



## PIAA DISTRICT ONE-COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**April 15, 2021 – 10:00AM via Zoom**

Dr. Michael Barber, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00AM.

**Present at the meeting:** Michael Barber, Steve Brandt, Rodney Stone, Sean Kelly, Danielle Turner, Holly Farnese, Mike Lalli, Reggie Parks, Janet Columbro, Terri Fasano, Seth Bruner, Sue Cornelius, Jason Sherlock, Mike Price, Rap Curry, Robert Kurzweg, William Ziegler, Eric Greiner, Todd Vaccaro, Sylvia Kalazs, John Reading, John Creighton, Joe Derickson, Jennifer Wilson, Becky Flynn Hensel, Dave Baun, Matt Heiland, Tom Brady, Maureen Gregory

**Absent from the meeting:** John Allen, Lou Sudholz, Dee Cross, Denis Gray,

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Upon motion by Steve Brandt/Sue Cornelius, the committee approved the minutes of District One Committee meeting from February 10, 2021. **Unanimous (26 Votes)**

Upon motion by Steve Brandt/Sue Cornelius, the committee approved the minutes of District One Committee meeting from February 12, 2021. **Unanimous (26 Votes)**

### **Treasurer Report**

Upon motion by Sue Cornelius/Rap Curry, the committee approved the Treasurer's Report for February 2021. **Unanimous (26 Votes)**

**Operating Balance: \$544,559.06**

**Net Change: \$33,800.78**

Upon motion by Tom Brady/Joe Derickson, the committee approved the Treasurer's Report for March 2021. **Unanimous (26 Votes)**

**Operating Balance: \$ 489,798.74**

**Net Change: \$54,760.32**

*Copy of the complete Treasurer's Report is available from the office of Danielle Turner, PIAA District 1 Treasurer.*

## **Student Transfer List**

Upon motion by Mike Price/Janet Columbro, the committee approved all Transfer Student Requests on the list provided to D1 Committee members. **Unanimous (26 Votes)**

## **Foreign Exchange List**

There were no Foreign Exchange requests this month.

**Public Comment** - No public comment was made.

## **Executive Secretary Report** – Mr. Stone / Mr. Kelly

- Mr. Kelly presented the Winter DQ Report from PIAA.
- Mr. Kelly presented the Winter 2021 Playoff Financial Report Summary along with the Comparison Season Expenses / Revenues Report. Financial reports are available upon request.
- Mr. Stone and Mr. Kelly were requested to present a proposal to the PIAA D1 Committee to assure steering committees members and league alignments display proportional representation to the PIAA D1 Committee.

## **PIAA BOD Report** – Dr. Barber

- Review of PIAA Annual Meeting and PIAA current issues. In addition to the information presented at the PIAA Annual Meeting, Dr. Barber informed the committee at this point, the PIAA will plan to have Spring playoff qualifiers remain the same as previously approved by the PIAA BOD.
- Neutral sites will be needed to host PIAA playoff contests. It is possible if neutral sites cannot be secured that the PIAA may need to reduce the number of state qualifiers and have only District Champions advance to the PIAA playoffs. Schools are asked to contact the D1 Office if they would be available/willing to host state playoff contests.
- PIAA is considering adjusting the dates of the PIAA basketball playoffs for 2022. The change in dates could affect the D1 5A and 6A Championships tentatively scheduled on 3/5/21. The adjusted PIAA Basketball playoff dates would move the 1<sup>st</sup> round games to Tuesday and Wednesday – 3/8-3/9. This will be discussed at the May BOD meeting.
- PIAA is also considering adjusting the minimum number of pre-season practice days from 15 to 10 (except for football). This proposal must be reviewed by the PIAA SMAC before it is considered by the PIAA BOD. No decision has been made if this would adjust the 1<sup>st</sup> PIAA play date.

