



Executive Committee Minutes

September 18, 2023
Re-Organization Meeting

(A) Action

(D) Discussion

(I) Information

Voting Members	Representative
President, Principal	<i>(vacant)</i>
1 st Vice President, Athletic Director	Joe Sigillo
2 nd Vice President, Superintendent	Dr. Marc Baiocco
Dutchess Superintendent	Dr. Dwight Bonk <i>(absent)</i>
Putnam/Northern Westchester Superintendent	Dr. Jeremy Luft
Rockland Superintendent	Dr. Kris Felicello
Southern Westchester Superintendent	<i>(vacant)</i>
Southern Westchester Superintendent	Richard Calkins
Southern Westchester BOCES Superintendent	Dr. Harold Coles
At-Large Athletic Director	Michael Cring
Conference I	Ray Pappalardi
Conference II	Dan Belfi
Conference III	Denise Kiernan
Non-Voting Members	Representative
Executive Director, CIA/Treasurer	Todd Santabarbara
Assistant Director, CIA/Assistant Treasurer/Recording Secretary	Jesse Merchant
NYSPHSAA Superintendent Rep	<i>(vacant)</i>
Guests	Representative
None	

I. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting was called to order at 10:09 am

II. Approval of the Agenda

(A) Consider approval of the agenda

Motion to approve: Kiernan / Sigillo

Carried: Aye=8 Nay=0 Abstention=0

III. Approval of the Minutes

- (A) Consider approval of the **May 22, 2023** Executive Committee meeting minutes

Motion to approve the May 22, 2023 Executive Committee minutes: Luft / Calkins

Carried: Aye=8 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the **August 16, 2023** Executive Committee meeting minutes

Motion to approve the August 16, 2023 Executive Committee minutes: Sigillo / Coles

Carried: Aye=8 Nay=0 Abstention=0

IV. Treasurer's Report

- (A) Consider approval of the Financial Report

- Cash balance: \$1,089,686.14
- Reserve fund balance: \$79,542.63

Motion to approve the financial report: Pappalardi / Belfi

Carried: Aye=8 Nay=0 Abstention=0

V. Officer's Reports

- President – *absent*
- 1st Vice President – *Joe Sigillo wishes all members of the Committee good luck with the start of school.*
- 2nd Vice President – *absent*

- (A) Consider approval to amended the 2023-24 and 2024-25 rotation of Section One officers:

- President, Joe Sigillo (Athletic Director)
- 1st Vice President, Dr. Marc Baiocco (Superintendent)
- 2nd Vice President, *Vacant* (Principal)

Discussion:

Jim Mackin had been the President of Section One, Inc. in his second year of a two-year appointment. He is no longer in the role of High School Principal, creating a vacancy in the principal role within the Executive Committee. Todd Santabarbara proposed the acceleration of the succession plan by one year.

Motion to approve the amended rotation: Calkins / Luft

Carried: Aye=9 Nay=0 Abstention=0

VI. Section One Update

- (I) Important Events (Past / Future):

- New AD's and Administrative Assistant Workshop

Discussion:

The Center for Interscholastic Athletics hosted 18 participants for this year's New AD's and Administrative Assistants Workshop. The CIA staff, along with a number of veteran AD's and Administrative Assistants provided resources, best practices and other tools to help the transition of the Sections newest members.

- NYSPHSAA Mandatory Athletic Eligibility Workshop

Discussion:

Dr. Robert Zayas (NYSPHSAA Executive Director) and Todd Nelson (NYSPHSAA Assistant Director) conducted the annual mandatory Athletic Eligibility Workshop. This workshop was mandatory for all member schools and included information on the transfer rule, student eligibility, NYSED regulations as well as a wide range of other NYSPHSAA bylaws and eligibility standards.

- School Based Implementation Team Kickoff – September 20th at MetLife Stadium

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara provided an overview of the School Based Implementation Team Kickoff being held at MetLife Stadium on September 20th. Member schools were provided the opportunity to attend and bring their implementation team, consisting of a male and female coach of influence as well as an additional administrator. This team is meant to be the early adopters and supporters of the InsideOut Initiative within each district.

- NYSED Mixed Competition Forums – October 19th via Zoom (6:00-7:30pm)

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara, CIA / Section One Executive Director, reviewed the current state of the NYSED Mixed Competition regulation. Due to the removal of the longstanding mixed competition guidance document, the NYS Education Department plans to hold forums throughout the state. NYSED is looking to gather feedback from various stakeholder groups. SW BOCES will be hosting one of the six forums.

