

**MINUTES****North Dakota High School Activities Association****June 8, 2020, Valley City, ND**

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association began their meeting on June 8, 2020 via conference call. President Privratsky called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

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

Members absent: Strand

Others present: New Board Members for 2020-21: Rick Diegel – Kidder County Public Schools, Guy Fridley - Dickinson Public Schools, Todd Bertsch – Fargo South High School, as well as Patti Aanensen - Larimore High School.

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

Motion by Carlson to approve the consent agenda. Second by Rerick. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consent Agenda**

- 1) Approval of Minutes
  - a) May 1, 2020
  - b) May 20, 2020
- 2) Financial Reports
  - a) Balance Sheet
    - i) April 2020
    - ii) May 2020
  - b) Budget
    - i) April 2020
    - ii) May 2020
  - c) Savings/investments
    - i) April 2020
    - ii) May 2020
  - d) Fall Sports Financial Report
  - e) Fine Arts Financial Report
- 3) Coop Applications
  - a) New Salem-Almont and Glen Ullin in football, 7-12, 2021-22

**Executive Board Report**

Scott Privratsky, Committee Chair, reported on committee action.

- 1) School violations
  - a) Self-report by Langdon Area High School of an assistant coach who was coaching a non-school team during spring season. Penalty assessed was a letter of reprimand.
- 2) Review
  - a) Academic eligibility for the fall of 2020 was discussed with a recommendation for no adjustment to academic eligibility by-laws in fall of 2020 due to distance learning in spring of 2020.
  - b) The out-of-season coaching window was discussed with a recommendation to extend the out-of-season coaching deadline from July 31, 2020 to August 6, 2020 for 2020-21 due to COVID-19 limitations in June. The extension does not apply to boys soccer, whose season is scheduled to begin on August 3, 2020. Motion by Schoch to approve the Executive Board report. Second by Baesler. Motion carried unanimously.

Michael Sorlie, Officials Committee Chair, provided the Board with a report. Basketball day camps were discussed with a recommendation to extend the NDHSAA officials' day camp requirement from a camp every three years to a camp every four years for the 2020-21 year only due to the cancellation of some team camps and day camps over the summer of 2020. Official's registration date was reviewed with a tentative opening date of July 1, 2020. Opening registration date will be set at the June 24, 2020 Board Meeting. Motion by Jordan to approve the Officials Committee report. Second by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

Farmers Union Insurance representative Mark Anderson, Chief Executive Officer and Kevin Ressler, Chief Sales, Marketing & Brand Officer, appeared to thank the Board for the opportunity to work with the NDHSAA. Anderson indicated Farmers Union Insurance agents have been working hard in their own communities during this trying time. Farmers Union Insurance has been going through the same procedures and policies as other essential businesses. Anderson indicated the

Distinguished Student interviews were held virtually this year and the virtual platform pushed him to be more prepared for meetings in advance. Anderson also gave an overview of changes in agents across the state. Ressler provided an update on the changes in structure within Farmers Union Insurance. Ressler indicated Farmers Union Insurance recently became a sponsor of college sports, the Utah High School Activities Association and Razorback baseball and football in Arkansas. The goal of Farmers Union Insurance is to build new relationships and continue to foster existing relationships. Privratsky thanked Farmers Union Insurance for their support as the NDHSAA Premier Sponsor and for the offer to extend their sponsorship for the next five years. Fetsch echoed Privratsky's thoughts and thanked Farmers Union Insurance for their continued support of the Distinguished Student program.

Finance/Personnel & Policy Committee Chair, Jeremy Brandt explained to the Board the estimated year-end income and expenses along with estimated team payments. Recommend team payment amount of \$75,000, which is the amount of the Marcil Foundation money earmarked for team payments. Motion by Baxley to approve the year-end estimate and team payments. Second by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget for 2020-21 was discussed including an overall 10% decrease in budgeted revenue. There is a possible recommendation for catastrophic insurance to be paid by member schools. The budget will be approved at the next June meeting.

