PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING MINUTES

Board Room, PIAA Office
Mechanicsburg, PA

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

At 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 1, 2014, James T. Zack, President, called the PIAA Board of Directors to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Michael A. Barber, Kennett Square ............................................................. District 1
Dr. Randy A. Ireson, Concordville ..................................................................... District 1
Francis M. Majikes, Wilkes-Barre ................................................................. District 2
Michael Craig, Mechanicsburg ........................................................................ District 3
Douglas M. Bohannon, Myerstown.................................................................. District 3
James T. Zack, Coal Township ........................................................................ District 4
Virgil R. Palumbo, Windber ............................................................................. District 5
Dean M. Rossi, Hollidaysburg ......................................................................... District 5
John B. Fullen, Sr., Beaver Falls ..................................................................... District 6
Scott M. Seltzer, Pittsburgh ............................................................................. District 7
Scott D. Heinauer, Mars ................................................................................. District 7
Michael A. Gavlik, Pittsburgh ......................................................................... District 8
James B. Manners, Brockway ......................................................................... District 9
Walter J. Blucas, Girard ................................................................................. District 10
Robert F. Hartman, Jr., Whitehall .................................................................. District 11
Robert B. Coleman, Philadelphia .................................................................. District 12
Michael W. Hawkins, Philadelphia ................................................................. District 12
David F. Bitting, Hummelstown
    Representing ..............................................................................................Member Junior High/Middle Schools
Steve Fisher, Harrisburg
    Representing ..............................................................................................Department of Education
Nathan G. Mains, Mechanicsburg
    Representing ..............................................................................................PSBA
Julie K. Swartfager, Franklin
    Representing ..............................................................................................PSBA
Dr. Emilie M. Lonardi, York
    Representing ..............................................................................................PASA
Dr. David A. Crumrine, Martinsburg
    Representing ..............................................................................................PASSP
Timothy P. Honeywell, Berwick
    Representing ..............................................................................................PSADA
Ronald J. Kanaskie, Riverside
    Representing ..............................................................................................PCA
MEMBERS PRESENT (Continued)

Pamela R. Cherubin, Pittsburgh  
Representing ................................................................. Female Officials
Herbert R. Welsh, New Ringgold  
Representing ................................................................. Male Officials
Beth L. Schulze, Athens  
Representing ................................................................. Girls’ Athletics
Dennis F. Nemes, Allentown  
Representing ................................................................. Member Private Schools
Sandra J. Hanes, Ridgway  
Representing ................................................................. Female Parents
Dale E. Myers, Glenville  
Representing ................................................................. Male Parents

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Robert A. Lombardi, Executive Director ................................................................. PIAA
Mark E. Byers, Chief Operating Officer ....................................................................... PIAA
Melissa N. Mertz, Associate Executive Director .......................................................... PIAA
Patrick B. Gebhart, Assistant Executive Director ....................................................... PIAA
Gregory G. Biller, Director of Business Affairs ............................................................ PIAA
Michael L. Solomon, Esq., Director of Legal Affairs .................................................. PIAA

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS

Alan R. Boynton, Jr., Esq. ......................................................................................... PIAA Legal Counsel
John P. Milliron, Esq ................................................................................................. PIAA Legislative Counsel

GUESTS PRESENT

Robert M. Ruoff, Executive Secretary .......................................................... District 1
Robert J. Tonkin, Treasurer ................................................................................ District 9
Rebekah Feiler ........................................................................................................... PIAA Intern
Sean P. McAleer, Director of Education ............... Pennsylvania Catholic Conference
George B. Shue, Associate Executive Director ....................................................... PSFCA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Nemes, seconded by Mr. Welsh, it was unanimously voted to approve the Minutes, of the Wednesday, July 23, 2014 meeting of the PIAA Board of Directors, as corrected and presented by the Executive Director.

APPROVAL OF MEMBER SCHOOLS APPLICATIONS

On a motion by Mr. Bohannon, seconded by Mr. Manners, it was unanimously voted to accept into membership the following schools, effective July 1, 2014:

District III - Logos Academy (Senior High School)  
York County School of Technology (Junior High School)
REQUEST OF SCHOOLS FOR TERMINATION OF
COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP OF A SPORT, EFFECTIVE THE
BEGINNING OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

On a motion by Mr. Bohannon, seconded by Mr. Craig, it was unanimously voted to approve the following request to terminate cooperative sponsorship of a sport, effective the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year.

District III - Dayspring Christian Academy and Lancaster Country Day School (baseball)
Veritas Academy and Warwick High School (girls’ volleyball)

REQUEST OF SCHOOLS FOR APPROVAL OF
COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP OF A SPORT, EFFECTIVE THE
BEGINNING OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

On a motion by Mr. Kanaskie, seconded by Mrs. Schulze, it was unanimously voted to approve the following requests for cooperative sponsorship of a sport, effective the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year:

District III
- Lancaster Country Day School and J.P. McCaskey High School (baseball)
- Tulpehocken and Hamburg Area High Schools (boys’ and girls’ bowling)
- Logos Academy and York High School (competitive spirit), conditioned upon PIAA District III Committee approval

District IV
- Danville Area and Southern Columbia Area High Schools (competitive spirit), conditioned upon PIAA District IV Committee approval

District V
- Conemaugh Township High School and Johnstown Christian School (boys’ and girls’ rifle), conditioned upon PIAA District V Committee approval

