

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2006
Collette Building

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

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

B. Roll Call

The following DIAA Board members were present: Mark Holodick, Ted Williams, Gerald Allen, Kathleen Wilbur, Debbie Corrado, Joan Samonisky, John Oliver, Michael Wagner, Sister Ann Michele, Robert Reed, Dr. Jeffrey Hawtof. Kevin Charles; Executive Director, and Paula Fontello; Deputy Attorney General, were also in attendance. Dr. Dianne Sole, Ed Kee, Phyllis Kohel, Dr. Lewis Atkinson, and Dr. Garrett Lyons were unable to attend.

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Holodick commented that there were corrections to the May Board Meeting minutes and also additional information to add to the waiver request for today. Mr. Holodick stated that there was also a state tournament attendance report, information on the catastrophic insurance policy, DIAA state tournament venues for 2006-07, DIAA sports champions for 2005-06, two letters from Padua Academy, and an article from a newspaper with quotes from our Executive Director that needed to be added to the agenda. Ms. Samonisky made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allen and carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes of the May 11, 2006 Board of Directors' Meeting

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2006 Board of Directors' Meeting as amended both written and verbal. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hawtof and carried unanimously.

E. DIAA Financial Report

Mr. Charles reviewed the financial report and explained that the income was due largely to the revenue from the spring tournament events and the wrestling weight management and that the expenses were largely from paying the Bob Carpenter Center for the basketball tournament and for paying Delaware State University for the wrestling tournament. Ms. Samonisky made a motion to accept the budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Oliver and carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Action Items

B. Application of St. Georges Technical HS for Full Membership in DIAA for 2006-07

Mr. Charles informed the Board that he has received a request for membership from St. Georges Technical High School that will be opening this fall with a freshmen class only. Mr. Charles explained that they will be participating in freshman levels sports for the first year. Mr. Charles stated that the school was constructing playing fields and a gymnasium but would not be complete for this fall so the school would be playing at away sites. Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the request for membership. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously.

C. 2006-07 Tournament Venues

Mr. Charles reviewed the sports for next year and where they are expected to be played. Mr. Charles also commented on a possibility of Killen's Pond becoming the permanent site for cross country.

D. Renew Catastrophic Insurance Policy for 2006-07

Mr. Charles informed the Board that he met with Mr. George Gier from L & W Insurance Agency about renewing the catastrophic insurance policy. Mr. Charles stated that the policy was being renewed without an increase. In response to questions regarding the actual coverage, Ms. Fontello advised that she had not reviewed the policy. Mr. Charles indicated that the policy was renewal of the past policy without changes in coverage. Mr. Wagner made a motion to accept this policy. The motion was seconded by Ms. Samonisky and carried unanimously.

A. Request for Waiver of 14 DE Admin Code 1009.2.7 for KM

Mark Robinson, athletic director at Wilmington Friends School, Linda Basso, students mother, and Kyle Malone were in attendance to present this request. Ms. Basso requested an open hearing. Ms. Fontello explained that there are 17 voting members of which only 11 members were present at this meeting and they would need 10 affirmative votes to pass this request. Ms. Basso confirmed that she understood and the waiver hearing continued. Mr. Holodick reviewed the packet of material that was supplied. Ms. Basso supplied additional documentation. All documents were made part of the record. Ms. Basso explained that they were requesting the waiver for a fifth year of eligibility based on a medical hardship due to problems Kyle had with his weight since he was age five. Ms. Basso, Mr. Robinson, and Student testified regarding Student's waiver request and responded to the Board's

questions. In a response to a Board member's question, Mr. Robinson acknowledged that without the waiver Kyle would be able to participate in sports but only against other associate member schools and that the waiver is only to allow Kyle to compete against full member schools. Mr. Robinson explained that sports have helped Kyle to be motivated and is afraid he will loose that if he can not compete in all games. Ms. Basso commented that Kyle needs the sports participation to help him to remain active and also commented that Kyle does well while he is involved in sports. Mr. Williams made a motion to go into deliberation. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hawtof and carried unanimously. While in deliberation the request for Kyle Malone was discussed. Dr. Hawtof made a motion to come out of deliberation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams made a motion to deny the request for a fifth year of eligibility because a medical hardship was not supported by the information and documentation provided. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously.

The Board recessed at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

IV. Executive Director Report

A. Spring Tournaments Report

Mr. Charles commented that the spring tournament was a very successful tournament with no postponements due to weather. Mr. Charles also commented that the attendance was up in almost all sports. Mr. Charles reported on the team selections for the tournament and commented on one in particular which was Dickinson High School girls' soccer team who did not get into the tournament. Mr. Charles explained that the coach thought that the team had an automatic bid but found out they did not after the girls' soccer committee met. Mr. Charles commented on the programs and the information that was missing in the programs and stated that this will be looked at in the future.

B. School Year 2005-06 Championship Report

Mr. Charles reviewed the championship report with Board members. Mr. Charles commented that 24 of the 29 championship trophies were awarded to private schools.

C. School Year 2005-06 Attendance Report

Mr. Charles reviewed a three-year comparison of all sports and the attendance at those tournament events and stated that attendance is up.

D. Wrestling Program

Mr. Charles commented that Wrestling USA did a publication contest and that our Wrestling Program was ranked as the second best state tournament program and in addition, three Delaware schools, Caesar Rodney HS, A.I. DuPont HS, and William Penn HS received honorable mention on annual high school publication.

E. Self-Report Newark High School

Mr. Charles commented that Newark High School ran an ineligible runner in a track meet against A.I. DuPont High School where Newark did score points. Mr. Charles commented that Newark notified A.I. DuPont and forfeited those points.

F. Self-Report Padua Academy

Mr. Charles commented that he received a call from Padua's athletic director, Angel Payne, who self-reported using two ineligible athletes in the spring track state meet. Mr. Charles explained that the athlete did place in the track meet but that they returned the medal and forfeited the points. Mr. Charles stated that this did not make a difference in the team standing.

V. Other

A. Spring Sportsmanship Report – Tommie Neubauer

Mr. Neubauer reviewed the spring sportsmanship report and stated that the number of positive reports are up. Mr. Neubauer commented that the number of ejections went up.

B. Paula Fontello commented that the DIAA regulations approved at the May meeting were approved by the State Board of Education and were published on June 1 in the register of Regulations and become final on June 11.

VI. Public Comment

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Williams made a motion to adjourn at 11:10 a.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hawtof and carried unanimously.

Tina Hurley