## **New Business**

- Upon motion by Joe Derickson/William Ziegler, the committee approved the Membership Application of Coventry Christian School. **Unanimous (26 Votes)**
- Upon motion by Tom Brady/Dave Baun, the committee approved the report that all policies and procedures for assignment of spring sports playoff officials have been followed with no discriminatory practices. **Unanimous (24 Votes)**
- All committee members are requested to submit nominations for the D1 Chairman / Vice-Chairman positions. Committee members are asked to send nominations to Dr. Sherlock. Official vote for Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be held at the May D1 Meeting.
  - Advisory Representatives to the D1 Committee are in the 1<sup>st</sup> year of 2-year term. Nominations for those positions will occur in 2022.
- Upon motion by Sue Cornelius/Janet Columbro, the committee approved the recommendations from the Boys Tennis Steering Committee to reduce the number of 3A Singles / Doubles qualifiers from 32 to 16 D1 Qualifiers. This reduction is for the 2021 spring season. **Unanimous. (26 Vote).**
  - 2A Team (4) and 3A Team (16) Tennis along with 2A Singles (4) and 2A Double qualifiers (4) will remain unchanged.

## **Spring Sports – Playoff considerations / concerns**

- Upon motion by Joe Derickson/Jason Sherlock, the committee approved the proposal that District One Playoff and Championship sites will be held at the Higher Seed School. Host schools must meet the attendance criteria approved by the District One Committee. **Unanimous (26 Votes)**
- Upon motion by Seth Bruner/Danielle Turner, the D1 Committee approved the proposal to host a District One playoff contest, the spectator policy for the host schools must have consistent representation for home and visiting schools. If a host site is not able to comply the game may be moved. **Unanimous (26Votes).**
- PIAA and District One Track schedules have been adjusted to a one-day event. Schedule are posted on the website. The number of track qualifiers will not be reduced.
  - D1 Track Meet: 5/21 - 2A/3A Girls / 5/22 - 2A/3A Boys
- Additional items of discussion:
  - D1 and PIAA team playoff qualifiers will remain the same at this point.
  - Neutral sites will be needed for PIAA playoff contests (BVB, Base, Softball, B.G Lax). Schools that are able / willing to host PIAA contests please contact the D1 Office.
  - Regional Playoffs – Sean Kelly will attend a meeting with D2 and DXI next week to confirm regional playoff format and qualifiers.

- There has been a significant increase in the number Covid shutdowns and pauses as compared to the fall and winter season. Schools are reminded all regular season covid related cancellations are considered a no-contest. Post-season contests cancellations will result in a forfeit.
- Schools are asked to continue to update their schedules and scores on the D1 website.
- Minimum # of contests for Power Rankings remains at half the number of scheduled contests.
- Scheduling games late in the season. Schools are asked to complete their schedules well before the end of season and scheduled seed meeting.
- Schools are reminded PIAA game contracts must be filled out and signed for all non-league contests.

*n.b. Danielle Turner and Todd Vaccaro have left the meeting.*

- Dr. Barber reviewed for the committee a follow-up report in reference to the Hearing held on 3/5/21, Great Valley / Upper Dublin Sportsmanship an Unsportsmanlike Conduct.
- A report was presented on the actions taken by Bristol High School in reference to the multiple ejections between Bristol HS and Lincoln Leadership (DXI) in girls' basketball. Upon motion by Dave Baun/Sue Cornelius, the committee accepted the report and the actions taken by Bristol High School. **Yes -23 No-0 Abstain – 1 (Lalli)**

**Officials Report** - Mr. Brady / Mrs. Gregory reported there were no items needing the committee's attention or action this month.

**Middle School Report** - Matt Heiland reported there were no items needing the committee's attention or action this month.

### **Eligibility Hearings**

- The PIAA D1 Committee conducted a hearing on behalf of a student at Conestoga HS in reference to PIAA Member School Athletic Transfer Waiver Request. Upon motion by Jason Sherlock/Becky Flynn-Hensel, the committee approved the Transfer Request. **Unanimous (24 Votes)**
- 3/4/21 – The PIAA D1 Sub- Committee conducted a hearing on behalf of a student at Phoenixville HS in reference to PIAA Constitution and By-Laws Article VI, Postseason waiver request. The Sub- Committee approved the request on 3/4/21.