District VII
- Blackhawk and Beaver County Christian High Schools (baseball, boys’ and girls’ cross country, football, boys’ and girls’ golf, girls’ soccer, softball, boys’ and girls’ swimming and diving, girls’ tennis, boys’ and girls’ track and field, boys’ volleyball, and wrestling)
- Carlynton and Bishop Canevin High Schools (wrestling)
- South Side and Western Beaver High Schools (girls’ gymnastics)
- Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School and Western Beaver High School (boys’ golf, and boys’ track and field)

Districts VII and X
- Laurel and Wilmington High Schools (wrestling)
District XII

- Sayre and West Philadelphia High Schools (baseball, boys’ and girls’ cross country, football, boys’ and girls’ tennis, girls’ volleyball, and wrestling)
- Parkway West and West Philadelphia High Schools (competitive spirit)
- Parkway West, Sayre, and West Philadelphia High Schools (field hockey and boys’ and girls’ lacrosse)

BLACKLICK VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL REQUEST TO TRANSFER FROM PIAA DISTRICT VI TO DISTRICT V

On a motion by Mr. Blucas, seconded by Mr. Nemes, it was voted to permit Blacklick Valley High School to transfer from PIAA District VI to District V.

Motion failed: 14-yes, 16-no.

SAYRE AREA HIGH SCHOOL REQUEST TO BE RECLASSIFIED TO CLASS A IN GIRLS’ CROSS COUNTRY

On a motion by Mr. Blucas, seconded by Mr. Majikes, it was voted to approve the request of Sayre Area High School to be reclassified to Class A in girls’ cross country, based upon the fact that the number of qualifiers was changed after the deadline.

Motion failed: 30-yes, 1-no.

WESTERN BEAVER HIGH SCHOOL AND LINCOLN PARK PERFORMING ARTS CHARTER SCHOOL REQUEST TO APPEAL PIAA DISTRICT VII DECISION TO DENY COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP IN GIRLS’ BASKETBALL

On a motion by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Manners, it was voted to reject the request of Western Beaver High School and Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School to have a cooperative sponsorship in girls’ basketball due to the fact it would change the classification of Western Beaver and this is past the deadline for changes that affect classification.

Motion passed: 28-yes, 0-no, and 3 abstentions.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

On a motion by Mr. Majikes, seconded by Mr. Myers, it was unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of the Executive Director to award the proposal to cablecast various PIAA Inter-District Championships (Finals) to the Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN), Camp Hill, PA, effective July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2018.

On a motion by Mr. Blucas, seconded by Mr. Nemes, it was unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of the Executive Director to pursue a PCN/NFHS Network digital streaming contract.
The Executive Director presented the PIAA 100th Year Anniversary Invitation for the Thursday, December 11, 2014 Foundation Benefit to be held at The Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, PA, as set forth in Attachment 1.

The Executive Director reported on the NFHS Section 2 Meeting that was held from Monday, September 22 through Wednesday, September 24, 2014, that was hosted by PIAA in Gettysburg, PA and thanked the PIAA staff for their loyalty and dedication.

At the request of the Executive Director, discussion was held concerning the school calendar for 2015-2016 and the earlier school start due to PSSA/Keystone testing and the conflict with the late date of Labor Day (September 7th). No further action was taken.

At the request of the Executive Director and on a motion by Mr. Honeywell, seconded by Mr. Kanaskie, it was unanimously voted to re-affirm the procedure for officials to terminate a Contest and let the conference, league or District impose the appropriate conclusion to the contest and any additional sanctions that may need to be issued.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PIAA BY-LAWS

On a third and final reading basis, on a motion by Mr. Fullen, seconded by Mr. Bitting, it was unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of the Executive Director to amend ARTICLE XIX, JUNIOR HIGH / MIDDLE SCHOOLS, to clarify junior high/middle schools eligibility, wherever housed, effective July 1, 2015, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XIX
JUNIOR HIGH / MIDDLE SCHOOLS
(Junior High/Middle School
7th, 8th, and 9th Grade Competition Wherever Housed)

Preamble

The entire Constitution and By-Laws, Policies and Procedures and Rules and Regulations of PIAA govern both senior and junior high/middle schools. However, this ARTICLE XIX sets forth additional provisions which apply to junior high/middle schools only.

Interscholastic competition at the junior high/middle school level of competition is intended by PIAA to be directed toward development of general athletic and sport specific skills, as well as exposing students to proper concepts of teamwork, sportsmanship, and the long term benefits to individuals of participation in athletic activities. Accordingly, playoffs and the holding of championship Contests are discouraged.

Section 1. Age.

A. A student of a junior high/middle school wherein interscholastic athletic competition is limited to grades seven and eight is ineligible to compete in an Inter-School Practice, Scrimmage, or Contest upon attaining the age of fifteen years, with the following exceptions:

1. If the age of 15 is attained on or after July 1, the student is eligible, age-wise, to compete through that school year.

2. If the age of 16 is attained on or after July 1, the student is eligible, age-wise, to compete with students in the ninth grade.
B. A student of a junior high/middle school embracing the 7th, 8th and 9th grades is ineligible to compete in an Inter-School Practice, Scrimmage, or Contest upon attaining the age of sixteen years; except, if the age of 16 is attained on or after July 1, the student is eligible, age-wise, to compete through that school year.

