

SUMMARY OF PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ACTIONS AT ITS MEETING OF THURSDAY, MARCH 22; FRIDAY, MARCH 23; AND SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2012

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012

- I. **Approved the Minutes of the Thursday, December 15 and Friday, December 16, 2011; and Thursday, January 26 and Friday, January 27, 2012, meetings of the PIAA Board of Directors.**
- II. **Approved the following PIAA member school applications, effective July 1, 2012:**
 - Kennett Middle School (PIAA District I)
 - Pocono Mountain Charter School (PIAA District XI)
- III. **Approved the following requests concerning cooperative sponsorship of a sport, effective at least the duration of the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 enrollment classification cycle (No affect on enrollment classification size of Team[s]):**
 - A. Fleetwood Area and Oley Valley Middle Schools (PIAA District III) to cooperatively sponsor wrestling, conditioned upon PIAA District III Committee approval.
 - B. Hempfield Area and Jeannette High Schools (PIAA District VII) to cooperatively sponsor boys' and girls' track and field, **effective beginning of 2011-2012 school year**, conditioned upon PIAA District VII Committee approval.
 - C. Clarion Area and North Clarion Area High Schools (PIAA District IX) to cooperatively sponsor football, conditioned upon PIAA District IX Committee approval.
 - D. Catasauqua and Louis E. Dieruff High schools to cooperatively sponsor boys' tennis, **effective beginning of 2011-2012 school year**.
- IV. **Approved the following request concerning cooperative sponsorship of a sport, effective at least the duration of the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 enrollment classification cycle (Will affect enrollment classification of Team[s]):**
 - Fleetwood Area and Oley Valley High Schools (PIAA District III) to cooperatively sponsor wrestling, conditioned upon PIAA District III Committee approval.
- V. **Approved PIAA Cross Country Steering Committee recommendations to:**
 - A. **Amend, on a third and final reading basis**, the Policy for Determining Number of Enrollment Classifications in the Sports of Cross Country, Swimming and Diving, Tennis, Track and Field, and Wrestling and the Policy for Determining Number of Enrollment Classifications in the Sports of Baseball, Basketball, Field Hockey, Football, Soccer, Softball, and Volleyball, to provide for an increase in the number of enrollment classifications in the sport of cross country from two to three, **effective July 1, 2012**.
 - B. **Adopt, on a third and final reading basis**, an online rules interpretation meeting for all head Coaches of PIAA member senior high schools sponsoring the sport of cross country, **effective July 1, 2012**.

- VI. Approved proposed Requests for Proposal (RFP) to:**
- A.** Host the 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, and/or 2015-2016 PIAA Team Wrestling Championships.
 - B.** Host the 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, and/or 2015-2016 PIAA Individual Wrestling Championships.
- VII. Approved the following recommendations of the PIAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to:**
- A.** Establish a new Section of the PIAA Comprehensive Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation (CIPPE) Form to replace Section 2, Certification of Parent/Guardian, subsection F, Understanding of Risk of Concussion and Head Injury, which is consistent with the relevant provision of Safety in Youth Sports Act 101 of 2011, **effective March 22, 2012.**
 - B.** Amend Section 6, Certification by Licensed Physician of Medicine or Osteopathic Medicine, of the PIAA CIPPE Form, to be consistent with the provision of ARTICLE X, LOCAL MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL, Section 2, Powers and Duties of Principal, subsection C, of the PIAA Constitution, which provides that the Principal shall “exclude any contestant who has suffered serious illness or injury until that contestant is pronounced physically fit by the school’s licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine, or if none is employed, by another licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine”, **effective March 22, 2012.**

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2012

- VIII. Following PIAA Board of Directors’ interviews of two (2) finalists for the position of Executive Director of PIAA, unanimously voted to promote Dr. Robert A. Lombardi, PIAA Associate Executive Director, to Executive Director of PIAA, effective upon the retirement of Mr. Bradley R. Cashman, PIAA Executive Director (projected to be Friday, July 13, 2012).**

