

PRINCIPALS: Please Share These Minutes with Your Athletic Director
Regular Meeting of PIAA District VI – June 17, 2020

Call to Order of the June 17, 2020 meeting, Chairman Marshall called the meeting of the District VI Committee to order at 9:09 a.m. at Penn Cambria High School and via Zoom.

Present were Brandon Bailey, Joe Gironda, Susan Kovensky, William Marshall, Rudy McCarthy, Jacquelyn Mento (Recording Secretary), Sherry Montgomery, Phil Riccio, Curt Vasas, and Curt Whitesel. Present via Zoom were Michael Cacciotti, Ralph Cecere, Charles Glasser, Michael Hudak, Matthew Jioio, Ken Kerchenske, Jarrod Lewis, Molly Pomeroy-Hoover, Jody Rainey, Lorie Ratchford,

Public Comments - There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Sue Kovensky and Curt Vasas, the minutes from the May 6, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

Financial Reports

On a motion by Curt Whitesel and Rudy McCarthy, the Committee unanimously approved the District VI Monthly Financial Report.

Old Business

William Marshall informed the Committee that July would be a beneficial time to get the handbook pages in and that the proposed meeting dates for next year will be sent out this afternoon via email.

New Business

Disqualifications - There were no disqualifications.

Eligibility Transfers - There were no Eligibility Transfers.

William Marshall updated the Committee on several items from the PIAA Board of Directors meeting that was held June 15, 2020.

1. The changing of the language for junior varsity football competitions. At the sub-varsity level in the sport of football, a team may participate in a maximum number of 2 scrimmages and 10 Contests, or a combination of 12 Scrimmages and/or Contests. The PIAA Board of Directors will have the third and final reading on this in July and it will be made active for the Fall.
2. The third and final reading of Mandatory and Enhanced Supplemental Disqualifications that will be active for the Fall.

Mandatory Disqualification - One game suspension any coach and/or player who, while coaching or competing for a PIAA member school, is ejected from a contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official in that sport for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant misconduct is disqualified from coaching and/or participating for the remainder of the day and in all contests on the next contest day of the same level of competition from which the coach and/or contestant was previously disqualified.

Enhanced Supplemental Disqualification - Two game suspension any coach and/or player 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, player 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 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. The contest site is defined as premises on which the competition surface is located and includes the entirety of the premises and parking areas.

3. PIAA Wrestling Steering Committee's recommendation to change the wrestling weight classes from 14 weight classes to 13. There was discussion that the reduction is unsafe and happening too fast and also rebutted that colleges have only ten weight classes. PIAA will have its third and final reading will in July. However, the National Federation has backed out for another year.
Phil Riccio stated that he opposes the elimination of a weight class, that it is taking opportunity away from kids.
4. Suspension of Financial Reports for thirty days - The PIAA Board of Directors suspended the Financial Reports due to several appeals to the competition formulas and for schools that did not participate.

On a motion by Sue Kovensky and Mike Hudak, the committee unanimously approved a Boys Golf Co-Op between Tyrone and Williamsburg.

William Marshall informed the Committee that the Return to Athletics Plans are to be approved and posted. Noting that there is to be no physical contact in sports during this time. Guidance will be released to schools by August 1st. The Committee further discussed these plans and that there is a need for clear directives on items such as bands, fans, whistles, bussing, social distancing, and not to have schools compared to community athletics.

The Committee also discussed their concerns for a student testing positive for COVID-19 and the many other students that would have been in contact with that student such as on a bus, all of the people that would be quarantined for 14 days, and how to report this to the public.

The Committee questioned and discussed how 7 v 7 in football would work with no body to body contact.

Sportsmanship - There were no sportsmanship items to be discussed.

Individual Sports Reports

Mike Hudak informed the Committee that the golf courses for golf sectionals and championships have been confirmed.

Sue Kovensky updated the Committee that she is still waiting on confirmation from Juniata College regarding the hosting of the Girls Field Hockey Championships.

Communications

Mike Hudak discussed his concerns with the Committee on the possible loss of neutral sites, that some schools may not be willing to host during the pandemic. The Committee may want to put a survey out there to see who would be willing.

The committee discussed the excess tickets from last year's ticket order. Ralph Cecere stated that he will adjust the number of tickets to be ordered in the upcoming year.

The Committee also discussed the benefits of Hometown Tickets for presale for basketball and football and that it will be further discussed in August for other sports, if interested.

Jody Rainey informed the Committee that there were more preorder apparel sales this year, making it more convenient, and that possibly for the future, the Committee may want to limit some inventory on site. Mr. Rainey also discussed promotional items with the Committee and the changing championship trophies.

The Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PIAA District VI Committee will be held on Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the Ebensburg Country Club.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, Curt Whitesel moved and Brandon Bailey seconded, the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 a.m.