

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 12, 2017– 9:00 a. m.
John W. Collette Education Resource Center

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a. m. by Chairperson Dr. Bradley Layfield.

B. Roll Call

The following DIAA Board members were present: Stan Waterman, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ted Laws, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Robert Cilento, Robert Watson, Mike Hart, Mike Breeding, Susanne Williams, Dr. Bradley Bley, Vetra Evans-Gunter, Leroy Mann, and Jeremy Jeanne. Thomas Neubauer, Executive Director, Laura Makransky, Deputy Attorney General, and DIAA staff Terre Taylor and Tina Bates were also in attendance. Douglas Thompson, Dr. Matthew Donovan, Bruce Harris, Gary Cimaglia, Dr. Mervin Daugherty, and Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald were unable to attend.

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Neubauer noted that Mount Pleasant was an error under Item III B and the correct school was A. I. duPont. Mr. Laws made a motion to approve the agenda with the correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart and carried unanimously, 11 – yes (Waterman, Edney, Laws, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Bley, and Jeanne) and 0 – no.

D. Approval of Minutes of DIAA August 10, 2017 and September 14, 2017 Board Meetings

There was an insufficient number of Board members to vote to approve the August minutes. The minutes are posted in draft form and will be added to a future agenda.

Mr. Laws made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 14 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Evans-Gunter and carried by a vote of 10 – yes (Waterman, Edney, Laws, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, and Jeanne), 0 – no, and 2 abstentions (Bley and Williams).

E. DIAA Financial Report

Mr. Neubauer reported that DIAA income for this time period is \$115,539 and the expenses are \$176,509 for this time period. Mr. Neubauer informed the Board that the State financial system is down for upgrades at this time but will be back up next week. Mr. Neubauer reported that he has been in contact with the Department of Education on how to extend the DIAA spending limit. Mr. Jeanne made a motion to approve the financial report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart and carried unanimously, 12 - yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Laws, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Bley, and

Jeanne) and 0 – no.

F. Process for Interim Waivers

Ms. Makransky explained the current interim waiver process and reported that she has researched the process and found that it could be changed to a more efficient process. Ms. Makransky explained the new process with the Board.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. A. Approval of Tournament Sanctions

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Tournament Sanctions

Mr. Neubauer reported that there are 18 sanctioned events before the Board for approval – Basketball: Cecil College Green N Gold (12/28/17-12/29/17); Cross Country: Pacers Running DCXC (9/23/17), Six Flags Wild Safari (9/30/17), Disney CC Classic (10/6/17 – 10/7/17), Southern DE MS Invitational (10/25/17), N5CTA (11/4/17); Field Hockey: Turf Bowl (10/27/17 – 10/29/17); Indoor Track: Bayside Meets (12/6/17, 12/13/17, 12/20/17, 1/3/18, 1/10/18, 1/17/18, and 1/31/18), Kutztown Golden Bears (1/13/18), Douglas Wesner Memorial (1/20/18), and Wyomissing Area Team Chal (2/2/18); Volleyball: Central DE Invitational (11/3/17); Wrestling: Milford Invitational (12/8/17 – 12/9/17), Milford JV Dual Meet (12/8/17 – 12/9/17), 49th Parkside Holiday Tour (12/15/17 – 12/16/17), The Best of the Best Duals (1/12/18 – 1/13/18), Green Knight Classic (1/20/18), Middle School Wrestling Tour (2/3/18). Mr. Neubauer stated that to the best of his knowledge the 18 approved were in compliance with DIAA and NFHS regulations. Mr. Laws made a motion to approve the sanction events. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeanne and carried unanimously, 12 yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Laws, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Bley, and Jeanne) and 0 – no.

B. Request to Waive 1009.2.4 by A. I. DuPont High School – 2017-10-1

Student and student's mother were in attendance to present this request. The Board went into executive session for the purposes of discussing the request, including the content of the pupil file.

While in executive session, the hearing proceeded, evidence was taken, and the Board held deliberations. All persons participating in this hearing were sworn in. All the documentation was made part of the record and in addition

to the testimony given the Board considered the written documentation provided.

The Board went into deliberation. The Board came out of deliberation and then came out of executive session.

Mr. Jeanne made a motion to approve the waiver based on the testimony and evidence presented that a hardship does exist and the other conditions for granting a waiver were established. The motion was seconded by Dr. Edney and carried by a vote of 12 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Laws, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Bley, and Jeanne) 0 – no.

