



**ORANGE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
ATHLETIC DIRECTORS WORKSHOP**

**Tuesday, November 14, 2023 - 9:30 AM**

**MINUTES**

All members present.

Guests Present:

Mr. James Osborne, Section IX Secretary  
Ms. Linda Trapani, Section IX Treasurer  
Mr. Dennis Burkett, MHAL Coordinator  
Mr. Jared Kahmar, Greenwood Lake, Associate Member  
Ms. Sarah Hadden, Greenwood Lake, Superintendent

1. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting (October 17, 2023)  
*Motion to approve minutes made by Mr. Jason Semo (Cornwall) and seconded by Mr. George St. Lawrence (Goshen). All in favor. Motion carried.*
2. Section IX – Mr. Jim Osborne
  - a. Congratulations to all Section IX Champs in the Fall season! Best of luck!
  - b. Budget is included in the materials. Please contact Mr. Osborne with any questions or concerns.
  - c. Sports Dues form is included in the materials for your convenience.
  - d. Gate List form is included in the materials and will be posted on the website under “Forms.”  
*Motion to approve made by Mr. Mike Gillespie (Pine Bush) and seconded by Mr. Dave Coates (Middletown). All in favor. Motion carried.*
3. OCIAA President’s Report – Mr. Mike Bellarosa
  - a. Section IX Budget  
*Motion to approve made by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Semo (Cornwall). All in favor. Motion carried.*
  - b. Greenwood Lake Proposal - Sarah Hadden and Jared Kahmar  
Proposal: To request Section IX make a formal proposal to NYSPHSAA to allow the 13 school districts within New York State that serves grades K-8 only, to combine separate, multiple Modified teams in a sport with the districts they contract with to attend High School. Motion to approve: Mike Gillespie, Pine Bush; Second – Greg Sirico, Warwick. Discussion was had regarding the process. Mr. Mike Doucette, Chester asked for clarification on whether a school can deny a request to merge based on the circumstances

of the particular school. Each school involved in this process would have the right of refusal, just like they would on any normal merger request. More discussion was had centering on when students would need to make their choice of high schools. Currently with the Greenwood Lake, Chester and Warwick situation, students make their choice in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. That process is up to the contracting schools to settle.

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Gillespie (Pine Bush) and seconded by Mr. Greg Sirico (Warwick). All in favor. Motion carried.*

- c. Welcome to Kevin Crudele, who is now working as the AD at Tri-Valley.
- d. Informational Items included in the materials:
  - i. Structural Growth & Membership Dues
  - ii. NYSPHSAA Friend & Neighbor Fee
- e. NYSPHSAA Voting Items – November 2023

**1. GIRLS BASKETBALL- REQUEST CHANGE IN OFFICIALS FEES & POLICIES:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Committee is seeking approval for a change in the Officials Fees & Policies starting in the 2023-24 season. The following is being requested: \$135 a game, 3 officials per contest.

**Effective Date:** 9/1/23 - 8/31/26

Proposal Originated: NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Committee on September 18, 2023

CAC Feedback: CAC voted 10-0 to support this proposal.

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Rich Steger (Valley Central). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**2. FLAG FOOTBALL-REQUEST ADDING TO OFFICIALS FEES & POLICIES:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Flag Football Committee is seeking approval to add in the Officials Fees & Policies starting in the 2023-24 season.

**Effective Date:** 9/1/23- 8/31/26

Proposal Originated: NYSPHSAA ,Flag Football Committee

CAC Feedback: CAC voted 10-0 to support this proposal.

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Gillespie (Pine Bush) and seconded by Mr. Tim Bult (Minisink). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**3. Safety Committee - My Lightning Tracker:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Safety Committee is recommending adding to the NYSPHSAA Thunder and Lightning Policy the use of "My Lightning Tracker App". Schools would have to suspend or cancel any practice or game if the My Lightning App detected lightning within 15 miles of the location of the event. The event could not be resumed until 30 minutes had passed from the last lightning strike within the 15-mile radius. Schools would still be able to use the current system of seeing lightning and hearing thunder.

