

Section One, Inc.
Center for Interscholastic Athletics



Athletic Council Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2023

(A) Action

(D) Discussion

(I) Information

Voting Members	Representative
President	James Mackin <i>(Absent)</i>
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 <i>(Absent)</i>
Conference III Athletic Director	Joe Ceglia
Conference III Athletic Director	Chris Drosopoulos
Conference III Athletic Director	Denise Kiernan
Conference III Principal	Joe Palumbo <i>(Absent)</i>
At-Large Athletic Director (Class D)	Anthony Nicodemo
Championship Committee Co-Chair	Tom Baker <i>(Absent)</i>
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/Assist. Treasurer/Recording Secretary	Jesse Merchant
Guests	
NYSPHSAA Female Athletic Director Rep	Susan Reid-Dullea <i>(Absent)</i>
NYSPHSAA Male Athletic Director Rep	Rob Pollok <i>(Absent)</i>

I. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:48am.

II. Approval of the Agenda

(A) Consider approval of the agenda

Motion to approve the agenda: Young / Luciana

Carried: Aye=10 Nay=0 Abstention=0

III. Approval of the Minutes:

(A) Consider approval of the **January 24, 2023** meeting minutes

Motion to approve the January 24, 2023 minutes: Arias / Drosopoulos

Carried: Aye=10 Nay=0 Abstention=0

IV. Treasurer's Report

(A) Consider approval of the Treasurer's Report

- *Cash Balance: \$799,388.32*
- *Reserve Balance: \$79,527.97*

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report: Young / Kiernan

Carried: Aye=10 Nay=0 Abstention=0

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara shared that both he and Jesse Merchant (Assistant Treasurer) were still working through claim forms for the Winter 2023 championships along with other fees such as sport chair stipends, facility fees, etc. Steve Young asked about the officials that are assigned for day-to-day contests. Clarification was provided that those expenses do not involve the Section One treasury and therefore would not appear in this report.

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

- *President – Absent*
- *1st Vice President – no report*
- *2nd Vice President – Absent*

VI. Sponsorship Presentation: N/A

VII. Section One Report

(I) Amendments to the Section One Boys & Girls Golf Championships – *approved 3.20.23*

Discussion:

The adjusted and previously approved tournament dates were shared for both Boys and Girls Golf. An outline of changes is included within the meeting packet.

(D) Input on calendar development for the 2023-24 school year

Discussion:

Council members discussed meeting dates and its potential impacts on merger approval. The Council discussed the value of bringing the individual committee's which report to the Athletic Council in to discuss their ongoing projects, areas of focus, etc.

VIII. NYSPHSAA Report:

No report. The May NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting agenda has not yet been released.

IX. Mergers/Combining of Teams:

(I) Consider approval of mergers for the 2022-23 school year – *approved 3.20.23*

Discussion:

The Executive Committee approved all Merger / Combining of Teams applications on March 20th, 2023. The only merger that did not have complete review of the conferences was the Irvington Flag Football merger.

X. Outside Agency Requests: N/A

XI. Self-Reports:

- Riverside Boys Basketball – use of an ineligible player
Rob Webb, Yonkers Public Schools & James Hoffman, Riverside Athletic Director

Riverside used an ineligible player on their Varsity Boys Basketball team. The Athletic Director reported that one of their student-athletes went through the transfer process and recorded an inaccurate date for his entry into 9th grade. Upon identifying the error in the transfer paperwork, the athletic administrators removed him from the program and spoke with the parents/guardians of the athlete. As a result of the player participating in contests, the prescribed NYSPHSAA penalty was applied resulting in a forfeiture of the applicable games. The Athletic Council determined that no further sanction was necessary.

XII. Friend & Neighbor Applications: N/A

XIII. Senior All-Star Applications:

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

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara shared that the potential host school for the Boys Lacrosse Senior All-Star game, and its athletic director, will not sign the application until appropriate insurance coverage is provided.