C. A student in the 10th grade of a junior high/middle school embracing the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th grades is ineligible to compete in an Inter-School Practice, Scrimmage, or Contest upon attaining the age of seventeen years; except, if the age of 17 is attained on or after July 1, the student is eligible, age-wise, to compete through that school year.

D. Where a junior high/middle school embracing grade 10 competes with a junior high/middle school not enrolling students above grade 9, then Section 1B above applies to both schools.

Section 2. Eligibility of Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Grade Students to Participate in Senior High School Interscholastic Athletics.

A. Students in the 7th or 8th grade who have not attained the age of fifteen years before July 1, and students in the 9th grade who have participated in one season in that sport during that school year, may neither Practice nor compete with students in the 10th, 11th or 12th grades.

Students in the 7th or 8th grade who have attained the age of fifteen years before July 1 and students in the 9th grade, who have not participated in one season in that sport during that school year, may, with written approval of the high school Principal and the junior high/middle school Principal, Practice with, participate in a maximum of two Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages, and compete with students in grades 10, 11 and 12. The option to compete at the senior high school level of competition (grades 10-12) or at the junior high/middle school level of competition (grades 7-9) is exercised when the student participates in a Contest. If the student first participates in a junior high/middle school Contest, the student is committed to that level of competition in that sport involved for the entire school year. If the student first participates in a senior high school Contest, the student is committed to that level of competition in that sport for the entire school year. If the student does not participate in a Contest, the option to compete at the junior high/middle school level of competition or senior high school level of competition must be exercised not later than 21 days after the student begins Practice. Once this option is exercised, it may not be changed in that sport for the entire school year.

INTERPRETATION

Section 2A. October 1, 1994; as amended May 22, 1996.

A student as to whom the option to participate at either the senior high school level of competition or the junior high/middle school level of competition has been exercised, who thereafter Transfers to another school, begins at the transferee school as if the option had not been exercised.

B. Students enrolled in the ninth grade may participate on a senior high school Team under the following conditions:

1. The sport is not sponsored by the junior high/middle school.

2. The student is ineligible for junior high/middle school competition because of age regulations; or.

3. The student is under the sixteen-year age regulation but is ineligible to represent the junior high/middle school because the student has had one season of participation in the ninth grade.

C. If a student is enrolled in both junior high/middle school and senior high school classes in a junior-senior high school, the student is considered as a member of the...
senior high school as soon as the student carries at least half of the student’s work in the senior high school.

—**D. Students of Junior High/Middle Schools Embracing the Tenth Grade.**

—1. Students of the tenth grade of a junior high/middle school embracing the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth grades are eligible to compete on senior high school Teams within the same public school district, provided, however, that the decision as to whether they shall represent the senior high school or the junior high/middle school must be made at the beginning of each sport season and announced by the Principal.

—2. Before a student enrolled in the ninth or tenth grade of a separately organized junior high/middle school may represent a senior high school of the same public school district in interscholastic athletic competition, under the provisions of these rules, the junior high/middle school where the student is enrolled must become a member of PIAA.

—3. No student may represent both a junior high/middle school and senior high school during the same sport season. In cases where it is decided that tenth grade students of a junior high/middle school embracing the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth grades shall participate on senior high school Teams, the eligibility of such students must be certified by the junior high/middle school Principal to the senior high school Principal, in accordance with the PIAA By-Laws.

—**B E. Limitation.**

1. A student enrolled in a junior high/middle school who is permitted by this Section to participate on a senior high school Team may do so only on a senior high school Team of the school in which students who have completed the academic program in that junior high/middle school would enroll at the time the student begins to participate on the senior high school Team.

2. A student enrolled in a senior high school who is permitted by this Section to participate on a junior high/middle school Team may do so only on a junior high/middle school Team of the school in which junior high/middle school students from the student’s attendance area would enroll at the time the student begins to participate on the junior high/middle school Team.

**Section 3. Period of Participation.**

**A.** No student is eligible for Practice or for participation in interscholastic athletics prior to entry into seventh grade.

**B.** No junior high/middle school student may Practice for or participate in any sport for more seasons than there are grades included in the school, nor may a student Practice for or participate in any sport for more than three seasons in grades seven through nine, inclusive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTERPRETATION</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Section 3B.</strong> February 4, 1984.</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Grades included in the school” does not include any grades below the seventh grade.</td>
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**C.** A student may Practice for and participate in only one season in each sport during the time the student is enrolled in the ninth grade of a junior high/middle school.

**D.** A student entering a school in the second semester and playing part seasons in the same sport in separate school years, is considered as playing the equivalent of one season in that sport.
INTERPRETATION

Junior high/middle schools may not participate in Practices, Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests with senior high schools because senior high schools cannot meet junior high/middle schools eligibility requirements.

Section 4. Season and Out-Of-Season Rules and Regulations

The Season and Out-Of-Season Rules and Regulations set forth under ARTICLE XVI of the PIAA By-Laws contain schedules of fall, winter, and spring sports, which apply to all PIAA member schools. Junior high/middle schools may elect to follow the respective schedules of fall, winter, and spring sports; or they may elect to follow an alternate schedule for each sport. If junior high/middle schools elect to follow an alternate schedule, they may not reduce the minimum length of Preseason Practice in any sport and they may not exceed the maximum length of Regular Season in any sport.

Section 5. Certification of Contestants.

