

MINUTES**Class B District Chairperson's Meeting****9:00 A.M. – November 16, 2007****Jamestown Civic Center, Jamestown, ND****(Items advanced to NDHSAA Board listed following minutes)**

The Class B District Chairpersons met at 9:00 a.m. on November 16, 2007 at the Jamestown Civic Center. Chairman Lyson called the meeting to order with all districts present. Chairman Lyson welcomed the district chairmen and thanked them for representing their respective districts.

Following introductions, the Executive Secretary thanked the representatives for being an important part of the process. He indicated he will be passing out information sheets to be completed by each district for the 2008 district volleyball chairperson, 2008 district volleyball site and manager, and 2008 regional volleyball site recommendations.

Chairman Lyson indicated they would hear the recommendations from each district beginning with District 1. The district representative as indicated presented their district's recommendations:

District 1-----Rick Jacobson, Wyndmere HS

1. The Fri./Tues. FB playoff format is not favorable (shorten season by one game or reduce number of teams qualifying for playoffs). The turn-around time is too short.

Response to #1 - It was stated Region 5 discussed shortening to an 8-game schedule and put all games back on Friday. They also discussed reducing the number of teams that advance to play-offs. It was acknowledged schools do not have to play nine games as a number of districts indicated they play eight games. It was mentioned although this was done by schools; the bye week was staggered throughout the season and still did not avoid the Tuesday-Friday issue.

2. Due to the VB overlap, either shorten VB and FB seasons by one week or switch BBB and GBB season around.

Response to #2 – The group was asked what other districts think. District 5, Steve Nelson, Linton indicated they had to start girls' basketball practice on Sunday to try to avoid the practice requirement in the event they would have advanced to the state volleyball tournament. There should be less of a problem with the overlap of legion baseball and fall activities being reduced. What would be the issue of switching the boys' and girls' seasons to avoid this overlap? There are two options on which to vote. District 3, Patti Aanenson, Larimore indicated it may be favorable to wait until the basketball people had a chance to meet. Waiting until March will not change the time-line for implementation.

3. Question calendar accuracy vs what was told in spring

Response to #3 – The Executive Secretary explained the calendar situation stating there were corrections that were announced at the fall administrator's meeting. This was an office error and will try to eliminate this in the future.

4. Utilize ITV system for regional meetings

Response to #4 – The group felt it is less expensive to pay the non-attendance fine rather than traveling to the administrator meeting. It was stated there may be a need to look at ITV to replace the on-site meetings.

A vote on studying the use of an ITV system for administrator meetings: 16 yes - 0 no, vote carried unanimously.

5. Question school sponsorship of team camps (what is allowed or not and why)

Response to #5 – It was clarified the summer rule indicates the schools cannot sponsor summer camps in any way. This would include use of transportation, etc. Schools have charged rent for the use of a bus and charged coaches rental for the use of school facilities. The Executive Secretary indicated some schools have asked if they could pay for attendance at summer camps which is in violation of the regulations. Also, the North Dakota High School Coaches Association stance is they want to see the out-of-season coaching rule remain.

Does the FB classification period have to be only two years at a time (Problems occur with scheduling and developing rivalries)

District 2-----Steve Lorentzen, Central Cass HS

Thank you to the Association. District 2 has no burning issues.

District 3-----Patti Aanenson, Larimore HS

Football

1. Do not play first round of playoffs in your region.
 - a. Allows for quality games later in the playoff picture.
 - b. Often results in teams playing each other back to back.

Response to #1 - Carlsrud indicated the first round pairings have been changed in a number of different ways.

2. Why don't football coaches have input into officials used for playoff games?
 - a. All other sports have input as to officials.
 - b. This was also an item from Region 3 nine-man football.

Response to #2 – Staff member Carlsrud explained the reasons why the selection of officials for football playoffs is different from basketball with the hiring of crews and the nature of the playoffs. After discussing this at the football advisory committee, it was indicated this was an acceptable plan.

