

MINUTES**North Dakota High School Activities Association
August 16, 2016, Valley City, ND**

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association held their meeting on August 16, 2016 in Valley City. President Rinas called the meeting to order at 10:43 am.

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

Members absent: Stedman

Others present: Harold Rotunda, NDHSAA auditor, Lenny Ohlhauser, Fargo Davies Athletic Director, a parent of a student appealing a hardship, a student and parent requesting an additional season of eligibility.

President Rinas welcomed new members to the Board.

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

Harold Rotunda, NDHSAA auditor, provided the Board with a 2015-16 fiscal year audit report. Motion by Vollmer to accept the auditor's report with accommodation to Matt for a job well done. Second by Privratsky. Motion carried unanimously.

Rachel Bruner-Kaufman, NDHSAA Legal Counsel, provided the Board with a legal report. Motion by Vollmer to enter into executive session for attorney consultation regarding and in anticipation of reasonably predictable civil litigation and/or pending adversarial administrative proceedings pursuant to N.D.C.C. 44-04-19.1(2), (5). Second by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously. Executive session began at 11:02 am. Motion by Schafer to close executive session. Second by Manley. Motion carried unanimously. Executive session closed at 11:25 am.

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

Consent agenda items:

1. Approval of Minutes – June 13-14, 2016
2. Financial Reports
 - a. Balance sheet
 - i. May 2016
 - ii. June 2016
 - b. Budget
 - c. Savings/investments
 - i. May 2016
 - ii. June 2016
3. Coop Dissolutions
 - a. Bismarck Public Schools and Center-Stanton, softball, 9-12, 2016-17
 - b. Minot Public Schools and South Prairie, gymnastics, 7-8, 2016-17
 - c. Hankinson, Fairmount, Lidgerwood, Campbell (MN), and Tintah (SD), boys golf, 7-12, 2016-17
 - d. Hankinson, Fairmount, Lidgerwood, Campbell (MN), and Tintah (SD), girls golf, 7-12, 2016-17
 - e. Hankinson, Fairmount, Campbell (MN), and Tintah (SD), boys track and field, 7-12, 2016-17
 - f. Hankinson, Fairmount, Campbell (MN), and Tintah (SD), girls track and field, 7-12, 2016-17

4. Coop Applications

1. Rugby and Leeds, wrestling, 7-12, 2016-17, no fee
2. Grand Forks Central and Sacred Heart (MN), wrestling, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
3. Grand Forks Red River and East Grand Forks (MN), wrestling, 7-12, 2016-17 late fee
4. Langdon Area and Edmore, boys basketball, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
5. Langdon Area and Edmore, girls basketball, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
6. Langdon Area and Edmore, baseball, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
7. Langdon Area and Edmore, boys golf, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
8. Langdon Area and Edmore, girls golf, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
9. Langdon Area and Edmore, boys track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
10. Langdon Area and Edmore, girls track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
11. Langdon Area and Edmore, football, 7-12, 2017-18, no fee
12. Minot, Lewis & Clark - Berthold, and Lewis & Clark - North Shore, gymnastics, 7-12, 2016-17, no fee
13. Park River Area and Valley-Edinburg, football, 9-12, 2017-18, no fee
14. Milnor, North Sargent, and Sargent Central, football, 9-12, 2017-18, no fee
15. Ray and Powers Lake, football, 7-12, 2017-18, no fee

Brad Rinas, Committee Chair, reported Executive Committee action to the Board.

1. Grand Forks Public Schools self reported two girls attended a volleyball camp after August 1st. Executive committee recommendation to have athletes sit out the next contest at that level.
2. The following late coop applications were recommended to be forwarded to the Board for action.
 - a. Milnor, North Sargent, and Sargent Central, football, 7-8, 2016-17, late fee
 - b. Bismarck Public Schools, Bismarck St. Mary's, Shiloh Christian, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, girls hockey, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - c. Bismarck Public Schools and Menoken, boys track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - d. Bismarck Public Schools and Menoken, girls track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - e. Bismarck Public Schools and Bismarck St. Mary's, boys cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - f. Bismarck Public Schools and Bismarck St. Mary's, girls cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - g. Bismarck Public Schools, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, boys hockey, 9-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - h. Bismarck Public Schools and Linton, boys hockey, 9-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - i. Bismarck Public Schools, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, boys soccer, 9-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - j. Bismarck Public Schools, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, girls soccer, 9-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - k. Bismarck Public Schools, Bismarck St. Mary's, Shiloh Christian, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, softball, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - l. Bismarck Public Schools and Menoken, boys cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - m. Bismarck Public Schools and Menoken, girls cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - n. Bismarck Public Schools and Martin Luther, boys track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - o. Bismarck Public Schools and Martin Luther, girls track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - p. Bismarck Public Schools and Martin Luther, boys cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
 - q. Bismarck Public Schools and Martin Luther, girls cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
3. Bismarck Public Schools late fee waiver request. Committee recommends waiver of late fee.

