

Special Meeting
NDHSAA Board of Directors
July 23, 2007

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association held a special meeting on July 23, 2007, President Knodle called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with all members present except Jordan and Looyesen. Also present were delegations from Langdon and Munich to present an appeal concerning the ruling made at the June meeting. At that meeting, the Executive Committee declared the Langdon volleyball program ineligible for post season competition for the fall, 2007 season.

The Executive Secretary presented the materials that were made available to the Executive Board prior to making their decision at the June 19, 2007 Board meeting.

The Board reviewed the documents leading up to the present appeal. Also reviewed was the appeal process as written in Section XVI of the Constitution & By-Laws. It was clarified the meeting will be closed to the appealing delegation following their presentation.

Supt. Rogers and Prin. Schwabe led the delegation's appeal. Following Mr. Schwabe presentation to the Board, 2006 Langdon Head Volleyball Coach Rich Olson, player. Courtney Becker and School Board members also spoke.

Mr. Rogers presented a closing statement and the meeting was turned back to the Board. Motion by Lyson to close the hearing, Second by Maus and carried.

The meeting was called back to order and President Knodle reminded the Board the hearing is closed and the discussion. is limited to the Board.

Each Board member was asked to state their thoughts concerning the appeal:

Jungling - This is a tremendous responsibility. Troubled with the main question and answer in which Langdon Athletic Director, Dennis Dinius stated they should not go over to Munich because they had not officially submitted a coop request. The Munich parents took this in their own hands rather than allowing the administration to do their job. This is an instance where the Board has to step into business between schools. In these types of issues, the Board is open to criticism of not caring about kids. Whatever is decided the Board will be scrutinized, but this is the responsibility the Board has been asked to bear. We do care about students, no matter how it comes out.

Duchscherer also stressed there is a concern for students and stressed three points:

1. The NDHSAA does not hold contracts with coaches, the local school board does. To be criticized for not punishing the coaches is unfair.
2. Hindsight is 20-20 and it is the Board's hope the administration at Langdon is not the being criticized.
3. Also, agreed the Munich parents are contributing to the situation.

Maus - All agree a violation occurred. Support Langdon's willingness to come back and compromise and would accept a modification.

Stanley - Issues of regulating the coaches is not a part of the Board's position to monitor. The integrity of the NDHSAA Board of Directors is being put on the line. Participation is overshadowed by the push for success. The issue has occurred and cannot support a change in the Exec Committee.

Sanstead -- It is important that there is a process in which there are the three levels of this process to insure there is equal ground among the member schools. Players can be impacted by actions of others. The NDHSAA exists to do what is in the best interest of all students.

Lyson -- Agreed with the statement the members of the Board are involved with students every day. The real cause was the Munich parents and the point that parents are getting so involved in athletic programs they only see what is best for their own children. A violation had occurred and the Executive Secretary carried out the investigation correctly. The party that appeared before the Board was honest, sincere and direct. Agree there should be some type of modification. Would like to see the assessment of a fine but the Board is not in a position to do this.

Schatz - Coaches should assume nothing and ask about everything. Many assumptions were made. The issue here is the Munich parents becoming over involved, they need to be educated.

Eastgate - Other than the conversation in November, the administration was not informed of the violation until after the fact. Coaches as well as administration are in charge of knowing the regulations. The Munich parents have stepped out of bounds. No doubt a violation has occurred. There could have been a more extreme penalty such as suspending the program for the entire season, so the current penalty is not what could have been the most serious.

Knodle - Agonizing thought process over this issue and decisions are very difficult. The candor of everyone that spoke was appreciated.

The Board questioned if a motion is not made, will the Executive Board decision stand? The Executive Secretary indicated that no matter what decision is made, there needs to be a motion. Motion by Maus to modify the penalty and approve the recommendation that the coaches are suspended for one year and allow the team to participate in post-season for 2007-2008 school year. Second by Lyson. Motion and second were withdrawn.

Motion by Jungling to open the hearing again for the purpose of a question to clarify the intention of the coaching suspension. Second by Maus and carried.

Following Supt. Rogers response to an additional question, motion by Eastgate to close the hearing. Second by Stanley and carried.

Motion by Schatz to reverse the Executive Committee's decision and place all Langdon*s activities programs on probation for a period or two school years (2007-2008, 2008-2009) contingent upon Langdon upholding the suspension of Langdon's volleyball coaches (Rich Olson and Tammy Flink) for the 07-08 school year. Second by Eastgate. Motion by Maus to cease discussion and debate. Second by Lyson and carried. A toll call vote on the motion was taken:

Jungling - yes	Sanstead – yes	Knodle - no	Duchscherer -- no
Lyson – yes	Maus - yes	Stanley – no	Schatz - yes
Eastgate – yes			

Motion carried, 6-3.

The request for the dissolution of the Munich and Cando cooperative sponsorship program was reviewed. This request had been tabled until the recruitment/undue influence situation was addressed.

Motion by Maus to deny the request for the dissolution of the Munich and Cando volleyball cooperative sponsorship agreement. Second by Lyson and carried unanimously.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2007 in Valley City.

Motion by Duchscherer to adjourn the meeting. Second by Schatz and carried.

With no further business, Chairman Knodle declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheryl Solberg
Asst. to the Exec. Sec.