ORANGE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
ATHLETIC DIRECTORS WORKSHOP

Tuesday, December 18, 2018 - 9:30 AM

All members present except: Mr. Michael Kroemer, Cornwall
Mr. Matthew O’Brien, Goshen

Guests Present: Mr. Dennis Burkett, MHAL Coordinator
Mr. Ryan Naccarato, Kingston Intern
Mr. Greg Ransom, Section IX Executive Director

The OCIAA Athletic Directors Workshop was called to order at 9:38 am

1. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting
   Motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2018, OCIAA Athletic Directors Workshop
   made by Ms. Suzanne Lendzian (Fallsburg) and seconded by Ms. Debbie Crowe (Highland Falls/O’Neill). All in favor. Motion carried.

2. OCIAA President’s Report – Mr. Mike Bellarosa
   Review of the Executive Meeting:

   a. Beds Reporting
      The new process for NYSPHSAA’s BEDS classification program and addressing some concerns were discussed. NYSPHSAA now uses averages from prior years. (They take the average of 9th and 10th grade enrollments from this school year, and add that to the 9th and 10th grade numbers to determine the enrollment number for next year. The numbers are released to the Sections from NYSED through NYSPHSAA in October for the following school year.) The discussion centered on the accuracy of the numbers and why we moved from the old process.

   b. Adding Schools to Section IX
      Mr. Mayo mentioned the necessity of recruiting some schools from Dutchess County, who are currently part of Section I, in order to bring in more revenue which would help all schools in Section IX. Mr. Rich Silverstein (Kingston) mentioned schools in Rockland County may also be interested.

   c. Transgender Policy
      Each district should be sure it has a policy in place regarding transgender athletes. Mr. Bellarosa will email an article regarding Transgender Board Policy.

3. OCIAA Athletic Coordinator’s Report – Mr. Christopher Mayo
   Items of Concern:

   a. 2019-2020 Sports Teams Alignments
      Motion to approve made by Mr. Tim Bult (Minisink) and seconded by Mr. Joe DiMattina (Florida/Seward). All in favor. Motion carried.

   b. OCIAA Associate Members 2019-2020
      Motion to approve made by Ms. Lendzian (Fallsburg) and seconded by Ms. Lori Hock (Monroe-Woodbury). All in favor. Motion carried.
c. NYSSAA Conference and Hotel Registration
   Please refer to handout for registration instructions. The Conference will be held from March 12-15, 2019.

d. Budgets 2019-2020
   Mr. Mayo discussed potential budget figures for 2019-2020. Definitive figures will be released upon approval of the BOCES budget. Mr. Mayo also reminded AD’s that, as a result of merging the two leagues into one regional office some years back, the OCIAA districts continue to save and the majorities are still paying less than they did in the 2011-2012 school year.

e. Scholar-Athlete Breakfast
   This event will be held at Kuhl’s Highland House on May 21, 2019. Applications will be distributed at the January or February meeting.

f. Alpine Ski Schedule
   Options for additional mountains are still being considered. Mr. Silverstein (Kingston) has suggested one that is 45 minutes from Kingston, Catamount Mountain, which is near Taconic Hills School in Hillsdale, NY.

g. Combining of Teams
   None to report.

h. Scholar-Athlete Winners – October 2018
   Posters of the Chester (Joe Battiato) and Minisink (Abigail Gibbons) winners have been provided by the Orange-Ulster BOCES Print Shop for the Athletic Directors to bring back to their respective schools. “Best of Fall” will be released by Varsity 845 shortly.

i. Times Herald Record Scholar Athlete Program
   Mr. Mayo shared the discussion had by the OCIAA Executive Committee meeting earlier in the month. A discussion initiated by Mr. Dan Connor discussing ways to enhance this program to get more schools involved. Mr. Mayo will work with the AD’s and Executive Committee to explore potential ideas or concepts to improve the participation and experience for all OCIAA schools. Schools are extremely happy with the posters produced for the winners of the monthly contest by the BOCES Print Shop. It was also discussed that the voting process is not user-friendly on the Record’s website. Athletic Directors and the Executive Committee will work together on a to improve or change this program for next year.

j. Coaching Courses
   Please refer to handout and be sure to share this schedule with your coaches.

k. Game Notifications
   Please refer to handout and be sure to share with your coaches and parents. Parents can sign up online for notifications of cancellations, date changes, time changes, and site changes. This will help with the communications for parents and players. This information needs to get out to parents. AD’s were asked to please give this information to coaches to give out to their players for their parents.

l. Other Handouts
   i. Cheerleading Sectional Tournament
   ii. Ski information

4. Old Business
a. Mr. Greg Ransom stated the Commissioner Regulations for Unified Sports may take up to two (2) years for the age limit to change from 19 years old to 21 years old.

5. New Business

   a. Mr. Bult (Minisink) discussed that the Athletic Placement Program currently allows modified practices to count if moved up, including Football, however, the rules indicate they do not currently count for Wrestling due to weight certification process. Mr. Bult will discuss with Mr. Mike Kroemer (Cornwall) about the impact of this rule and ways to make positive changes to this rule so it does not negatively impact an athlete.

   b. Ms. Hock (Monroe-Woodbury) shared her district’s positive experience of starting a Bowling team. It has reached a whole new group of students. She encouraged other districts to consider it during their budget seasons.

   c. Mr. Silverstein (Kingston) introduced Kingston’s intern, Ryan Naccarato.

6. Athletic Director Topics for Discussion: Transfer Students
   Discussion regarding people circumventing the rule of needing to have a legal separation in order for their child to be eligible to play a sport in a new school with a change of address. There is still a concern that the registrars and/or parents will not understand or be aware of the unintended consequences of the language change to the rule and its possible discriminatory side effects to lower income families who cannot afford a lawyer. Although Mr. Fred Ahart (Roscoe) assured the words have been added only to clarify the rest of its statement, Mr. Mayo expressed his concerns that someone could fall victim to the new language being proposed. Mr. Mayo expressed that changes to the language are actually futile in effect, since those wishing to cheat the rule will be able to find their way around it by now getting legally separated prior to enrolling at a school. It is currently a discussion item with NYSPHSAA and Section IX but will probably be fast-tracked for February’s NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting. AD’s discussed the potential pitfalls of transfer students and the Athletic Directors’ awareness of new students entering their districts. Many of the AD’s provide roster forms to their coaches which help identify those new students and will alert them to any potential issues.

7. Next Athletic Directors Workshop – Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at 9:30 am
   Orange-Ulster BOCES, Carl P. Onken Conference Center, Room B & C

   Next Section IX Meeting – Thursday, January 3, 2019, at 9:30 am
   Orange-Ulster BOCES, Carl P. Onken Conference Center, Room B & C

8. Adjourn
   Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Lendzian (Fallsburg) and seconded by Mr. Bult (Minisink). All in favor. Motion carried.