

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting
Thursday, February 11, 2021 – 9:00 A.M.
Virtual - Webinar

Minutes

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

Dr. Layfield called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

B. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matthew Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Douglas Thompson, Stan Waterman, Robert Watson, Dorrell Green Michael Rodriguez - DOE Associate Secretary

Committee Members Absent: Vetra Evans-Gunther

Donna Polk – DIAA Executive Director, Laura Makransky - Deputy Attorney General, Stephanie Mark – DIAA Coordinator

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the agenda, the motion was seconded by Mr. Jeanne. The motion carried with a vote of 15 Yes [Bley, Breeding, Donovan, Edney, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Waterman, Watson and Green] and 0 No.

Dr. Kathleen Andrus arrived to the meeting.

D. Approval of Minutes of DIAA December 10, 2020 Board Meeting

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the December 10, 2020 minutes and the motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion carried with a vote 12 Yes [Bley, Breeding, Donovan, Edney, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, and Waterman] 0 No, and 4 Abstentions [Hodges, Green, Andrus, and Watson].

E. Approval of Minutes of DIAA January 7, 2021 Board Meeting

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA January 7, 2021 Board Meeting and the motion was seconded by Dr. Layfield. The motion carried with a vote 12 Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Donovan, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, and Waterman] 0 No, and 4 Abstentions [Edney, Green, Hodges, and Watson].

F. Approval of Minutes of DIAA January 21, 2021 Board Meeting

Dr. Layfield made a motion to table the January 21, 2021 Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeanne and carried with a vote 13 Yes [Andrus, Breeding,

Donovan, Edney, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Waterman, and Watson] 0 No and 3 Abstentions [Bley, Green, and Hodges]

i. DIAA Financial Report

Ms. Polk reported that there is a cash balance of \$544,598.00. DIAA collected \$91,000.00 in revenue as of January 31, 2021; she is continuing to reconcile fall revenue. The estimated cash balance at the end of June will be around \$249,182.00. That does not include any revenue that will be collected from February until June. Ms. Polk is currently working to get sponsors for Championships. Mr. Jeanne asked Ms. Polk to elaborate on how to get more sponsorships. Mr. Jeanne made a motion to approve the Financial Report and the motion was seconded by Mr. Watson. The motion carried with unanimous vote 16 Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Donovan, Edney, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Waterman, Watson and Green] and 0 No.

II. Division of Public Health Update

Dana Carr, DPH, stated that case numbers are going down and reiterated the importance of the risk mitigation strategies. The executive order was signed so tournaments can restart this week. The quarantine for out of state players is now a highly recommend instead of a must, which puts a little more pressure on the schools as far as how they want to implement that. Mr. Jeanne asked Ms. Carr for an update on increasing capacity. Ms. Carr stated they do not see any changes to capacity at this time. Mr. Jeanne asked tournaments for track and field and if they would be allowed to have Tri-meets and travel out of state, Ms. Carr stated they are still in Winter sports so she cannot speak yet on Spring Sports. Ms. Polk added that when they have weekly meetings they will begin to discuss this topic, but they are currently trying to get through Winter sports. Mr. Jeanne asked for clarification on if they can schedule Tri-Meets or if everything is still dual. Ms. Polk clarified that currently the regulations are for two teams only, anything over that will require approval, but DIAA will continue to work with DPH on how to manage that as we move forward. Dr. Layfield gave further clarification on the process to get approval to host meets, and the process for changing regulations. Mr. Hart asked if state tournaments have been approved, Ms. Polk stated we still have the ability to have tournaments but each committee still has to submit their plan to DPH for approval. Mr. Jeanne asked about bus capacity. Dr. Layfield stated that the social distancing guidelines continues to dictate bus capacity at this time, and Ms. Carr confirmed this. Dr. Layfield asked if Ms. Carr if she thought that the 2 ticket per athlete would be waived and that sport events could go to the 50% capacity like restaurants and other public areas. Ms. Carr referred that question to Ms. Polk who stated they are continuing to evaluate the cases and hoping that as we get closer to championships we will know if that will be increased to allow the 50% capacity or any other number. Dr. Layfield, added that in his opinion it's a lot more straight forward to let the AD's and facilities know here is your capacities and number of tickets and to distribute as they wish.

III. Action Items

- A. Request to Waive Regulation 10092.7 Wilmington Friends and DIAA Case number 2021.2.1

Dr. Donovan made the motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing a pupil file, the disclosure of which would constitute an invasion of

personal privacy. The motion was seconded by Dr. Edney. The motion carried with unanimous vote 16 Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Donovan, Edney, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Waterman, Watson and Green] and 0 No.

