

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting  
Thursday, March 11, 2021 - 9:00 A.M.

Minutes - Draft

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

Dr. Layfield called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

B. Roll Call

Board Members Present – Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman, Mr. Robert Watson, Mr. Michael Rodriguez – DOE Associate Secretary

Ms. Donna Polk – DIAA Executive Director, Ms. Laura Makransky – Deputy Attorney General, Mrs. Stephanie Mark – DIAA Coordinator, Ms. Tanya Reed – DIAA Secretary

Absent – Dr. Kathleen Andrus, Mr. Chuck Little

C. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Layfield noted that the agenda was amended for action items III B – The waiver of 1009 2.7 from Salesianum School will now be a ratification of an interim waiver rather than a hearing on a waiver request. Mr. Jeremy Jeanne made a motion to approve the agenda, the motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Hart. The motion was approved with a vote 16 Yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman, and Mr. Robert Watson] and 0 – No.

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

Mr. Ted Laws made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA January 21, 2021 Board Meeting and the motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Hart. The motion was approved with a vote 12 Yes [Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, , Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman, Mr. Robert Watson] 0 No, and 4 Abstentions [Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Dorrell Green]

E. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of DIAA January 21, 2021 Board Meeting

Mr. Mike Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA January 21, 2021 Executive Session and the motion was seconded by Dr. Matt Donovan. The motion was approved with a vote 12 Yes [Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, , Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman, Mr. Robert Watson] 0 No, and 4 Abstentions [Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Dorrell Green]

F. Approval of Minutes of DIAA February 4, 2021 Board meeting

Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA February 4, 2021 Board Meeting and the motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Hart. The motion was approved with a vote 15 Yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman] 0 No and 1 Abstention [Mr. Robert Watson]

G. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of DIAA February 4, 2021 Board Meeting

Dr. Amelia Hodges made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA February 4, 2021 Executive Session and the motion was seconded by Dr. Bradley Bley. The motion was approved with a vote 15 Yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman] 0 No and 1 Abstention [Mr. Robert Watson]

H. Approval of Minutes of DIAA February 11, 2021 Board Meeting

Mr. Robert Watson made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA February 11, 2021 Board Meeting and the motion was seconded by Mr. Bruce Harris. The motion was approved with a 15 Yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman, Mr. Robert Watson] 0 No and 1 Abstention [Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter]

I. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of DIAA February 11, 2021 Board Meeting

Mr. Mike Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA February 11, 2021 Executive Session Minutes and the motion was seconded by Dr. Amelia Hodges. The motion was approved with a 15 Yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman, Mr. Robert Watson] 0 No and 1 Abstention [Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter]

J. DIAA Financial Report

Ms. Donna Polk gave the DIAA Financial Report, stating that DIAA's cash balance is about \$500,000. DIAA received an anonymous donation in the amount of \$14,000.00. Additional revenue continues to come in as DIAA collects membership dues. DIAA's revenue stream in past years which consisted of ticket sales has continued to be limited during this school year because of low spectator limits allowed at DIAA tournament contests due to COVID. Fall tournament income was about \$17,000 with fall tournament expenses at \$26,000.00, which will definitely increase as DIAA continues to process incurred expenses by member schools which are still submitting reimbursement requests. Mr. Jeanne asked if there was revenue that came in from the NFHS livestream. Ms. Polk stated DIAA gets an annual rights fee every year in the amount of \$30,000.00 and DIAA

also get the VPS fees, and that's a revenue share for member schools. Dr. Bley inquired about the expenses for tournament trophies has cost \$32,000.00 but the budget line was only for \$10,000. Ms. Polk stated that reflects all of the championships trophies for one year. Mr. Jeanne asked if DIAA will be hosting their annual DIAA student leadership conference in August, and commented it would be a large incurred expense. Ms. Polk stated that virtual formats are being explored and the conference could reach more student athletes if done this way. NFHS is hosting their student leadership conference in July and DIAA will explore the feasibility of sending DIAA athletes to attend. Ms. Polk stated that this will be added to the April Board of Director's Meeting Agenda to be discussed. Mr. Jeremy Jeanne made a motion to approve the Financial Report and the motion was seconded by Mr. Bob Watson. The motion was approved with 16 Yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman, and Mr. Robert Watson] and 0 no.

