

**ORANGE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
ATHLETIC DIRECTORS WORKSHOP**

**Tuesday, December 19, 2017- 9:30 A.M.**

All members present except:     Mr. Rolando Aguilar, Chester  
  Mr. Matt O'Brien, Goshen  
  Mr. Al Holtzer, Port Jervis

Guests Present:                        Mr. Dennis Burkett, MHAL Coordinator  
  Mr. James Osborne, Section IX Secretary/Treasurer  
  Mr. Greg Ransom, Section IX Executive Director

The OCIAA Athletic Directors Workshop was called to order at 9:40 a.m.

**1. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2017, OCIAA Athletic Directors Workshop made by Mr. Michael Kroemer (Minisink) and seconded by Ms. Suzanne Lenzian (Fallsburg). All in favor. Motion carried.

**2. Section IX Report – Mr. James Osborne**

**a. Officials vs Cancer Games Scheduled for January 28 & February 3, 2018**

Motion to approve made by Mr. Rob Gravelle (Florida) and seconded by Ms. Debbie Crowe (O'Neill). All in favor. Motion carried.

**b. Section IX Football Application for Exceptional Senior Game to be held on November 14, 2018**

Motion to approve made by Mr. Lou Cioffi and seconded by Mr. David Coates. All in favor. Motion carried.

**c. Section III Request**

Section III wants the NY Public HS Committee to determine which league one of their teams should be in. All present agreed Mr. Jim Wolf and Ms. Roberta Green can vote as they see fit.

**3. OCIAA President's Report - Mr. Michael Bellarosa**

Review of Executive Committee Meeting:

**a. Neutral Site Policy- any possibility of the Leagues waiving this policy due to securing Venues.**

Mr. Pete Ferguson, Boys Soccer Chairman, requested that Mr. Greg Ransom approach the leagues about changing the neutral site policy to allow a team to play a Section IX championship game at their home site, as long as the committee reserves the site in advance. Mr. Mayo commented that the request is meritless and common sense should be used when selecting sites. If they select Wallkill as a site, they shouldn't be placing the Class A finals at Wallkill. This request for revising the Neutral site policy was not entertained by the league. Not a single school had interest in changing a policy that works.

**b. Shadowing schools discussion with the Combining of Teams Committee.**

Although shadowing does not require approval from the Section at this time, it does require ample notification in order to participate. The Committee will discuss putting further guidelines in place in order to assure that the number of participating students would fall under the shadowing guidelines, that schedules would not be affected greatly, that the competitive balance not be affected greatly and expenses would not fall onto another school other than the shadowing schools.

**c. Section IX Chairperson submits written reports to be sent to the Athletic Council before the meeting.**

The Section is requesting that all Chairpeople submit written reports to the Athletic Council in advance of the meeting in an effort to streamline the meeting. This will allow the council to read the reports prior to the meeting and be prepared with any questions they may have of the Chairperson. Reports can be submitted to Mr. Greg Ransom and will be included in the minutes of the meetings.

**d. Standardized Sports Handbooks, Team Sports.**

Mr. Steve Boucher of Rhinebeck will be putting together a Committee in an effort to help standardize the Sports Handbooks for Section IX. Mr. Boucher is in need of volunteers from the OCIAA to form the Committee.

**e. Coaches' Opportunities for Professional Development**

Mr. Dan Connor had discussed his concern regarding the coaches' availability to fulfill required Professional Development hours. It can be difficult with their work and coaching schedules. Mr. Gary Vyskocil shared how timing and cost can be issues as well. Obtaining certification can already be challenging, so having more support in this would be helpful.

**4. OCIAA Athletic Coordinator's Report – Mr. Christopher Mayo**

Items of Concern:

**a. BEDS Report 2018-2019**

Mr. Mayo asked that all schools review the handout provided to ensure they are correct.

**b. 2018-2019 Sports Teams Alignments**

Mr. Mayo asked that all schools review the handout provided to ensure they are correct. Most recent changes are highlighted.

➤ **8-Man Football**

- Mr. David Franskevicz hosted the informational meeting and stated it was well-attended.
- Alignments now include teams interested in 8-Man Football, which eliminates Class D.
- There was a meeting after the meeting to further discuss 8-Man Football.

