

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting
Thursday, April 20, 2023
Meeting Minutes

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chairman Doug Thompson

B. Roll Call was conducted by Faye Wheeler:

Present: Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta (joined at 9:13 a.m.), Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith (joined at 11:01), Bonnie Ingram-Grubb (joined at 9:45), Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson (left at 1:27 p.m.), Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson

Virtual: Dr. Amelia Hodges (left at 10:30 a.m.), Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Matt Smith (joined at 9:11 a.m.)

Absent: Allison Alpaugh, Dr. Bradley Bley, Ted Laws, Jason Miller, Dr. William O'Hanlon

DIAA Staff Present: Mark Boone, Laura Makransky, DAG, Angel Prinos, Mike Wagner, Faye Wheeler

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Mark Robinson for approval of the agenda, the motion was seconded by Lenny Richardson. The motion carried with a vote of 12 Yes (Doug Thompson, Dorrell Green, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

D. Approval of Minutes of February 9th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting

Motion made by Michael Rodriguez for approval of minutes of February 9th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting, seconded by Joseph Papili. The motion carried with a vote of 12 Yes (Doug Thompson, Dorrell Green, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

E. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of February 9th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting

Motion made by Lenny Richardson for approval of executive session minutes of February 9th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting, seconded by Bob Watson. The motion carried with a vote of 12 Yes (Doug Thompson, Dorrell Green, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

F. Approval of Minutes of March 9th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting

The Board did not discuss this item or vote to approve the draft minutes. The draft minutes will be an item on a future agenda.

- G. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of March 9th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting
Motion made by Joseph Papili for approval of executive session minutes of March 9th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting, seconded by Doug Thompson. The motion carried with a vote of 12 Yes (Doug Thompson, Dorrell Green, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.
- H. Approval of Minutes of March 29th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting
Motion made Mike Rodriguez for approval of minutes of March 29th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting, seconded by Lenny Richardson. The motion carried with a vote of 12 Yes (Doug Thompson, Dorrell Green, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.
- I. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of March 29th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting
Motion made by Mark Robinson for approval of executive session minutes of March 29th, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting, seconded by Dorrell Green. The motion carried with a vote of 12 Yes (Doug Thompson, Dorrell Green, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.
- J. DIAA Financial Report
Mike Rodriguez discussed the current budget, expenses, and current spending authority. Mr. Rodriguez has been working with finance team to ask spending authority to be raised. Motion made by Joe Papili for approval of DIAA financial report, seconded by Ivan Neal. The motion carried with a vote of 12 Yes (Doug Thompson, Dorrell Green, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

II. Action Items

A. Presentation of Revised Officials' Fee Proposal

Joe Thomson addressed the board. Mr. Thomson expressed disappointment in the previous vote against the officials' fee proposal. Mr. Thomson discussed the research that had been conducted over the last month with neighboring districts to justify the revised officials' fee proposal. Mr. Thomson believes the approval of the revised proposal could help with recruitment of officials. Mark Robinson wants the minutes to reflect that it is the boards desire to move forward with the recommendation that was placed as is with the future increases even though in regulation it limits the board to having to review it each year.

Motion made by Mark Robinson to withdraw the proposed Regulation 1043, seconded by Dorrell Green. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.** (Dr. Amelia Hodges left prior to vote) **

Motion made by Joe Papili to approve the revised officials' fee proposal, seconded by Kevin Smith. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

Roll Call conducted by Faye Wheeler

Present: Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson

Virtual: Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Matt Smith

- B. DREAM Association/Sports Officials of America's Petition for Recognition as a DIAA Approved Officials' Association and Officials Committee's Recommendation to Grant Recognition with Conditions.