## II. Division of Public Health Update

Ms. Dana Carr gave an update stating that COVID-19 cases are steadily declining as the vaccine distribution is increasing. The K-12 vaccine effort has been spear-headed by the Delaware Department of Education. The plan is to offer vaccines to educators by the end of March. Ms. Carr encouraged all eligible persons to get the vaccine if they can before the K-12 roll out. Restrictions for spring sports are being discussed at the DPH level weekly. Ms. Polk stated that there is ongoing discussion about whether the spectator limit will be lifted for spring sports. Mr. Hart asked if teams are allowed to travel out of state to go to a game. Ms. Carr stated they are allowed to go to out of state games. Mr. Jeanne asked if coaches and athletic trainers would be included in the educators that would be able to get vaccine. Ms. Carr stated that it was her understanding that anyone who interacts with students falls under the educator bucket, so they should have receive the email notification about their eligibility. DIAA Officials have not been included in the Department of Education vaccination efforts and encourages them to reach out to the Division of Public Health. Mr. Jeanne asked if a coach is not a full time employee at the school in which they coach, can the school share the vaccination invitation with them? Ms. Carr stated she is going to double check that and relay the information through Ms. Polk. Mr. Jeanne asked if DPH was considering lifting any of the face covering requirements for DIAA spring sports. Dr. Layfield stated that in order to change the face covering requirements in Regulation 1011 that would have to go through the same regulatory change process through the State Board of Education and be published for 30 days for public comment. If DPH restrictions on face coverings are pulled back, that would impact DIAA quicker than DIAA's regulatory change process. Dr. Layfield asked Ms. Carr if there has been a discussion at DPH about potential timelines in regards to the social distancing particularly on buses, if students are masked so it's possible to get more than 23 kids on a 70 passenger bus. Ms. Carr stated it's an ongoing discussion, they are continuously looking at the data but as it stands right now they are staying the course with their mitigation through the fall with all risk mitigation strategies until further notice.

## III. Action Items

- A. Request to Waive Fall Season Start Date by Seaford High School – 2021.3.1  
Ms. Laura Makransky swore in Ms. Donna Polk, Executive Director for DIAA, Mr. Mark Quillin, Head Football Coach, Seaford High School, Mr. Jason Cameron, Director of Human Resources, Seaford School District, as witnesses. Mr. Cameron stated they would like to start with Week Zero and move the Week Four game against Indian River to Week

Zero, which would then allow them to open up Week Four to play A.I. DuPont. Both schools are in agreement that if this waiver is approved they would be able to make the requested schedule changes. Mr. Cameron also stated this change would allow them to stay in Delaware as much as possible, would like the waiver to be granted to keep the team from having to go out of state any more than they have to. Mr. Jeanne asked if this met the team would have a bi week at some point in the season. Ms. Polk stated that it would. Dr. Layfield stated if it was approved then Indian River would have to apply for the same waiver in the future as well. Dr. Bley asked if this would affect the number of practices that they are going to have before their first game. Ms. Polk stated they would still be required to have three weeks practice, so that their season practice start date would also have to be adjusted. Dr. Bley asked realistically how many other schools would be asking for the same adjustment. Ms. Polk stated she has received information from approximately 5 different athletic directors regarding possibly submitting a waiver. The hearing closed at 9:41 AM. The board moved into deliberation. D.A.G Laura Makransky reminded the board of the regulation 1009 4.1.1. The Board moved out of deliberations. Mr. Jeremy Jeanne made a motion to approve the request for a waiver, the motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Hart. The motion was carried with a vote of 12 Yes [Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Mr. Ted Laws, and Mr. Robert Watson] 3 No [Dr. Bradley Bley, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Stan Waterman,] and 1 Abstention [Mr. Doug Thompson].

- B. Ratification of Executive Director’s Decision to Grant Interim Waiver
  - i. Request to Waive 1009 2.1, 2.7 by Salesianum School – 2021.3.2

Dr. Bradley Layfield made a motion to ratify the executive director’s decision to grant a temporary waiver and approve the waiver request, the motion was seconded by Dr. Matt Donovan. The motion carried with a vote of 9 yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Mr. Bruce Harris, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Ted Laws] 2 No [Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne and 5 Abstentions [Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Mike Hart, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman, Mr. Robert Watson]. The student, the student’s family, and the school are not required to appear for a hearing at the April 8, 2021 Board meeting.

- C. Committee Appointments and Approvals

Mr. Mike Hart made a motion to approve the new committee member appointments as listed below. The motion was seconded by Dr. Matt Donovan. The motion was carried with 16 yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Stan Waterman, and Mr. Robert Watson] and 0 no.

