

Class B District Chairperson Meeting
March 14, 2008--9:00 A.M.
Fargo Radisson Hotel

The Class B District Chair meeting was held on March 14, 2008 at the Fargo Radisson Hotel. Chairman Maus called the meeting to order at 9:00 with all districts represented.

Chairman Maus welcomed the district chairs and thanked them for representing their district.

A delegation from the Metro Tournament Committee was present to welcome the group and thank them for having the Class B Boys' Basketball Tournament in Fargo.

The Executive Secretary thanked the group for attending and asked the group to consider serving as the district chairperson for both the fall and spring meetings. This is a request to promote continuity. Items discussed at the fall meeting and tabled until the winter meeting are better studied and reported if the same person carries the message.

Each member of the audience in attendance introduced themselves.

The Executive Secretary passed around sheets requesting recommendations for each region's region site recommendations for girls' and boys' basketball regions. Also requested is for each district to indicate the district chairperson to represent their district for the 2008-2009 year.

Listed below are the recommendations as submitted by each district:

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

1. Seed out state volleyball and basketball tourneys much like wrestling. Too many times the championship game could be played during first round.
2. Don't count matches in region dual tourney against total allowable amount for the wrestling season.
3. If possible, reduce all seasons by one week but leave the amount of contests the same.
4. Uniform issue (side panels) — why can't we just have a three year window to get new uniforms in place. If this is a National Federation issue, why does Minnesota not have to follow the rules (dark at home and light at away games)?

Discussion of #4: Chair Maus informed the group the sunset clause approved by the NDHSAA Board of Directors allows for all illegal uniforms to be used and must be replaced with legal uniforms by the fall of 2011. Uniform catalogs are now marking which uniforms are under compliance with the NF rules.

Discussion of #2 – Supt. Tollefson, Washburn asked if this would equate to other sports in which the post season does not count toward the season limitation? It was clarified not all regions hold a team dual tournament to determine advancement to state but rather use the regular season standings. Athletic Administrator Aanenson of Larimore stated because it is a state-qualifying tournament, it should not count, whether a region does or does not host a region.

A vote was taken on recommendation #2. The result was 8-8, recommendation failed.

Added to District 1 discussion was the overlap of seasons. What can be done? With the number of weeks between girls' and boys' basketball, could it be considered to flip the two seasons or some other remedy? Supt. Steve Nelson of Linton suggested switching the girls' and boys' seasons around. Prin. Tracy Peterson of Williston Trinity Christian stated in their two district meetings, the members at the girls' meeting were in favor and members at the

boys' meeting were opposed. Ath. Dir. Wiberg of Lakota stated their district made a motion to shorten all the seasons by one week. Asst. Ath Dir. Fletschock of Central Cass shared their district (Dist. 2) is recommending the scheduling of state volleyball before the football state championship.

A vote was taken on switching the girls' and boys' basketball seasons. The result was 4-12, recommendation failed.

District 2-----Justin Fletschock, Asst. AD, Central Cass

1. Uniform rule---grandfather the rule in over three or four years.
2. Earlier start date for volleyball. Have the state tourney the weekend before the football championships.
3. Equal out the baseball regions (right now the four eastern regions have 7 teams and the four western regions have 5 teams). It should be 8 regions with 6 in each.
4. For baseball, we should have the same format for the regional tournaments across the state.
5. What is the future with baseball concerning wood bats? Our schools are in favor of doing away with wood and returning to aluminum (citing cost and non-conformity of summer baseball programs).

Discussion of #2: Staff member Hetler indicated a two week earlier ending of State Volleyball would conflict with State Student Congress.

A vote was taken on recommendation #2. The result was 1-15, recommendation failed.

Discussion of #3: Staff member Carlsrud indicated since the last published baseball regions, several teams have dropped their programs. That leaves only one region with seven teams. Fletschock indicated as long as the Board is doing the best they can, no vote would be requested.

