

Class B District Chairperson Meeting
March 20, 2009--9:00 A.M.
Minot Holiday Inn Riverside

The Class B District Chair meeting was held on March 20, 2009 at the Minot Holiday Inn Riverside. Chairman Maus called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all districts represented.

Chairman Maus welcomed the district chairpersons and thanked them for representing their district. Each representative introduced themselves and identified their district.

The Executive Secretary thanked the members for their service to the member schools. Sheets were passed around to allow each member to complete information on the 2010 Girls' District chairperson and region site recommendations as well as 2010 Boys' District chairperson and region site preference.

The Executive Secretary reviewed the results of the recommendations from the fall, 2008 district chairperson's meeting with the results from the March 13, 2009 Board meeting.

Chairman Maus informed the members the currently proposed three-division plan will be discussed following the review of the recommendations. All recommendations associated with the three-division proposal will be held until the end of the meeting.

Each member presented the recommendations from their respective districts. Votes were taken on various recommendations. Where no vote is indicated, no vote was taken.

District 1-----Rick Jacobson, Supt. Wyndmere

1. No agenda items at this time

District 2-----Brian Midthun, AD Enderlin

Class B Baseball:

1. Change deadline for the Region Baseball Tournament to the Saturday prior to the state tournament. This would be for the 2009-2010 season

Vote – 16-0

Wrestling:

2. Reduce the number of weight classes to 12.

Vote – 11-5

Track, Golf:

3. Change the NDHSAA website deadlines for spring sports.

The group was informed the Board did change the deadline for track & field to April 15th. Because of this, no vote was taken

Basketball:

4. Develop a mercy rule for basketball. (Example: In the 2nd half, a 35 point lead triggers a running clock until the lead falls below 25).

Dist. 4 representative, Fetsch asked what Minnesota uses. Dist. 2 representative Midthun indicated he believed 12 to 14 states were reported to have a mercy rule.

Vote – 10-6.

5. Implement a “Coaches Box” rule.

Vote 7-9, failed.

District 3-----Patti Aanenson, AD Larimore

1. Implement an appeal process for the hydration test.

Carlsrud indicated this is coming through the Wrestling Advisory Committee. This group asked if this would require an additional doctor.

Vote – 12-3.

2. Change the proposed seeding process. Their district wrestling coaches wish to continue with current process rather than the NWCA process.

Carlsrud responded to this question. It was clarified the technology makes an initial seeding but the seeding committee will still have the option to make changes.

3. Will there be any changes within the wrestling regions with Valley City going to Class B?

The Board will be researching the region assignments.

District 4-----Matt Fetsch, AD Grafton

1. Switch the deadline for Class “B” baseball regionals from Wednesday to the Saturday of the same week.
2. Reduce the number of wrestling weight classes from 14 to 12.
3. Switch to 18-minute halves in Class “B” basketball

It was clarified this would be for varsity teams. Minnesota has 18 minute halves for varsity and 16 minute halves for junior varsity. Dist. 1 representative Jacobson questioned if this was in the best interest of smaller schools that have a smaller number of substitutes. Also stated was the Class A rationale to allow more playing time in replacement of their not having a district tournament.

Vote 1-15

4. Use shot clocks for all games in Class “B” basketball

The shot clock was used at many tournaments and indicated the coaches that experienced this liked it. Dist. 13 representative Pierce stated with coops using more than one facility, more than one shot clock would have to be installed. Also stated athletes that do not play under a shot clock have to go through a learning curve when they go into college basketball. Jacobson stated with a shot clock, you are giving stronger teams more opportunities to score. Fetsch indicated they had a sponsor install the shot clock. Dist. 12 representative Groninger took a straw vote by school in their district resulting in a 5-3 opposition to the shot clock. Dist. 15 representative Enget stated the shot clock would prevent less talented teams from controlling the score. Aanenson asked how would the mercy rule and the shot clock work together. Dist. 14 Representative Lunde indicated their district was in favor of the shot clock.

Vote – 6-10.