(I/D) Official's Negotiations – Update

Discussion:

Ray Pappalardi (lead negotiator) provided the members of the Executive Committee with an update on the contract negotiations between Section One and the officials associations. Recently the proposed agreement had been defeated by the certified officials' associations, but the Section One Negotiating Team remains optimistic that their offer represents a fair and equitable financial increase that demonstrates the value that is placed on our sports officials. Todd Santabarbara shared that a stop work order is in direct conflict with the officials' state contract.

(I) Overview of 2023-24 SWBOCES, Center for Interscholastic Athletics Goals

- Organizational Growth Plan: Staffing
- Enhance Communication with Principals & Superintendents

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara shared this year's goals for the Center for Interscholastic Athletics. Goal #1 is an extension of work that began last year examining current staffing and services. It was shared that the staffing within the Center has undergone minimal change over the last 25 years. Discussions regarding the evolution of the Center and need for additional staffing has been widely supported by the Executive Committee. Establishing additional positions and expanding upon the service offerings will be a focal point this year. Goal #2 is specific to improving and enhancing our communication with various stakeholders, specifically Superintendents and Principals. Progress toward this goal has already begun through the participation in regional JMT meetings. Executive Committee members shared suggestions on ways to achieve this goal such as:

- *Possible participation in Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents meeting*
- *Participation in at least one regional chief school administrator meeting*
- *Identifying ways to work more closely with Principals throughout the geographic region*

(I) SAT, ACT, Special Events Memo

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara reminded the members of the Executive Committee of the longstanding practice at both the state and section level regarding not amending championship schedules. A copy of the annual memo shared by the Executive Director was reviewed.

(I) Section 1 / Section IX Student-Athlete Leadership Summit (Mid-Hudson Council)

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara shared the intent of the Mid-Hudson Council to host a student leadership summit at some time in the Spring. Participation in this event has been extended to Section I. Our Section plans to partner with them as part of the effort to plan and prepare for the event.

VII. NYSPHSAA Update

(I) Action items from the July 2023 Central Committee meeting

- Reminder: Sportsmanship / DEI Regulations

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara reviewed the newly approved (July 2024) Sportsmanship / DEI regulations including:

- (1) The addition of NYSPHSAA Handbook language addressing the sections' ability to censor, sanction or place schools on probation for failing to address derogatory or inappropriate behavior.*
- (2) Establishing a series of non-sequential actions to be taken by school personnel in the event of derogatory or inappropriate behavior occurs. Furthermore, it establishes that if a spectator is ejected from a contest that they must either sit out of the following contest or complete a free online course at NFHSLearn.com centered around sportsmanship.*

- Inequity in NYSPHSAA Regional Rotations – Next Steps

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara shared the approach Section One and its representatives took to illustrate the inequities within the NYSPHSAA Regional Rotations. The section feels that the current system is both unfair and in direct conflict with NYSPHSAA's own stated Championship Philosophy.

Representatives of Section One were successful in reducing the duration of the approved regional rotation from a multiyear proposal down to the approval of only the current year. NYSPHSAA is planning to establish an Ad-Hoc committee to explore the issue. Committee members shared their frustration with the process at the state level and concern that our concern is entering its second year without significant change. Committee members felt that further examination of the specific financial expenses and loss of instructional time should be conducted.

(I) NYSPHSAA Central/Executive Committee Reps

- Female AD Rep – Susan Reid, Rye
- Male AD Rep – Rob Pollok, Alexander Hamilton
- Principal Rep – Vacant
- Chief School Officer Rep – Vacant

VIII. Self-Reports

- Carmel Varsity Football – Violation of NYSPHSAA Football Rules
Chris Salumn, Carmel Athletic Director
- North Salem – Use of ineligible player
Denise Kiernan, North Salem Athletic Director

IX. Appeals: N/A

X. Membership Concerns

- Blind Brook, Hastings, Greenburgh Academy, Clark Academy Football Merger
Kim Saxton, Blind Brook Athletic Director

Discussion:

The Executive Committee reviewed the formal request made by Blind Brook to review and act upon the Varsity merger application of Hastings, Clark, Greenburgh Academy and Blind Brook in the sport of Football. Members of the committee explored the supporting documentation shared by Blind Brook and Hastings High School.

Todd Santabarbara shared that the original application was under the understanding that the team would be remaining within Class B football and that it was not until more recently that it was realized that the nature of their merger application would in fact move their merger to the Class A playoffs. It was shared that if approved, the newly formed Class A merger would have to conduct their seasons schedule in a pure Class B schedule.

The representatives from Conference I, Mike Cring & Ray Pappalardi, shared the concerns about how the merger approval would impact both Class A & B. Cited were the impacts on the qualifying and seeding of the Class A postseason as well as the competitive balance of an in-season merger for Class B. Dan Belfi, Conference II rep, echoed the concerns of Conference I and specifically noted the timing of the request. The Conference III representative, Denise Kiernan, shared concerns on behalf of her conference regarding the potential impacts of the athleticism of a few athletes within a small school merger. She also reinforced that Section I no longer holds a merger application deadline and that the student-athletes had been practicing with a coach since the beginning of the season.