The Board moved into executive session.

Roll call was conducted when the Board members returned from executive session to establish quorum at 10:16 a.m. The following board members were noted as present: Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Donovan, Edney, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Little, Thompson, Waterman, Watson, Green, Layfield, and Cilento.

Robert Cilento arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Jeanne made a motion to approve the request by Wilmington Friends to wave regulation 1009.2.7 because all five conditions for granting a waiver had been met. Dr. Andrus seconded the motion.

The motion carried with a vote of 15 Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Donovan, Edney, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Little, Thompson, Waterman, Watson and Green], 1 No [Layfield], and 1 Abstention [Cilento].

B. Committee Appointments and Approvals

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the appointment and reappointment of committee members. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeanne. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of 17 Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Layfield, Laws, Little, Thompson, Waterman, Watson and Green].

The following appointments/reappointments were approved:

| <u>Committee</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Role</u> |
|------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Girls Soccer | John Brady | DIAA State Rules Interpreter |
| Girls Soccer | Dave DuHadaway | Coach |
| Girls Soccer | Charlie Granger | Official |
| Girls Soccer | Scott Myers | Coach |
| Girls Soccer | Reappointments: Ryan Bradford, Joe Manlove, Katy Sturdivant, Artie Uhlich | |
| Girls Soccer | Resigned: Greg Luna | |
| Boys Lacrosse | Eric Torbert | Member |
| Boys Lacrosse | Resigned: Joe Lahutsky | |
| Boys Lacrosse | Resigned: Dave Oswinkle | |
| Girls Lacrosse | Kyle Berger | Coach |
| Girls Lacrosse | Reappointments: Feffie Barnhill, Jay McCormick, Mia Piscarik | |

C. DIAA Waiver Request Form

- a. Ms. Polk asked if it's possible to be more detailed in what is needed for member schools to submit as far as documentation, all of the waivers received requires requests for more information. Ms. Polk would like to get more information on the form to help streamline the process a little better. Ms. Polk suggested revising request form, Ms. Makransky stated that form must be in

line with regulations, but she could possibly draft a letter to send back when incomplete waivers are received. Ms. Polk will continue to look at other systems and processes in order to streamline procedures.

Dr. Layfield called for a 10-minute recess at 10:35 am.

D. Delaware Association of Athletic Directors (DAAD) Committee's Football Realignment Proposal

Ms. Makransky provided the Board with a refresher on ethics.

Dr. Layfield welcomed Smyrna Athletic Director Bill Shultz and Dickinson Athletic Director Andy Dick who helped develop the proposal as members of the Delaware Athletic Administrators of Delaware (DAAD).

Mr. Green stated that roster sizes could be impacted due to COVID and teams could have issues fielding a team. This realignment is 32 years in the making and everyone is in favor of its impact on schools at a local level. Mr. Thompson stated his concerns that some schools have a wider area to get their student athletes than some public schools and Howard Votek has the same chance to recruit as some private schools do.

Mr. Waterman stated it is DIAA's charge to provide a safe and equitable place to play and the committee should not place a large emphasis on winning and losing. A school's enrollment and roster sizes are important. Dr. Layfield would like to see bonus points be removed from the football championship seeding criteria for those who play winning teams versus win percentage.

The board members discussed that after two years in the new realignment model, research will be done to evaluate it. The Scheduling Committee will be in charge of realignment implementation for team's scheduling. This committee was created in March/April 2020.

Associate Secretary Mike Rodriguez shared a letter from Dr. Joseph Jones, the Superintendent of New Castle County Vocational-Technical School District in which he shared some pertinent data.

Mr. Breeding made a motion to accept the superintendents recommended reclassification, the motion was seconded by Dr. Edney. The motion carried with a vote of 10 Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Donovan, Edney, Hodges, Harris, Layfield, Little, and Green] and 6 No [Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Thompson, Waterman, Watson] and 1 Abstention [Cilento].

With further discussion, Dr. Layfield made a motion to task the football committee with reevaluating the bonus point system that has been used in the past and eliminating bonus points for seeding based on school enrollment and developing a criteria that calculates the winning percentage of opponents. The motion was seconded by Dr. Edney. The motion carried a vote of 14 Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Green] 2 No [Thompson, Watson] and 1 Abstention [Waterman].

The Board took at 10-minute break.

