

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
March 8, 2007  
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, Catherine Marvel, Michael Wagner, Dr. Garrett Lyons, Robert Reed, and Dr. Jeffrey Hawtof. Kevin Charles Executive Director, and Mary Cooke, Deputy Attorney General, were also in attendance. Phyllis Kohel, John Oliver, Dianne Sole, Sister Ann Michele, and Dr. Michael Owens were unable to attend.

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Holodick commented that there was an addendum to the agenda which added Item III. F. Consideration of Request for Waiver of 1009.2.6 for Tower Hill and N.D. Mr. Allen made a motion to accept the agenda and the addendum to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Samonisky and carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes of the February 8, 2007 Annual Membership meeting and the February 8, 2007 Board of Directors' Meeting

Ms. Wilbur made a motion to approve the minutes of the annual meeting and the February 8, 2007 Board of Directors' Meetings as submitted. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hawtof and carried unanimously.

E. DIAA Financial Report

Mr. Charles reviewed the expenses and the income of the financial report through February 28. Mr. Charles also commented on the Membership Dues and said that there were still a couple of schools that had not yet paid the dues and those schools have been contacted. Ms. Samonisky made a motion to approve the financial report. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hawtof and carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Tournament Sanctions

Mr. Charles stated that there were eleven events all of which met the criteria. Mr. Reed made a motion to sanction all events as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Samonisky and carried unanimously.

B. Request for Waiver of 14 DE Admin Code 1009.2.6 for A.L.

Keith Jones, Athletic Director at Mt. Pleasant High School, parents and student were in attendance to present this request. The parents requested that the hearing be held in closed session. Ms. Cooke, the Deputy Attorney General, explained to the parents 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. The student and parents confirmed that they understood and wished to proceed and the waiver hearing continued. The parents requested a closed hearing. Mr. Allen made a motion to go into executive session because the student requested a closed hearing as an exception to the freedom of information act for protection of privacy of pupil files and medical records. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reed and carried unanimously. Dr. Hawtof made a motion to go into deliberation. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously. While in deliberation the request for A.L. was discussed. Mr. Williams made a motion to come out of deliberation. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously. Mr. Allen made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously. Dr. Hawtof made a motion, based on testimony received, to allow the student to practice with the team until the third marking period grades are released on E-school Plus and if the grades are passing he will be allowed to compete after the required seven days of practice. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allen and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams then made a motion to allow the student to keep practicing with the team if he was not academically eligible after the grades came out. The motion was seconded by Ms. Marvel but failed on a vote of 8 yes (Holodick, Williams, Wilbur, Samonisky, Marvel, Lyons, Reed, and Hawtof) and 3 – no (Allen, Corrado, Wagner)

C. Request for Waiver of 14 DE Admin Code 1009.1.4.4 & 5.1.1 by Sanford & Layton Prep

Barton Reese, Director at Layton Prep, and Joan Samonisky, athletic director at Sanford School, were in attendance to present this request. Ms. Samonisky commented that this was presented to the Board last month but that they were asked to bring it back at this meeting as a formal request. Ms. Samonisky explained that Layton Prep was started two years ago and serve high school students with learning differences. Ms. Samonisky commented that Mr. Reese was trying to establish an interscholastic athletic program at Layton Prep. Ms. Samonisky explained that the request was to allow Layton Prep students to come to Sanford School and practice girls' lacrosse until Layton Prep can get a program started. Ms. Samonisky stated that both schools will take liability for their own student athletes. Ms. Samonisky also addressed the concern that the Board members had regarding potential recruiting issues and have agreed to propose that any members of either school choose to

transfer to either school the students will ineligible for girls lacrosse for one year. Dr. Lyons made a motion to accept this request. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously. Ms. Samonisky recused herself.

F. Consideration of Request for Waiver of 1009.2.6 for Tower Hill and N.D.

Mr. Jack Holloway, athletic director at Tower Hill School, was in attendance to present this request. Mr. Holloway requested a closed hearing. Ms. Cooke, the Deputy Attorney General, explained to Mr. Holloway that there are 17 voting members of which only 11 members were present at this meeting and he would need 10 affirmative votes to pass this request. Mr. Holloway confirmed that he understood and wished to proceed and the waiver hearing continued. Dr. Hawtof made a motion to go into executive session under the exemption for the discussion of record excluded from the definition of public record and in this case pupil records. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously. 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 Tower Hill and N.D. was discussed. Ms. Corrado made a motion to come out of deliberation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allen and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams made a motion to come out of deliberation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reed and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams made a motion to grant the request by the associate member school to allow N.D. to participate in practice. If N.D. becomes academically eligible the student will be able to participate in scrimmages and games after the required seven day practice period also if N.D. did not become academically eligible he could practice with the team but could not participate in scrimmages or contests. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hawtof and carried by a vote of 10 yes (Williams, Allen, Wilbur, Corrado, Samonisky, Wagner, Lyons, Reed, and Hawtof) and 1 – no (Marvel)

