

MINUTES**North Dakota High School Activities Association
January 16, 2020, Valley City, ND**

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association held their meeting on January 16, 2020 in Valley City. President Privratsky called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

Members present: Rerick, Brandt, Privratsky, Carlson, Jordan, Strand, Sorlie, Schoch, Jundt

Members absent: Baesler, Baxley

Motion by Strand to approve the agenda. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. December 5, 2019
2. Financial Reports
 - a. Balance sheet
 - i. November 2019
 - b. Budget
 - i. November 2019
 - c. Savings/investments
 - i. November 2019
 - d. Coop Dissolutions
 - i. Garrison and Max in boys cross country, 7-12, 2020-21
 - ii. Garrison and Max in girls cross country, 7-12, 2020-21
 - iii. Garrison and Max in volleyball, 7-12, 2020-21
 - iv. Garrison and Max in baseball, 7-12, 2020-21
 - v. Garrison and Max in boys track and field, 7-12, 2020-21
 - vi. Garrison and Max in girls track and field, 7-12, 2020-21
 - vii. Garrison and Max in softball, 7-12, 2020-21

Scott Privratsky, Executive Board Committee chair, provided a committee report.

1. School violations
 - a. Powers Lake High School self-reported an individual exceeded the daily girls basketball daily quarter allowance. Prescribed penalty administered with letter of reprimand, coach will sit out the next game and forfeiture the contest in which the student participated.
 - b. Devils Lake self-reported use of an academically ineligible player in a varsity boys hockey contest. Prescribed penalty administered with letter of reprimand and forfeiture of the game in which the ineligible student participated.
2. Late coop dissolution request by Max and Garrison in football for grades 7-12 for 2020-21 was denied.

Motion by Carlson to approve the Executive Board report. Second by Jordan. Motion carried unanimously.

Jeremy Brandt, Finance/Personnel & Policy Committee chair, provided a committee report. Recommendation of an overall salary increase of 4% for NDHSAA staff for 2020-21, allowing Executive Director Fetsch to make adjustments as necessary. Motion by Rerick to approve a 4% salary as recommended for 2020-21. Second by Jundt. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommend approving the NDHSAA Directory bid with Valley Officeworks for an increase of 6-7% each year for the next 2 years. Motion by Strand to approve Directory bid for 2020-21 and 2021-22. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

Mitch Carlson, Constitution & By-Laws Committee chair, provided a committee report. The committee presented a second reading to update Part II, Article XIV, Section II Interpretations and Q & As after the passing of the By-Law amendment in October 2019.

Art. XIV-Sect. II. a. A season is to be interpreted as any part of an interscholastic contest, at either the varsity or sub-varsity level.

Art. XIV-Sect. II. b. Under the terms of this rule any participation while in the seventh or eighth grade is not counted. Only that participation from the ninth grade up is to be construed as counting under this rule. Thus, a seventh or eighth grader could possibly play more than four years on a high school team, but never more than four years after reaching the ninth grade.

Art. XIV-Sect. II: 1: Q. A student transfers to a NDHSAA member school from a state which sponsors boys golf during the fall sports season. The NDHSAA sponsors boys golf in the spring. May the student compete in the spring making it his second golf season during the same school year?

A. No. A student shall have only one season of eligibility per sport per year. Therefore, the new student may not compete with the school golf team but may practice if approved in advance by the school administration.

Art. XIV-Sect. II: 2: Q. A student participates in an out-bound foreign exchange program in what would have been the student's senior year of high school. The student returns the following year to complete the required coursework to graduate. Is the student eligible to compete upon their return?

A. The student has no semesters of eligibility remaining as the student's last two semesters of eligibility expired while the student attended school abroad.

Art. XIV-Sect. II 3: Q. A student dropped out of school at the end of the fall semester of the student's 10th grade year and returned to school at the beginning of the fall semester the next school year. The school considers the student a 10th grader academically. How many semesters of eligibility does the student have remaining?

A. The student has four semesters of eligibility remaining up returning in the fall (including the fall semester) provided the student has met all other NDHSAA and local school eligibility requirements.

Art. XIV-Sect. II 4: Q. A student has returned to school after withdrawing for one year (during his/her senior year) due to medical reasons. Is the student eligible to compete?

A. The student has no semesters of eligibility remaining, unless extra semesters are granted pursuant to Part II, Art. XIV, Section X.

Motion by Sorlie to approve a second reading of the Interpretations and Q & As for Part II, Article XIV, Section II of the NDHSAA Constitution & By-Laws. Second by Jordan. Motion carried unanimously.