Motion to approve the proposed merger application: Calkins / Luft

Defeated: Aye=5 Nay=5 Abstention=0

- Class C Boys Soccer Section Championships – Start Time
Scott D'Ottavio, The Leffell School, Athletic Director

Discussion:

The Executive Committee reviewed the request to amend the Boys Soccer Sectional Championships due to a potential conflict. The proposed solution endorsed by the Championship Committee is to adopt the following schedule:

<i>Friday October 27th –</i>	<i>no games</i>
<i>Saturday October 28th –</i>	<i>Class AAA, AA, A & B Boys Soccer Championships</i>
<i>Sunday October 29th –</i>	<i>Class C Boys Soccer Championships @ 9am</i>
	<i>Clear the Stadium</i>
	<i>Class A, B & C Field Hockey Championships @ 12, 2 & 4</i>

XI. General Action/Discussion/Information Items (Proposals)

(I) 2023-24 Executive Committee Meeting Calendar (adopted May 22, 2023)

- September 18, 2023 – *Reorganization Meeting*
- October 23, 2023
- November 20, 2023 – *Preliminary Budget Review*
- January 29, 2024
- April 8, 2024 – *Section One Budget Adoption*
- May 20, 2024

- (A)** Consider approval of a NYSPHSAA State Championship advertisement for the 2023-24 programs

Motion to approve the purchase of an advertisement in all 2023-24 Championship programs: Cring / Luft

Carried: Aye=10 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of a budget transfer of \$33,262.00 to the Reserve Fund and authorization for the Treasurer to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the budget transfer of \$33,262.00 to the reserve fund: Belfi / Cring

Carried: Aye=9 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (B) Consider approval of a budget transfer of \$250,000 to SW BOCES Interscholastic Athletics Office budget and authorization for the Treasurer to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the budget transfer of \$250,000 to the SWBOCES Center for Interscholastic Athletics office budget: Felicello / Cring

Carried: Aye=9 Nay=0 Abstention=0

Appointments:

- (A) Consider approval of the following Section One officer reappointments:

- Consider approval of the appointment of Todd Santabarbara to the stipend position of **Treasurer**
- Consider approval of the appointment of Jesse Merchant to the stipend position of **Assistant Treasurer**
- Consider approval of the appointment of Jesse Merchant to the position of **Recording Secretary**

Motion to approve the stipend reappointment of Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer: Pappalardi / Sigillo

Carried: Aye=9 Nay=0 Abstention=0

Motion to approve the reappointment of Recording Secretary: Pappalardi / Sigillo

Carried: Aye=9 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the appointment of Jesse Merchant to the position of **Records Access Officer**

Motion to approve the appointment of Records Access Officer: Pappalardi / Sigillo

Carried: Aye=9 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the Conference I, II and II officers for the 2023-24 school year

Motion to approve the appointment of Conference Officers: Cring / Luft

Carried: Aye=9 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of Jeremy Luft as the **NYSPHSAA Superintendent / CSO rep**

Motion to approve Jeremy Luft as NYSPHSAA Superintendent / CSO rep: Calkins / Sigillo

Carried: Aye=9 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the resignation of John Westbrook as **Girls Soccer Co-Sport Chair**

Motion to approve the resignation of John Westbrook as Girls Soccer Co-Sport Chair: Sigillo / Pappalardi

Carried: Aye=9 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (I/D) Consider the solicitation and appointment of a **Southern Westchester Superintendent rep** (2023-2026)

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara shared the need to fill the vacancy for Southern Westchester Superintendent Rep due to Chris Borsari's retirement. Committee members offered to begin to solicit qualified candidates to volunteer.

(I/D) Consider the solicitation and appointment of a **Section Principal** rep and **NYSPHSAA Principal** rep

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara shared the need to fill the vacancy for both the Section One Principal Rep and the NYSPHSAA Principal Rep.

Contracts / Engagement Letters:

(D) Consideration of the three-year contract extension with **Westchester County** for utilization of the Westchester County Center for the sport of basketball, effective winter 2024, and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One.

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara shared the proposed three-year extension with Westchester County for the utilization of the Westchester County Center. Members of the Executive Committee shared their concerns with the proposed figures. Year 1 - 100% increase in costs; Year 2 - 25% increase in costs; and Year 3 - 20% increase in total costs. The Committee would like Todd and the Officers to revisit the contract with County Officials. Concern was expressed about the sustainability of such increases over a short period of time.

