

**MINUTES****North Dakota High School Activities Association  
August 27, 2020, Valley City, ND**

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association began their meeting on August 27, 2020 via conference call. President Jordan called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Members present: Jordan, Schoch, Bertsch, Diegel, Johnson, Brandt, Rerick, Baxley, Baesler

Members absent: Jundt, Fridley

Others present: Paul Keeney, Superintendent and Athletic Director - Linton Public School

Motion by Rerick to approve the agenda. Second by Bertsch. Motion carried unanimously.

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

- 1) Consent Agenda
  - a) Approval of Minutes
    - i) August 14, 2020
  - b) Coop Applications
    - i) Velve and Newburg in wrestling, 7-12, 2020-21, no fee

The Executive Board reported Linton, Hazelton-Moffit-Braddock, Strasburg, Zeeland requested a change to the emergency football coop guideline to allow underclassman participants to play varsity as long as there are no seniors from other new school(s) in the emergency coop. Committee recommendation to deny request. Motion by Johnson to approve the Executive Board recommendation. Second by Brandt. Motion carried unanimously.

Baxley, Fine Arts Committee Chair, provided a report on Region and State B Plays and Region and State Student Congress events. The committee provided recommendations for a one-day state format for State B Plays and a one-day State Student Congress. Recommendation included sending a survey to schools for feedback. Motion by Rerick to approve the Fine Arts Committee report. Second by Bertsch. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a letter from Brian Nieuwsma, Flasher High School Athletic Director, requesting the Board allow virtual practices to count toward the nine-daily practice prior to competition requirement. Fetsch indicated, as stated at previous Board meetings, past practice has not allowed this. Fetsch researched what other states are doing and found most are not allowing this and are also requiring additional practice after quarantine. Board members believe keeping the sport safe is the intent of the required practices and support keeping this requirement. Motion by Johnson to deny the Flasher High School request to allow virtual practices to count toward the nine-daily practice prior to competition requirement. Second by Diegel. Motion carried unanimously.

**Executive Director Report**

Fetsch indicated he has been processing hardship applications. There have been no appeals of hardship decisions to date.

1. The NDHSAA membership weekly update will be held on August 31, 2020.
  - a. One item that will be highlighted concerns privacy laws covered under North Dakota Century Code. Fetsch will provide a recommended statement to administrators to use in referring to cancelations and postponements of school activities.
  - b. The Combined Tournament Committee will meet in September to discuss alterations which may be made so tournaments can be held.
  - c. Football qualification plans for each region have been received. Fetsch will stress there is nothing preventing teams from altering their schedules this year as changes/cancelations happen.
  - d. Fetsch fielded a handful of questions from schools concerning the 2.5 credit minimum per semester.
    - (1) Example: If distance students are signed up for four classes, that would be only two credits and those students would not be eligible due to the limit of 2.5 credits.
  - e. Foreign exchange students have started to come in and thus far, all students are from Italy.
    - (1) Reminder to administrators to register their foreign exchange students.

**Representative Reports**

Diegel wanted to know where to direct people for the difference between a non-contest or a forfeited contest. Fetsch referred Board members to the NDHSAA Return to Competition Guidelines.

Jordan wanted to check if the AA football plan for post season division teams was received by the NDHSAA office. Fetsch indicated it had been received.

Next meeting will be held Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 1:00 pm CDT via conference call. Meeting adjourned August 27, 2020 at 1:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Schell  
Assistant Director

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