

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2004
Cabinet Room, Townsend Building

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by DIAA Chairperson Gerald Kobasa.

B. Roll Call

The following DIAA Board members were present: Gerald Kobasa, Mark Holodick, Gerald Allen, Kathleen Wilbur, Sue Spilecki, Joan Samonisky, Dr. Kevin Carson, William Passwaters, Ted Williams, Sister Ann Michele, Dr. Lewis Atkinson, Zane Robinson, Ed Kee. Jack Holloway, Executive Director, and Mary Cooke, Deputy Attorney General, were also in attendance. Phyllis Kohel, Dr. Jeffrey Hawtof, Dr. Robert Andrzejewski, Robert Reed, and Dr. Garrett Lyons were unable to attend.

III. A. Recognition of Former Board Member – Susan Heiss

Mr. Kobasa presented Ms. Heiss with a plaque in recognition of her years of service on the DSSAA and DIAA Board of Directors. Mr. Holloway commented that Ms. Heiss is a tremendous asset to this organization.

I. C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Kobasa noted that there was an addendum to the agenda. Mr. Kee made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendments. The motion was seconded by Ms. Samonisky and carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes of the Annual Meeting and September 9, 2004 Board of Directors' Meeting

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2004 Board of Directors' Meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Sister Ann Michele and carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Action Items

B. Request by MOT Charter School for DIAA Membership

Mr. Ed Delphin explained that he was asking for membership into the Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association. He commented that their school has been in

existence for three years and has grades kindergarten through eighth grade with an enrollment of 675 students. After Mr. Delphin reviewed with the Board the sports the school plans to sponsor Mr. Holloway recommended approval of this request. Dr. Carson made a motion to accept membership of the MOT Charter School. The motion was seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

C. Request by Academy of Dover Charter School for DIAA Membership

Leonard Litzi and Wayne Marcum were in attendance to present this request. Mr. Litzi explained that the Academy of Dover Charter School would like to become a member of the DIAA and to be able to participate with other DIAA member schools. Mr. Marcum explained that the sports they were interested in sponsoring were volleyball, softball, track and field for boys and girls, baseball, and basketball. Mr. Holloway commented that he was recommending approval as long as the Academy of Dover Charter School is clear with the competitive season at the sixth-grade level. Mr. Williams made a motion to accept the membership by the Academy of Dover Charter School. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously.

III. E. Jim Blades Scholarship Fund

Mr. Holloway reviewed Mr. Blades' involvement with DIAA and the number of committees he served on as well as his involvement with the DIAA State Cross Country Meet and the DIAA Track and Field State Championships with the Board members. Mr. Holloway explained to the Board that there was a scholarship established in Jim Blades name and would like for DIAA to make a donation to this scholarship fund. Some discussion ensued regarding who would receive the scholarship and that DIAA represents all schools in Delaware and not just Lake Forest and St. Thomas More Academy. Mr. Kobasa commented that the Henlopen Conference was also making a donation to this scholarship fund. Mr. Holloway was recommending that this be done based on the work that Mr. Blades did over the years for DIAA. Mr. Passwaters made a motion for a one time donation of \$1,000.00 to go to the Jim Blades Scholarship Fund. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spilecki and carried unanimously.

III. G. Contract with Michael Biggs/David Rabian Photography

Mr. Holloway commented on the proposed contract from Mike Biggs/David Rabian Photography and reminded the Board that they approved this proposal at the last meeting and just wanted everyone to look at it before he signed the contract. Mr. Holloway reviewed some minor clarification that he will be making but did not feel there would be any problems. Ms. Cooke asked for clarification on some issues and also wanted clarification on some of the wording in the contract, specifically the second sentence of the last paragraph of page four. Some discussion ensued as to who would be allowed to be on the sidelines to take pictures and Mr. Holloway commented that this has to be controlled. Some discussion also ensued regarding a

form being made for parents to sign giving DIAA permission to have the students photographed. Mr. Holloway commented that a paragraph will be put on the physical form next year.

H. All Star Contests – Volleyball & Soccer

Mr. Holloway commented that he had received a request from the Delaware Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association to hold their 21st senior all-star match and the Blue-White Senior All-Star Soccer Match to hold their all-star games. Mr. Holloway commented that everything looked in line and would recommend approval. Mr. Kee made a motion to approve both events. The motion was seconded by Mr. Passwaters and carried unanimously.

