Board of Director Meeting Update—September 23rd

The PIAA Board of Director’s met on September 23rd via Zoom. Many items were discussed and here is a summary of some important information. The Board approved a request from PIAA District 1 to suspend the application of Article IX, Section 4 of the By-Laws regarding Eligibility of Teams and Multiple Individuals for Championships Contests for the 2020 fall sports season only. The Board also agreed to consider a request from District 1 to suspend the application of Article VI, Section 2B of the PIAA By-Laws, Conclusion of the Regular Season, to permit teams that do not qualify for the playoffs, and even if defeated, to continue to play contests until Thanksgiving. The request would be for the fall 2020 season only and will be further reviewed at the next Board of Directors’ Meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 7th. The Board of Directors approved on a first reading, a proposal for the Board to provide an alternate solution for teams not participating in fall, to permit those teams to play in Spring, without playoffs. The Board approved bracketing and post-season schedules for Fall Sports (see schedule on next page of newsletter). Discussion was held on the recent U.S. District Court ruling regarding the capacity limitations deemed unconstitutional. Schools should have a conversation with their school boards and solicitors to make local decisions about spectator limits or follow the Department of Education request on voluntary adherence to the 25 (indoor) and 250 (outdoor) capacity limitations. The Board approved on a second reading, language interpreting Article X, Curriculum Sections 1 & 2 of the By-Laws, concerning (4) minimum credits for students who are seniors with enough credits to graduate and approved on a first reading, language for Article III Attendance. Click here for the complete summary.

Fall Sports—Rule Interpretation Meetings

The September 15th deadline for coaches and officials to attend or view an online rules interpretation meeting has passed. Per ARTICLE XIV, COACHES, Section 3, Mandatory Rules Interpretation Meeting, the penalty for a head coach’s failure to attend or view the rule’s interpretation meeting is a fine of $100. Accordingly, officials may be suspended.

In an effort to further accommodate coaches and officials online Rule Interpretation meetings have been reopened until 11:59 pm on Friday, October 9th. Online Rules Interpretation Meeting for Fall Sports (Field Hockey, Football, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball) are available for a fee of $50 for officials, and $75 for coaches.

For step by step directions on how to complete the meeting, coaches, click here, officials, click here. Please take advantage of this opportunity of the discounted fee to complete the requirement.
**Winter Sports Dates:**

**NOVEMBER 20th**
- First Practice Date: Rifle, Indoor Track, Girls’ Gymnastics, Bowling, Wrestling, Swimming & Diving and Basketball

**NOVEMBER 27th**
- First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date: Rifle, Indoor Track, Girls’ Gymnastics, Bowling, Wrestling, Swimming & Diving and Basketball

**Sport Official Clearances**
As a reminder, all officials whose clearances are due to expire must renew them to continue to officiate. On May 8th, 2020, Governor Wolf signed legislation extending the FBI Clearance (only) deadline to December 31st, 2020. For additional information on officials clearances, please click [here](#).

**Winter Sports — Rule Interpretation Meetings**
Similar to the Fall there will be three ways to complete Winter Sports Rule Interpretation Meetings:

1. Attend the in-person rules meeting being held by your local officials’ chapter, or;
2. Attend the online/virtual rules meeting being held by your local officials’ chapter, or;
3. Log into your coaches’ or officials’ profile and view the recording of the mandatory rules meeting. Directions on how to view this meeting coaches, click [here](#), officials, click [here](#).

Online Meetings will be available from November 1st until November 28th for free. Starting November 29th until December 11th, officials can view the meetings with a charge of $50.00 and coaches can view the meetings with a charge of $75.00.

**National High Schools Activities Month**
October is officially National High Schools Activity Month. Activity Month was created to increase awareness of the values of interscholastic activities. The NFHS has created various resources to help state associations and high schools promote Activity Month. Click [here](#) to view information as well as graphics you can download to help promote Activities Month at your school or organization.