C. Request to Waive 1009.2.7 by Glasgow HS – 2017-10-2

Mr. Jeanne recused himself from his role as a member of the Board for this hearing and joined the Student, student's mother, and Anthony Smith; assistant basketball coach at Glasgow High School to present this request. The Board went into executive session for the purposes of discussing the request, including the content of the pupil file.

While in executive session, the hearing proceeded, evidence was taken, and the Board held deliberations. All persons participating in this hearing were sworn in. All the documentation was made part of the record and in addition to the testimony given the Board considered the written documentation provided.

The Board went into deliberation. The Board came out of deliberation and then came out of executive session.

Dr. Bley made a motion to grant the waiver based on the evidence provided that a hardship was presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watson and carried by a vote of 11 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, and Bley) 0 – no.

D. Request to Waive 1009.2.4 by Caravel Academy 2017-9-1

Student and student's parents were in attendance to present this request. Mr. Waterman recused himself from this hearing. The Board went into executive session for the purposes of discussing the request, including the content of the pupil file.

While in executive session, the hearing proceeded, evidence was taken, and the Board held deliberations. All persons participating in this hearing were sworn in. All the documentation was made part of the record and in addition

to the testimony given the Board considered the written documentation provided.

The Board went into deliberation. The Board came out of deliberation and then came out of executive session.

Mr. Laws made a motion to grant the waiver based on the evidence provided that a medical hardship was presented and the other four conditions for granting a waiver were established. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mann and carried by a vote of 10 – yes (Williams, Edney, Laws, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, and Bley), 1 – no (Layfield) and 1 abstention (Jeanne).

E. Request to use 8th Graders at the High School Level per Regulation 1009.2.7.3.1 by MOT Charter

Mr. Neubauer reported that he received a request from MOT Charter requesting permission to allow eighth grade student athletes the opportunity to participate on their high school athletic teams. Mr. Neubauer reported that the school meets all requirements and was presenting to the Board for approval.

Mr. Breeding made a motion to grant the request to allow the 8th grade students to participate at the high school level. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeanne and carried by a vote of 11 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, Bley, and Jeanne) 0 – no.

F. Request to rename the DIAA Sportsmanship Award

Mr. Neubauer explained that he received a request from Dr. Fitzgerald asking the Board to consider naming the DIAA Sportsmanship Award the DIAA Dale Farmer Sportsmanship Award. Mr. Neubauer explained that Mr. Farmer was the first Executive Director of the Delaware Athletic Association and that he had recently passed away. Mr. Neubauer reminded the Board that they had recently presented Mr. Farmer with a lifetime achievement award. Mr. Jeanne made a motion to accept the name change of the Sportsmanship Award. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cilento and carried by a vote of 12 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, Bley, and Jeanne) and 0 – no.

G. Approval to Purchase Board Management Software

Mr. Neubauer explained that Board Docs is a management system which provides means of electronically publishing and revising agenda items and support documents. Mr. Neubauer commented that DTI and the State Board of

Education works with EBoard Solutions. Mr. Neubauer explained that DIAA could use this system and save on the cost and time of copying all the agenda items. Mr. Neubauer reported that the cost and set-up fee would be around \$3,000.00. Mr. Mann made a motion to approve the purchase of this software. The motion was seconded by Ms. Williams and carried by a vote of 12 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, Bley, and Jeanne) and 0 – no.

H. Request to Approve New Individual Wrestling Tournament Seeding Format

The DIAA State Wrestling Committee submitted a proposal to change the seeding format for the individual Wrestling State Championships. Due to the use of the Track Wrestling system, the Committee is able to rank and seed the Tournament better. The new format will allow up to a maximum of eight (8) wrestlers from one qualifying tournament be seeded in the state bracket of sixteen (16). The change allows for the a better chance of the sixteen best wrestlers in the state, regardless of their conference qualifying status to be seeded for the state tournament. Motion to approve by Robert Watson, seconded by Leroy Mann; vote was 12 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, Bley, and Jeanne) and 0 – no.