A. The eligibility of all contestants representing a junior high/middle school must be certified to by the Principal of the school in accordance with the PIAA By-Laws. Such statements, including the name of student, public school district in which the student resides, date of birth, age on last birthday, date of enrollment for current school year, number of semesters of attendance beyond the eighth grade including the present semester, number of seasons of competition beyond the sixth grade including the present season, and the certified minimum weight classification for wrestling, must be presented in writing to the Principal of the opponent school or schools on the official form entitled “PIAA Junior High/Middle School Certificate of Eligibility” at least four days prior to every Contest.

B. If disputes arise, the Principal must furnish to the District Committee the following data in regard to each contestant: Date of birth, father’s name, mother’s maiden name, date of enrollment for current school year, semesters of attendance including the present semester, showing the semesters spent in each grade, seasons of competition including the present season, showing the number of seasons of competition in each grade, the average mark in each study from the beginning of the current semester, and such further information as the District Committee might require. A school which does not furnish these data may be excluded from Contests with PIAA members.

On a third and final reading basis, on a motion by Dr. Ireson, seconded by Mr. Rossi, approved the request of the PSADA Representative, to modify and to keep the 2014-15 and 2015-16 winter sports season the same length and move back by four (4) days the First Practice Date from November 20 to November 16, 2015.

Motion passed: 30-yes, 1-no.

On a motion by Mr. Seltzer, seconded by Dr. Barber, it was unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of the Executive Director, on a second reading basis, to amend the Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation (CIPPE) form, Section 2D, to grant PIAA the right to broadcast student likenesses, to read as follows:
D. Permission to use name, likeness, and athletic information: I consent to PIAA’s use of the herein named student’s name, likeness, and athletically related information in video broadcasts and re-broadcasts, webcasts and reports of Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests, promotional literature of the Association, and other materials and releases related to interscholastic athletics.

Parent’s/Guardian’s Signature

________________________________________________________________________ Date __ / __ / _____

On a motion by Mr. Majikes, seconded by Ms. Cherubin, it was unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of Legal Counsel to amend, on a second reading basis, CODE OF ETHICS PERTAINING TO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS, to modernize the language, to read as follows:

SPORTSMANSHIP AND UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

CODE OF ETHICS PERTAINING TO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Sportsmanship is a core principle in interscholastic athletics. Actions which are unethical or intended to demean, embarrass, intimidate or injure opposing contestants, teams, spectators and officials are considered unsportsmanlike and will not be tolerated since they are contrary to the purposes of PIAA and convey lessons incompatible with the reason why high school sports exist. While acts of misconduct occurring within the score of competition are often addressed through sport specific rules, PIAA reserves the right to address any unsportsmanlike conduct and impose supplemental discipline as appropriate under the circumstances. The following conduct, and any conduct of a similar nature may subject actors to any and all remedial measures available to PIAA.

This Code of Ethics Pertaining to High School Athletics is to be regarded not only as recommendations, but also as rules governing the conduct of schools, student-athletes, Coaches, Contest officials, Athletic Directors, Principals, and the public.

Section 1. Schools and Their Athletic Personnel Should:

A. A school knowingly or recklessly condones or supports unsportsmanlike conduct by its personnel, student-athletes, Teams, and/or supporters themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.

B. Not cancel, schedule or reschedule a Contest to gain a competitive advantage.

C. A school knowingly or recklessly not recruits students for an athletic purpose.

D. A school fails to establish and enforce a code of conduct for student-athletes.

E. A school fails or refuses to cooperate with PIAA in investigating a possible violation ensuring the enforcement of the PIAA Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and/or Rules and Regulations.

F. A school fails to treat a visiting Team as guests or fails to provide necessary and appropriate security is provided for Contest officials, spectators and visiting Teams at Contests hosted by the school.

G. A school schedules or reschedules a Contest for the purpose of circumventing application, enforcement, and/or the intent of any provision of the Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and/or Rules and Regulations of PIAA.

H. A school knowingly or recklessly certifies to the eligibility of an ineligible student or fails to conduct an appropriate investigation where there is a question as to the student-athlete’s eligibility.
I. A school knowingly or recklessly engages in conduct intended to increase hostile relations with opposing schools.

Section 2. Student-Athletes Should:
A. A student-athlete engages in conduct intended to injure an opponent or Contest official themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.
B. A student-athlete uses profanity, obscene gestures, and/or obscene language immediately before, during or immediately following a Contest.
C. A student-athlete seeks to provoke opponents, Contest officials, or spectators to engage in improper conduct.
D. A student-athlete uses race, gender, ethnicity, religion or disability to bait, intimidate, or denigrate an opponent. Not seek to injure opponents.

Section 3. Coaches Should:
A. Have a fair, unprejudiced relationship to student-athletes.
AB. A Coach teaches student-athletes to win through legitimate means only. Striving to win at any cost is distinctly unethical.
BC. A Coach fails to give opponents full credit when they win.
CD. A Coach fails to control his/her one’s temper immediately prior to, during, or after a Contest at all times.
DE. A Coach uses, and discourage the use of, profanity, obscene gestures, and/or obscene language immediately prior to, during, or immediately following a Contest.
EF. A Coach criticizes Contest Officials through the media or to student-athletes or spectators, rather than through the appropriate review process. Recommend the use of competent Contest officials and support their decisions. The Coach should direct concerns and/or criticisms of Contest officials through the appropriate review process and not criticize the actions or decisions of Contest officials through the media or to student-athletes and/or spectators.
FG. A Coach promotes Counteract unfounded rumors of questionable practices by opponents. To establish the truth or falsity of these rumors the Coach should refer them directly to the authorities of the school concerned.