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2012

- IX. Accepted the unaudited PIAA (Headquarters Only) financial statements for the months ended January 31 and February 29, 2012, as prepared and presented by the PIAA Director of Business Affairs.**
- X. Accepted the recommendation of the PIAA Director of Business Affairs to exercise paragraph 3, Term, of the Souvenir Merchandise and Apparel Development, Management, Marketing, and Sales Agreement between Lighthouse Sportswear, Inc. (“LS”), a Michigan corporation, and the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc. (“PIAA”), which provides, in relevant part, “[a]t any time during the term, both parties can agree to an extension to be set forth by an addendum to this Agreement”; and extend such Agreement for a period of one additional year, commencing on July 1, 2012 and expiring on June 30, 2013.**
- XI. Approved, on a third and final reading basis, the PIAA Tennis Steering Committee recommendation to amend ARTICLE XVI, SEASON AND OUT-OF-SEASON RULES AND REGULATIONS, Table I - Schedule of Fall Sports,**

NOTES; and Table III - Schedule of Spring Sports, NOTES, both of the PIAA By-Laws, to provide for a method of counting round robin or similar alternative forms of competition in the sport of tennis, **effective July 1, 2012**, to read as follows:

* * *

NOTES:

* * *

6. A PIAA member school is permitted to participate in a maximum of eighteen (18) Regular Season tennis Contests based on the following method of counting Regular Season tennis Contests:

a. One (1) Contest for each dual match or abbreviated matches involving no more than 4 Teams utilizing either a three standard six-game set or reduced play match.

b. Two (2) Contests for each triangular match or abbreviated matches involving no more than 7 Teams utilizing either a three standard six-game set or reduced play match.

c. Three (3) Contests for each quadrangular match or abbreviated matches involving at least 8 Teams utilizing either a three standard six-game set or reduced play match.

* * *

XII. Referred back to the PIAA Volleyball Steering Committee, for further consideration and review, its recommendations to 1) adopt a best three-out-of-five set match, single elimination format, for the 2012 and 2013 PIAA A, AA, and AAA Girls' Volleyball Championships and for the 2013 and 2014 PIAA AA and AAA Boys' Volleyball Championships, which would extend the championships (finals) by one week to a Saturday best three-out-of-five set match; and, as a result of the foregoing, **2) approve** proposed brackets (pairings) for the 2012 and 2013 PIAA A, AA, and AAA Girls' Volleyball Championships and for the 2013 and 2014 PIAA AA and AAA Boys' Volleyball Championships.

XIII. Approved the proposed Requests for Proposal (RFP) to:

A. Host the 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, and/or 2015-2016 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships.

B. Host the 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, and/or 2015-2016 PIAA Swimming and Diving Championships.

XIV. Approved the recommendation of the PIAA Football Steering Committee to amend, on a third and final reading basis, ARTICLE XVI, SEASON AND OUT-OF-SEASON RULES AND REGULATIONS, Section 2, Rules and Regulations, subsection C, Football, sub-subsection 5, of the PIAA By-Laws, to clarify that participation on community based non-school affiliated youth fall football programs does not constitute a violation of sub-subsection 2, provided such participation is concluded by no later than December 31st of the same calendar year, effective July 1, 2012, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE XVI
SEASON AND OUT-OF-SEASON
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

* * *

Section 2. Rules and Regulations.

* * *

C. Football.

The following sport-specific rules modify the provisions otherwise set forth in this ARTICLE. To the extent any other provision in this ARTICLE is inconsistent with this Section, this Section controls.

1. For purposes of this Section, "Physical Contact" shall mean blocking and/or tackling. "Physical Contact" does not include contact with blocking and/or tackling dummies, shields, and/or sleds; and/or minimum risk "form" blocking or tackling.

2. Students who engage in Physical Contact at football camps and/or during clinics and/or drills, or similar or comparable functions or activities, and/or during Practices, Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests, outside the PIAA-defined football season, shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic football for a period of up to one year from the date of such participation. Coaches assisting and/or supervising in Physical Contact by students from PIAA member schools, outside the PIAA-defined football season, shall be ineligible to Coach interscholastic football at any PIAA member school for a period of up to one year from the date of such conduct.

