

Section One, Inc.
Center for Interscholastic Athletics



Athletic Council Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2023

(A) Action

(D) Discussion

(I) Information

| Voting Members | Representative |
|---|---------------------------------|
| President | James Mackin |
| Conference I Athletic Director | Lindsay Zekus |
| Conference I Athletic Director | Steve Luciana |
| Conference I Athletic Director | Steve Young |
| Conference I Principal | David Seipp |
| Conference II Athletic Director | Mike Arias |
| Conference II Athletic Director | Anthony DeRosa |
| Conference II Athletic Director | Chris Galano |
| Conference II Principal | Rudy Arietta |
| Conference III Athletic Director | Joe Ceglia |
| Conference III Athletic Director | Chris Drosopoulos |
| Conference III Athletic Director | Denise Kiernan |
| Conference III Principal | Joe Palumbo |
| At-Large Athletic Director (Class D) | Andrine Trotman |
| Championship Committee Co-Chair | Tom Baker |
| Non-Voting Members | Representative |
| 1 st Vice President, Athletic Director | Joe Sigillo |
| Superintendent Liaison to Athletic Council | Anthony DiCarlo <i>(Absent)</i> |
| Executive Director, CIA/Treasurer | Todd Santabarbara |
| Assistant Director, CIA/Assistant Treasurer | Jesse Merchant |
| Recording Secretary | <i>Vacant</i> |
| Guests | |
| NYSPHSAA Executive Director | Dr. Robert Zayas |
| NYSPHSAA Female Athletic Director Rep | Susan Reid-Dullea |

I. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting was called to order a 9:40am

II. Approval of the Agenda

(A) Consider approval of the agenda

Motion to approve the agenda: Kiernan / Arias

Carried: Aye=12 Nay=0 Abstention=0

III. Approval of the Minutes:

(A) Consider approval of the **October 13, 2022** meeting minutes

Motion to approve the October 13, 2022 minutes: Zekus / Young

Carried: Aye=12 Nay=0 Abstention=0

(A) Consider approval of the **November 15, 2022** meeting minutes

Motion to approve the November 15, 2022 minutes: Young / Zekus

Carried: Aye=13 Nay=0 Abstention=0

IV. Treasurer's Report

(A) Consider approval of the Treasurer's Report

- *Cash Balance: \$999,737.48*
- *Reserve Balance: \$79,527.97*

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report: Ceglia / Drosopoulos

Carried: Aye=13 Nay=0 Abstention=0

V. Officer's Reports: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President

- *President – No report*
- *1st Vice President – Welcome to Dr. Zayas.*
- *2nd Vice President – No report*

VI. Sponsorship Presentation: N/A

VII. Executive Session

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss a current or future investigation: Mackin / Kiernan

Carried: Aye=13 Nay=0 Abstention=0

Motion to re-enter public session: Mackin / Ceglia

Carried: Aye=13 Nay=0 Abstention=0

VIII. Section One Report

(D) Frequent game change requests and inability to cover contests

Discussion:

- *AD's should be working with their Spring coaches to make all initial changes to their schedule.*
- *Todd Santabarbara shared the increase in the number of day of game changes impacting game coverage.*
- *Members of the Council discussed the need for a cultural shift in game changes. Council members shared that other sections throughout NYSPHSAA treat game changes very differently than Section One. Other sections are currently more restrictive than Section One.*

(I) Status of Section 1 Basketball Championship venue

Discussion:

- *The Executive Committee is scheduled to consider the approval of the Westchester County Center contract on Monday January 30th, 2023*
- *A site visit of the County Center is scheduled for later this week. Todd has invited the Section One Officers to join him.*
- *A timely decision is necessary to fairly balance the relationship with the County and the member schools who are part of our approved contingency plan.*

IX. NYSPHSAA Report: Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

Dr. Robert Zayas reported the following:

- *The NYSPHSAA office appreciates The Athletic Council of Section One scheduling their meetings just before the Central/Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Director shared his perspective that it was incredibly helpful in the decision-making process ensuring that all member schools have the ability to review agenda items and weigh-in on proposals being discussed at the state level.*
- *Due to the conflict with the History Regents, the Boys Tennis Individual Championship is being moved from June 2nd to June 4th*
- *After going more than a decade without a change in membership dues the NYSPHSAA office is proposing an increase to help address their anticipated deficit for the upcoming school year. The Budget and Audit Committee has endorsed an increase from the current cost breakdown of \$810 and \$0.86 / students over 300 to \$1000 and a \$1.00 for every student over 300.*
- *NYSPHSAA Sub-Committee meetings - February 6th, 2023*
 - ***Transfer & Eligibility Committee** – Todd Santabarbara will attend as the Section One rep. The meeting will include discussion around extended eligibility.*
 - ***DEI Committee** – Kim Saxton (Blind Brook) is the Section One sub-committee rep. Our Section would like to reinforce its interest in utilizing the NYSPHSAA Handbook language related to fighting to be considered for incidence of bias.*
 - ***Combining of Teams Committee** – Austin Goldberg (Peekskill) and Jesse Merchant is the Section One sub-committee rep. Dr. Zayas shared concerns from the membership regarding how many schools are merging. There was a brief discussion about the utilization of the percentage of BEDS within the Combining of Teams formula.*
 - *Fall 2024 has a start date of August 24th, 2024 while all other Fall sports begin August 26th, 2024. This is the latest start date in quite some time.*

(A) Consider approval of the February 1st NYSPHSAA Executive Committee agenda
Susan Reid & Rob Pollok, NYSPHSAA Female & Male AD Reps

- Consider approval to change the mouthguard requirement for soccer goalies to a recommendation.

Motion to approve: Ceglia / DeRosa

Carried: Aye=14 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- Consider approval to increase the maximum number of events for Modified T&F to 4, providing that 1 of the 4 is a relay and to eliminate the distance restrictions.

Motion to approve: Drosopoulos / Kiernan

Carried: Aye=14 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- Consider approval of the waivers of the representation rule for various sections.

Motion to approve: Kiernan / Drosopoulos

Carried: Aye=14 Nay=0 Abstention=0

Discussion:

The Section One Ski Chairs have requested an additional waiver be added to the State agenda for the sport of Ski from 6 to 2. The Section One Wrestling Sport Chair shared concerns about the Section 4 request for a waiver from 6 to 0. It was decided that clarification would be sought before the vote took place.

- Consider the league placement of Tapestry Charter School and Global Concepts Charter School to Erie County Interscholastic Conference (ECIC) and Health Sciences Charter School to Buffalo Public Schools (BPS).

Motion to approve: DeRosa / Trotman

Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- Consider approval of the addition to the NYSPHSAA Combining of Teams Rule: “6. The 13 public school districts in the State that operate to serve students in grades K-8 only, may merge to form multiple “modified” teams. If the K-8 student who participates at the modified level, transfers to a different school with which the K-8 district contracts, the student would be subject to the NYSPHSAA Transfer Rule.”

Motion to approve: Zekus / Drosopoulos

Defeated: Aye=0 Nay=15 Abstention=0

- Consider approval of an amendment to the Combined Practice Guidelines for 11-Man Football.

Motion to approve: Luciana / DeRosa

Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- Consider approval of SPORTIME, Schenectady as the host of the 2024-2026 NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis Individual Championships.

Motion to approve: Galano / Sigillo

Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- Consider approval of Arlington High School as the host of the 2024-2026 NYSPHSAA Field Hockey Championships.
Motion to approve: Kiernan / Luciana
Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0
- Consider approval to follow the NFHS 1.5% weight loss plan, beginning in the 2023-2024 season.
Motion to approve: Drosopoulos / DeRosa
Defeated: Aye=0 Nay=15 Abstention=0
- Consider approval to eliminate the NYSPHSAA honor weigh-in beginning in the 2023-2024 season.
Motion to approve: Kiernan / Trotman
Defeated: Aye=0 Nay=15 Abstention=0
- Consider approval to use the NFHS weight classes plus a NYSPHSAA lower weight, beginning in the 2023-2024 season.
Motion to approve: Luciana / Young
Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0
- Consider approval of Boys Wrestling becoming a variation sport with Division cut-off numbers being 600 and above for Division 1 and 599 and below being Division 2.
Motion to approve: Lodewick / Zekus
Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0
- Consider approval of Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex as the 2024-2026 NYSPHSAA Indoor Track & Field Championships.
Motion to approve: Zekus / Young
Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0
- Consider approval of following High school sports standards for Girls Flag Football.
Motion to approve: Luciana / Ceglia
Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0
- Consider approval of following the NFHS Football playing rules along with the NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Rules.
Motion to approve: Ceglia / Luciana
Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0
- Consider approval of NYSPHSAA offering a State Championship in the sport of Girls Flag Football starting in the Spring of 2024.
Motion to approve: Drosopoulos / Young
Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0
- Consider approval of Binghamton (various sites) as the host of the 2024-2026 NYSPHSAA Baseball Championships.
Motion to approve: Zekus / Kiernan
Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0