3. Dakota Bowl - Wasn't it intended to be played in one day? Could there be a rotation of games? (Why does AAA always go last, etc.?)

Response to #3 - Carlsrud explained when bowl plans began, the Football Coaches Advisory recommended holding it in one day. Currently, the Board has voted to hold the games on two days. The television contract does play into the scheduling. The Tournament Committee will meet December 12th to discuss the site and plans for the 2008 Dakota Bowl. District 6 Steve Nelson, Linton indicated he likes the two-day split so teams do not have to play so early in the morning.

A vote on a rotation of scheduling of teams at the Dakota Bowl – 8 yes - 8 no, vote failed.

A vote to hold the Dakota Bowl in one day – 2 yes -14 no, vote failed.

4. Football Plan Ideas - Current "Class B" schools would choose 9 man or 11 man (two divisions) and current "Class A" schools would stay Class A (one division) resulting in a 3 class system.

Response to #4 - District 6, Steve Nelson, Linton recommends staying with the four divisions. District 14, Jerry Obenauer, Hazen indicated the AA West would like to

see the divisioning based on the number participating in the program rather than the male enrollment.

Volleyball -

1. Unlimited subs - Shortage of athletes and why hold someone back from playing because of restrictions.

Response to #1 – This is a National Federation rule and a rule proposal will be sent to the NF committee for consideration of a rule change to allow this.

2. No shortening of the season.

3. Switch VB and FB starting dates - District 3 is in favor.

a. Cause less friction due to overlap with girls basketball.

b. Watch starting dates more closely so that we don't start any practices the first week of August.

4. Consider ruling that a player must play in at least 2 games in a tournament to be counted as a tournament for that player.

The vote on a player in at least two volleyball games to count as a tournament was tabled for clarification to allow coaches advisory to carry this recommendation forward.

All activities:

1. Adopt a less involved certification for persons wishing to officiate junior high activities - such as football, volleyball and basketball.

District 4-----Randy Rice, Minto HS

1. Support the continued rotation of region volleyball tournaments between District 3 and District 4.

2. Support switching the starting/finishing dates for football and volleyball to avoid the volleyball/basketball overlap

Response to #2 - Staff member Hetler asked schools to be considerate of the previously scheduled fine arts events that may be affected with the switching of volleyball and football seasons. District 10 Robert Tollefson, Washburn indicated it would be beneficial that those in attendance at this district meeting take these discussed issues back to their districts for further discussion to be held at the March meeting.

3. Concern over volleyball celebrations from on court players and bench players approaching the court and crossing the line.

Response to #3 - District 14, Jerry Obenauer, Hazen indicated the celebration issue was not a problem unless there is clear-cut taunting.

District 5-----Pat Windish, Barnes County N HS

1. Have 4 team regions for volleyball and basketball.

Vote – 2 yes -14 no, vote failed

2. Shorten warm-up time for volleyball.

Response to #2 - The group voiced this was more of a local management control issue and should supervise starting the 25 minute clock at the end of JV match.

District 6-----Steve Nelson, Linton HS

1. Discuss the future of the district level of post-season play, and ask the NDHSAA to address this issue, and if there is any change in tournament format to provide guidance prior to the fall of 2009.

Response to #1 - The Executive Secretary informed the group the Class B Redistricting Committee has been meeting regularly. Currently there is a proposal for a three-class system which has been submitted by Valley City HS. This will cause study. District 6 does not want to see districts eliminated because that is the only tournament that is run locally and schools can keep the profits.

2. Recommend that the football committee continue to have four divisions in football when the next realignment comes up. This has been previously discussed.

The group moved to District 9 to allow for the representative to leave the meeting to coach her volleyball team.

