

MINUTES**North Dakota High School Activities Association
November 4, 2020, Valley City, ND**

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association began their meeting on November 4, 2020 via conference call. President Jordan called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

Members present: Jordan, Diegel, Schoch, Bertsch, Johnson, Brandt, Rerick, Jundt, Fridley, Baxley, Baesler

Motion by Schoch to approve the agenda. Second by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Brandt to approve the consent agenda. Second by Bertsch. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. October 15, 2020
 - b. October 16, 2020
 - c. October 27, 2020
 - d. October 30, 2020

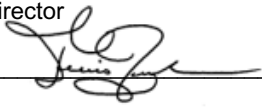
The NDHSAA State Girls Swimming & Diving meet was discussed. Fetsch indicated after initial feedback and confirmation from Bismarck State College Aquatics & Wellness Center, NDHSAA staff recommends the State Girls Swimming & Diving meet move to Bismarck/Mandan in order to accommodate a limited number of fans. Bismarck and Mandan Public Schools previously expressed an interest in hosting the meet, if needed. The Bismarck facility and Bismarck Local Public Health Department will allow the number of swimmers needed to hold the meet in two swim sessions and one dive session while allowing a limited number of fans.

Morast indicated BSC Aquatics & Wellness Center will allow 25% capacity or 160 fans per session on the fan deck and 25% capacity or 75 swimmers, officials and coaches on the swim deck. Each schools will be allowed fan tickets at a percent of qualifiers. Social distance plans will be made and provided to the local health department. Mandan will also allow a limited number of fans. Feedback from Fargo coaches indicated some are opposed to moving the meet to Bismarck and Mandan. Feedback from West coaches indicate they are in favor of the move, which would allow fans to be present in a limited capacity. Motion by Fridley to approve moving the 2020 Girls Swim & Dive Meet to Bismarck/Mandan. Second by Schoch. Motion carried unanimously. Fridley questioned how State Swim & Dive tickets would be provided to schools. Fetsch indicated wristbands will be mailed to participating schools on Monday, November 9, 2020.

Fetsch discussed region volleyball fan attendance. As per the protocol previously passed by the Board, NDHSAA will determine all sites for post season events. If a school or local health department limits fans, NDHSAA staff have the ability to change sites. Rerick indicated Grand Forks schools would cover the cost of officials in order to play at their home site. At this time, Grand Forks public schools is deciding on whether or not fans can attend on a day by day basis, allowing a limited number of fans from home teams and not allowing fans from visiting teams. As an example, the district will not know whether fans are allowed at a Saturday evening game/match until noon on Saturday. Diegel indicated he was uncomfortable with only one team being able to have fans attend and is interested in either both schools allowing fans or allowing no fans. Jordan questioned if this was a local school decision or an NDHSAA decision. Fetsch indicated by the protocols approved NDHSAA sets tournament sites. Schoch proposed to allow schools to address the issue between themselves and if unable to mutually agree to move the game, the home site would pay all expenses, or the Board determine the location. Diegel, Jundt, Johnson and Bertsch indicated both teams should be treated the same as far as allowing fans. When questioned how the current protocols would be used in a situation where no fans were allowed, in contradiction to the established NDHSAA protocol, Fetsch indicated he would advise the home team to follow the guidelines or NDHSAA would move the game. Baesler indicated in her experience, schools like local control. However, schools do not like inconsistencies. The Board needs to give guidance to NDHSAA staff on how to proceed in these matters rather than leaving it to local school control, which differs from NDHSAA approved protocol. Schoch suggested NDHSAA protocols would be followed by host schools, however local school districts could further restrict depending on the local district health unit restrictions. Bertsch, indicated Fargo Public Schools made the decision that NDHSAA policy trumps Fargo Public School decisions/policies on NDHSAA sponsored tournaments held within Fargo Public School facilities. Fetsch questioned if the decisions are left to local school districts, is guidance on attendance needed at all. Johnson reiterated if attendance protocols are left to local school district control, guidance would not be needed. Jordan questioned what would happen if NDHSAA sets a protocol of two fans per participant and Grand Forks Public Schools will not allow fans. Fetsch indicated if the approved protocols are followed and Grand Forks Public Schools does not agree with allowing fans, the tournament would be moved to the home site of the lower seed. Diegel stated he is in favor of the current protocol allowing both schools a minimum number of fans. Johnson questioned if this topic could be given to the Tournament Committee to meet and make a recommendation back to the Board. Fetsch replied the Tournament Committee could meet, however it would need meet quickly with another Board meeting to follow due to the timeline of tournaments. Motion by Jundt to continue to use the post season attendance protocols as previously approved. Second by Diegel. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Board meeting will be held December 2, 2020 in Valley City. Meeting adjourned November 4, 2020 at 11:04 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Schell
Assistant Director

Signed:  Approved Date: ____/____/____