3. Outside the PIAA-defined football season, the Principal may permit students of the Principal's school to use the school's helmets, shoulder pads, and shoes for non-Physical Contact skill related instruction supervised by school-approved adults or at instructional camps. This provision is to promote student safety in football-related activities that do not include Physical Contact.

4. In recognition of the unique circumstances within those PIAA member schools that are absent of any junior high/middle school interscholastic football program, students enrolled in and attending those member schools in grades 7 and 8 may annually participate in the out-of-season interscholastic football program organized and operated as National Football League (NFL) Junior Player Development. A student's participation shall be limited to a maximum of two weeks per year.

5. Nothing in this Section shall prevent any student from participating, up through the completion of 8th grade, on a community based non-school affiliated youth fall football programs ~~team~~ through December 31st of the same calendar year ~~completion of that team's fall regular season and, if applicable, its fall postseason.~~

* * *

XV. Referred back to the PIAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, for further consideration and review, its recommendation to amend ARTICLE XVI, SEASON AND OUT-OF-SEASON RULES AND REGULATIONS, Table I - Schedule of Fall Sports, Football, of the PIAA By-Laws, to make mandatory a five-day Preseason Practice heat-acclimatization period in the sport of football, prior to the first Practice day in that sport.

XVI. Accepted the recommendation of the PIAA Administrative Staff to approve, on a second reading basis, the:

A. Proposed number of entries (qualifiers), by District or by Region, to the 2012 and 2013 PIAA Fall Championships; and the proposed brackets (pairings) for the 2012 and 2013 PIAA Girls' Team and Singles and Doubles Tennis, Girls' Volleyball, Field Hockey, Girls' and Boys' Soccer, and Football Championships.

B. Proposed number of entries (qualifiers), by District or by Region, to the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 PIAA Winter Championships; and the proposed brackets (pairings) for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 PIAA Team Wrestling and Girls' and Boys' Basketball Championships.

C. Proposed number of entries (qualifiers), by District or Region, to the 2013 and 2014 PIAA Spring Championships; and the proposed brackets (pairings) for the 2013 and 2014 PIAA Boys' Team and Singles and Doubles Tennis, Boys' Volleyball, Girls' and Boys' Lacrosse, Baseball, and Softball Championships.

XVII. Directed the Executive Director, Director of Legal Affairs, and Legal Counsel to propose a policy which, if adopted by the PIAA Board of Directors, would continue to provide for a PIAA member senior high school to voluntarily upgrade to a higher enrollment classification but would not alter the number of entries (qualifiers) for any PIAA District once the PIAA-established deadline for voluntary participation in a higher enrollment classification has passed, **effective July 1, 2012.**

XVIII. Accepted the recommendation of the PIAA Executive Director to amend the following provisions of the PIAA By-Laws:

A. On a second reading basis, ARTICLE VI, TRANSFERS, RESIDENCE, AND RECRUITING, Section 3, Ineligible Students, and Section 4, Regional Panel or District Committee Review, subsection C, Review and Rescission of Presumptive Eligibility, of the PIAA By-Laws, to clarify the eligibility of transferring students in sports not played by that student within the past year, **effective July 1, 2012,** to read as follows:

ARTICLE VI

TRANSFERS, RESIDENCE, AND RECRUITING

Section 3. Ineligible Students.

A student not presumptively eligible under Section 2 of this ARTICLE shall be presumptively ineligible to participate in each sport in which the student participated within one year immediately preceding the date of the student's Transfer. The student shall be presumptively eligible in all other sports.

* * *

Section 4. Regional Panel or District Committee Review.

* * *

C. Review and Rescission of Presumptive Eligibility.

Notwithstanding Sections 2 and 3 of this ARTICLE, a Regional Panel or District Committee, within their respective jurisdictions, may, following a student's Transfer, and upon request of the Principal of a PIAA member school, or on its own initiative, after giving notice to the student's school and an opportunity to be heard to the student and the student's school, (1) declare any transferring student ineligible to participate in each sport in which that student participated within a period of one year immediately preceding the date of Transfer, if the

Committee finds that there exists a reasonable likelihood that the Transfer was materially motivated in some way by an athletic purpose or would otherwise circumvent the purpose of the ARTICLE of deterring Transfers which are materially motivated in some way by an athletic purpose; and/or (2) if a finding is specifically made that there exists a reasonable likelihood that the Transfer was materially motivated in some way by an athletic purpose relating to specific sports, declare that the student shall be ineligible to participate in those sports for one year from the date of Transfer, regardless of whether the student actually participated in those sports for the year preceding the date of Transfer.

