	February 15-16-17, 2018	Minot
<b>TENNIS- Girls</b>		
East Region	May 24-25-26, 2018	Grand Forks
West Region	May 24-25-26, 2018	Bismarck
<b>WRESTLING</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
East Region	February 10, 2018	West Fargo
West Region	February 10, 2018	Minot
<b>Class B</b>		
Region 1	February 10, 2018	Kindred
Region 2	February 10, 2018	Harvey
Region 3	February 10, 2018	Des Lacs-Burlington
Region 4	February 10, 2018	Bowman

Motion by Dahlen to approve the site recommendations for future fine arts state sites 2017-18 winter sports region tournaments. Second by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

Carolyn Bluestone, Mandaree High School Superintendent, appeared before the Board to appeal the penalty set by the Executive Board for violation of Part II, Article III, Section VII of the NDHSAA Constitution related to sportsmanship at Association contests. NDHSAA received a report from an officials association leader citing concerns with fan behavior toward officials from two contests held in Mandaree. The Executive Board determined violations occurred and determined consequences for the violations. According to the sportsmanship By-Law, Mandaree has the right to appeal the Executive Board's decision within 30 days. Mandaree exercised their right to appeal to the Executive Board. Bluestone introduced other individuals from Mandaree in attendance. Bluestone provided Mandaree's sportsmanship action plan that will be presented to the Mandaree School Board over the summer. Mr. Vigen, the president of the school board was also planning to present to the Board but became ill and could not attend. Bluestone requested reconsideration of the length of probation for Mandaree.

Vollmer suggested Mandaree may request to appear before the Board in May of 2018 to review the implementation of the action plan. Dahlen indicated he favored maintaining the penalty as is. Motion by Vollmer to table decision on appeal until May of 2018. Action on the appeal would appear on the May 2018 agenda. Sorlie stated from reviewing the information provided, the coaches are creating sportsmanship issues. Coaches attitudes are reflected in players. Sorlie questioned if there was a plan for the coaches. Ann Longie, Mandaree's incoming superintendent, stated the policies are already in place. She plans to use their policy approved in 9/22/14 as an educational piece for coaches. She intends to be present at all coach and parent meetings. The current Mandaree policy includes consequences and she will provide follow-through. Sorlie asked Mike Jensen, Mandaree Athletic Director, if he believes fan behavior was an issue all year or if there were just these two instances. Jensen indicated there were sportsmanship issues throughout the year. Rinas indicated tabling the issue for a year puts the responsibility on a future Board to make a decision. Motion was rescinded by Vollmer.

Privratsky moved to deny the appeal. Second by Sorlie. Roll call vote: Manley-yes, Vollmer-no, Carlson-yes, Bertsch-yes, Sorlie-yes, Privratsky-yes, Dahlen-yes, Stedman-no, Rinas-yes. Motion carried. (7-2)

Todd Bertsch, Media Committee Chair, provided a committee report concerning the following:

1. Review timeline for Tier I and II contracts
  - a. September 12, 2017 – sealed proposals due in NDHSAA office by 4:30 pm CDT
  - b. September 14, 2017 – Proposals opened; Board selects finalists for each contract
  - c. October 5, 2017 – Companies selected as finalists present to NDHSAA Board
2. Draft proposals will be available at the June Board meeting.
3. The committee will re-evaluate 2017-18 broadcast rate card after October 5<sup>th</sup> when proposals for Tier I and II contracts are known.

Motion by Dahlen to approve the Media Committee report. Second by Privratsky. Motion carried unanimously.

Jeff Manley, Realignment Committee Chair, provided region placement recommendations for the following:

1. Midway boys golf – Region 3
2. Midway girls golf – Region 3

Motion by Manley to approve the Realignment Committee report. Second by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

Patti Stedman, Promotions and Programs Committee Chair, provided a report on the NDHSAA Distinguished Service Award nominee Wayne Sanstead.