Review Part II, Article XIV, Section III, Q & A #10

Scrimmage Rules: (Team Sports):

The following conditions must be met in conducting scrimmages:

1. One scrimmage may be held prior to the first contest and will not count against allowable contests.
2. When more than 2 teams are involved in a scrimmage no team should participate longer than what would constitute a regular contest.
3. A time clock may be used in order to approximate certain game situations where coaches may want to give instruction to their athletes.
4. No official score shall be kept.
5. Registered officials may be used.
6. Admissions and concessions are allowable at the discretion of the host school.
7. Scrimmages shall count towards an individual's preseason practice requirement.

Motion by Schoch to approve the first reading Part II, Article XIV, Section III, Q & A #10 Constitution & By-Laws. Second by Jordan. Motion carried unanimously.

Also discussed was Part II, Article XIV, Section IX: 22 Q & A concerning eligibility of transfer who are serving a penalty in the school they previously attended. No recommendation at this time.

Motion by Brandt to approve the Constitution & By-Laws committee report. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

Travis Jordan, Tournament Committee chair, provided the Board with a committee report. Recommendation to approve 2020 Fall Region Tournament Sites as follows:

GOLF - Girls A	
Regions	
East	Grand Forks
West	Minot
TENNIS - Boys	
Regions	
East	Fargo
West	Minot
VOLLEYBALL	
Regions - Class B	
Region 1	Fargo Civic Center
Region 2	Northwood
Region 3	Carrington
Region 4	Devils Lake
Region 5	Center-Stanton
Region 6	Minot Auditorium
Region 7	Hazen
Region 8	New Town
Regions - Class A	
East	Grand Forks Red River
West	Dickinson

Motion by Rerick to approve the Tournament Committee report. Second by Strand. Motion carried unanimously.

Travis Jordon provided a committee report.

1. State Music ballot processing
 - a. Beginning in 2019-20 there is a 50% ratio for star ratings at Class B State Music. Committee recommendation to process star ratings on every 10 entries. Judges will give star ratings to 50% of every 10 entries judged.
2. Music registration categories
 - a. Advisory is open to change concerning the number of music categories. There are currently 108 event categories in music with the majority in Class B instrumental music. This is an ongoing discussion with no recommendation at this time.
3. State B Music piano quote was received from Eckroth Music. The quote reflects a \$450 increase over the prior year with permission granted to Eckroth to provide 4 tables at the state contest with on-site repair to take care of emergency repairs and to have Step Up instruments available for students to try out. No solicitations as per tournament regulations.
Motion by Strand to approve the Eckroth piano quote for ND State Class B Music Contest. Second by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Speech source materials were discussed.

- a. Speech advisors desire to use open source websites such as self-written sites and blogs. These websites are copyright-protected. However, the content is not copyright-protected. Continued research by Bubach on this matter with no recommendation at this time.

Motion by Carlson to approve the Fine Arts Committee report. Second by Jundt. Motion carried unanimously.

Jeremy Brandt, representing the Awards & Canvassing Committee, provided a Board representation canvassing report.

Class A At-Large representative.

1. Josh Johnson, Superintendent, Valley City Public School - 86
2. Ned Clooten, Principal, Wahpeton High School - 51

Class B Southeast representative

1. Rick Diegel, Superintendent, Kidder County Public School - 85
2. Travis Lemar, Athletic Director, Central Cass Public School - 49

NDIAAA representative

1. Guy Fridley, Athletic Director, Dickinson Public School - 81
2. Michael Beaton, Athletic Director, Fargo South High School - 20

Motion by Sorlie to approve the canvassing report. Second by Jordan. Motion carried unanimously.

Sorlie nominated Don Hanson for the Robert D. King Distinguished Service Award. Motion by Jundt to approve Don Hanson for the Robert D. King Distinguished Service Award. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

Mitch Carlson, Media Committee chair, provided a committee report. KNOX radio requested a reduced broadcast rate for the East Region Hockey tournament based on EDC hockey played at 4 different sites and KNOX may not have the ability to broadcast all games. The standard cost from the NDHSAA media rate card is \$3000. The committee recommended a 2/3 rate reduction rate of \$2,000 for EDC hockey at this time and recommend review of the rate card for split site tournaments at upcoming meetings. Motion by Strand to approve the Media Committee report. Second by Schoch. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Rerick, Football Committee chair, provided a football committee report. The committee recommends creating football classification guidelines to include two divisions of Class A football and two divisions of Class B football.

NDHSAA Football Classification Guidelines.