* * *

B. On a first reading basis, ARTICLE VIII, PERIOD OF PARTICIPATION, Section 6, Waiver of Sections 1A and/or 1B, of the PIAA By-Laws, 1) to provide for a waiver for a Student With A Disability to participate at the junior varsity level of competition; and 2) amend the GLOSSARY of the PIAA By-Laws to provide for a definition of Junior Varsity and Varsity, effective July 1, 2012, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE VIII
PERIOD OF PARTICIPATION**

* * *

Section 6. Waiver of Sections 1A and/or 1B.

* * *

E. Waiver to Participate at the Junior Varsity Level of Competition.

The District Committee may grant a limited waiver of Sections 1A and/or 1B to permit a Student With A Disability to participate at the Junior Varsity level of competition following an individualized assessment of the student's condition in relation to the purposes of this ARTICLE and the potential impact of participation by the student on opponents and teammates if the District Committee concludes that:

1. the student suffers from a physical, mental, or emotional disability which has been recognized by, and certified to by, a treating physician or psychiatrist;

2. the student has a current Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or a Chapter 15 Service Agreement relating to the certified to disability, at the student's school;

3. the student would likely not, due to the student's physical size, athletic ability and/or other characteristics, pose an increased risk of harm to opponents; and

4. the student is otherwise eligible under these By-Laws. No more than two semesters and/or one season in the sport may be waived by the District Committee.

* * *

GLOSSARY

* * *

JUNIOR VARSITY: The next highest level of interscholastic competition in a sport sponsored by a school. This level is to be distinguished from Varsity and junior high/middle school competition.

* * *

Varsity: The highest level of interscholastic competition in a sport sponsored by a school. This level is to be distinguished from Junior Varsity and junior high/middle school competition.

* * *

C. On a suspended protocol basis, ARTICLE XV, OFFICIALS, Section 6, Removal of Registered Sports Officials, of the PIAA By-Laws, to **1)** reorganize that Section, **2)** provide for the Executive Director to implement the statutorily required removal of certain sports officials, and **3)** add a reinstatement provision following the statutory removal period, **effective March 24, 2012,** to read as follows:

**ARTICLE XV
OFFICIALS**

* * *

Section 6. Removal of Registered Sports Officials.

A. Mandatory Removal

The Executive Director ~~Board of Directors~~ 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).

The Executive Director ~~Board of Directors~~ 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 unless a period of ten years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the offense.

The Executive Director ~~Board of Directors~~ 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 unless a period of five years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the offense.

The Executive Director ~~Board of Directors~~ 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 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, shall 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.

B. Discretionary Removal

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

1A. 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

2B. Whose conduct on or off the competition surface renders the official unfit to act as a registered sports official, or

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

4D. 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

5E. 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 shall be 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.

* * *

XIX. Rejected the recommendation of the PIAA Strategic Planning Committee to either adopt new definitions or amend certain existing definitions within the GLOSSARY, of the PIAA By-Laws, to read as follows:

BOUNDARY SCHOOL: All Public Schools.

CHARTER SCHOOL: ~~An independent public school,~~ which is organized as a non-profit corporation, established and operated under a charter from a local School Board.

CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL: ~~An independent public school,~~ which is organized as a non-profit corporation, established and operated under a charter from the Department of Education, in which the school uses technology to provide a significant portion of its curriculum and to deliver a significant portion of instruction to its students through the Internet or other electronic means.

NON-BOUNDARY SCHOOL: All schools that are not Public Schools.

PRIVATE SCHOOL: ~~A nonpublic school that is not an Alternative School,~~ a Charter School, a Cyber Charter School, a Magnet School, a Public School, or a Technology School.