Discussion of #5: What are other baseball regions thinking about wood bats? Carlsrud shared the Class A coaches indicated the difference is the athletes are learning how to use the wood bats, fewer are breaking.

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

1. Reduce the number of wrestling weight classes to 12.
 - a. Lower enrollments
 - b. Inability to fill a roster

A vote was taken on recommendation #1. The result was 14-2, recommendation will be forwarded to the NDHSAA Board of Directors for review.

2. Reinstate the "Spirit Award" at State Wrestling Tournament
 - a. Only sport that does not have one
 - b. Have an AD from each Region act on the committee

A vote was taken on recommendation #2. The result was 1-15, recommendation failed.

3. Count the Region Dual Tournament as a post-season tournament so those matches do not count toward the 40 match limit.
 - a. It is a State Qualifying TournamentThis had previously failed.

4. Increase the allowable junior high wrestling matches to 30 with a combined maximum of 40.
 - a. This would allow this age group to wrestle more matches at their own level.

A vote was taken on this recommendation. The result was 4-12, recommendation failed.

5. Coaches voted not to remove a wrestling official due to rotation if he is one of the top ten vote getters.

a. This was voted on two years in a row by the coaches.

6. Why does Class B baseball have to be done with region tournament play by May 21st and Class A has until May 24th?

a. State tournament is the same time

7. Why are Class A baseball players allowed 214 innings in a season and Class B are only allowed 175?

This was clarified.

8. Allow incorrect basketball uniforms to be used through their rotation at which time new uniforms will be ordered meeting the current specs.

a. Cost to districts for replacement

b. Uniforms have stretched or become misshapen over time so they may have been correct in the beginning.

District 4-----Randy Rice, AD Minto

1. Move Class B golf to fall

Discussion of #1: The Executive Secretary shared there may be a time when golf courses would wish for high school golf to be played in the fall when there is less demand for the courses. Aanenson indicated more Saturday tournaments could be played in the fall

2. Balance baseball regions.

3. Region deadline for baseball.

District 5-----Pat Windish, AD Barnes County North

1. Refing sub junior varsity level games should be lower certification and fees to get more local officials.

Discussion of #1: There will be a presentation to the Board of Directors later in the day to address this issue. Plans are being put into place to accommodate this recommendation.

2. Discussion on the free/reduced meals for counting football numbers.

How did you come up with 60% and why?

Discussion of #2: Other states have used this formula. Studies from these states have found this is an indicator of fewer students being involved in activities. Maus shared information from the Football Committee study when they used the D.P.I. statistics as to the numbers associated with the free and reduced meals. Seventeen schools are affected by this formula. If there is a cooperative sponsorship program and only one school has this statistic, that is the only school in which the enrollment was affected.

3. Coaches box- Want the officials to be consistent with the enforcement

Discussion of #3: Wiberg asked with the rule now is there is no coaching box, what about coaches standing during the game? Carlsrud explained the rule. Nelson shared when South Dakota teams come to play in ND, they are up and extend past the coaching box. Whatever we see now would go much further in stretching the limits with a coaching box.

A vote for the coaching box was taken. The result was 1-15, recommendation failed.

4. Uniforms- what is the rationale for uniform restrictions on side panel?

Uniforms stretch over time and what may have been 4 inches once could easily be larger. Allow what we have and change when we order new uniforms.

District 6-----Steve Nelson, Supt. Linton

1. Consider switching the girls' basketball and boys' basketball seasons around so that there would be no overlap with girls' basketball and volleyball seasons.

Discussion of #1: Nelson stated we still have not solved the problem. Girls' basketball is the only sport in which we do not have a fair situation. Their district is asking the Board if they are willing to sit down and solve this issue. The Executive Secretary asked the group to seriously consider what would affect the switching of the girls' and boys' basketball seasons. Tollefson stated the discussion today of expanding number of wrestling matches but shortening the seasons, are conflicting messages. There are tough decisions, but there should be a decision because there is a problem for the 8 teams. Jacobson stated there is more than the 8 schools because there also is hardly a break for those that are finished after regions. Board member Jungling shared switching may create venue issues.