The following appointments were approved:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Role</u>
Boys Lacrosse	Fred Best	Administrator
Boys Lacrosse	Greg Bulger	Official
Boys Lacrosse	Mark D’Ambrogi	Coach
Boys Lacrosse	Pete Duncan	Coach
Boys Lacrosse	David Fulton	Public
Boys Lacrosse	Bob Healy	Coach

#### IV. Joint Legislative Oversight Sunset Committee Update from February 16, 2021 Recommendation Meeting

Ms. Donna Polk gave an update stating that she was accompanied by DIAA Board of Directors Chair Dr. Bradley Layfield and DOE Associate Secretary Mr. Mike Rodriguez to present to the JLOSC on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and were invited back on February 16<sup>th</sup> for a potential recommendations meeting. The draft recommendations that came from that meeting were presented to the board. Ms. Donna Polk stated they will have another upcoming final recommendations meeting on March 23, 2021. The JLOSC committee has the authority to continue the DIAA, or possibly terminate (or sunset) DIAA, or terminate any programs within the entity, or they can consolidate, merge, or transfer the entity or add functions to another entity. There are also options that JLOSC could terminate the entity unless certain conditions are met or modified within a specific given time period. Ms. Donna Polk and the Board reviewed in depth each JLOSC draft recommendation. DIAA updates per draft recommendation must be provided to JLOSC by January 31, 2022. Ms. Donna Polk stated this is an intense timeline but the goal is to ensure that the DIAA will adhere to the recommendations once finalized so DIAA can continue operating. There may be additional or revised recommendations at the next meeting.

Dr. Bradley Layfield called for a recess at 10:48 A.M.

The Board reconvened at 11:06 A.M.

Roll Call was conducted.

Board Members Present – Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Mr. Jeremy Jeanne, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mr. Doug Thompson, Mr. Robert Watson, Mr. Michael Rodriguez – DOE Associate Secretary

Ms. Donna Polk – DIAA Executive Director, Ms. Laura Makransky – Deputy Attorney General, Mrs. Stephanie Mark – DIAA Coordinator, Ms. Tanya Reed – DIAA Secretary

Absent – Dr. Kathleen Andrus, Mr. Chuck Little, Mr. Ted Laws, Mr. Stan Waterman

#### V. Update from Rules and Regulations Committee's March 1, 2021 Meeting

##### A. Coaching Out of Season Update

Dr. Matt Donovan, Rules and Regulations Chair, updated the Board on the recent progress the committee has been making and made the Board aware of the aggressive timeline they have set out to make regulation changes. The committee has a diverse make up and members are considering survey feedback from member schools. Dr. Donovan stated that more information is needed on coaching out of season during the school year and what coaches can do when they are not in their sport season before they can move forward. Dr. Donovan stated that by the April Board of Director's meeting the potential last draft for rules and regulations could be ready. Ms. Polk asked Dr. Donovan to give a quick summary of where the draft regulation is currently and how it would look to our member school coaches in the context of a school year. He went on to describe the school year, in which coaches are coaching during their sport season and then the season ends. The opportunity for coaches to work with their athletes out of season is currently not possible – as coaches in their own time working for a non-school (club) would not have to worry about one of their school team players showing up to attend an event/clinic hosted by a non-school (club) program, and telling the student they have to leave because they cannot coach them per current DIAA coaching out of season regulations. The proposed coaching out of season

regulation is not designed for a coach to create their own non-school based team and fill it with their school athletes. In the proposed draft coaching out of season regulations, there are built in dead periods, in which a coach may not coach their school based athletes out of season for 3 weeks during preseason. Dr. Layfield stated they are trying to help those that may not have the monetary resources or be able to be part of a non-school based (club) team. Dr. Donovan stated that there cannot be additional compensation for coaching out of season. D.A.G. Makransky stated that the public integrity commission is tasked with determining whether there are ethics violations based on the public code of conduct in which DIAA cannot get involved in that. Dr. Hodges asked if student physicals would be required to participate in out of season coaching. Dr. Bley clarified that the physicals still can't be more than 2 years old. Ms. Donna Polk clarified that regulation is being introduced to address students who are wanting to participate in any conditioning programs during the summer and/or school year, to make sure they have a physical and that they are medically cleared to participate. Dr. Donovan stated that conversation continues to be had in all aspects.