PRIVATE SCHOOL'S SCHOOL DISTRICT: ~~A Each Private School, including each Private senior high School's and its Feeder Schools, shall have its own "school district". Regardless of the location of its Feeder Schools, the geographic boundaries of the Private senior high School's "school district" shall be considered the boundaries of the public school district in which it is geographically located. The Private School's school district and the public school district are separate school districts.~~

PUBLIC SCHOOL: A school, which is owned and funded by a Public School District and governed by a School Board.

PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT: An entity created pursuant to the Pennsylvania Public School Code, which is charged with the responsibility of public education and which is authorized to assess taxes on properties located within its geographic boundaries.

- XX. Amended, on a second reading basis,** the Policy Regarding Standardization of Reporting Procedures and Centralization of Accounting, to provide for a more practical interval for PIAA District Committees to report their operating activities to PIAA, **effective July 1, 2012,** to read as follows:

* * *

POLICY REGARDING STANDARDIZATION OF REPORTING PROCEDURES AND CENTRALIZATION OF ACCOUNTING

All PIAA District Committees shall adopt and implement the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc. (PIAA) Accounting and Procedures Manual and a modified version of its Chart of Accounts, to provide for the standardization of reporting procedures and centralization of accounting.

All PIAA District Committees shall report their operating activities to PIAA, no less often than quarterly ~~monthly~~, to provide for the PIAA Board of Directors to fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities to the membership.

* * *

- XXI. Rejected the recommendation of the Executive Director to amend** the Policy for Determining Number of Entries (Qualifiers) to PIAA Inter-District Championships in the Sports of Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming and Diving, Tennis, Track and Field, Volleyball, and Wrestling, to limit the larger Districts to twenty-five percent (25%) of the bracket in the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball, and Team wrestling, to read as follows:

* * *

POLICY FOR DETERMINING NUMBER OF ENTRIES (QUALIFIERS) TO PIAA INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE SPORTS OF BASEBALL, BASKETBALL, CROSS COUNTRY, FIELD HOCKEY, FOOTBALL, GOLF, LACROSSE, SOCCER, SOFTBALL, SWIMMING AND DIVING, TENNIS, TRACK AND FIELD, VOLLEYBALL, AND WRESTLING

Each PIAA District or Region that sponsors a qualifying Tournament involving at least four (4) member schools sponsoring a Team, which participates in at least 50% of the maximum permitted number of Regular Season Contests in the sports of baseball, basketball, cross country, field hockey, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, volleyball, and wrestling, shall be entitled to a minimum of one (1) entry (qualifier), per enrollment classification, to PIAA Inter-District Championships in those sports.

Additional entries (qualifiers) are computed on a modified proportional representation basis, with the larger Districts limited to twenty-five percent (25%) of the entries (qualifiers) ~~an appropriate maximum number of entries (qualifiers)~~ ~~to~~ of the PIAA Inter-District Championships in the bracketed sports of baseball,

basketball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball, and Team wrestling these sports.

* * *

- XXII. Accepted the recommendation of the PIAA Human Resources Committee to amend, on a second reading basis, the PIAA Headquarters' Employee Handbook, effective July 1, 2012.**
- XXIII. Accepted the recommendation of the PIAA Budget Committee to adopt, on a second reading basis, the PIAA Operating Activities and Cash Flows Budgets for the year ending June 30, 2013.**
- XXIV. Rejected the request for relief from the enrollment report submitted on behalf of Panther Valley High School (PIAA District XI), as of Monday, October 3, 2011.**
- XXV. Removed from the list of registered sports officials, effective March 24, 2012, a PIAA-registered wrestling official who pled guilty to third-degree felony charges of violations of rules/regulations, protected water supply, and prohibition against other pollution; and a PIAA-registered baseball and basketball official who plead guilty by no contest to two consolidated first-degree misdemeanor charges of corruption of minors, two third-degree felony charges of corruptions of minors, and one consolidated third-degree felony charge of corruption of minors.**

NEXT PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING: 7:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 AND 8:00 A.M., THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2012, FALLING SPRING ROOM, FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON, CHAMBERSBURG, PA.