**Effective Start Date:** Spring 2024

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Steger (Valley Central). All opposed. Motion failed.*

**4. Modified Committee - Remove One Hand Check Language:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Modified Committee is recommending removing Boys Lacrosse Game Rule #3 - "A one-arm swing with a Crosse whether contact is made or not, shall be considered a personal foul - slashing. This includes the over-the-head check." **Rationale:** This recommendation falls in line with the US Lacrosse rules for U12 and U14 play. This is an acceptable play at all levels from the U12 level and up. If contact is made to the head a foul will be called as per the NFHS rules.

**Effective Start Date:** Spring 2024

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Sirico (Warwick) and seconded by Mr. Rich Silverstein (Kingston). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**5. Modified Committee - Softball Metal Cleats:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Modified Committee is recommending removing the language that prohibits metal cleats in the sport of modified Softball. **Rationale:** A few years ago, the High School Softball removed the language that prohibited the use of metal cleats at the high school level because of an OCR complaint. The

language at the modified level remained in effect. Baseball is not prohibited from using metal cleats at either level.

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Mike Doucette (Chester) and seconded by Mr. John Giametta (Beacon). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**6. Unified Committee - Waiver of the Representation Rule:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Unified Committee is recommending that the NYSPHSAA Representation rule preventing students from gaining an unfair advantage they are prohibited from participating in the same sport in different seasons during the school year for Unified participants only.

**Effective Start Date:** Spring 2024

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Silverstein (Kingston) and seconded by Mr. Gillespie (Pine Bush). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**7. Boys Volleyball - Revise State Tournament format to include all sections (pool play) in the state tournament:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Boys Volleyball Committee is seeking approval to revise the state tournament format to include all sections in the state tournament and increase the length of competition to two days.

**Effective Start Date:** Fall 2025 Season

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Steger (Valley Central) and seconded by Mr. Coates (Middletown). All opposed. Motion failed.*

**8. Girls Ice Hockey Committee - OT Procedure:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Girls Ice Hockey Committee is recommending following the same procedure as the Boys Ice Hockey for overtime in the post season. **Effective Start Date:**

2024-2025 Season

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Steger (Valley Central). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**9. Indoor Track- request adding a second division for relays only:**

**Proposal:** The Boys and Girls Indoor Committees are seeking approval to add a second division for the 4 x 200, 4 x 400 and 4 x 800 relays at the State Championships. This proposal does not apply to the Intersectional Relay.

**Effective Start Date:** Winter 2024-25

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Gillespie (Pine Bush). All opposed. Motion failed.*

**10. Boys Lacrosse: Permission to Ask NFHS for a Shot Clock Experiment:**

**Proposal:** The Boys Lacrosse Committee is recommending receiving permission to ask the NFHS for an experiment to use a shot clock in the 2025 and 2026 Lacrosse season. The attached document covers what would be included in the request to the NFHS. **Effective Start Date:** 2025 season

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Steger (Valley Central) and seconded by Mr. Coates (Middletown). All opposed. Motion failed.*

**11. Boys/Girls Outdoor Track - establish third class starting in 2025:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Outdoor Track Committees are seeking approval to establish a third class starting in 2025. **Effective Start Date:** Spring 2025

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Steger (Valley Central) and seconded by Mr. Semo (Cornwall). All opposed. Motion failed.*

**12. Baseball- Adopt The NFHS Suggested Speed-Up Rule:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Baseball Committee is seeking approval to adopt the NFHS suggested speed-up rule permitting courtesy runners as written in the NFHS rule book. **Effective Start Date:**

March 2024

**Rationale:** Implementing this rule would allow courtesy runners for the pitcher and catcher, thus resulting in games moving along faster instead of waiting for a catcher to dress equipment and delay the start of warm ups.

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Gillespie (Pine Bush) and seconded by Mr. Steger (Valley Central). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**13. Flag Football - Adopt Flag Belt Requirements:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Flag Football Committee is recommending adding the following language to the NYSPHSAA Flag Football Rules regarding the flag belts.

- The "pop" type flag belts will be used by all schools.
- All flag belts will have a minimum of two flags on the belt.