H. Not recruit students for an athletic purpose.
GI. A Coach fails to maintain control of the Team for which the Coach is responsible.
H. A Coach knowingly seeks to embarrass an opponent or Contest officials.
I. A Coach uses race, gender, ethnicity, religion or disability to bait, intimidate or denigrate an opponent.

Section 4. Contest Officials Should:
A. A Contest Official has thorough preparation in the current rules and approved officiating techniques of the sport.
B. A Contest Official is physically fit and mentally alert so as to appropriately officiate a Contest.
C. A Contest Official has a neat, distinctive, and approved uniform.
D. A Contest Official fails to report for duty at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start of a Contest.
E. A Contest Official fails to honor all agreements to officiate a Contest.
F. A Contest Official fails to control his/her one’s temper in all relations with students, Coaches, member schools, and spectators.
GH. A Contest Official fails, upon request to make clear any interpretations and announcements.
HI. Following a Contest officiated, a Contest Official not discusses plays or student-athletes of a Team in that Contest with any of their future opponents.

Section 5. Athletic Directors Should:

- A. Arrange only schedules which are educationally and physically sound for the school's student-athletes.
- B. Not schedule or reschedule a Contest for the purpose of circumventing the application, enforcement, and/or intent of any provision of the Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and/or Rules and Regulations of PIAA.
- C. Have a definite and mutual understanding with other Athletic Directors regarding Contest officials.
- D. Treat visiting Teams and Contest officials as guests.
- E. Cooperate with the school community in developing a wholesome athletic program.

Section 6. Principals Should:

- A. Be honest in certifying to the eligibility of student-athletes and refuse to certify any student-athlete where there is a question as to the student-athlete's ineligibility.
- B. Endeavor to foresee possible misunderstandings with other schools and, as far as possible, settle them before they materialize.
- C. Pass on to another school's athletic administration any seemingly reliable information which calls in to question the eligibility of any of the other school's student-athletes.
- D. Encourage the school's support of its Teams, but never at the expense of friendly relations.

Section 7. Spectators. Public Should:

- A. Realize that gambling on Contests, the consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or the use of illegal drugs, anabolic steroids, and/or other performance enhancing drugs in connection with Contests are all detrimental to the best interests of athletics and the standards which PIAA is endeavoring to foster.
- B. A spectator not uses profanity, obscene gestures, and/or obscene language while attending Contests.
- C. A spectator not attempts to provoke, intimidate, and/or berate Coaches, Contest Officials, student-athletes, and/or other spectators.
- D. A spectator uses race, gender, ethnicity, religion or disability to bait, intimidate or denigrate a student, school, Contest Official or other spectators.
- E. Any spectator who engages in any of the behavior identified herein evidences poor sportsmanship and/or behavior inconsistent with this Code of Ethics may be removed from a Contest venue and may be prohibited from attending future Contests.

INTERPRETATIONS

October 1, 1983; as amended May 11, 2002; July 28, 2005; and July 24, 2009.

To participate in Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests, a student must be eligible for interscholastic athletics in all respects.


A PIAA member school may permit any of its students who are ineligible to participate in Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests under any provision(s) of the PIAA By-Laws other than ARTICLES IV and V to Practice with any of its Teams.
On a motion by Mr. Majikes, seconded by Mr. Myers, it was unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of Legal Counsel, on a first reading basis, to amend ARTICLE XV, OFFICIALS, to modernize the language, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE XV OFFICIALS**

**Section 1. Sports Officials must be Registered with PIAA.**

All sports officials, in all Contests participated in by a PIAA member school, must be persons who are (1) registered, (2) on active status, and (3) in good standing, with PIAA.

**NOTE:** Section 1 does not apply to Contests played outside of Pennsylvania, and the opponent is not a member of PIAA.

**Section 2. How Persons may Become PIAA-Registered Sports Officials.**

To become a PIAA-registered official in any sport, the applicant must meet the qualifications and requirements and pass such examination as may be required by the PIAA Board of Directors.

Applicants are required to identify any crimes of which they have been convicted or have pled guilty or no contest. Any applicant who has been convicted of, or who has pled guilty or no contest to, any of the offenses identified at the time of violation in 24 P.S. § 1-111(e), or an equivalent offense under the laws of the United States, another state and/or a United States territory, may not be registered by PIAA unless a period of ten years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the offense.

The application of any individual who, more than ten years prior to submission of the application, was convicted of, or who has pled guilty or no contest to, an offense listed at the time of application in 24 P.S. § 1-111(e), or an equivalent offense a felony under the laws of the United States, another state and/or a United States territory, more than ten years prior to applying shall be reviewed by the PIAA Executive Director. In considering whether to accept said application, the Executive Director shall consider the nature of the offense and whether the applicant poses a danger specifically to school students or is otherwise unsuitable for registration as an official. This factor is most paramount as to an applicant convicted of a sexual offense, especially an offense (especially one which would trigger registration under Megan's Law) involving sexual, physical or verbal abuse against a child. Other factors to be considered by the Executive Director include the following:

- The time period that has elapsed since the offense;
- Whether the offense was an isolated single event or was repeated;
- The presence or absence of a subsequent criminal history;
- Whether the offense bears a relationship to interscholastic athletics;
- Whether the person was involved in interscholastic sports when the crime occurred; and
- Whether the conduct occurred on the property of a school or relating to sports.