### **Eligibility Document Reviews**

- 3/4/21 – The PIAA D1 Sub Committee conduct a document review on behalf of a student at Penn Wood HS in reference to PIAA Constitution and By Laws Article VI, Postseason Waiver Request. The Sub-Committee approved the request on 3/4/21.

Upon motion by Matt Heiland/John Reading, the D1 committee approved the motion to adjourn at 12:30PM. **Unanimous (24 Votes)**

The next meeting of the PIAA D1 Committee will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 1:00PM.

*Respectfully submitted: HF / SJK*

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**2021 PIAA / DISTRICT 1 ANNUAL SPRING MEETING**  
**April 15, 2021**

D1 Chairman Michael Barber called the meeting to order at 9:00AM.

Dr. Barber welcomed all District One school administrators in attendance to the meeting.

Executive Secretary Rod Stone expressed sincere thanks to all the principals, athletic administrators, coaches, parents, and students who have made the past seasons successful navigating through the COVID 19 Pandemic.

Assistant Executive Secretary Sean Kelly introduced all members of the PIAA D1 Committee.

Dr. Barber repeated the desire of PIAA D1 Committee Members as well as PIAA staff to offer as many competition opportunities for as many students as possible for as long as possible.

Holly Farnese, PSADA Executive Director shared the updated information regarding the PSADA Convention to be held May 24<sup>th</sup> – May 27, 2021 at the Hershey Lodge. Conference information can be found at <https://www.psada.org/>

The PIAA staff present at the meeting were Robert Lombardi, Mark Byers, Melissa Mertz, Pat Gebhart, and Jennifer Grasso. They presented the Talking Points presented below.

## 2021 PIAA DISTRICT COMMITTEE TALKING POINTS

1. Robert Rothberg – NFHS Network – presented the updates and improvements to the NHFS network and pixel cameras. Schools interested in joining the NHFS network can visit <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com>

2. By-Law changes – Article VI, 2A and C - Post-Season Eligibility – proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.

In-Season Transfers.

*The 21-day period of ineligibility is not waivable. Also, the A3 limitation (50% rule) is not subject to a waiver unless the student demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that he or she was not part of the school's team in at least 50% of the number of Regular Season Contests scheduled by the school.*

An editorial to eliminate confusion on the waiver provision – these two items were passed in December.

1. *Because the purpose of this Section relates to the integrity and fairness of the postseason system and not to athletically motivated transfers, whether a student's transfer was in any way motivated by an athletic purpose is not a factor to be considered in granting or denying a requested waiver under this provision.*
  2. *Because virtually all decisions to transfer are made by parents, the fact that such decision was not within the control of the transferring student is not a factor to be considered in granting or denying a requested waiver.*
3. A change in the Glossary, regarding CONTEST: An event in which individual students or Teams of students represent their schools in an athletic competition, ~~against individual students or Teams representing one or more other schools~~, which does not meet the definition of an Inter-School Practice or a Scrimmage.
  4. Interruption of Practice for School Closures including Strikes.
    - a. If a member school Team's Practice schedule has been interrupted and the Team is unable to practice for more than seven (7) consecutive days after the minimum length of Preseason Practice has been completed, that Team must have had two (2) days of Practice prior to resuming its interscholastic athletic schedule.
    - b. If a member school Team's Practice schedule has been interrupted and the Team is unable to practice for more than ten (10) consecutive days after the minimum length of Preseason Practice has been completed, that Team must have had three (3) days of Practice prior to resuming its interscholastic athletic schedule.
    - c. If a member school Team's Practice schedule has been interrupted and the Team is unable to practice for more than fourteen (14) consecutive days after the minimum length of Preseason Practice has been completed, that Team must have had four (4) days of Practice prior to resuming its interscholastic athletic schedule.