Motion by Schafer to approve Executive Committee report. Second by Privratsky. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Vollmer to approve coop: Milnor, North Sargent, and Sargent Central, football, 7-8, 2016-17, with late fee. Second by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bertsch to approve the following coops without a late fee. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Bismarck Public Schools, Bismarck St. Mary's, Shiloh Christian, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, girls hockey, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
2. Bismarck Public Schools and Menoken, boys track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
3. Bismarck Public Schools and Menoken, girls track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
4. Bismarck Public Schools and Bismarck St. Mary's, boys cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
5. Bismarck Public Schools and Bismarck St. Mary's, girls cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
6. Bismarck Public Schools, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, boys hockey, 9-12, 2016-17, late fee
7. Bismarck Public Schools and Linton, boys hockey, 9-12, 2016-17, late fee
8. Bismarck Public Schools, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, boys soccer, 9-12, 2016-17, late fee
9. Bismarck Public Schools, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, girls soccer, 9-12, 2016-17, late fee
10. Bismarck Public Schools, Bismarck St. Mary's, Shiloh Christian, Kidder County-Steele, and Kidder County-Tappen, softball, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
11. Bismarck Public Schools and Menoken, boys cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
12. Bismarck Public Schools and Menoken, girls cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
13. Bismarck Public Schools and Martin Luther, boys track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
14. Bismarck Public Schools and Martin Luther, girls track and field, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
15. Bismarck Public Schools and Martin Luther, boys cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee
16. Bismarck Public Schools and Martin Luther, girls cross country, 7-12, 2016-17, late fee

Andy Dahlen, Football Committee Chair, provided the Board with a report on the 2017-18 football plan with preliminary division assignments. Schools must notify NDHSAA by September 15th for coops and September 30 is the deadline for opting up a division. The committee discussed the playoff structure for all divisions. Motion by Dahlen to approve the football committee report. Second by Schafer. Motion carried unanimously.

Mitch Carlson, Constitution & By-Laws Committee Chair, provided the Board with a committee report on Board regulation regarding preseason participation rules.

Motion by Carlson to strike the following from the pre-season participation rule #2 – Part III, Page 1 of the NDHSAA Board Regulations as follows. Second by Manley. Motion carried unanimously.

Pre-season, in season, and post-season participation rules:

- 2) Students may compete only on a school team during the high school season of that sport. ~~also students may compete as unattached individuals in non school contests until the first day of classes in their school for the current school year, or first contest, whichever comes first.~~ Violation of the regulation results in loss of eligibility for six contests or remainder of season, whichever is less, for each violation in that sport. The only exception to the above rule is in the case of talented students involved in Olympic competition as explained under Part II, Section III, Article XIV of the By-Laws.

The committee discussed the addition of a definition of "regularly attends" to the interpretations of Section IV of Article XIV - Rules of Eligibility Committee. The committee will continue to discuss this at future meetings.

Awards by-law amendment was discussed with no changes. The amendment will be sent to schools

before the next Board meeting with a vote at the General Membership meeting in October.

Motion by Carlson to approve the Constitution & By-Laws Committee report including presentation of the Awards Policy By-Law to the membership with a vote at the October General Membership meeting. Second by Vollmer. Motion carried unanimously.

Todd Bertsch, Media Committee Chair provided the Board with a report. The Board received a response from Davis Whitfield from the NFHS Network/HoldCo Board concerning the NDHSAA request of the NFHS Network/HoldCo Board to honor existing contract amounts for years four and five of the present media rights contract. The HoldCo Board agreed to honor the contracted amounts for NDHSAA.

The radio broadcast fee schedule for baseball and softball regional events was discussed. The committee recommended removing region contests from the baseball and softball radio fee matrix as region baseball and softball tournaments are not managed by NDHSAA, they are considered regular season games.

The committee also recommended removal of the final game only fee from the boys and girls basketball, hockey and volleyball radio fee matrix. All games would be charged at the per game rate.

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

Andy Dahlen provided a committee report from the Promotions & Programs Committee regarding NDHSAA logo usage on vendor products. Committee recommended continuation of the current policy to allow the decision to be made by the NDHSAA office staff per request. There was a current request from a vendor to market rings to officials. If the vendor should choose to market rings to officials NDHSAA would receive 15% of the profits.

