



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

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 - 9:30 AM

MINUTES

All members present except: Mr. Bryan Wilson, Highland Falls
Ms. Michele Ahart-Bosland, Homestead
Mr. Christian Hodge, Newburgh
Mr. Kurt Buddenhagen, Sullivan West

Guests Present: Mr. James Osborne, Section IX Secretary
Mr. Dennis Burkett, MHAL Coordinator

The meeting began at 9:46 am.

1. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting (February 15, 2024)
Motion to approve minutes made by Mr. Ryan Jasper (Monticello) and seconded by Mr. Doug Murphy (Fallsburg). All in favor. Motion carried.
2. Section IX Report – Mr. James Osborne
 - a. Congratulations to Kingston Boys Basketball for competing in the State games.
 - b. Please review the information regarding the Livingston Manor/Roscoe request for a merger, which will be on the next Section IX agenda.
 - c. The Team Tennis proposal was tabled at the Section IX meeting until the Leagues make a decision and vote.
 - d. Mr. Joe DiMattina (Florida/Seward) briefly discussed the proposal for a change in Softball regarding the NFHS Rules. The Committee is not in support of this change.
 - e. The Lightning Tracker proposal was approved, although Section IX was not in support of it. Please be sure on-site personnel have the app on the phone and the policy in hand.
 - f. Spring Track 2025 – A proposal for three (3) divisions is coming down the pike.
 - g. Mixed Competition may become an issue in the future for Field Hockey, Gymnastics, Volleyball, and Flag Football.
 - h. Committee Selection – If your school has not qualified under regular circumstances, you should not request a spot unless there are extenuating circumstances to consider.
3. OCIAA President’s Report – Mr. Mike Bellarosa
 - a. Executive Committee Position Renewals
 - i. Mr. Mike Bellarosa – President

- ii. Ms. Suzanne Lenzian – Vice President
- iii. Mr. Jason Semo – Athletic Director for Medium Schools
Motion to approve the renewal of these positions made by Mr. George St. Lawrence (Goshen) and seconded by Mr. Dave Coates (Middletown). All in favor. Motion carried.

- b. Softball Proposal regarding NFHS Rules
The Committee does not support this change. Discussion occurred.
Motion to approve made by Mr. Murphy (Fallsburg) and seconded by Mr. Rich Steger (Valley Central). One in favor. All other members opposed. Motion defeated.

4. OCIAA Athletic Coordinator’s Report – Mr. Christopher P. Mayo
Items of Concern:

- a. Team Tennis Discussion – Mr. Matt Hadden requested one more year. Scheduling dates/sites is challenging, but Mr. Hadden believes it can be done.

Motion to rescind previous motion made by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Jason Semo (Cornwall). All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to approve continuing Team Tennis made by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Semo (Cornwall). All in favor. Motion carried.

- b. Dropped Teams – Spring
 - i. The updates given at this time will be added to the shared Google Doc.
 - ii. Mr. Coates (Middletown) suggested setting up a Google Doc with availability openings for both Leagues.
- c. Football – Mr. David Coates
 - i. Schedules have been released. Working backward now to fill things in. Cornwall and NFA Freshman games are being worked into the Section I schedule. Thank you to the Committee and to Chris and Dan for helping with the schedule.
 - ii. Host application in materials. Executive Council will approve at the June meeting.
- d. OCIAA Scholar Athlete Breakfast
 - i. Keynote speaker: Brian Riley, Army West Point Hockey Coach.
 - ii. Singer for the National Anthem is still needed.
 - iii. Washingtonville Color Guard will also be in attendance.
- e. Tyler Muisse MVP Award
Application is in materials and is due by May 1, 2024.
- f. Heat Acclimatization Guidelines, Lightning Policy, and Tornado Policy included in the materials.
- g. Combining of Teams – Mr. Tim Bult

Sub-Varsity approval via an email vote:

SPORT	LEVEL	HOST SCHOOL	COMB SCHOOL #1	RECO	RATIONALE	IS #	Year
Softball	Varsity	Chester	Seward	Yes	Seward-1	Team	Spring 2024

OCIAA Approve	3/13/2024 Email
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MHAL Approve	3/13/2024 Email
S9 Approve	3/15/2024 Email

SPORT	LEVEL	HOST SCHOOL	COMB SCHOOL #1	RECO	RATIONALE	IS #	Year
** Baseball	Modified	Tuxedo	Suffern	Yes	Tux - 7	Team	Spring 2024
** Softball	Modified	Tuxedo	Suffern	Yes	Tux - 8	Team	Spring 2024

**COT Spec Approval	3/19 & 3/20/24
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- h. **Anyone Can Save a Life Program**
Information was sent out. The website is having some issues, so make sure your link is working. A checklist was included in your meeting materials. Discussion was had regarding implementing the program. Anyone that needs help or has questions should not hesitate calling the ROIA.
- i. **OCIAA Calendar 2024-2025**
The updated calendar has been emailed to you.
Motion to approve 2024-2025 OCIAA Calendar made by Mr. Semo (Cornwall) and seconded by Mr. Coates (Middletown). All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Old Business

- a. Thank you to Section IX for the hospitality suite at the NYSAAA Conference this year and all the years past.
- b. Thank you to Section IX for all the coaching course supplies and materials. Recently, a coach put what he learned into action and was able to save his daughter's life!
- c. Mr. Semo (Cornwall) thanked the Basketball Committee and Monroe-Woodbury. Mr. JJ Gass did a great job in his first year on the Committee and everything ran so well at Monroe-Woodbury's facility ... a great venue.
- d. Thank you to all the schools who hosted Winter Championships and to the Chairpeople.
- e. The Student Leadership Application is now available. Ms. Sue Lenzian (Washingtonville) encouraged all schools to please participate! It will be at Mount St. Mary's on April 11 from 8 am to 1 pm.

6. New Business

- a. Mr. Coates (Middletown) discussed the importance of our Athletic directors involvement and service to all sports. Athletic Directors need to be more involved in our Sectional sports Championships. This should be a goal to have AD involvement across all sports for the betterment of our sports, our students, and our section.
- b. Mr. Osborne has stated Section IX Spring sites have been approved except Softball and Girls Golf, which are still being worked on.
- c. Mr. Greg Sirico (Warwick) suggested an AD Cup Challenge at the Section IX meeting on June 11. He has already acquired a sponsor for the event and would like to know if there's an interest. More information to follow.

- d. Goshen is looking for Varsity Baseball games.
 - e. Mr. Morse shared information he received at a seminar regarding sports officiating and implementing this into PE classes.
 - f. Mr. Murphy (Fallsburg leave replacement) recommended a Mentor Program like in the old days for new Athletic Directors. Mr. Mayo explained to Mr. Murphy that this has already been implemented by way of numerous discussion topics among the group at many of our past meetings and this has been very beneficial – not just to new ADs, but to everyone. Mr. Mayo also explained that new ADs have a direct line to him and the office staff 24/7. If ADs have any topics they would like covered, please let us know, and it will be added to the agenda.
7. Next Athletic Directors Workshop – Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 9:30 am
@ Orange-Ulster BOCES Carl Onken Center Room B/C
- Section IX Meeting – Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 9:30 am
@ Orange-Ulster BOCES Carl Onken Center Room B/C
8. Adjourn
Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Bult (Minisink) and seconded by Mr. Steger (Valley Central). All in favor. Motion carried.