5. Supplemental Disqualification. Two Game Suspension - Any Coach, team personnel and/or contestant who, is ejected from a Contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official and a component of the ejection is **confronting, contacting or addressing a Coach, contestant or official using foul or vulgar language, ethnic or racially insensitive comments or physical contact** will be disqualified from competition for the remainder of the day and for the next two (2) Contests including all Contests on the next two (2) Contest days of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition from which the Coach and/or contestant was previously disqualified. For the purposes of this provision, the jurisdiction of the official(s) to apply and enforce this rule begins upon the official's arrival at the Contest site and ends when the official (or the last of the team of officials) leaves the Contest site.
  - A Coach and/or Team personnel disqualified under this provision may not return to competition representing the Coach's/Team personnel's school until the Coach/Team personnel complete the NFHS Sportsmanship program and Teaching and Modeling Behavior program at NFHSLearn (online), the contestant may not return to competition representing the contestant's school until the contestant completes the NFHS Sportsmanship program at NFHSLearn (online) and both parties must provide a certification of completion of these two programs to the Coach's/Team personnel's Principal and the Principal submits the certification to the PIAA District Sport Chairman. PIAA District Committee may, at its discretion, convene a hearing to address any and all disqualifications and may provide additional penalties as warranted by the circumstances.
6. Sports' Officials' Recruitment – numbers are dropping, and we need to identify new candidates to be able to complete school's schedules, especially at the sub-varsity levels. Talk to coaches and parent groups about the abuse of sports' officials. There are two programs presently available, the Elizabethtown Program and the START (Students Today Are Referees Tomorrow) Program, to be used for seniors in high school or anyone 18 years or older to help train future officials.
7. Please ensure that sports' officials coming on to your campus are properly registered with PIAA and have their background clearances up to date. PIAA website – officials' directory is current and updated daily.
8. Arbiter Agreement – we have been utilizing Arbiter for our post-season assignments and we are attempting to enter into an agreement to develop a more encompassing assignment and payment process for all inter-district post-season officials. Attached is a pamphlet for you to review if your league/conference is interested in using the services of Arbiter.
9. Sports Medicine Advisory Committee – has met eight times to review many issues and the pre-season Return to Competition Guidelines developed by NFHS and each PIAA sport specific steering committee. They are supportive of competition with the adherence to each schools' health and safety plan and the guidelines approved by the Board of Directors.

Schools are asked to wait until May 1, 2021 to distribute the CIPPE Form this year to allow time for all edits and additions to occur.

10. Transgender – potential legislation –Please note our by-laws address this as a decision of the school’s principal.
11. Success stories – Schools’ daily diligence of monitoring, temperature checks and sanitization procedures have allowed the full completion of the fall and winter sports’ seasons. That is a tremendous accomplishment. Congratulations to everyone for their assistance.
  - a. Use of Zoom for meetings as well as the communication and distribution of information.
  - b. Electronic Ticketing – Hometown Ticketing - worked well and will continue due to benefits of its efficiency, reduced costs, and control of ticketing.
  - c. Streaming of school events/activities for regular season.
  - d. Changes in pre-season practice requirements – possible change to 10 days except for football – 3 weeks which will include the one week of heat acclimatization.
  - e. Flexibility in scheduling – Board has met 16 times this school year to make numerous changes to allow for flexibility in schedules and local decision making.
  - f. Standard start of sport season possibly assisted in giving students the opportunity to participate and not artificially shorten their seasons and force them to compete in out of school programs.
12. Spring Sports – We are attempting to have a full bracket of qualifying teams for spring sport competition; however, we need your assistance. For this to occur, schools need to be able to host Contest between two schools from outside of their communities. If this is not possible, we need to know so the Board may address the bracketing of spring sport championships. Track & Field and Tennis are scheduled to be completed with some modifications of the schedule based upon site limitations and the restrictions of indoor and outdoor events.

Thank you to everyone for your best efforts. Good luck with spring sports and the end of school year activities that we all look forward to in our communities.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00AM.