➤ **Changes to Sports Teams Alignments**

- Burke Catholic is having a Girls Varsity Swimming Team.
- Mount Academy is adding a Volleyball Team for next year.
- Newburgh will not have Boys and Girls Modified Lacrosse Teams.

**c. OCIAA Associate Members 2018-2019 (handout)**

Motion to approve the OCIAA Associate Members 2018-2019 made by Ms. Suzanne Lenzian (Fallsburg) and seconded by Mr. John Landro (Tuxedo). All in favor. Motion carried.

**d. NYSAAA Conference and Hotel Registration**

Please review the handout if you are interested in attending the conference.

**e. Scholar Athlete Breakfast – May 22, 2018**

- Reminder: Please be sure to forward this date to your Superintendents and Administrators.
- We are working with Varsity 845 as the breakfast sponsor. In turn, they are requesting submissions for male and female Athletes of the Month throughout the school year. They have expressed their concerns, however, that they are having a problem in receiving submissions. Discussion took place among Athletic Directors. Some points that were discussed were: At times there is not an athlete deserving or qualified for this honor and/or sometimes it's during the lull between seasons. A suggestion was made by Mr. Gravelle of S.S. Seward that perhaps the awards should be done seasonally as there would be an overall body of work for AD's to utilize. Mr. Mayo commented that the intent of the program is to recognizing student athletes for their hard work, while also highlighting their school districts. While it is a positive program, Mr. Mayo said he will address the shortcomings of the program as well as suggestions from Athletic Directors with the Times Herald Record.

**f. Alpine Ski Schedule Discussion**

In addressing concerns in regards to the student athletes missing a full day of school in order to attend the meets, Mr. Mayo has been in contact with Mountain Creek. It has a big hill and lights and will accommodate our teams after 4 pm. It is located in Sussex, NJ, which borders Warwick, NY. All were receptive to the idea, so Mr. Mayo will ask the Section IX Alpine Ski chair, Janet Carey, to follow up with Mountain Creek.

**g. Combining of Teams**

Mr. Tim Bult requested a motion to approve Fallsburg and Tri-Valley to merge for Alpine Skiing – Girls only. Motion was made by Ms. Lenzian and seconded by Mr. Mike Gillespie. All in favor. Motion carries.

Mr. Tim Bult requested a motion to approve Marlboro and Highland to merge for Boys and Girls Lacrosse. Motion was made by Ms. Lenzian and seconded by Mr. Mike Gillespie. All in favor. Motion carries.

**5. Old Business**

**a. Emergency Cancellations After Hours**

For emergency cancellations after hours, please call the R.O.I.A. phone to connect to the after-hours cell. If you are unsuccessful in reaching someone, you may call Mr. Mayo on his cell phone. If you are unable to reach any R.O.I.A. staff through these channels, you can retrieve the officials' contact information on SportsPak.

**b. Review of Winter Rules Interpretations Meetings**

Mr. Gravelle had asked if the meetings of the league would look into the potential of determining the need for certain sports holding an in-person interpretation

meeting. There was mixed feedback relating to this inquiry. Certain sports, such as football, wrestling, swimming, cheerleading, would still need to meet. Mr. Kroemer suggested a video share for other sports. He currently utilizes this concept in Cornwall with a digital sign-off sheet. He has offered to provide a workshop to share how it all works.

## **6. New Business**

When sports merge, Section IX has been directed to use the 5-sport classification, rather than using the classification of the specific sport being merged. Mr. Mayo and Mr. Greg Sirico will work on a proposal.

## **7. Athletic Director's Topics for Discussion**

- a. Event attendance – what contests do ADs typically attend? Are there games that we are “expected” to be at? Typically games with high attendance expected or with other logistical issues, such as the classic rivals, ie, football, boys basketball. Away games would most likely include classic rivals.
- b. Athletic Codes of Conduct – does anyone have one that works and how is it enforced? Mr. Coates (Middletown) has a new handbook this year and is happy to share it with all who are interested.
- c. Meeting with athletes, parents and coaches – do they hold meetings for each sport? Each season? Parents and students together? Does AD run meeting or is it up to the coaches?

## **8. Next Athletic Directors Workshop**

Tuesday, January 23, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. at Orange-Ulster BOCES, Carl P. Onken Conference Center, Room B/C.

Section IX Meeting- Tuesday, January 4, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. at Orange- Ulster BOCES.

## **9. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Bult and seconded by Mr. Coates. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher P. Mayo  
Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator  
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