2. Consider keeping the current number of districts but sending fewer teams to the regional tournament as opposed to having larger and fewer districts and regions in Class B.

Discussion of #2: Nelson indicated their district was in favor of continuing with the current plan. Chairman Maus informed the group the Class B Re-Districting Committee is meeting and looking at the districts and their numbers as well as the post-season system. Everyone understands this has to be addressed because of the declining number of basketball and volleyball programs. The Executive Secretary asked how many districts play their tournaments in more than 3 days. Two districts indicated they still have their tournament over more than three days. It was shared District 3 is talking about eliminating their district tournament and using the regular season record for region qualifying. NDHSAA Board member Duchscherer stated the Class B Redistricting Committee has to look down the road to try to alleviate problems that are evolving because of the declining numbers. The committee has to focus on what to do as continuing with the same plan is not solving the problem.

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

1. Shorten all seasons by one week. Leave the amount of games the same.

Discussion of #1: Wiberg indicated they also talked about blocking out December but motion by their group was made to shorten all seasons.

Before a vote was taken, it was suggested this be tabled for the next meeting.

2. Have 12 weight classes instead of 14.

3. Have the junior high wrestling match limitations changed from 25 to 30.

4. State practice time and banquet.

Discussion of #4: It was stated teams should be allowed to practice at the state tournament facility as schools are still leaving early and practicing somewhere. The Executive Secretary indicated this should be the choice of the schools rather than a scheduled practice the day prior to the tournament. There is an added day of rent and other expenses that would be incurred.

A vote on practices prior to the tournament was taken on this recommendation. The result was 3-13, recommendation failed.

Continued discussion of #4: A pre-tournament banquet could be held as players are there. The Executive Secretary indicated the pre-tournament banquets were sponsored by the host city and these hosts were finding it increasingly difficult to fund this event. Because the managers found them harder to fund, they requested the NDHSAA Board of Directors to discontinue this function. It was also stated there is a fairness issue.

A vote was taken on this recommendation to reinstate the banquet for all sports. The result was 6-10, recommendation failed.

District 8-----Rich Rogers, Supt. Langdon

No recommendations

District 9-----Terry Bentz, Prin./AD Grant County

1. District 9 is against starting the boys' basketball season earlier and girls later. District 9 is open to other proposals regarding this issue.

2. District 9 doesn't think a mandated gym lock out would be able to be regulated. Schools that have good parent involvement will take over during this time.

3. Four passes be provided to each region school for the volleyball, girls' basketball and boys' basketball regional tournaments.

Discussion of #3: These would be passes for schools that do not qualify for the regional tournament. Aanenson indicated their district purchases tickets for these schools to attend the region.

A vote was taken on this recommendation. The result was 12-4, the recommendation will be forwarded to the NDHSAA Board of Directors for review.

4. District 9 asked to have their region (Region 5) on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday to allow their region to be played all in one venue, the Bismarck Civic Center. The Executive Secretary explained there are ramifications with playing on a Wednesday during Lent.

District 10-----Robert Tollefson, Supt. Washburn/Wilton

1. Baseball issues have already been covered.

2. Consider raising the lower block on freethrows.

District 11-----Robert Thom, Supt. Westhope

1. Early selection of regional BB officials.

Discussion of #1: In asking to delay their nominations, Carlsrud indicated with the number of region slots to fill, timing is a real issue.

2. Shot clock - 18 minute halves. Let's be consistent for both classes.

Discussion of #2: This has already been addressed with the discussion of the shot clock. The rationale presented to the Board was this would provide more opportunity for the kids. Since this has passed, the smaller Class A schools do not like the 18 minute halves.