Motion by Dahlen to approve the Promotions and Programs Committee report. Second by Privratsky. Motion carried unanimously.

Lenny Ohlhauser, Fargo Davies Athletic Director, appeared before the Board to present an appeal of a denied hardship application for a student. Executive Director Fetsch distributed necessary information. Fetsch presented his findings on the hardship investigation. Ohlhauser presented information concerning the appeal to the Board. The Board directed questions to Ohlhauser and the mother of the student. Motion by Schafer to deny the hardship appeal. Second by Privratsky. Roll call vote: Rinas - yes, Dahlen - abstain, Bertsch - yes, Sorlie - yes, Schafer - yes, Manley - yes, Privratsky - yes, Carlson - yes, Baesler - yes, Vollmer - yes. Motion carried 9-0 with 1 abstention.

The Board reviewed a letter from Andy Dahlen, Fargo North Principal, requesting the Board waive Part II, Article XIV, Section II of the NDHSAA Constitution and By-Laws, which limits students to four seasons of one sport during their high school career. Executive Director Fetsch explained the parameters set forth in the Constitution & By-Laws concerning limitations of semesters and seasons. The student was granted two additional semesters of eligibility by Fetsch earlier this summer due to an extreme illness. Dahlen explained the situation of this particular student. The student for whom the waiver was requested presented information to the Board on his condition, the history of his condition and his waiver request. The student provided documents of support from his coach and teachers in support of his request.

Motion by Schafer to approve the waiver. Second by Sorlie. The Board directed questions to the student concerning the timeline of his illness, his participation in sports and his attendance at Fargo North. Roll call vote: Rinas - yes, Dahlen - abstain, Bertsch - yes, Sorlie - yes, Schafer - yes, Manley - yes, Privratsky - yes, Carlson - yes, Vollmer - yes. Motion carried 8-0 with 1 abstention. Motion carried 8-0 with 1 abstention.

The Board considered a request from Mark Rerick, Grand Forks Public Schools Athletic Director, and supporting letters from several other schools requesting the Board study the feasibility of adding clay target as a sanctioned activity. Fetsch distributed the process for adding an activity as approved by the NDHSAA Board of Directors June 22, 2000.

Motion by Vollmer to study the sanctioning of clay target. Second by Privratsky. The Board discussed the approved process of sanctioning an activity.

Withdrawal of motion by Vollmer to study the sanctioning of clay target. Withdrawal of second by Privratsky.

Motion by Vollmer to review the request once a completed proposal has been received. Second by Privratsky. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff member Fletschock reported on the development of a committee to develop baseball pitch count regulation. The NFHS recently passed a regulation requiring each state devise a pitch count regulation before the spring 2017 season. Fletschock provided a list of potential committee members and requested the Board approve a committee. From the list provided by Fletschock, the following committee members were chosen.

Class A Coach: DeWitt Mack – Mandan
Class B Coach: Nate Walsh – Hillsboro/Central Valley
Class A AD: Jim Roaldson – Jamestown
Class B AD: Brian Midthun – Enderlin
NDHSAA Sports Medicine: Dr. Robert Schulte
NDHSAA Board – Ben Schafer
NDHSAA Staff: Justin Fletschock

Thursday, October 20, 2016 in Bismarck is set as the first meeting date for the committee.

Motion by Manley to approve the recommended committee assignments. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff member Schell provided an update on the approved NDHSAA strategic plan. The Board discussed the future of the strategic planning process. The Board will discuss the strategic planning process at a later date. The Board expressed appreciation for the work Schell put into the strategic plan update.

Representative Reports

1. Rinas brought up discussion on wearing NDHSAA blazers for NDHSAA meetings. Fetsch preferred Board members wearing blazers at all meetings.

Executive Director's Report

1. Fall Administrator Meeting recap was given.
2. New Administrator Orientation recap was provided. Fetsch indicated this was well received by the 13 new administrators in attendance.
3. The 2015-16 apparel report was reviewed.
4. National Guard supporting sponsorship approval was received for the 2016/17 school year.
5. New Music Teacher Workshop will be held September 15th. This is the first year for the workshop and schools are encouraged to send their new music activity advisor/coaches.
6. Midwest Officials Summit will be held September 18-20, 2016 in Fargo. The schedule includes North Dakota professional sport officials as presenters.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2016 in Valley City.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Schell
Assistant Director

Signed: _____ Approved Date: ____/____/____