Kevin Smith and Michael Rodriguez were recused from this matter

Evidentiary hearing held and Doug Thompson explained how hearing would proceed and exhibits 1-9 were entered into record. Angel Prinos discussed how DIAA researched the requested information sought after the conditional approval given at previous officials' committee meeting. Ms. Prinos mentioned the materials that Mr. Gunn had provided, as well as the previous officials' ratings were not available. Lamar Gunn, Sr. expressed disappointment with lack of diversity with opportunity for wearing the white hat during games. Kevin Smith was sworn in and addressed the board and expressed satisfaction of how official group had conducted themselves in his experience. Mr. Gunn expressed concern over how games are covered differently between north and south and believes there needs to be consistency statewide. Mr. Gunn would prefer to work in crews so a better-quality product can cover the games. Motion made by Mark Robinson to recognize Dream Association/Sports Officials of America's, seconded by Dorrell Green. The motion carried with a vote of 13 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

Roll Call conducted by Faye Wheeler

Present: Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson

Virtual: Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Matt Smith

- F. Boys' Volleyball at the High School Level (Regulation 1024-8.3)
- i. Participating Schools' Petition for Official Recognition of Boys' Volleyball
 - ii. Designation of Delaware Volleyball Officials' Association as Approved Officials' Association for Boys' Volleyball
 - iii. Maximum Game Schedule
 - iv. Boys' Volleyball Committee's Petition to Establish a State Championship
 - v. Boys' Volleyball Tournament Proposal

Katie Godfrey addressed the board regarding status of boys' volleyball in the state at level 2 and are hoping to become level 3 and be recognized as a varsity sport. If DIAA won't cover the cost the schools have agreed to do so. Motion made by Kevin Smith to establish boys' volleyball as a DIAA recognized sport, sport that will have a state champion, that will be officiated by the organization DVOA, and will have a 15-game max schedule which correlates to girls' volleyball, seconded by Dorrell Green. The motion carried with a vote of 15 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

- D. Field Hockey Committee's Recommendation for a Modified Tournament Schedule for Fall 2023

Jodi Hollaman addressed the board and went over the proposed recommendation for a modified schedule that was submitted. Last play date will be 10/30 not 10/31 which was a typo in the letter that was submitted. Ms. Holloman would like games scheduled the week of September 6th. Motion made by Lenny Richardson to approve field hockey committee's recommendation for a modified tournament schedule for fall 2023 with last play date of October 30th, 2023, seconded by Kevin Smith. The motion carried with a vote of 15 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

- N. Dave Collins Request, on Behalf of All Public-School Athletic Directors, for a waiver of Regulation 1040-8.3.2.7.

Mr. Collins addressed the board and went over the current regulation and explained why he believes it's important for student athletes to have the opportunity to attend camp. Mr. Collins suggest that current regulation creates inequity amongst student athletes, creates

gender inequity, and is over regulation. Motion made by Dorrell Green to find all four conditions of non-eligibility waiver requirements being met but to seek an advisory opinion from the Public Integrity Commission, seconded by Bob Watson. The motion carried with a vote of 15 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

C. Appointments and Reappointments of DIAA Committee Members (Regulation 1021-4.5)

- i. Officials' Committee-Mike Wagner addressed the board and informed the board that Khyle Nelson would be willing fulfill all the obligations of the committee
- ii. Field Hockey and Wrestling Committees- Mr. Wagner informed the board Athletic Director Katy Phillips of Tatnall was nominated by the committee for DIAA approval. All members of wrestling committee who terms expire in 2023 agreed for reappointment.

Motion made by Bob Watson for approval of appointments and reappointments of DIAA committee members (regulation 1021-4.5) officials, field hockey, and wrestling committees, seconded by Mike Rodriguez. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

E. Wrestling Committee's Recommendation to Award Medals to Seventh and Eighth Place Finishers

Mike Wagner addressed the board and stated wrestling committee voted 11-1 for approval to award medals to seventh and eighth place finishers. Motion made by Ivan Neal for approval, seconded by Bob Watson. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

G. Proposed Regulation 1040 Out-of-Season and Summer Activities and Contact Published in the Delaware Register on March 1, 2023.

The regulation 1040 Out-of-Season and Summer Activities and Contact was presented to the board and reviewed. Motion made by Ivan Neal to approve proposed regulation 1040 Out-of-Season and Summer Activities and Contact published in the Delaware Register on March 1, 2023, seconded by Doug Thompson. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No

H. Potential Litigation*

Father Beretta was recused from this matter

Motion made by Bob Watson to move into executive session for a strategy session, including involving legal advice or opinion from an attorney-at-law, with respect to potential litigation in accordance with 29 *Del. C.* § 10004(b)(4), seconded by Dorrell Green. The motion carried with a vote of 13 Yes (Doug Thompson, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

The Board returned to open session.