- B. Proposed Coaching Out of Season Amendments 1008/1009 3.0 and 7.6 9 for review and discussion)

## VI. Coronavirus COVID-19 Impact

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

- i. DIAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Report

Dr. Bley stated that Dana Carr's DPH update encompassed many updates he would cover. At the next SMAC meeting, the pre-participation physical form will be discussed for any necessary revisions.

- 1. SMAC Updates

Masks have still been a topic of discussion, and a conversation with DPH will be had. SMAC committee continues to discuss whether singles tennis, outfielders in baseball, and long distance runners in track, still need to wear a mask. Dr. Bley states that will be a difficult conversation to have with Public Health about how to regulate that.

Dr. Bley stated that he plans to discuss Regulation 1011 with D.A.G. Laura Makransky to cover what guidance is now outdated since Regulation 1011 was written in August 2020.

Dr. Bley mentioned a presentation for the DIAA Board of Directors which explored the possibility of DIAA member schools each employing a full time athletic trainer. Feedback is being collected from current member schools who do have full time athletic trainers to review how it was financially possible and what benefits are incurred to the member schools by having a full time athletic trainer on staff.

- 2. SMAC Recommendations

- ii. COVID-19 Positive Cases Update

Ms. Donna Polk updated the Board that there were 53 positive COVID cases and 32 games that were canceled. Spring cases have already started to be reported and Ms. Donna Polk will continue to provide updates to the sports advisory committee.

iii. 2020-2021 Winter Sports Championship Update

Ms. Donna Polk gave an update on Championships stating so far they have gone relatively smoothly, with no issues. There have been a few concerns as it relates to spectators attendance at schools that do not allow spectators per their approved DPH facility plan. There was concerns about the semifinal and final games being streamed on NFHS exclusively. Swimming went over very well. Sussex Academy did an excellent job with hosting the event. All school hosts did an excellent job adhering to DPH and risk mitigation guidelines. DPH was present at championships and looking for risk mitigation compliance. The DIAA Basketball Championships were moved to Dover High School from the 76ers Chase Field House. Mr. Stan Waterman inquired about the change in championship host site. Ms. Donna Polk was hoping that by holding the games at 76ers Field House, DPH would allow for more spectators. However, the executive order states that only 2 spectators per player were permitted to attend, and DIAA had to adhere to that State's Order. DPH was not comfortable with allowing more spectators based on the current executive order so with that information, hosting the championships in a larger capacity venue with no possibility of increased ticket sales was not financially justifiable or responsible.

iv. Spring Sports 2021

DIAA Coordinator Stephanie Mark gave an update for spring sports return to play competition guidance modifications.

Mrs. Mark stated that an internal face covering which straps to the inside of the helmet was approved by DPH to be worn in boys and girls lacrosse. Some equipment in baseball and softball were able to be shared among players but must be sanitized after use. There will be no modifications for introducing balls back into play for baseball and softball and there are not modifications for the lineup card exchange.

Dr. Bradley Layfield made a motion to approve the three return to play plans as submitted and the motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Cilento. The motion was carried with a vote of 12 Yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, , Dr. Bradley Layfield, and Mr. Robert Watson] and 0 No.

11:30am Mr. Doug Thompson and Jeremy Jeanne left the meeting

VII. Delaware Association of Athletic Directors (DAAD) Committee's Football Realignment Schedule Update

Ms. Donna Polk gave an update about the realignment schedule.

VIII. DIAA Fall Season Start Date for Football

Ms. Donna Polk stated the office has received inquiries regarding week zero and the possibility that there was going to be waivers submitted. Ms. Donna Polk stated she did reach out to Dr. Amelia Hodges to see if she could speak to the superintendents in their meeting about their possible position as it relates to starting prior to the Labor Day Holiday. Dr. Amelia Hodges stated that understanding that realignment started late in the scheduling process, the chiefs were by in large in favor of a week 0 start for the first two years of the scheduling phase but then would go back to normal after the Labor Day start. Dr. Layfield would like to get feedback from not only the chiefs but also the Heads of Schools

and the AD's about potentially making those changes within 4.1.1 on the start of the fall season moving forward. Since football is going to be three divisions, it will be unique compared to other DIAA sport tournament formats. Dr. Amelia Hodges inquired if having three state champions crowned in football would bring about any Title IX issues to which this issue would be further explored. Ms. Donna Polk asked if the board is exploring the option of having individual schools submitting the waivers, and that there will be several waivers to hear in April. Dr. Layfield stated that it's his understanding that the Blue Hen Conference is now collectively requesting Week 0 waivers.