I. Violation of 14 DE Admin 1008.2.9.1 by Fifer Middle School

Mr. Holloway reviewed a self-reported violation where a student was discovered ineligible after the season started and participated in one game. Mr. Holloway commented that the school has written a letter to forfeit the game and commented that the forfeiture penalty is the proper penalty for this type of violation. Dr. Carson made a motion to approve the forfeiture as penalty for this violation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Samonisky and carried unanimously.

I. E. Financial Report

Mr. Holloway informed the Board that he had arranged an appointment with Book Associates to review our financial statements and he would report the findings at our November meeting.

III. J. A. I. duPont HS Requests a Decision on Student A.S. a Transfer From Hodgson

Mr. Holloway explained a situation involving a student attending Hodgson who was asked not to return because he failed to attend summer school for English and his graduation was in doubt. Mr. Holloway commented that the student withdrew on August 4, 2004 and that his home district is Red Clay and the home school is Wilmington High School attendance area. Mr. Holloway explained that the parents applied for choice through the Red Clay School District and indicated a preference of the schools as A.I. duPont High School for the number 1 choice and McKean number 2, and Dickinson number 3. Mr. Holloway stated that the parents were informed that A. I. was closed to choice and their son was being enrolled in McKean. Mr. Holloway explained that the student did not want to attend McKean and never went to McKean High School and was marked absent. Mr. Holloway further explained that the parents appealed to the Superintendent from Red Clay who eventually allowed the student to enroll at A. I. duPont High School on the 16th of September. Mr. Holloway was asking if the student is subject to the 90 day rule. After considerable discussion the

consensus of the Board was that Mr. Holloway should speak with Dr. Andrzejewski and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

K. Information has Been Brought Forth Regarding the Transfer of a Cape Henlopen High School Student J.L.

Mr. Holloway reviewed a situation that he just received involving two students one from Sussex Tech High School and the other from Cape Henlopen High School. He stated that from what he understands, one student allegedly used a pellet pistol from the ROTC room and during a confrontation pointed the pistol at the other student. Mr. Holloway commented that a felony charge was filed and that there is a court date. Mr. Holloway commented that the student from Cape Henlopen was a football player and had to sit out the first 10 days while he was serving his suspension. Mr. Holloway stated that because the student could not play varsity right away the parents decided to transfer the student to Sussex Central and are now using a Georgetown address and are apparently having a home built in Georgetown. Mr. Holloway stated that he has informed the athletic director at Sussex Central that this student was allowed to practice but because his eligibility is in question he should not participate. The consensus of the Board was not to make any decisions on this because Mr. Holloway is still investigating but that the student should not be participating.

F. Wrestling Proposal for 20 Event/Limited Tournaments – DWCA and State Tournament Committee

Dickey Howell, Past President, Delaware Wrestling Coaches Association and Kevin Charles, Chair, State Wrestling Committee, presented a proposal to modify Regulation 1009.4.3.1 Wrestling Competition Dates. Mr. Howell stated that the Delaware Wrestling Coaches Association was proposing to increase the team contest limits for wrestling from 18 contests to 20 contests. Mr. Howell explained that the proposal includes a limit of six individual tournaments, not including the DIAA state tournament and state tournament qualifiers, per team per season. Mr. Howell further explained that it also states that all individual tournaments, dual meets and each dual meet wrestled in a multiple team event count as one contest toward the limit of 20 events. Mr. Howell commented that if this proposal was passed for the 2004-05 season only, teams would have the choice of the current rule or the proposed rule but not both.

Mr. Charles explained that this proposal did come to the State Wrestling Committee with input from the athletic directors, coaches, and officials approving the proposal. Mr. Charles stated that the Wrestling Committee did approve the proposal by a vote of 8 to 1. After being questioned about the impact this would have on the wrestlers, Mr. Charles commented that the Wrestling Committee did do some research in similar limitations in other states and found this to be consistent and that many states placed a limit on the number of tournaments and so the Wrestling Committee amended the original proposal to include the limit on individual tournaments.

Mr. Williams complimented the Delaware Wrestling Coaches Association and the State Wrestling Committee for the thoroughness of the research and the proposal. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the recommendations of the State Wrestling Committee with the endorsement of the athletic directors and wrestling coaches to adopt a change to our rules to allow 20 contests with the additional limitation of six tournaments as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kee and carried unanimously.