VIII. DIAA Personnel Matter

Ted Laws made a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Bob Watson. The motion carried a vote of 17 Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Green, Thompson, Waterman, and Watson].

The Board entered into executive session.

Dr. Edney, Dr. Donovan, Mr. Breeding, Mr. Laws, and Mr. Watson left the meeting during the executive session.

Roll call was conducted when the Board members returned from executive session to establish quorum. Committee members present: Andrus, Bley, Cilento, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Waterman, Green.

Mr. Hart made a motion to return to open session. Dr. Hodges seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, 12 – Yes (Andrus, Bley, Cilento, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Waterman, and Green) and 0 - No.

IV. Coronavirus COVID-19 Impact

A. Sports Seasons Consideration during the Academic Year 2020-21

- i. DIAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Report
 1. SMAC Updates

Dr. Bley is compiling a list of primary care doctors for student athletes who need assistance finding a doctor to clear them back to play.

2. SMAC Recommendations

Regulation 1011 is already outdated with a lot of the changing information coming out about COVID. Dr. Bley recommends that members of the SMAC committee join the upcoming Rule Clinics to speak with all sports about some of the most up to date recommendations. Dr. Bley recommends that with the winter and sports seasons overlapping, that any teams that are due to be inside because of inclement weather, that those teams do a virtual workout instead of being in the physical space of other winter teams. Dr. Bley also recommends that all schools have a full time athletic trainer. This would improve the communications. There are medical benefits and cost analysis benefits to having a full time athletic trainer for schools that Mandy Minutola will be presenting on. It was voted on unanimously by the Athletic Training group that all schools should have one.

- ii. COVID-19 Positive Cases Update – Ms. Carr covered this item under the DPH report.

- iii. 2020-2021 Championship Sport Seasons
 - 1. Winter Sports 2020-2021
The 76ers field house is available to host for the boys and girls championship tournament. The indoor track and field championship will be held outdoors at Dover High School.

- iv. Spring Sports 2021
 - 1. Spring Sports Sport Specific Guidance

Stephanie Mark reviewed some of the guidance discussed and provided by the spring sports committee.

- 2. Determination for Spring Sports Tournament
Stephanie Mark shared the spring sport committee recommendations that all spring sports do want to have a state tournament.

B. Determine State for DIAA Return to Play Plan

Dr. Layfield made a motion to remain in stage 4. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bley. The motion carried unanimously, 12 – Yes (Andrus, Bley, Cilento, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Waterman, and Green) and 0 - No.

V. Joint Legislative Oversight Sunset Committee Update

Dr. Layfield gave an update, and commended Ms. Polk on the presentation and PowerPoint, and breaking down bullet points. There were continuing questions of coaching out of season.

VI. Football Committee Report

After reviewing the football committee report, it should be noted that during the tournament seeding, in Division 1, the seeding tie was between Middletown and Smyrna although it was listed incorrectly in the report as the tie being between William Penn and Smyrna. This needs to be corrected.

VII. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Polk reported to the Board that there have been a lot of questions in regards to scheduling matches and meets the next day, and it is not something that is be encouraged. During an investigation on a sportsmanship issue this week, it was noticed that there are teams that have games scheduled back to back. Ms. Polk asked the board how they would like to address this matter. Dr. Layfield suggested that it be mentioned to the AD's that they do not schedule games less than 48 hours apart from the start time. Dr. Layfield suggested reminded AD's and Coaches not to schedule games back to back and avoid that to the best of their ability.

Mrs. Mark presented the DIAA Ejection/Incidents Report. Mrs. Mark stated there have only been two mask violations.

IX. Other Items for Discussion Only

There were no other items for discussion only.

X. Public Comment

Trina Leclerc - Stated she was excited to see spring sports making progress and that winter sports are getting the opportunity to have a tournament, and showed her appreciation to everyone that has worked to make the season a success. Listened to the Sunset, and felt some things were different than how she may see them, it was nice to see the presentation and has been working on her final comments to send through to Sunset. Excited to see that out of season coaching is on the Rules and Regulations Meeting. Her opinion was that she didn't think it was passed yet but thought at Sunset they stated it was passed, but could have misunderstood, states she thinks its close but has not been passed yet, but could have missed that. Ms. Leclerc feels that is a sticking point for some people in terms of the timeline, she is looking forward to rules and regulations next week and the recommendations coming out of Sunset.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Jeanne made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Waterman. The motion carried unanimously, 12 – Yes (Andrus, Bley, Cilento, Hodges, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Waterman, and Green) and 0 - No. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