District 5-----Chad Bakken, AD Barnes Co. North

1. No agenda items at this time

District 6-----Brandt Dick, Supt. Hazelton, Moffit, Braddock

1. Our district would like to see the regional tournament a revenue sharing tournament with loss of districts.
2. Travel increases with three division plan.
3. Would it be possible to use grades 7-10 enrollment instead of 9-12 for adopting three divisions?
4. Will there be a process like district chairs to choose Regional sites and bring concerns to the NDHSAA.
5. Scoring error – bring up the possibility of having and longer period of time to allow for the correction of scoring errors.

District 7-----Jason Wiberg, AD Lakota

1. Do not support a 3-Class system in basketball and volleyball
2. Continue the 8 team regional tournament.

Vote – 14-1.

3. Have the testing window open over Thanksgiving for coaches and officials.
4. Implementing an appeal process to our hydration test. Allowing wrestlers a chance to appeal their first fat test before their first competition.
5. Making regional dual tournament matches not count against our 40. We feel since it is a state qualifier these matches should not count against our 40.
6. The process for seeding the state tournament. Currently one region rep from each region is selected to go and seed the state tournament. It has been brought to our attention that NDHSAA wants us to record all of our results to the NWCA and then have the computer program from the NWCA seed the state tournament. We are NOT for this.

District 8-----Kevin Baumgarn, Supt. Munich

Wrestling

1. Reduce weight classes from 14 to 12
2. Allow 40 matches per wrestler prior to the Regional Individual Tournament, and do not include the matches from the Region Dual Tournament.
3. Allow teams to enter 1 wrestler in each weight class + 3 additional wrestlers. The 3 additional wrestlers would be unattached and their points would not count towards the team totals.

Vote – 3-11

Basketball:

1. Shot Clock Implementation
2. 3 class system in basketball & volleyball

District 9-----Paul Nickolauson, AD Shiloh Christian

1. No agenda items at this time

District 10-----Steve Brannan, Supt. Garrison

1. Discussion concerning 3 divisions
 - a. Additional games
 - b. Split revenue
2. Regional tournament Mon-Tues-Wed

District 11-----Steve Dick, Supt. Velva

1. Would like to have a uniform state wide pay schedule for 2 & 3 man officiating crews.

Carlsrud responded the fee schedule is per official and the fee schedule is a maximum fee. The Executive Secretary encouraged schools to be specific on their contracts for game officials. Carlsrud suggested this would be taken to the rules clinics to clarify the importance of specific contracts.

District 12-----Karen Groninger, Prin./AD, Des Lacs

1. Shot Clock
 - *Status
 - *At NDIAAA it was stated that all 16 Districts were in favor--
2. Libero Tracker
 - *Home team should not have to supply visitors
3. Equity of out-of-season coaching

The Executive Secretary clarified soccer coaches were given an exemption in the past but they no longer have this as an exemption because they have built their pool of officials. The Legion baseball exemption is coming under question as an out-of-season coaching rule.

4. Freeze officials pay
 - *Increase for at least the last 11 years happens after budget.
 - *Rider fee
 - *Budgets

There was no request for a vote

5. Has there been any talk about 6-man football?

The Executive Secretary indicated this has been limited. A letter from the Minot State football coach was received indicating interest in 6-man football. The members were encouraged to take this back to their schools for input to the Football Committee.

District 13-----Curt Pierce, Prin./AD, South Heart

1. 35 Second Clock in Class B
2. Clarification on Regional Tournament officials selection process.

Carlsrud indicated the shortage of officials that were eligible to officiate regional tournaments because of not fulfilling the requirements. The selection process was explained.

3. Eliminate consequences for player participating in too many quarters in an evening.
 - a. Forfeit of game should be sufficient with no consequence for player.

The pros and cons were discussed.

Vote failed – 4-12.

4. Treat seeding for regional wrestling like track

- a. Weight class sent in before hand and no change of weight class after that time.

Similar to region track & field, the entry sent for an individual must stay in the weight class rather than adjusting coming into the region. Carlsrud shared the rule allows for this up to the weigh-in time. Lunde indicated this allows coaches to make changes that are not in the best interest of the w and causes problems with the tournament manager. Bakken indicated a week is too long with possible weight changes and possible injuries. Lunde stated this might be more informational rather than the need for a deadline regulation.

Vote – 2 days prior to seeding meeting failed 8-8

5. Change Class B wrestling to East/West Regions for state qualifying. Go from 4 to 8 qualifiers from each region.

Carlsrud indicated with the numbers, it might require a Friday night/Saturday meet but would supply stronger wrestlers at state.