The Board recessed at 11:00 a.m. and reconvened at 11:10 a.m.

D. Request for Sanction of Tournament

Mr. Holloway presented eleven tournaments to the Board for sanctioning. Mr. Holloway asked the Board to vote separately on the Slam Dunk to the Beach Basketball tournament because he had received two letters concerning the tournament. Dr. Carson made a motion to approve the ten events for sanctioning. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously.

Mr. Holloway reviewed two letters he had received regarding the Slam Dunk to the Beach Basketball Tournament, the application for sanction, as well as the financial report of the 2003 Slam Dunk to the Beach tournament.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:20 p.m. and reconvened at 12:40 p.m.

After reviewing the information regarding the Slam Dunk to the Beach Basketball Tournament, Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the request with the stipulations 1. Confirmation that the outstanding debt to Lake Forest Athletic Boosters is satisfied; 2. Confirmation that the outstanding debt to Board #129 is satisfied; 3. Cape Henlopen School District is prepaid for rental of facilities; 4. Satisfaction of all other outstanding debts brought to DIAA's attention by October 21, 2004; 5. Sanctioning will be withdrawn if the corporation files bankruptcy prior to sanctioning application being filed with NFHS; 6. DIAA must receive proof of payment of outstanding debts by November 9, 2004; and 7. Slam Dunk will pay the \$75 late fee to NFHS. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and failed by a vote of 8 – yes (Holodick, Spilecki, Carson, Passwaters, Williams, Sister Ann Michele, Wilbur, and Kee), 4 – no (Kobasa, Allen, Samonisky, Robinson).

Mr. Kee made a motion to deny sanctioning because of concerns with the financial stability of the corporation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Passwaters and failed by a vote of 7 – yes (Holodick, Spilecki, Carson, Passwaters, Williams, Sister Ann Michele, and Kee), 4 – no (Kobasa, Allen, Samonisky, and Robinson), and 1 – abstention (Wilbur).

Mr. Williams then made a motion to sanction the 2004 Slam Dunk to the Beach Basketball Tournament provided the following items are received by November 5, 2004: 1. Proof that all debts with Lake Forest and IAABO 129 are satisfied, 2.

Prepayment of facility at Cape Henlopen is satisfied, 3. If the corporation files bankruptcy prior to November 5, 2004 sanction will not go forward, 4. Payment of the sanction fee to the NFHS. The motion was seconded by Ms. Samonisky and failed by a vote of 9 – yes (Kobasa, Holodick, Allen, Wilbur, Spilecki, Samonisky, Williams, Sister Ann Michele, and Robinson) and 3 – no (Carson, Passwaters, and Kee).

Discussion continued regarding the sanction application. Mr. Kee made a motion to deny the request for sanction based on financial instability that surrounds the tournament. The motion was seconded by Mr. Passwaters and failed by a vote of 8 – yes (Holodick, Wilbur, Spilecki, Carson, Passwaters, Williams, Sister Ann Michele, and Kee), 4 – no (Kobasa, Allen, Samonisky, and Robinson).

After several unsuccessful motions and seconds were made the consensus of the Board was to table this request for sanction until the November 10, 2004 DIAA Board meeting. The Board directed Mr. Holloway to meet with Mr. Jacobs to resolve the difficulties mentioned in the letters as well as concerns the Board had regarding the 2003 financial report before the next Board meeting. Dr. Carson made a motion to table this request until the November 10, 2004 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried by a vote of 11- yes (Kobasa, Holodick, Allen, Wilbur, Spilecki, Samonisky, Carson, Passwaters, Sister Ann Michele, Robinson, and Kee) and 1 – no (Williams).

IV. Executive Director Report

A. Delaware State Football Contract

Mr. Holloway commented that the Delaware State Football Contract was amended as requested at the last meeting.

B. DAAD Conference and DIAA In-Service

Mr. Holloway commented that the DAAD conference went well with good attendance. Mr. Holloway also commented that the DIAA In-Service was well attended and that we now have over 25 athletic directors in the state that can begin to sit for their certified athletic administrator exam if they so chose.

V. Presentation and Discussion

A. New Ball Contracts

Mr. Holloway asked that the new ball contract be tabled until November.

VI. Other

VII. Public Comment

None

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Passwaters made a motion to adjourn at 1:50 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robinson and carried unanimously.

Tina Tyre