District 9-----Janet Erhardt, Center-Stanton HS

1. Favor two officials for basketball for both boys' and girls'.

Response to #1 - District 7 Jason Wiberg, Lakota indicated their district likes three-whistle crew. District 3 Aanenson talked about the added expense of a third official. They would like to see an adjustment on the officials' fee for three-whistle crews. District 2, Lorentzen agreed the money issue is real. The coaches would agree that three-whistle is better coverage but the cost to districts is an issue. District 1 Jacobson would be in favor of three-whistle if there was an adjustment on the fee schedule. A vote on three-whistle may be different if there was a set fee structure. This will be taken to the NDOA Board of Directors for input.

Vote on two officials for region and state tournaments – 3 yes – 13 no, vote failed.

2. Would like to see certification of officials through NDHSAA for Junior High and C Squad games allowing these officials to pay a smaller fee and not be mandated to attend the workshop.

3. Their district likes the rule allowing the libero to serve.

District 7-----Jason Wiberg, Lakota HS

1. Motion to NOT have GBB shot clock.

Vote - Support no to the implementation of a shot clock – 13 yes – 2 no, motion passed.

2. Would like to continue with three-whistle officiating crews for girls' basketball. (Boys and girls should be treated the same.) This was previously discussed.

3. Motion to have Officials phone # and email address on the NDHSAA web site, but have it password restricted.

Response to #3 - The Executive Secretary indicated there are non-school assignors that would not have access to the website. Staff member Schell was asked if there could be a link that is password protected for those assignors. Schell indicated those that have a password must be affiliated with a school

Vote – Add officials' phone numbers and e-mail addresses to the NDHSAA website – 15 yes – 0 no, motion passed unanimously.

4. The mandatory two-week break should be left up to local control.

Response to #4 - With gymnasiums being closed at different times, there is pressure for individuals and coaches to attend when the gym is open. NDHSCA is currently studying this concept. The district was not opposed to the break, they were opposed to the mandatory break as each school has different schedules during the summer and mandated break would interfere with repairs, etc.

Vote – In favor of a mandatory two-week break in June/July – 12 yes – 3 no, motion passed.

5. Running up the score issues should be left up to local administration.
6. Motion to allow football coaches the opportunity to vote for their officials. (Every other sport gets to do so now.)
7. Motion to change the qualifications for C-Squad and Junior High Officials.
8. The Class A 11-man football coaches would like the first round of play-offs to be considered for cross bracketing instead of inter Region play.
9. State Legion Baseball and the start of football practice overlap, which causes student athletes to miss and not be able to count days as practice. What is best for our kids?

District 8-----Jeff Manley, Leeds HS

1. Cross bracket the first round of Class A 11-man playoffs instead of inter-region play. This has been previously discussed

District 10-----Robert Tollefson, Washburn HS

1. Cross country coaches would like a central site for cross country meet information to be posted.

Response to #1 – Staff member Schell indicated this would be possible as track and field season invitational meets are posted as reported by the coaches.

2. District 10 is in support of each district sponsoring an official's workshop for those individuals that wish to work C squad and below.

Response to #2 – It was discussed this could be done with a reduced registration fee, an online rules test and a local workshop. There is a committee that has been formed to work on this concept.

3. Consider doing the volleyball captains' meetings with both the junior varsity and varsity teams at the same time prior to the junior varsity match.

Response to #3 – It was indicated this is not always possible as the varsity players and coaches may not be present at the time the junior varsity is to have their pre-match conference.

4. Consider moving Class B golf to the fall season.
5. Consider allowing more time at the end of the season for baseball make-up games prior to the post-season tournaments.

District 11-----Robert Thom, Westhope HS

1. The number of volleyball matches for a season are too many.
2. The rising cost of officials

Response to #2 – It was suggested a possible freeze on officiating fees, particularly in volleyball. The revenue from the gate is not covering the cost of the program. District 6, Nelson stated no matter what the sport, you need good officials and each official deserves being paid and not based on the school revenue. District 7, Wiberg indicated there are other programs such as baseball, track, etc. that do not cover the cost of the program.