Additionally, the Executive Director shall not accept the application of an individual convicted of an offense identified in 24 P.S. § 1-111(e), or an equivalent offense under the laws of the United States, another state and/or a United States territory, unless the PIAA Director of Legal Affairs certifies that he or she believes that the refusal to accept the application would likely be inconsistent with the applicant's constitutional rights.

Applicants convicted of, or who pled guilty or no contest to, any other felony as defined under the laws of the United States, the commonwealth of Pennsylvania another state and/or a United States territory of the first, second, or third degree shall not be
registered by PIAA unless a period of ten years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the offense.

Applicants convicted of, or who pled guilty or no contest to, any other misdemeanor of the first degree under Pennsylvania law, or an equivalent offense under the laws of the United States, another state and/or a United States territory shall not be registered by PIAA unless a period of five years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the offense.

Applicants convicted of, or who pled guilty or no contest to, more than one misdemeanor offense of the first degree misdemeanor under 75 Pa.C.S.A. § 3802 relating to driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance shall not be registered by PIAA unless a period of three years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the most recent offense.

Applicants may also be rejected by the Executive Director if they have (1) been convicted of, or pled guilty or no contest to, forgery, fraud, embezzlement, perjury, and/or another offense which relates to or calls into question the character, integrity, honesty or veracity of the applicant, or (2) engaged in conduct which is inconsistent with the purposes, ideals and principles of PIAA or which relates to or which calls into question their character, integrity, honesty or veracity.

The decision of the Executive Director to reject an application may be appealed by the applicant to the PIAA Board of Directors.

All newly registered sports officials and all sports officials whose registration have lapsed for more than one year, shall be required to obtain and submit to PIAA valid (obtained within the past year) copies of (1) a Pennsylvania State Police background check (Act 34 of 1985) report; (2) a Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare child abuse history (Act 151 of 1994) report; and (3) a FBI federal criminal history record (Act 114 of 2006) report. Expenses for obtaining and submitting said reports shall be borne by the registered sports official.

Section 3. Duty to Report Offenses.

Any registered sports official who has been charged with an alleged, either convicted of, or pled guilty or no contest to, or is arrested or convicted of, or pleads guilty or no contest to, any offense identified under 24 P.S. § 1-111(e) (see the current list of such offenses in the NOTE herein), felony or misdemeanor shall so notify the Executive Director of such conviction or of an arrest for such charges by completing the form developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, a copy of which is published on the PIAA Web site at www.piaa.org.

Section 4. Requirement of Written Contract.

All PIAA member schools shall enter into either paper or electronic contracts on the official contract form entitled “Contract for Officials Under PIAA Rules”, or an equivalent electronic version thereof, with all registered sports officials retained by the schools or assigned by an assignor. Registered sports officials are independent contractors and therefore, are NOT employees of PIAA, the school, or the assignor. Disputes arising from oral agreements will not be considered by PIAA.

INTERPRETATION

Section 4. October 6, 2011.

Use by PIAA member schools, including member schools and organized groups of member schools utilizing the services of assignors, of online electronic assignment programs shall meet the requirements of entry of contracts under this provision, provided that all critical terms relating to said contracts are communicated to the PIAA-registered sports officials and the sports officials engage in affirmative acts accepting the assignments.
Section 5. Violation or Cancellation of Sports Official’s Contract by a PIAA Member School.

If a PIAA member school violates or cancels a contract with an official, the District Committee or the Board of Directors, within their respective jurisdictions, may require a school so violating or so canceling to pay to the offended official the fee or fees for the Contest or Contests which have been provided in the official contract. The failure of a PIAA member school to live up to the terms of the contract is considered a violation of the Constitution and By-Laws of PIAA.

Section 6. Removal of Registered Sports Officials.

A. Mandatory Removal.

The Executive Director shall remove from the list of registered sports officials any person convicted of, or who pleads guilty or no contest to, any of the offenses identified at the time of violation in 24 P.S. § 1-111(e), or an equivalent offense under the laws of the United States, another state and/or a United States territory.

The Executive Director shall remove from the list of registered sports officials any person convicted of, or who pled guilty or no contest to, any other felony of the first, second, or third degree as defined under the laws of the United States, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, another state and/or a United States territory, unless a period of ten years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the offense.

The Executive Director shall remove from the list of registered sports officials any person convicted of, or who pled guilty or no contest to, any other misdemeanor of the first degree under Pennsylvania law, or an equivalent offense under the laws of the United States, another state and/or a United States territory unless a period of five years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the offense.

The Executive Director shall remove from the list of registered sports officials any person convicted of, or who pled guilty or no contest to, more than one first degree misdemeanor offense under 75 Pa.C.S. § 3802 relating to driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance unless a period of three years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the most recent offense.

Any sports official removed from the list of registered sports officials under this subsection A may reapply for registration upon expiration of the period identified therein. Reinstatement may be solely within the discretion of the Executive Director and, in any event, may not be granted unless the removed sports official (1) meets all of the qualifications and requirements then in place and (2) passes such examination(s) as then may be required by the Board of Directors. In granting reinstatement, the Executive Director may place the official on probation for a defined period of time and under conditions deemed appropriate by the Executive Director.