IV. B. Update on DIAA Board Appointments  
E. Appointment of Nominating Committee

Mr. Charles explained that he had a conversation with the Governor's office regarding the nominations for Board members and reviewed the terms of Board members. Mr. Charles commented that Mr. Woody Long has been recommended to the Senate by the Governor as a Board member. Mr. Charles also commented that Mr. Kobasa and Dr. Stone have also been recommended to the Senate by the Governor. Mr. Charles commented that because the terms of the Board's Chair and Vice-Chair are expiring, the Board needs to look for replacing the Chair and Vice Chair positions. Some discussion ensued regarding the Chair and Vice Chair positions becoming vacant at one time. A nominating committee to find replacements for the Chair and Vice Chair was formed and consists of Joan Samonisky, Ted Williams, and Mark Holodick.

#### IV. Executive Director Report

##### A. Self-Report by Lake Forest High School

Mr. Wagner, athletic director at Lake Forest High School, explained that he received a complaint regarding their wrestling coach conducting split sessions. Mr. Wagner commented that he had a conversation with his head coach and it was determined that the two hour rule was unintentionally violated. Mr. Wagner stated that the coach was verbally reprimanded and the practice sessions were adjusted so as not to violate the two hour practice rule.

##### C. Preliminary Report on Winter Tournaments

Mr. Charles reviewed the winter season and stated that it went very well. Mr. Charles commented that he approved additional pay for meet officials at the Indoor Track Meet. As a result, there were no protests this year. The wrestling duals were postponed by one week due to weather but went well. The swimming and diving ran very well with Mike Hart and the Swimming and Diving Committees' help and that three of the four sessions were sold out. The individual wrestling tournament was held at Sussex Central High School due to a basketball game that was scheduled basketball game at Delaware State University. The Sussex Central Staff and Wrestling Boosters did an excellent job of hosting the event. The boys' and girls' basketball tournament had over 16,000 spectators at the Bob Carpenter Center. Sportsmanship was excellent.

#### III. D. Request for One Year Exemption of 14 DE Admin Code 1009.4.3.1 by St. Thomas More Academy

Mr. Bill Windett, athletic director at St. Thomas More Academy, was in attendance to present this request. Mr. Windett commented that this was his first year as athletic director and when he took over the position he only had a partial fall schedule and no winter or spring schedule. Mr. Windett explained that he was having a hard time scheduling track meets. Mr. Windett explained that he was asking for a waiver for this year to have tri-meets that would not count against other schools. Mr. Charles commented that the outdoor track team limitation is 18 competition dates. Dr. Lyons made a motion to approve the request for the 2007 spring track season only. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reed and carried unanimously.

#### IV. D. NFHS Legal Meeting

Mr. Charles commented that this years meeting deals with alternative approaches to secondary education, e-school, virtual school, correspondence courses. Mr. Charles stated that normally we send the attorney because there are a number of cases discussed and he was asking the Board who should go. Mr. Holodick asked that Ms. Cooke contact Ms. Fontello and decide who will attend this meeting.

#### E. NFHS Coaches Education

Mr. Charles commented that the NFHS is having a training session on the coaches education program. They have invited the Executive Director to attend and the NFHS is picking up all costs. Mr. Charles explained he had a conflict so Mr. Neubauer will be attending.

#### F. Update on Interest Bearing Account

Mr. Charles commented that the interest accrued by the DIAA carry-over funds has not been re-deposited in the DIAA account. However, it appears DIAA will retain the interest from this point forward.

#### G. DSLOA Officiating Status

Mr. Charles commented that he met with the president of DSLOA, Bill Squires, and the assignor, Bob Schweitzer, to discuss a shortage of boys' lacrosse officials and a new 7% assignors' fee. They explained the additional 7% fee on the contract was that they need that money to pay for officials from other states because we are short officials and pay less than other states. Mr. Charles stated that Mr. Squires explained that officials in other states are paid more than Delaware officials. Mr. Charles stated that the DSLOA are having a hard time retaining officials and may not have enough officials to do all the sub-varsity games this spring. Mr. Charles commented that he will ask Mr. Squires if his association will be able to cover the games and if not he will have to release the member schools and allow them to contract with non-Delaware officials.

#### H. Discussion on Coaching Out-of-Season Rule 1009.7.5.1

Mr. Charles explained the Coaching Out-of-Season rule and what the coaches can not do. Mr. Charles then reviewed rule 7.5.1.2 and stated that the language was confusing and asked for a little guidance on how to interpret this rule. Mr. Charles reviewed wording from the 2000-01 DSSAA Handbook and stated it appeared the section was unintentionally reformatted which has resulted in the confusion. Ms. Cooke commented on some history of this rule and formatting changes to this rule. Some discussion ensued regarding the concern of schools running leagues. Mr. Holodick suggested that the executive director to interpret this coaching out of season so it is consistent with the 2000-01 handbook so that it will give the executive director and legal council time to clean the rule up.

#### VI. Other

#### VII. Public Comment

None

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Wagner made a motion to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously.

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Tina Hurley