Vote failed, 8-8

6. Recommend Dickinson Trinity for Region 7 Basketball Tournaments
7. With difficulties in getting officials because of retirements, recommend look at working with the colleges to offer college credits for officiating courses.

District 14-----Mitch Lunde, AD, Beulah

1. Shot clock
2. Discussion Points:
 - a. Skin issues at state wrestling- Dermatologist on site Thursday morning 1 hour time limit between weigh-ins and wrestling at state
 - b. Wrestling East-West regions for “B”
3. Allow JH football to count jamboree's as 1 football game in the JH schedule and allow them to play in more than 1 jamboree

District 15-----Lyne Enget, AD Stanley

1. Is there any thought of going back to per diem for region and state tournaments?

The Executive Secretary explained how the team payments were changed to cover fine arts as well as athletics.

District 16-----Celeste Thingvold, Prin./AD, Bowbells

1. Keep District Tournament, but not count it towards the regular season game totals.
2. We would like to see a coaches' box.

This was previously discussed.

The group was presented with the results of the Three-Division survey. The following is a synopsis of the discussion:

Lyne Enget: What happened to the 80-40 plan? The Executive Secretary stated it reflected the North Star plan which was guaranteed one or two teams into the state tournament. Eventually they were unable to compete at state. Also questioned was how long-term would this plan be viable. The three-division plan addressed the overlap of seasons as the 80-40 plan did not. The committee voted to get the plan down to one prior to the survey.

Brandt Dick: If there is the elimination of the district tournament, would there be a process similar to allow schools to have input with the first round of post-season? Chairman Maus responded something would have to be changed with the loss of district tournament revenue. This is an issue that would need to be addressed. Three districts in girls and 12 districts in boys indicated they received more than \$1000 payback. Brandt said the division plan would help with conflicts with other activities such as FBLA, etc.

Steve Brannon: The Three-Division plan would help parents because of a reduced number of post-season games to attend. To have the same venue with girls and boys together would add to the excitement. Questioned would certain coops dissolve to allow them to be dropped down to the lower division?

Steve Brannon, Garrison: Relationships can be fractured because of the split in numbers for and against this plan.

Mitch Lunde, Beulah: Thank you to the Board for their work in this study. He indicated the survey was scary to schools because of the unknown. District 14 is a 3-division proponent.

Brandt Dick: Stated the answer may be sticking with the current plan but combining the boys' and girls' seasons. This would prevent the overlap of seasons and cause more excitement at district and region tournaments.

Curt Pierce, South Heart: Adding two more games to the regular season in place of the district tournament would not necessarily create income that would be equal to finances gained through district tournaments.

Steve Dick, Velva: This started when the number was changed from 325 to 400 and the proposal of the 3-division plan is somewhat a result of the number change.

Paul Nickolauson, Shiloh Christian: Even if 50% of the membership doesn't want to adopt the plan, there is also 50% of the membership indicating they want it. There is going to be problems whether the change is made or not made.

Rick Jacobson, Wyndmere: We still have questions unanswered such as travel, loss of district tournaments, television contracts, etc. If some of these items were answered, would there be a change in the feelings of the 3-division plan?

Pierce, South Heart also asked about the frequency of alignment. Would it be every two years? Answers would allow the membership to be more certain about their decision.

Patti Aanenson, Larimore: Doesn't like the concept with fewer schools and wanting another class. Why would you want to add a division when there are fewer schools?

Jason Wiberg, Lakota: Their district is also not in favor of the concept.

Brandt Dick stated the Class A combined has significantly enhanced their state tournament.

The Executive Secretary summarized the recommendations brought forward by the District Chairpersons that received a positive vote for consideration by the NDHSAA Board of Directors:

1. In 2009-2010, change the deadline for completion of the region baseball tournaments to the Saturday prior to the state tournament.
2. Reduce the number of wrestling weight classes from 14 to 12
3. Develop a mercy rule for basketball.
4. Develop an appeal process for body fat assessment in wrestling
5. Continue the eight-team region tournament in basketball

The members were thanked. Chairman Maus adjourned the meeting.

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