#### IX. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Donna Polk stated that an increase in sportsmanship messages were provided for announcements at the DIAA tournament games. Ms. Donna Polk addressed the concerns about the NFHS Feed outage during the wrestling finals. She contacted the NFHS Network regarding the outage. In NFHS executive directors meetings, other state association executive directors have faced similar issues and attributed the connectivity issues to be the main source of concern. Conversations are ongoing to see what can be done to prevent those issues for future broadcasts. Included in the partnership agreement DIAA has with NFHS, NFHS has the rights to broadcast DIAA tournament events; it's apparent there is much pushback and feedback regarding the quality of the livestream feed and that NFHS has the exclusive rights to broadcast. Other concerns that have been submitted include issues relating to spectator limits and some host sites not allowing spectators to attend DIAA championship events. There were also two concerns regarding qualifying for swimming and track. Ms. Donna Polk stated that continuing to look at processes to be able to conduct championships, financial things, and hoping to be able to go to online ticket sales and other ways to be more efficient in conducting those events. Dr. Bley asked Ms. Polk to go over processes of how parents concerns were addressed specifically for swimming qualifying. Ms. Donna Polk stated that the athlete did not participate in the event prior to championships therefore was not able to enter into that particular event, however the student athlete was able to enter into other events. Dr. Bley asked how the correspondences was handled, Ms. Polk stated she reached out to the member school AD and family and Swimming Chair Mr. Mike Hart also reached out. Mr. Mike Hart stated that when it was found out about the individual was not swimming in that particular event during the season, Mr. Hart reached out to the Athletic Director and discussed the matter. It was determined that the individual did not qualify and they did not meet the qualifications to be entered in that event. Dr. Bradley Layfield mentioned there were some issues with spectators at Basketball games, where some member schools did not include spectators in their approved DPH facility plan. He asked committees to take that into consideration on whether they would permit those schools to host even if they earned a higher seed. It was discussed that even if spectators were not permitted at some schools per their DPH facility plan, they could still host if they had a livestream so spectators could view the game(s). Although there were complaints about the spectator policies at some member schools, DIAA Board of Directors Chair Dr. Bradley Layfield expressed the notion that at least games were played.

#### X. Other items for Discussion Only

Dr. Bradley Layfield discussed some more sportsmanship ideas which will be brought up at the next Sportsmanship Committee meeting. The DIAA Secretary, Tanya Reed was introduced to the Board.

#### XI. Public Comment

Trina LeClerc – Stated that she does feel the board is making progress on out of season coaching. Stated she was at the last rules and regulations meeting and she realizes there is a lot of red tape and processes that have to be followed. Ms. LeClerc stated she feels a lot of the push is because this is not a new topic, and feels it stalled for a little bit but feels Dr. Donovan and Dr. Layfield have made a lot of progress on it recently and it's moving in the right direction. She stated to Dr. Bley's point she realizes specialization can be a problem but still feels kids are going to do what kids are going to do. She said she has heard coaches say sometimes the best practice is no practice, so she feels we have to allow the coaches to do what's right by their athletes. She also feels looking at an insured group should be revisited again, need to be careful not to just let coaches go in their backyard and practice with no insurance, and no regulations. Ms. LeClerc feels any type of coaching that is done out of season should

be done with an organization that has some type of insurance, legality, rules. Stated in her club there is so much training for coaches just to be put on a roster, its good training that she feels is important. Ms. LeClerc feels the need to have good coaches that are good mentors. Ms. LeClerc states we need to think about the positive and the positive impact they have on our athletes, and that sometimes the best mentor they have is their coach and that's who they feel very comfortable with.

George Benson – At what point are high schools going to follow suit like the University of Delaware with raising their spectators limit. University of Delaware was labeled a “covid cesspool” at one point and their levels are allowed to go up but high schools are still very limited with attendance. Dr. Layfield stated public comment is not met to be a question and answer, however will take the comment into consideration. Dr. Layfield stated they will have Public Health address that.

## XII. Adjournment

Dr. Evelyn Edney made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Dr. Amelia Hodges. The motion was carried with a vote of 12 Yes [Dr. Bradley Bley, Mr. Mike Breeding, Mr. Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Ms. Vetra Evans-Gunter, Mr. Dorrell Green, Mr. Bruce Harris, Mr. Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, , Dr. Bradley Layfield, and Mr. Robert Watson] and 0 No. Meeting adjourned at 12:31PM.