District 12-----Robby Voigt, Mohall-Lansford-Sherwood HS

1. Place a freeze on Official fees.
2. Have in place a difference in pay when working 2 and 3 person crews by the NDHSAA.
3. Have certification requirements for officiating Jr. Hi. and Sub Varsity games different from those doing Varsity Games .

Region 5 Nine-Man Recommendations:

4. If we have a 9 game schedule we need a 9 week season allowing for 1 game per week on Friday.
5. Playoff format needs to keep off a Tuesday – Saturday format the smaller teams cannot recover especially at the end of the year.
6. Looking at All – State Voting, Region 5 wants to keep the Region Reps voting and not have all coaches at the meeting voting. The meeting would not be manageable.
Response to #6 – It was clarified the NDHSAA does not sponsor any type of all-star selections.
7. For volleyball post-season, advance 2 teams from each Region to the State Tournament, loser out first game, then the final 8 teams play to completion.
8. The volleyball season is too long - shorten 1 week.

District 13-----Dennis Schaff, Scranton HS

1. Increase the number of volleyball tournaments in which an individual may participate. The maximum team tournaments would remain at four.
2. Increase the number of matches by one and have a tournament/match combination of 13 matches and four tournaments, 15 matches and three tournaments or 17 matches and two tournaments. The individual game limitation would increase by six.
3. Hazen is recommended to be the Region 7 Tournament site for 2008 and Bowman is recommended for the Region 7 site for 2009.

District 14-----Jerry Obenauer, Hazen HS

1. Unlimited Substitutions – Why keep good kids off the floor.
Response to #1 – It was clarified the substitution limitation was a National Federation rule. To deviate from the rule would have to be a state adoption. The National Federation is attempting to move away from state adoptions of the national rules. There is a possibility of applying for an experimental adoption. Unlimited substitution was proposed to the NF last year but was voted down by the national committee. One of the reasons was teams abusing the rule in an attempt to slow the momentum of the game.
2. Keep comparable dates and weeks for current seasons.
3. Explore a 3 Class volleyball system
Response to #3 – Valley City High School has submitted a request to have the Board study this issue.
4. Hazen will host the region 7 VB tournament in 2008 and Bowman in 2009.

District 15-----Tracy Peterson, Williston Trinity Christian HS

1. Recommended State Volleyball Tournament not be held in Jamestown due to lack of lodging.

Response to #1 - There was an issue with State Class B Girls' Basketball several years ago; not as many issues this year.

2. Volleyball warm-up time should be 6 minutes shared, 6 minutes visitor, 6 minutes home, 2 minutes combined serving. Team members are being injured. Keep with 20 minutes with more of a time breakdown. Proposed 6 minutes shared, 6 minutes visitors side, 6 minutes home side, 2 minutes combined serving. The two minutes serving is for safety and common sense.

Response to #2 – District 10, Tollefson reminded the group this was voted on last year.

Vote on 6-6-6-2 warm-up – 4 yes – 11 no, vote failed

District 16-----Tracy Peterson, Williston Trinity Christian HS

1. 2008 region site recommended to be Northern Lights, New Town, ND per rotation with District 15.

2. In warm-up, a combined serving time is needed.

3. The captains meeting to be held as soon as possible after the junior varsity match or during the break between game 2 and game 3 of the junior varsity match.

4. The amount of handshakes that take place during volleyball matches (preliminary, line-ups, etc.)

Response to #4 – Five of seven administrators brought this up at the district meeting. Everyone greets each other 5 or 6 times before the matches. It was stated this is a sportsmanship issue.

The Executive Secretary informed the group there are 4 items in which the vote indicated they are to be forwarded to the NDHSAA Board for consideration:

1. Regional meetings to be handled through ITV

2. Continue Class B basketball not being in favor of a shot clock

3. Have a protected area on the website for officials information such as email addresses, physical addresses and telephone numbers.

4. Favor a 2 week break with no contact with students during June & July

There being no further business, Chairman Lyson declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheryl Solberg

Asst. to the Exec. Sec.