Loomis & LaPann provided clarification: if approved by the Section, the NYSPHSAA / Section general liability coverage would apply to senior all-star contests. However, student accident coverage is not provided. Therefore, the Athletic Council would need to:

- a. require the host or Coaches Association to purchase one-time student accidental coverage as a pre-requisite for approval, or*
- b. develop a way to verify that each participating student would be covered under their own districts' student accident coverage.*

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

Discussion:

Discussion occurred around the need to require coaches' associations to purchase student accident insurance as a pre-requisite to Athletic Council approval of senior all-star games.

(D) Consideration of the BOYS LACROSSE Senior All-Star game (June 3rd at Irvington HS)

Discussion:

The Athletic Council established the next steps and list of options for the Boys Lacrosse all-star event request:

- a. *Coaches Association must find a host district willing to sign off, or*
- b. *Inquire if the Coaches Association is willing/interested in purchasing the recommended insurance coverage for the event, or*
- c. *The Association can choose to run the event as a non-section affiliated event while having the athletes participate unattached from their home school.*

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

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

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

(D) Consideration of the football film exchange requirement with week 1 opponents

Mike Cring, Arlington HS

Discussion:

Concerns arose around the ethics of password protecting streaming services so that individuals outside of the district cannot access. Conferences will vote on the proposal next month.

XVII. Standing Committee Proposals

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

(A) Consider approval of eliminating the two additional bonus points for playing a minimum number of games

Motion to approve the elimination of additional bonus points: Ceglia / Luciana
Carried: Aye=11 Nay=0 Abstention=0

(A) Consider approval of eliminating the split brackets if 24 or more teams qualify for the post-season

Motion to approve the elimination of split brackets: Zekus / Luciana
Carried: Aye=11 Nay=0 Abstention=0

(A) Consider approval to accept multi-year bids, and dates if possible, for championship venues

Motion to approve multi-year bids: Nicodemo / Drosopoulos
Carried: Aye=11 Nay=0 Abstention=0

XVIII. Amendments to Section One Constitution: N/A

XIX. Conference Reports

- *Conference I – Will be meeting on Friday to finish up Winter scheduling. In the past when the conference has scheduled a separate scheduling meeting, attendance has been excellent, and all feedback was very positive.*
- *Conference II – no report*
- *Conference III – no report*

XX. Membership Concerns

Steve Young, New Rochelle – At the NYSAAA Conference Robert Zayas shared thoughts on the increase of programming including emerging sports such as Flag Football, Unified Cross Country & Bowling. Steve shared his feeling that the Executive Directors should push back on the state to slow the addition of new sports.

Steve Luciana, Mahopac – Asked about programs being lost due to the addition of Flag Football. While he has not experienced this in Mahopac there have been a series of JV programs dropping this Spring.

Todd Santabarbara, Section One – It is established that Athletic Council reps should go back to the conferences and see how big of a concern this is for the conferences. The NYSPHSAA representatives will be in attendance at our next Athletic Council meeting. At that time, any conference/section concerns can be brought directly to them.

Joe Ceglia, Rye Neck – At what point does the Section stop sponsoring a sport when:

- *Participation is limited*
- *Sport is costly*
- *Challenging attendance vs club or travel organizations*
- *Access to facilities is limited*

XXI. Standing Committee Reports

Sportsmanship Committee

Steve Young, New Rochelle – Stripes Recognition and Team Sportsmanship nominations are due on Friday March 24, 2023.

Awards Committee

Jesse Merchant, Section One – The Awards committee has been examining the All-Section awards format for close to a year and has come close to proposing a new formula for team sports. This proposal is anticipated for the 2023-24 school year.

XXII. Old Business

- **Merger / Combining of Teams Presentation**
Jesse Merchant, Section One

Discussion:

The themes surrounding merger discussions have included:

- *Demerging procedures and due dates*
- *Size of mergers*
- *# of students in a merged program*
- *Strength of merged programs*

The Merger Committee plans to present a proposal for demerging procedures as part of its anticipated presentation to the Athletic Council. Originally deadlines were removed from the application because they had not traditionally been followed but applications continue to be submitted beyond the procedural deadlines.

XXIII. New Business

XXIV. Good of the Order

XXV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Arias / Young

Carried: *Aye=10 Nay=0 Abstention=0*

Next Meeting:

April 25, 2023 at 9:30am at SWBOCES