(D) Consideration of the proposed agreement with **LocalLive Networks, Inc.** to provide streaming and broadcast coverage of all Section One championship events for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One.

(A) Consider approval of the **Armory Foundation** contract for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the Armory Foundation agreement for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

(A) Consider approval of the **Bowdoin Park** contract for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the Bowdoin Park agreement for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

(A) Consider approval of the **Purchase College** contract for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the Purchase College agreement for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

(A) Consider approval of the **Clarkstown Central School District** facility usage contract for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the Clarkstown Central School District agreement for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

(A) Consider approval of the engagement letter with **CBIZ Marks Paneth LLP** to provide general accounting and tax preparation services for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the CBIZ Marks Paneth LLP agreement for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the engagement letter with **Keane & Beane** to provide general legal services for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the Keane & Beane agreement for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the engagement letter with **Thomas, Drohan, Waxman, Petigrow & Maye, LLP** to provide conflict counsel for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the Thomas, Drohan, Waxman, Petigrow & Maye, LLP agreement for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of engagement letter with **David Evangelista, CPA** to provide consultation services for the sport of football for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the David Evangelista, CPA agreement for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the **Fulton Accurate Timing** agreement for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the Fulton Accurate Timing agreement for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the **AIA** championship merchandise agreement for the 2023-24 school year and authorization for the Executive Director to execute on behalf of Section One

Motion to approve the agreements for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Calkins

Carried: Aye=6 Nay=0 Abstention=0

Policy: N/A

XII. Standing Committee Action/Discussion Items (Proposals):

Alignment Committee:

- (A) Consider approval of a ballot vote for the proposed revisions to the Basic Concepts of Athletic Alignment

Motion to approve the agreements for the 2023-24 school year: Luft / Kiernan

Carried: Aye=7 Nay=0 Abstention=0

Championship Committee:

- (A) Consider approval of **Westchester Tennis** (Div. I) and **New Rochelle Racquet Club** (Div. II) for Girls Tennis NYSPHSAA Regionals

Motion to approve Westchester Tennis (Div. I) and New Rochelle Racquet Club (Div. II) for Girls Tennis NYSPHSAA Regionals: Sigillo / Kiernan

Carried: Aye=7 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the revised Fall 2023 **Boys Soccer** tournament schedule/times

Motion to approve the amended championship calendar: Luft / Felicello

Carried: Aye=7 Nay=1 Abstention=2

- (A) Consider approval of the **Winter 2023-24** tournament calendar

Motion to approve the Winter 2023-24 tournament calendar: Belfi / Calkins

Carried: Aye=7 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (D) Consideration of the proposed **Winter 2023-24** championship venues

Discussion:

Various championship venues still have outstanding contracts such as Boys & Girls Basketball as well as RFP's for the sports of Boys & Girls Ice Hockey. The Section will continue to pursue information regarding the ability to host Wrestling together at one venue for both D1 & D2.

Finance Committee:

- (A) Consider approval of the Standard Rates of Pay for 2023-24 Section 1 Championship and Regional events

Motion to approve the Standard Rates of Pay for the 2023-24 school year: Belfi / Sigillo

Carried: Aye=7 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval of the **Conference Officer** stipends for the 2023-24 school year

- *President, Secretary & Treasurer - \$1,000; Vice-President - \$500*

Motion to approve the Conference Officer stipends for the 2023-24 school year: Cring / Belfi

Carried: Aye=7 Nay=0 Abstention=0

- (A) Consider approval to reestablish the stipend position(s) of **Recording Secretary** and **Records Access Officer**

Motion to approve the stipend position of Recording Secretary and Records Access Officer:

Kiernan / Luft

- *Recording Secretary - \$3,000; Records Access Officer - \$1,000*

Carried: Aye=7 Nay=0 Abstention=0

XIII. Sport Action/Discussion Items (Proposals): N/A

XIV. New Membership Applications: N/A

XV. Proposed Amendments to Section One Constitution

- (I) Proposed revision(s) to the Section One, Inc. Constitution

- Athletic Council representation (six-classification language)

Discussion:

Todd Santabarbara shared the need for the Constitution Committee to reconvene due to the newly approved sixth classification. Currently the constitution specifically references a 5-classification structure which may now be out of alignment with the state.

- Addition of Certified Athletic Trainer to Section One Safety Committee

Discussion:

The Safety Committee has requested that the by-laws be reviewed and potentially amended to allow an additional member. Specifically, the Committee would like to include a Certified Athletic Trainer in a non-voting capacity.

XVI. Old Business

XVII. New Business

XVIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Belfi / Calkins

Carried: *Aye=7 Nay=0 Abstention=0*

Next Meeting

**October 23, 2023
10:00am at SWBOCES**