(I/D) Sectional Concerns

Boys Lacrosse – Regional Rotation

Discussion:

Section One Boys Lacrosse Sport Chair, Joe Ceglia has continuously expressed concern over the inequities that currently exist in regional rotations specific to the sport of boys lacrosse. Most recently, he expressed concerns regarding the voting procedures of the sub-committee related to the possibility of a new regional rotation.

Dr. Zayas clarified that the NYS Boys Lacrosse Committee is a recommending body and that if the regional concern existed for the sport of Boys Lacrosse it should also be reviewed for all sports. It was established that Section One would bring this item up as a Section Concern at the upcoming NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting in February.

- (A)** Consider approval to amend a waiver of the representation rule for skiing (6 to 2)

Motion to approve: Kiernan / Drosopoulos

Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0

X. Mergers/Combining of Teams:

- (A)** Consider approval of mergers for the 2022-23 school year

Motion to approve: Zekus / Luciana

Carried: Aye=15 Nay=0 Abstention=0

XI. Outside Agency Requests: N/A

XII. Self-Reports: N/A

XIII. Friend & Neighbor Applications: N/A

XIV. Senior All-Star Applications:

- (I/D)** NYSPHSAA/Section general liability vs. Student/Accident coverage

Discussion:

Concerns were shared by members of the committee regarding the process of conducting exceptional senior games including insurance coverage of participants, equity of opportunity, etc.

- (I/D)** Framework/procedures for Senior All-Star approval

Discussion:

Discussions are ongoing about the Senior All-Star approval procedures and the committee shared concerns about contests being conducted without approval.

XV. New Member School Presentations / Applications: N/A

XVI. General Action/Discussion/Informational Items (Proposals): N/A

XVII. Sports Action/Discussion/Informational Items (Proposals)

- (A)** Consider approval of the amended 2022-23 Section qualifying SKIING proposal
Mike Ramponi & Jim Agnello, Ski Sport Chair

Motion to amend the 2022-23 Section One Ski Qualifying: Zekus / Arias

Carried: Aye=13 Nay=0 Abstention=0

XVIII. Standing Committee Proposals

Championship Committee, Tom Baker & Adam Lodewick, Co-Chair

- (A)** Consideration of the forfeit protocols and bonus points

Motion to approve the forfeit protocol and bonus points proposal: Galano / Derosa

Carried: Aye=12 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (I/D)** Feedback on the proposed spring 2023 tournament calendar and championship venues

Discussion:

The tournament calendar and championship venues will be voted on by the Executive Committee on January 30th, 2023. Joe Ceglia shared the explanation of why Girls and Boys Lacrosse had very different Last Days to Play. Todd Santabarbara shared that the Spring T&F Sport Chairs are still looking for hosts to the State Qualifiers.

XIX. Amendments to Section One Constitution: N/A

XX. Conference Reports

- Conference I, II & III – *No report*

XXI. Membership Concerns

- Sportsmanship concern: Jim Mackin expressed concerns over the conduct of an athletic official and actions of spectators of a particular school district.

XXII. Standing Committee Reports

XXIII. Old Business

- Merger / Combining of Teams Presentation
- Independent Football Declaration Criteria

XXIV. New Business

- February 2023 Athletic Council meeting – TBD, conflict with Seeding Meetings

XXV. Good of the Order

XXVI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Lodewick / Palumbo

Carried: Aye=13 Nay=0 Abstention=0

Next Meeting:
March 21st, 2023