1. There will be 4 divisions of football. (AAA, AA, A, 9-Man)
2. AAA and AA Divisions will consist of Class A schools and any co-op that contains 160 or more male students in grades 7-10 for two or more consecutive years.
3. A and 9-man Divisions will consist of Class B schools and co-ops which do not exceed 160 male students.
4. Enrollments for division placement will be determined by the following steps:
 - Step 1: Obtain total male enrollments for grades 7-10 as provided by the Department of Public Instruction.
 - Step 2: Multiply the enrollment created in Step 2 by the percentage of the student body that qualified for free and reduced meals during the previous school year according to Department of Public Instruction data. That number will be multiplied by 50%.
 - Step 3: The number derived in Step 3 is subtracted from the grades 7-10 enrollment created in Step 2. The remainder number will represent the football enrollment for classification purposes during the next season.
5. The dividing line between AAA and AA will be determined by finding the median of Class A football enrollments. If there is an odd number of Class A teams, the median is the football enrollment of the center school; the median team and all larger teams will be placed in the AAA Division. If there is

an even number of Class A teams, the median is the average of the football enrollments of the two center schools divided by two; all teams larger than the median number will be placed in the AAA Division.

6. The dividing line between A and 9 Man will be determined by finding the median of Class B football enrollments. If there are an odd number of Class B teams, the median is the football enrollment of the center school; the median team and all larger teams will be placed in the A Division. If there is an even number of Class B teams, the median is the average of the football enrollments of the two center schools divided by two; all teams larger than the median number will be placed in the A Division.
 - a. The maximum number of teams in the 9-man division shall be 40.
7. Any school may request to move up to any division for the following season. Such requests to opt up shall be made annually by September 15th.
8. Teams may request to opt down to the next lower division if they meet both items a. and b. below:
 - a. The team's football enrollment must be within 25% of the median between divisions.
 - b. The team may not have qualified for the playoffs more than once in the previous four seasons.
 - c. No team may opt down into Division A.
 - d. Such requests to opt down shall be made annually by Sept. 15th.
 - e. Opt down requests to the 9-Man division will be denied if the opt-down would result in more than 40 teams in the division. Opt down requests will be considered in order of football enrollment from small to large.
9. Success Factor
 - a. Teams shall earn the following point values for the final level of the playoffs they achieve as follows:
 - i. Eliminated in quarterfinal – One (1) point
 - ii. Eliminated in semifinals – Two (2) points
 - iii. State Runner-Up – Three (3) points
 - iv. State Championship – Four (4) points
 - b. Division AA and 9-man teams achieving twelve (12) points or greater due to playoff success during a four-year period shall move up to the next largest division for the next two seasons.
 - c. After participation in a larger division for two years, a team achieving a two-year total playoff success point value of two points or below shall be eligible to move down.
 - d. After participation in a larger division for two years, a team achieving a playoff success point value of three or more points shall remain in the same division for the next two seasons.
10. At the Class A level (Divisions AAA and AA), each team's regular season schedule shall include at least 7 intraconference (EDC and WDA) games unless other opponents are mutually agreed upon by representatives of both conferences.
11. Schools may request to field an independent or 6-man team by officially notifying the NDHSAA Office annually by September 15 of the previous year.
12. Any school planning to opt up, opt down, or declare an independent status shall confirm their intentions with both divisions in order to better plan future game schedules.
13. Any varsity team that chooses to play a team that declares independent status after the September 15th deadline will be ineligible for the playoffs. Any teams that declare independent status after the September 15th deadline shall be responsible for paying game fees to all contracted officials and \$1000 to any contracted opponent that loses a varsity game.
14. BY-LAW REMINDER: Football coops must be submitted by September 15th of the previous year.
15. A North Dakota school may apply for an emergency coop if the following criteria are met:
 - a. An approved coop for the following year must be in place prior to being eligible for an emergency coop
 - b. Emergency coop applications will only be considered if the requesting school has provided proof that student-athletes have no opportunity to compete at the varsity level for the upcoming football season
 - c. If the emergency coop is approved:
 - i. The host school shall be that school with the largest enrollment. The NDHSAA Realignment Committee shall determine the new co-op's division and regional alignment.

- ii. Only seniors from the applying school would be eligible for varsity competition for a \$1000 non-compliance fee per player.
 - iii. Sub-varsity players from the applying school could compete for a \$200 non-compliance fee per player.
16. Following the implementation of these guidelines for the fall of 2021, NDHSAA staff members will be responsible for researching, receiving opt up and down requests, and placing teams into their applicable divisions. The NDHSAA Realignment Committee will be responsible for creating any necessary adjustments to regional assignments within those divisions.
17. The NDHSAA Board of Directors shall have final say in the administration of these guidelines.