Roll call conducted by Faye Wheeler:

Present: Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mike Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Bob Watson.

Virtual: Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Matt Smith

Motion to respond to the demand letter made by Lenny Richardson, seconded by Kevin Smith. The motioned carried with a vote of 13 Yes (Doug Thompson, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

L. Academia Antonia Alonso School's Request to Become a DIAA Member School

Michael Alverio discussed the previous contact he has had with Ms. Polk and Mr. Rodriguez regarding becoming a member school. All requested documentation was submitted already. Mr. Alverio would like school to become DIAA member school for the tools and opportunities that come along with it for his students. Mr. Alverio discussed grades and student counts. Doug Thompson suggested that Mr. Alverio be setup with a mentor. Motion to approve Academic Antonia Alonso's request to become a DIAA Member School made by Father Chris Beretta, seconded by Michael Rodriguez. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

M. Request to Allow Eighth Grade Participants at High School Level for 2023-2024 School Year (Regulation 1009-2.7.5)

1. Laurel High School
2. Seaford

3. Wilmington Christian
4. Sanford School^***

Motion made by Dorrell Green to approve the requests for eight grade participation at the high school level (Regulation 1009-2.7.5) for Laurel High School, Seaford, Wilmington Christian, and Sanford School, seconded by Father Chris Beretta. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

I. Sanctioned Events

Mike Wagner addressed the board. All events need board approval so schools can participate, and all meet the approval for sanctioning.

Motion made by Joe Papili to approve the sanctioned events, seconded by Lenny Richardson. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

J. Amended Budget for FY23

DIAA Financial report was reviewed by board and Michael Rodriguez discussed moving funds from the sports that were over budgeted to where the money is needed. Motion made by Joe Papili to amend the budget, seconded by Bob Watson. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes (Doug Thompson, Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 0 No.

K. Contract for Services for Executive Director's Responsibilities

****Mike Rodriguez was recused from this matter****

Michael Rodriguez sought permission from the board to bring in former executive director Thomas Neubauer to assist DIAA with execution of spring championships. Hours would be limited to 25 hours a week. Doug Thompson stated he was offended by the statements made about the new hire in the office and opposed the contract for Mr. Neubauer based off those comments. Motion for contract for services for executive director's responsibilities made by Bob Watson, seconded by Bonnie Ingram-Grubb. The motion carried with a vote of 11 Yes (Father Chris Beretta, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram-Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Bob Watson) and 2 No (Doug Thompson & Ivan Neal).

- III. Sportsmanship Update
Angel Prinos updated the board on cumulative sportsmanship data comparison.

- V. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Senate Concurrent Resolution – DIAA Task Force
Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 19 was reviewed, and Michael Rodriguez explained the purpose of the resolution and how DIAA will move forward on several matters.

- IV. DIAA Committee Meetings Minutes/Updates
 - A. Field Hockey Committee Meeting-Approved the tournament restructuring, added a committee member, and are working to build the committee back up regarding membership.
 - B. Track & Field Committee Meeting- Has met twice are getting ready for state tournament.
 - C. Golf Committee Meeting-Secured Baywood for state championships.
 - D. Wrestling Committee Meeting- May need upgrade on technology equipment and would like DIAA on next budget to set aside twenty thousand dollars for this upgrade.
 - E. Officials Committee Meeting-No update given.

- VI. Other Items for Discussion only- DIAA will poll the board about moving back the next board meeting, and Father Chris Beretta wanted to make sure he was recused on the record on Action Item II. H. which was confirmed. Doug Thompson brought up looking into getting shot clock for schools by using big screen tv's.

- VII. Public Comment- Trina LeClerc addressed the board and state she was pleased with the progress made at the board meeting.

- VIII. Adjournment - 3:03 p.m.
Motion for adjournment made by Dorrell Green, seconded by Bob Watson. The motion carried unanimously.