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Gillespie (Pine Bush). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**14. Flag Football-Adopt Classification Cut-Off Numbers:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Flag Football Committee is recommending the following cut-off numbers for the Spring 2024 season: Div. 1: 788 and Up | Div. 2: 787 and down

**Effective Start Date: Spring 2024**

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Bult (Minisink). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**15. Flag Football-Adopt Regional Rotation For 2024:**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Flag Football Committee is recommending the following Regional Rotations for the 2024 season.

Region 1: D1/D2 Section 11 vs Section 8

Region 2: D1/D2 Section 9 vs Section 1

Region 3: D1/D2 Section 5 vs Section 6

Region 4: D1 Section 3 vs Section 4 winner Section 2

D2 Section 3 vs Section 4 winner Section 7 (hosted by Section 2)

**Effective Start Date: Spring 2024**

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Steger (Valley Central) and seconded by Mr. Coates (Middletown). All in favor. Motion carried.*

**4. OCIAA Athletic Coordinator's Report – Mr. Christopher Mayo**

Items of Concern:

- a. 2024-2025 BEDS Chart / Sport classifications  
Please review this information in your materials. Flag Football will be added in the future.
- b. 2024-2025 Sports Teams Alignments  
The alignments are included in your materials. Please review and a vote will take place at the next meeting.
- c. Fall Division Champions  
Mr. Dan Morse announced and congratulated all of this season's winners! Thank you to all who hosted the Championship events.
- d. Winter Rules Interpretations Meetings  
Mr. Morse sent the list via Google Docs and will update a few more today.
- e. Coaching Courses
  - i. Ms. Amanda York has returned from maternity leave and has resumed classes. Your coaches should email Ms. York to register.
  - ii. Mr. Jason Semo (Cornwall) will be offering Health Sciences this Winter season. Information will be emailed shortly.
- f. Combining of Teams – Mr. Tim Bult

**SPORT      LEVEL    HOST SCHOOL    COMB SCHOOL #1    RECOMENDATION      RATIONALE      IS #      Year**

|               |         |                |                            |                     |                 |      |             |
|---------------|---------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------|-------------|
| Boys Lacrosse | Varsity | Rondout Valley | Onteora                    | Yes - up to Class C | R-18 / O- 1     | Team | Spring 2024 |
| Boys Lacrosse | Varsity | Highland       | Marlboro                   | Yes - up to Class C | High-21 / Mar-3 | Team | Spring 2024 |
|               |         |                |                            |                     |                 |      |             |
| Gymnastics    | Varsity | Kingston       | <b>FDR &amp; New Paltz</b> | <b>** SHADOW</b>    | S9 mins-11/2/23 |      | Winter 23-4 |

**\*\* No Vote  
Required**

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
|               |               |
| OCIAA Approve | 11/14/2023    |
| MHAL Approve  | 11/15/2023 ?? |
| S9 Approve    | 1/4/2024 ??   |

*Motion to approve made by Mr. Bult (Minisink) and seconded by Mr. JJ Gass (Port Jervis). All in favor. Motion carried.*

- g. NYSAAA – Mr. Chris Hodge  
The next meeting will be held on November 22. Start thinking about registering for the early bird NYSAAA Conference 2024. Ms. Sue Lenzian (Washingtonville) reminded all to submit awards nominations.
5. Old Business  
None to report.
6. New Business
  - a. Girls Wrestling Meets  
This year, Girls can cross over to Boys team. When a Championship is in place in the future, this will no longer be permitted. Girls matches are scheduled on Fridays but can be moved based on gym availability. Please be sure to report to the ROIA numbers of girls participating and how many mats will be used so we can assign the correct number of officials.
  - b. Girls Basketball McGinnis Tournament  
Goshen needs one more team to join the tournament.
  - c. Pine Bush Basketball  
Pine Bush is looking for Boys & Girls scrimmages.
7. Next Athletic Directors Workshop – Tuesday, December 12, 2023,  
@ Orange Ulster BOCES Carl Onken Conference Center Room B/C
8. **Section IX Meeting** – Thursday, January 4, 2024, 9:30 am,  
@ Orange Ulster BOCES Carl Onken Conference Center Room B/C
9. Adjourn  
*Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Giametta (Beacon) and seconded by Mr. Bult (Minisink). All in favor. Motion carried.*