3. Fairness of current free throw regulations (raise the lower block)

4. Uniform regulations (inconvenience of white home jerseys)

5. Earlier start for boys' basketball season

District 12-----Robby Voigt, AD MLS-Mohall

1. Place a freeze on officials' salaries. The increase is affecting the funding of their schools.

Discussion of #1: Carlsrud explained how the NDOA meets and reviews fees on an annual basis. Last year there was a 4% increase as there was no increase the previous year. The Executive Secretary asked the NDOA to review annually so there is a less chance of a big jump.

2. Officials' fees continue as recommended.

3. Fee schedule for 2-whistle/3-whistle crews.

Discussion of #3: Carlsrud indicated these officials are independent contractors. The Williston Association has set a fee for three-whistle.

A vote was taken on this recommendation. The result was 6-9, recommendation failed.

District 13-----Rod Meier, AD Mott-Regent

1. Regional site for Girls' Basketball at Bowman County High School
2. Recommend that a coaches' box be used if they use 3 officials.
3. Recommend to not have a shot clock in Class B.
4. District 13 does not want to have 2 halves instead of 4 quarters.

5. Recommend East/West Regional Tournament for Class B Wrestling

Discussion of #5: Carlsrud shared there are currently four wrestling regions and numbers are decreasing. This recommendation would provide more athletes in the competition.

A vote was taken on this recommendation. The result was 1-15, recommendation failed.

6. Change the following JH regulations for basketball

- 84 quarters rather than 60 plus tournament
- Drop the game limitation for one day for both JH and JV.
 - This would allow teams to play an 8 team tournament in one day.

A vote was taken on the recommendation for 84 quarters. The result was 1-15, recommendation failed.

7. Regional Officials:

- Only allow an official to work ONE Regional Tournament per year and not be able to work the same Region two years in a row OR each District to choose two officials from their District Tournament to officiate the Regional Tournament and have the other two officials be chosen at-large by the state. Use the same voting procedure for those two officials as we do today. Those officials would not be able to work that same region the next year.

8. Change the Deadline for posting pictures onto the NDHSAA website.

- Eliminate the fine for not posting the picture on time.
- Make it two weeks before post season play begins.

The Executive Secretary asked how many would rather see the statistical side of the website eliminated from the website. A vote was taken on this recommendation. The result was 9 in favor. The recommendation will be forwarded to the NDHSAA Board of Directors for consideration.

9. Design the team websites to allow for Varsity and sub-varsity (JV and C-squad) rosters.

- This will help eliminate constant faxing, emailing and mailings.

District 14-----Jerry Obenauer, AD Hazen

No recommendations

District 15-----Nick Krump, AD Mandaree

1. Redistricting (if necessary) - but NO to the shot clock
2. Coaches' Boxes would be a good idea
3. Reimbursement for State (\$2200 not enough)

4. Stats on NDHSAA website: need consistency

Discussion of #4: It was suggested those schools that want their statistics published can put them on their own website rather than the NDHSAA site.

5. No score-running: running clock after X-point lead?

-Montana is supposedly going to a running clock after a 40-point lead.

A vote on the recommendation of a mercy rule using a running clock (except for quarter break) after a 40 point spread in the second half was taken. The result was 10-6. This recommendation will be forwarded to the NDHSAA Board of Directors for consideration.

District 16-----Tracy Peterson, Prin/AD Williston Trinity Christian

1. Switch the boys' and girls' basketball starting dates to not overlap with State Volleyball for girls' basketball participants.

The Executive Secretary summarized what recommendations that will go to the Board:

1. There was a vote of 14-2 to reduce number of wrestling weight classes.
2. A vote of 12-4 indicated a recommendation to provide four region basketball tickets to each region school that does not qualify.
3. A vote of 10-6 indicated approval of the mercy rule in basketball.

The Executive Secretary invited the District Chairpersons to the NDHSAA Centennial celebration to be held between games that evening.

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

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