I. Board Response to Question: May Indoor Track Teams Contest the 5 Field Events Outdoors if Weather Permits?

The state Track Committee proposed to have the option of conducting the five field events contested in the state indoor Track Championship in an outside venue if the weather permitted. The Board discussed the issue and felt the proposal needed specific parameters as when the conditions would warrant this competition. Mr. Hart made a motion to table this proposal. The motion was seconded by Mr. Waterman and carried unanimously 12 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, Bley, and Jeanne) and 0 – no.

J. Board Response to the Question: Are the Indoor Versions of Soccer, Field Hockey and Lacrosse considered the same as Outdoor and thus Prohibit High School Coaches from coaching them out of Season?

The Board discussed the issue and felt that they were the same and that coaching these sports would violate the DIAA Regulation for Coaching Out of Season. Motion by Jeremy Jeanne to answer Yes and continue to prohibit DIAA sport coaches in these sports to coach the indoor versions; seconded by Robert Watson; vote was 11 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Cilento, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, Bley, and Jeanne), no – 1

(Watson).

- K. Request to Allow Athletes who qualify for In-Season “Elite” competitions to do so Without the Event Counting Against the Team’s and Athlete’s Seasonal Limitation [1009.4.3.1]

The Board considered the issue and felt this was a reasonable request due to the rare occasions it would occur. Member Schools would have to apply for the waiver by sending a notice to the Executive Director citing the invitation to the athlete, the standard performance that had to be met for participation and the Name, Date and nature of the Meet the athlete was participating in. This exception is to apply only for Indoor and Outdoor track when it occurs during the regular season of competition. Motion by Bob Cilento to approve as stated here, seconded by Bob Watson; vote was 12 – Yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, Bley, and Jeanne) and 0 – no.

- L. Request by Brandywine and Colonial School Districts’ Middle School to conduct Wrestling Season from 11/1/17 to 12/22/17, Waiver of 1008.4.1.2

Mr. Neubauer explained that this is an annual request that allows the schools to better utilize their gyms and allows officials to provide good service to the middle schools. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mann and carried by a vote of 12 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, Bley, and Jeanne) and 0 – no.

- M. Request from DAAD for Professional Development Grant for School Year 2017-18

Mr. Wagner, DAAD Executive Director, was in attendance to present this request. Mr. Wagner explained that DAAD was requesting an educational training grant from the DIAA for the purpose of educating our states athletic directors. Mr. Wagner explained that the amount is for the same amount approved last year, \$18,500.00. Mr. Neubauer commented that this amount was in the DIAA budget.

Ms. Williams made a motion to accept DAAD’s request. The motion was seconded by Dr. Edney and carried by a vote of 10 – yes (Waterman, Williams, Edney, Layfield, Watson, Breeding, Evans-Gunter, Mann, Bley, and Jeanne) Mr. Hart and Mr. Cilento abstained from voting.

N. Ratification of Interim Waivers

Request to Waive 1008.2.7 by Woodbridge Middle School 2017-10-3

The Board voted to approve Mr. Neubauer's decision to grant a waiver in DIAA #2017-10-3.

IV. Board Discussion Items

A. Follow-up From Letters Requested from AI & DMA

The Board discussed the letters outlining the schools' corrective plans of action.

V. Legal Training and Responsibilities Session for Board Members

This item is being moved to next month.

VI. Executive Director Report

Mr. Neubauer reported on the charge from the Governor for the DOE to create an Anti-Discrimination Regulation and Model Policy for DOE.

VII. Other Items for Discussion Only

Mr. Jeanne commented on his continued concern about the Committee system Mr. Neubauer reported that he is meeting with all sports committee chairs on October 16 and the concerns expressed by A.D.s are on the Agenda.

The Board discussed that DESMAC created memo of understanding as an option for schools and physicians to use to formalize their relationship and have an understanding of each parties' role in school medical treatment. This is an option for schools and physicians and is not mandated.

Mr. Hart shared that the Baseball Committee will be bringing to the Board a revised Tournament format for 2018.

Dr. Bley commented that the PPE form could use some explaining to medical personnel around the state, particularly Pediatricians.

The board discussed the realignment pilot program. Ms. Taylor and Mr. Neubauer presented information to the Chiefs on October 5th. The Chiefs are preparing a response which will be submitted before the November meeting.

VIII. Public Comment

None

IX Adjourment

Mr. Watson made a motion to adjourn at 12:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Edney and carried unanimously, 12 – yes (Waterman, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Breeding, Williams, Bley, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Mann, and Jeanne) 0 – no.

Tina Bates