In considering reinstatement of any individual convicted of, or who has pled guilty or no contest to, any felony or misdemeanor of the first degree, the Executive Director shall consider the nature of the offense and whether the applicant poses a danger specifically to school students or is otherwise unsuitable for registration as an official. This factor is most paramount as to an applicant convicted of a sexual offense, especially an offense (especially one which would trigger registration under Megan's Law) involving sexual, physical or verbal abuse against a child. Other factors to be considered in making the decision include the following:

• The time period that has elapsed since the offense;
• Whether the offense was an isolated single event or was repeated;
• The presence or absence of a subsequent criminal history;
• Whether the offense bears a relationship to interscholastic athletics;
• Whether the person was involved in interscholastic sports when the crime occurred; and
• Whether the conduct occurred on the property of a school or relating to sports.

Additionally, the Executive Director shall not reinstate any individual convicted of an offense identified in 24 P.S. § 1-111(e), or an equivalent offense under the laws of the United States, another state and/or a United States territory, unless the PIAA Director of Legal Affairs certifies that he or she believes that the refusal to reinstate would likely be inconsistent with the individual's constitutional rights.

B. Discretionary Removal.

The Board of Directors may remove from the list of registered sports officials any person:

1. Whom the Board of Directors has determined to have been biased and/or consistently incompetent or unfair in the official's decisions in Contests, or

2. Whose conduct on or off the competition surface is inconsistent with the purposes, ideals and/or principles of PIAA or which otherwise renders the official unfit to act as a registered sports official, or

3. Who is convicted of forgery, fraud, embezzlement, perjury, and/or another offense which relates to or calls into question the character, integrity, honesty or veracity of the official, or

4. Who has been removed for misconduct by a national amateur or professional athletic organization or a state high school association that recognizes and/or registers sports officials, or

5. Who, while under suspension herein, engages in conduct defined in Section 7 below that would be additional grounds for suspension.

Any sports official removed from the list of registered sports officials under this subsection B may reapply for registration after no less than five school years have passed from such removal. Reinstatement is solely within the discretion of the Board of Directors and, in any event, shall not be granted unless the removed sports official (1) meets all of the qualifications and requirements then in place, (2) passes such examination(s) as then may be required by the Board of Directors, and (3), at a hearing before the Board of Directors, demonstrates, by clear and convincing evidence, that the reason(s) for removal have been satisfactorily addressed and that the official currently possesses the character, integrity, moral fitness, and competence to be registered. In granting reinstatement, the Board of Directors may place the official on probation for a defined period of time and under conditions deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

Section 7. Suspension.

The Board of Directors authorizes the Executive Director to suspend from the list of registered sports officials, for a period determined to be appropriate by the Executive Director, in the applicable sport(s), any person:

A. Who repeatedly violates or cancels contracts with PIAA member schools or repeatedly alters proposed contracts without the consent of the other contracting party, or

B. Who is charged with any felony of the first, second, or third degree or misdemeanor of the first degree, or

C. Who has engaged in conduct pursues a course of action which is inconsistent with the purposes, ideals and/or principles of PIAA or which is otherwise detrimental to the welfare of PIAA, its members, student-athletes, and/or other registered sports officials, or

D. Who fails to cooperate with PIAA in any investigation, or
E. Whose conduct on or off the competition surface is not conducive to the best interests and/or purposes of PIAA, or

F. Who fails to comply with PIAA regulations pertaining to sports officials, and/or with decisions of the Executive Director or Board of Directors relating to the official, or

G. Who has been suspended for misconduct by a national amateur or professional athletic organization or a state high school association that recognizes and/or registers sports officials, or

H. Who, while on probation herein, engages in conduct defined in Section 8 below that would be additional grounds for probation, or

I. Who has been determined to have been biased and/or palpably unfair in decisions in a Contest, or

J. Who repeatedly fails to file with the PIAA Office, within twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of the Contest, a report of disqualification of a Coach and/or contestant under ARTICLE XIII, PENALTIES, Section 8, Disqualification from Next Contest(s), of the PIAA By-Laws.

NOTE: The offenses identified in Section 1-111(e) currently include: (1) criminal homicide; (2) aggravated assault; (3) stalking; (4) kidnapping; (5) unlawful restraint; (6) luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure; (7) rape; (8) statutory sexual assault; (9) involuntary deviate sexual intercourse; (10) sexual assault; (11) institutional sexual assault; (12) aggravated indecent assault; (13) indecent assault; (14) indecent exposure; (15) sexual intercourse with an animal; (16) incest; (17) concealing death of a child; (18) endangering the welfare of children; (19) offenses dealing with infant children; (20) prostitution and related offenses; (21) obscene and other sexual materials and performances; (22) corruption of minors; (23) sexual abuse of children; (24) unlawful contact with a minor; (25) solicitation of minors to traffic drugs; and (26) sexual exploitation of children. The list further includes (1) equivalent or similar crimes under federal law or of another state, United States territory, the District of Columbia, a foreign nation, or under a former law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and (2) a felony offense under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device, and Cosmetic Act. This list may be modified, reduced, or expanded by Act of the General Assembly. The list of offenses in effect at the time of violation by the sports official shall be applicable to proceedings to remove or suspend that sports official.

Section 8. Probation.