NDHSAA Football Plan Annual Deadlines

June 1	All requests for football coop dissolutions due
September 15	Deadline for new football cooperative agreements
September 15	Deadline for requests to field an independent or 6-man team
September 15	Deadline for requests to move up a division
September 15	Deadline for requests to opt down a division
September Board Meeting	Board addresses coop applications, opt up/down requests, success factor point totals, and finalizes division assignments and regional placements for following season

Motion by Brandt to approve the Football Committee report to include football guidelines and deadlines. Second by Carlson. Roll Call Vote: Brandt – yes; Carlson- yes; Jordan-yes; Privratsky- yes; Rerick-yes; Schoch-yes; Sorlie-yes; Strand-yes; Jundt-no. Motion Carried: 8-1

Mark Rerick, Eligibility Committee chair provided a report. The committee reviewed a request to waive transfer rule because the family attempted to enroll a foreign exchange student at the school of residence and were not allowed to enroll. Motion by Jordan to deny waiver of the transfer rule. Second by Schoch. Roll Call Vote: Brandt – yes; Carlson- no; Jordan-yes; Privratsky- yes; Rerick-yes; Schoch-yes; Sorlie-yes; Strand-yes; Jundt-yes. Motion Carried: 8-1

Athletic Review

Football: Divisions AAA and AA:		
1. Move the first practice of the season to Monday (instead of Wednesday)	Y (10-0)	Y (9-0)
Class A Girls Golf:		
1. Set season start date four (4) weeks prior to Labor Day.	Y (7-3)	Y (9-0)
2. Add a second state qualifying event during the regular season.	Y (10-0)	Y (9-0)

The Board reviewed a letter from Jason Wiberg, Devils Lake Public Schools Athletic Director, requesting girls basketball participation one day earlier than allowed in order to fill out the brackets for the Lake Region Girls Basketball Tournament in November 2020. Motion by Rerick to approve a request for the girls basketball team to be allowed to participate one day earlier than allowed for the 2020-21 season and allow NDHSAA staff to approve previously approved similar requests. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a track and field regulation proposal for regular season wheelchair track and field events. Recommend NDHSAA offer 4 events in the Wheelchair Track and Field Division for the regular season as presented. The track events will include the 100m, 200m and 400m. The field event opportunity will include the shot put. Motion by Jordan to approve the track & field proposal. Second by Schoch. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Fetsch provided proposed 2020-21 meeting dates as follows:

August 10 New Board Member Orientation – Valley City

August	11	New Administrator Orientation – Valley City
September	21	Athletic Review – Mandan
September	24	Board of Directors Meeting – Valley City
October	23	General Assembly Meeting – Bismarck
December	2	Combined Tournament Committee Meeting – Valley City
December	3	Board of Directors Meeting – Valley City
January	20	Athletic Review – Valley City
January	21	Board of Directors Meeting – Valley City
March	20	Class B District Chairpersons Meeting – Minot
March	29	Combined Tournament Committee Meeting – Fargo
March	30	Board of Directors Meeting – Valley City
April	28	Distinguished Student Interviews – Valley City
May	19	Class A Review – Valley City
May	26	Fine Arts Review – Bismarck
June	2	Athletic Review – Valley City
June	7-8	Board of Directors Meeting – Valley City

Motion by Strand to approve Board meeting dates for 2020-21 as proposed. Second by Jundt. Motion carried unanimously.

Representative Reports

- Sorlie asked the Board about former Board members being invited to the June Board meeting in Devils Lake. Decision to invite previous Board members back to 2007 for Sunday supper and other festivities. Board retirement supper will be Monday at Privratsky's residence.

Executive Director's Report

- Hardship/Extra Semester Waiver Report
- NFHS Winter Meeting Report
 - a. 50-50 raffles at other state associations
 - b. Vid Swap partnered with NFHS network and working with Pix-a-lot.
 - c. DragonFly has partnered with NFHS similar to Arbiter, rSchool Today all together.
 - d. National events were discussed.
- Spalding will be phasing out the TF-1000 basketball over the next couple years which is the basketball used for post season contests.
- NFHS Summer Meeting will be held in Denver June 28 through July 2, 2020.
- NFHS Foundation grant money was received in the amount of \$2000 for Distinguished Students who presented at the student council conference in December. The funds will be utilized to send two 2020-21 Distinguished Students to the NFHS Student Leadership Conference in Indianapolis in July.
- Privratsky received a letter requesting Native American representation on the NDHSAA Board. The NDHSAA Constitution & By-Laws delineates Board representation. Any change would be through a Constitutional amendment.
- Received a thank you letter from the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association thanking for the monetary donation made toward legal fees for independent contractors.
- Basketball participation data back to 2000 was provided to Board members for review.

Class B District Chair meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2020 in Bismarck.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for March 31, 2020 at the NDHSAA office in Valley City.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Schell
Assistant Director

Signed: _____ Approved Date: ____/____/____