Recommends amending previously approved NDHSAA staff contracts for 2020-21 to the 2019-20 level. If the 2020-21 year is a more "normal" year and funding permits, the Board may choose to honor the previous contracts. Motion by Sorlie to approve an overall NDHSAA salary freeze for 2020-21. Second by Baesler. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommend extending the Farmers Union Insurance Premier Sponsorship contract for an additional five years through June of 2026. Recommend Russell Brands, which includes a Spalding basketball and Dudley softball, contract extension of 5 years beyond 2020-21, through June of 2026. Motion by Rerick to extend the Farmers Union Insurance contract an additional 5 years and extending the Russell Brands contract for an additional five years past the 2020-21 year. Second by Jordan. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Rerick provided an Esports Ad-Hoc committee report. The committee worked with the Play-VS to make the esports season dates work with NDHSAA existing sport and activities calendar. Esports indicated they would not allow NDHSAA to choose their season dates. With that parameter, the committee recommended esports remain a club sport. Motion by Carlson to not sponsor esports for the 2020-21 school year. Second by Jundt. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Rerick provided a Football committee report. Preliminary divisions for the 2021 NDHSAA football season were reviewed. Post-season play-off bracketing was discussed and will be finalized later in the fall. Teams eligible to opt down a division may do so by notifying the NDHSAA office prior to September 18, 2020. The same deadline applies to any team that wishes to opt up a division. No action items to approve at this time.

Mitch Carlson provided a Constitution & By-Laws committee report with three topics discussed.

- 1) Part II, Article XIV, Section III, Q & A #10 – Scrimmage Rules
- 2) Coaching violations, such as allowing too many wrestling matches in a regional tournament was discussed. Recommend allowing the Executive Board to handle these case by case.
- 3) Athlete violation of ejections at region and/or state wrestling tournaments were discussed. Recommend allowing the Executive Board to handle these case by case.

Recommend approval of the second reading of Part II, Article XIV, Section III, Q & A #10 – Scrimmage Rules as follows:

**Scrimmage Rules:**

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 Jundt to approve the scrimmage rules as presented. Second by Jordan. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schoch to Constitution & By-Laws committee report. Second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board acted on recommendations from Class B District Chair, Class A Review, sport advisory committees and Athletic Review.

<b>2019-20 Advisory Recommendations for NDHSAA Board Consideration</b>		
NDHSAA Board of Directors will Y: approve or N: deny (y-n)	<u>Athletic Review</u>	<u>Board</u>
	6/3/20	6/8/2020
<b>Wrestling</b>		
Class A		
1. Send three reps from each region to the state seeding meeting. Co-coaches count as two reps.	Y (8-0)	Y (10-0)
<b>Hockey</b>		
Boys and Girls		
5. Change point value for regular season overtime games - two points for the winning team and one point for the losing team.	Y (6-2)	Y (10-0)
<b>Athletic Review Recommendations</b>		
<b>Swimming &amp; Diving</b>		
1. Only unscented oils and lotions may be used in swim competitions.	Y (8-0)	Y (10-0)

Fetsch presented information on the Return to Competition committee. The purpose of the committee would be to make recommendations for NDHSAA Board approval of what returning to competition will look like in North Dakota.

**Committee Members:**

Susan Anderson - Communication Speech and Theater Association of North Dakota  
 Kirsten Baesler - North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
 Alexis Baxley - North Dakota School Boards Association  
 Chad Bjornson - North Dakota Officials Association  
 Aimee Copas - North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders  
 Matthew Fetsch – NDHSAA Executive Director  
 Scott Grochow - North Dakota High School Coaches Association  
 Mark Herold - North Dakota Music Educators Association  
 Paul Jundt – NDHSAA Board of Directors  
 Kirby Kruger - North Dakota Department of Health  
 Dr. Dawn Mattern – NDHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Chairperson  
 Maria Neset - North Dakota Governor's Office  
 Todd Olson - North Dakota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association  
 Mark Rerick – NDHSAA Board of Directors

Motion by Jordan to approve the members of the Return to Competition committee. Second by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

Fetsch requested Board guidance for the Return to Competition committee on restarting low risk or high risk sports and how hot spots should be handled. Baesler indicated more guidance will be issued to schools as part of the ND Smart Restart at the end of June. The Board directed Fetsch to bring those topics to the Return to Competition committee.

2020-21 NDHSAA Board President and Vice-President nominations were discussed. Carlson nominated Jordan as President with a second by Sorlie. Motion carried unanimously. Brandt nominated Rerick as Vice-President with a second by Schoch. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting: June 24, 2020 at 9:00 am via conference call.

Fetsch indicated tonight would have been the Board retirement supper. Fetsch will plan a Zoom meeting the evening of June 23<sup>rd</sup> for a retirement Zoom.

Fetsch updated the Board on NDHSAA office status. The NDHSAA office will have a soft reopening on June 15<sup>th</sup> with phones operational, doors remaining locked and staggered staff in-office days. A full office opening will take place in July.

Meeting was adjourned June 8, 2020 at 10:22 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Schell  
Assistant Director

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_