The Board of Directors authorizes the Executive Director to place on probation and exclude from eligibility for assignments to District or Inter-District Championship Contests, for a period determined to be appropriate by the Executive Director, in the applicable sport(s), any registered sports official:

A. Who violates or cancels a contract with a PIAA member school or alters a proposed contract without the consent of the other contracting party, or

B. Who fails to wear the required uniform, or

C. Who fails to cooperate with PIAA in any investigation, or

D. Whose conduct on or off the competition surface is inconsistent with the purposes, ideals and/or principles of PIAA or which otherwise is not conducive to the best interests and/or purposes of PIAA, or

E. Who fails to comply with PIAA regulations pertaining to sports officials and/or with decisions of the Executive Director or Board of Directors relating to the official, or

F. Who has been placed on probation for misconduct by a national amateur or professional athletic organization or a state high school association that recognizes and/or registers sports officials, or
G. Who has been accused of being biased and/or palpably unfair in decisions in a Contest, or

H. Who fails to file with the PIAA Office, within twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of the Contest, a report of disqualification of a Coach and/or contestant under ARTICLE XIII, PENALTIES, Section 8, Disqualification from Next Contest(s), of the PIAA By-Laws.

**INTERPRETATION**

The use of the official’s standard uniform is mandatory.

**Section 9. Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)**

A suspension imposed on an official pursuant to Section 7B of this ARTICLE will be lifted upon the official providing certification of his/her completion of an Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) program disposing of all the charges.

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**DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS’ REPORTS**

The Director of Business Affairs’ gave a status report on:

1) The schools regarded to be delinquent, as a result of dues not being paid on or before September 30, 2014, as presented to the District Chairmen; and

2) The 8th Annual PIAA Foundation Cross Country Event.

On a motion by Dr. Ireson, seconded by Mr. Seltzer, it was unanimously voted to approve the Budgetary Cash Flows Transfers for fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 (as distributed).

On a motion by Mr. Manners, seconded by Mr. Bohannon, it was unanimously voted to accept the PIAA Foundation financial report and the draft of the audited PIAA Headquarters financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2014, as prepared by Boyer & Ritter.

On a motion by Mr. Welsh, seconded by Mr. Myers, it was unanimously voted to approve the PIAA unaudited financial statements for the months ended July 31 and August 31, 2014.

**ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORTS**

The Assistant Executive Director gave a status report on:

1) The deadline for receipt of recommendations to officiate the 2014 PIAA Fall Championships in the sports of cross country girls’ volleyball, field hockey, soccer, and football;

2) The start of the 2014-2015 PIAA Winter Sports Rules Interpretation Meetings;

3) The 20th Annual PIAA Officials’ Convention; and the 25/35 Years of Service Banquet; and

4) Award of Merit presentation to Dr. Robert A. Lombardi.
PIAA OFFICIALS’ COUNCIL STEERING COMMITTEE
REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

On a motion by Ms. Cherubin, seconded by Mr. Hartman, it was unanimously voted to table the PIAA Officials’ Council Steering Committee that the automatic penalty for an ejection from a Contest be increased from one to two Contests when the ejection is the result of physical contact with an official.

ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORTS

The Assistant Executive Director gave a status report on:

1) NFHS Student Leadership Program, which is to be reinstated next summer;

2) PIAA Website makeover that is scheduled to go active in 2015; and

3) The eligibility lists submission process and provided District Chairmen with a list of schools who have not submitted their fall sports lists.

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER’S REPORTS

The Chief Operating Officer gave a status report on:

1) Schools that failed to submit eligibility lists and thanked the Board for their feedback with this process;

2) The number of participants at the 8th Annual PIAA Cross Country Foundation Race; and

3) The NFHS Survey – report on sport classifications, in which 37 states responded.

PIAA STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

On a motion by Dr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Nemes, it was unanimously voted to accept the Minutes of the PIAA Steering Planning Committee meeting of Thursday, July 24, 2014, as prepared and presented by PIAA Executive Director, as set forth in Attachment 2.

DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY POLICY AND PIAA EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

On a motion by Mr. Blucas, seconded by Dr. Ireson, it was unanimously voted to refer to the Wednesday, November 12, 2014 meeting of the PIAA Human Resources Committee for its review, the following corrected and updated draft of the District Accountability Policy, as set forth in Attachment 3; and the PIAA Employee Handbook that clarifies the terms and conditions of employment of district personnel, as set forth in Attachment 4.

PIAA District VII thanked PIAA staff for working together with the Districts and accepting input on the updated District Accountability Policy and the PIAA Employee Handbook.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:05 p.m. President Zack called an Executive Session of the PIAA Board of Directors to discuss legal and personnel matters. The Board of Directors then went into Executive Session, where legal and personnel matters were discussed.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

At 6:15 p.m. President Zack returned the meeting of the PIAA Board of Directors to Regular Session.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL REPORT

John P. Milliron, Esq. of Milliron & Goodman LLC reported on Senate Bill (“SB”) No. 444, which has been amended.

ADJOURNMENT

President Zack adjourned the meeting of the PIAA Board of Directors at 6:35 p.m., Wednesday, October 1, 2014.

NEXT PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING: 2:00 P.M., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014, IN MAGNOLIA A & B OF THE HERSHEY LODGE AND CONVENTION CENTER, HERSHEY, PA.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Dr. Robert A. Lombardi
Executive Director