Motion by Vollmer to approve the Promotions and Programs Committee report. Second by Manley. Motion carried unanimously. NDHSAA staff will work with Sanstead on a time and location for presentation of the award.

Mark Vollmer, Fine Arts Committee Chair, provided the Board with the committee report. The committee discussed the following with no Board action required at this time.

1. Late fees for fine arts registrations.
2. Number of categories in all music categories.
3. Fairness of star ratings at region and state contests.
4. Conversations will continue with advisory committees and advisors.

Vollmer noted approximately 20 schools were either allowed a late registration window with fee or denied registration due to contact past the existing 3-day window for late registrations.

Manley asked if this is an issue that should be brought up at regional administrator meetings. Bubach indicated administrators could be notified of the discussions held with fine arts advisory committees.

Bubach indicated advisory meetings will be held within the next two weeks and fine arts review will be held toward the end of May. Bubach will gather feedback from advisory committees on the issues discussed. Motion by Stedman to approve the Fine Arts Committee report. Second by Bertsch. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a request from Sawyer Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Wayne Trottier regarding the closing/combination of the district's 7-12 grade building. Trottier requested students that finish the 2016-17 academic year at Sawyer High School be immediately eligible for varsity competition at the NDHSAA member school that they attend to begin the 2017-18 academic year. Any current transfer students that attend Sawyer High School will not be varsity eligible at their new school of attendance until their one (1) year waiting period is complete. The immediate eligibility provision applies only to the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. Following the start of the school year, any students that transfer to a different school will be subject to NDHSAA transfer rules. Students that make a lock, stock and barrel move into the Sawyer School District following the end of the 2016-17 academic year will only be immediately eligible at Max Public School, unless they meet some other exception for immediate eligibility.

Motion by Vollmer to approve Sawyer Public School's request for immediate eligibility of all students in grades 7-12 for the 2017-18 school year in the school of their choosing as per the request stated above. Second by Dahlen. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a request from Jennifer Fremstad, North Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals (NDASSP) President requesting recognition of the three winning schools of the North Dakota State Acalympic Competition during the NDHSAA sponsored state basketball tournaments made in conjunction with current Academic All State awards ceremony at the ND state basketball tournaments. Fetsch indicated the Academic All State winners currently receive one student ticket and two adult tickets. Bertsch recommended the responsibility for additional guests back to the NDASSP. Motion by Bertsch to approve the recognition of the ND State Acalympic winners with students receiving a free ticket to the event. Second by Vollmer. Motion carried unanimously.

The NDHSAA seven-year calendar was reviewed including proposed dates through 2023-24. Motion by Vollmer to approve the proposed dates for 2023-24. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

Fetsch requested a change of date for the NDHSAA Board of Directors March meeting from March 16, 2018 in Bismarck to March 22, 2018 in Valley City. Motion by Privratsky to approve a change of date for the NDHSAA Board of Directors meeting on March 16, 2018 in Bismarck to March 22, 2018 in Valley City. Second by Manley. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a letter of request from Sargent Central Superintendent Daniel Warcken for a waiver of Section I, Article XIV regarding student attendance and participation in NDHSAA sponsored activities. Motion by Stedman to approve waiver of Section I, Article XIV regarding student attendance. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Correspondence was reviewed including:

1. Monson Letter
2. Sandberg Letter
3. Frantsvog Letter
4. Holland Letter

Motion by Stedman to direct Fetsch to contact NDHSAA Medical Advisory for a recommendation concerning inclusion of immunization records on the NDHSAA approved annual physical form. Second by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

1. Fetsch reported on issues brought forth from the NFHS Legal Meeting.
2. Fetsch received Hettinger High School's Improvement/Action Plan

3. Fetsch received Jamestown High School's Action Plan
4. Fetsch provided information on the NDHSAA Board retirement supper scheduled for June 12, 2017.

Next Board meeting, June 12-13, 2017 at the NDHSAA Office in Valley City.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Schell  
Assistant Director

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