

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2005
Cabinet Room, Townsend Building

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by DIAA Chairperson Gerald Kobasa.

B. Roll Call

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

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Kobasa commented that there was an amendment to the agenda adding Item III. D. a self-reported violation by Gunning Bedford Middle School. Mr. Williams made a motion to accept the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes of the Annual Meeting and the February 10, 2005 Board of Directors' Meetings

Mr. Holodick made a motion to approve the minutes of the annual meeting and the February 10, 2005 Board of Directors' Meetings as submitted. The motion was seconded by Sister Ann Michele and carried unanimously.

Mr. Holodick suggested that in the future the DIAA Board meeting dates do not fall on the same dates as the Delaware State Testing dates.

E. DIAA Financial Report

Mr. Holloway reviewed the financial report and commented that everything balances. Mr. Holloway also commented that we are still in the process of collecting winter tournament revenue. Mr. Holloway commented on the fall sports season and commented that we are ahead of what was projected for the fall income.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Action Items

A. Sanction of Tournaments

Mr. Holloway commented that there were four tournaments that needed to be sanctioned and was recommending the Board to approve. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the tournaments for sanction. The motion was seconded by Ms. Samonisky and carried unanimously.

B. Approval of the Fall Practice Calendar for 2005

Mr. Holloway explained to the Board that he was recommending that the fall practice calendar for the 2005-06 school year be approved but was recommending that this be reviewed next year with the athletic directors. Mr. Holloway commented that he did not develop this particular formula and that it was worked out by the former Executive Director. Mr. Holloway explained that he felt this calendar was developed when schools began to open in August and the football coaches felt it was unfair that they were not getting enough double session practices. Dr. Andrzejewski explained a little of the history on how schools began to start earlier. Mr. Holodick suggested leaving this decision up to the athletic directors. Some discussion ensued regarding the fact that no other sport season gets to start their practice sessions early. Ms. Kohel made a motion to approve the fall practice calendar for the 2005-06 school year. The motion was seconded by Dr. Andrzejewski and carried unanimously.

C. Approval of Leadership Courses for Delaware Athletes - NWCA

Mr. Holloway commented that he has been approached by the National Wrestling Coaches Association to pilot a leadership program that they have and are trying to make nationwide. Mr. Holloway stated that we are already involved in their weight management program which has proved to be a very worthwhile program for Delaware. Mr. Holloway explained that the leadership course is an online course that would be sponsored by two companies for the first two years so that there would be no cost to DIAA. Mr. Holloway explained that the athletic directors would have access to a website that they could give to their coaches and in turn the coach could provide the leadership course to whatever athlete he chose. Mr. Holloway commented that the course teaches the student what leadership is all about and how to become a leader. Mr. Holloway was suggesting that the Board allow him to proceed with this leadership program for one year and see how it goes. Mr. Holodick made a motion to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously.

D. Self-Reported Violation – Gunning Bedford Middle School

Mr. Holloway reviewed a letter he received from the principal at Gunning Bedford Middle School who used a volunteer coach who had not yet been approved by their school board. Mr. Holloway commented that the school district has taken steps to address this miscommunication so that this does not happen again. Mr. Holloway

stated that this was a self-reported violation and did not see a need for any penalty. A Board member commented that a similar situation happened in the past with the same school district and that the district should be informed. Mr. Williams made a motion that Mr. Holloway send a letter to the principal thanking him for the self-reported violation with a copy to the superintendent informing them that this was the second occurrence and have they taken any steps to prevent these types of situations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Passwaters and carried unanimously.

IV. Executive Director Report

A. Winter State Championships

Mr. Holloway commented on the swimming and diving championships by saying they were moved back due to weather but that they were very successful as well as the wrestling championships which were also successful. Mr. Holloway then explained the new quarterfinal round procedure with the boys' and girls' basketball tournaments.

B. Sportsmanship

Mr. Charles reviewed the incident reports for the winter sports. Mr. Charles commented that there were approximately 90 incident reports with 45 percent from the New Castle County and with 55 percent from lower Delaware. Mr. Charles also commented on two incidents that were going to be reviewed by the Sportsmanship Committee.

C. Foreign Exchange Programs and CSIET Recognition

Mr. Holloway commented on a complaint that he received from an organization called P.E.A.C.E. who said they were going to submit something to be placed on the agenda but was never received. Mr. Holloway explained that P.E.A.C.E. is a foreign exchange program who had an athlete that they wanted to be eligible. Mr. Holloway further explained that we are a member of an organization named CSIET and DIAA Regulations prohibits schools from using foreign exchange programs that are not registered with CSIET. Mr. Holloway commented that if this organization wanted an athlete to be eligible they would have to present their request to this Board for approval.

V. Presentation and Discussion

A. DIOC and DIAA Arbitor Plan

Mr. Charles explained that the DIOC and DIAA were proposing to purchase two products to help the officials associations with management of their associations and communications with athletic directors. Mr. Charles explained that one of the products that could help the officials organizations is a product called NASOon

which produces a guide to officials association's on how to manage their officials organization. Mr. Charles commented that he would like to present each officials associations with this guide. Mr. Charles then explained that the next product that he was proposing to the DIOC was a product from Arbitor which is an internet based assignment software. Mr. Charles explained that this program could allow associations to assign games and communicate with officials and schools. Mr. Charles also stated that associations and athletic directors would have the capability to go on line and see who has been assigned to a specific game or if there were any game scheduling changes. Mr. Charles commented that some of the associations are currently using Arbitor. Mr. Charles explained that the charge for this service would be \$3 per official. Mr. Charles further explained that he was proposing that the officials dues be increased to \$27.00 per official to cover this expense. Mr. Holloway commented that the dues have not been increased for at least twelve years. Mr. Holloway commented that with the increase in the officials dues, the officials would be getting the Arbitor. Mr. Passwaters made a motion to accept these proposals. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously.

B. Open Forum

Mr. Holloway commented that he wanted to use this time for any topics that the Board members might have to discuss. Mr. Holloway commented that he would like to have a sub-committee formed to study the issue of media. Mr. Holloway stated that he felt the current policy is outdated and should be reviewed.

Dr. Lyons commented on the number of ejections in soccer and questioned if there has been anything done for the upcoming fall season. Mr. Holloway commented that his number one priority has been sportsmanship not only with soccer but with all sports.

Ms. Wilbur questioned the police coverage at sporting events. Mr. Holloway commented that he has been approaching athletic directors and site directors trying to communicate how tournaments should be run and putting an emphasis on game management.

Ms. Cooke updated the Board on the two DIAA appeals to the State Board of Education.

VII. Public Comment

None

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Kohel made a motion to adjourn at 10:55 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Passwaters and carried unanimously.

Tina Tyre