



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

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 - 9:30 AM

MINUTES

All members present except: Mr. Bill Spanjer, Chapel Field
Mr. George St. Lawrence, Goshen
Mr. Ryan Jasper, Monticello
Mr. Kurt Buddenhagen, Sullivan West

Guests Present: Mr. Greg Ransom, Section IX Executive Director
Mr. Michael Gillespie, Greenwood Lake
Mr. Dennis Burkett, MHAL Coordinator
Ms. Linda Trapani, Section IX Treasurer

The meeting began at 9:46 am.

1. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting (January 14, 2025)
Motion to approve minutes made by Mr. John Giametta (Beacon) and seconded by Mr. JJ Gass (Port Jervis). All in favor. Motion carried.
2. NYSPHSAA Meeting Report-Mr. Greg Ransom/Mr. David Coates
 - a. Section IX Football
 - Section IX Football start date 8/18/25
 - 10 practice days
 - Scrimmages can start 8/29 or 8/30
 - Week 0 9/5 or 9/6
 - Section IX Division Playoffs 10/31 or 11/1
 - Section IX Semifinals 11/7 or 11/8
 - Section IX Finals 11/14 or 11/15
 - NYSPHSAA Regionals 11/21 or 11/22
 - NYSPHSAA Semifinals 11/28 or 11/29
 - NYSPHSAA Finals 12/5 or 12/6
 - b. NYS Temperature Bill.
Gymnasiums must not exceed 88 degrees Fahrenheit. If temperatures reach this threshold, you must stop the event or bring the temperature below 88 degrees.
Information is included in your agenda packet.
 - c. Mr. Todd Nelson will be hosting a meeting February 13, via zoom, for Unified Flag Football, for possible funding from the Jets, Giants, and Bills NFL teams. If your school is interested please reach out to Mr. Rich Silverstein and he will let us know if Section IX will participate.

- d. NYSPHSAA Coaches of the Year Award presented by Mr. Ransom. Congratulations to the winners.
 - Tom Fanning (Cornwall Baseball)
 - Jeff Moulton (Cornwall Girls Volleyball)
 - Todd Rose (Washingtonville Golf)
- e. NYSPHSAA Informational Items
 - Mr. Ransom reviewed information on the 3 Region Concept, Membership Dues, and Ticket Prices included in your materials
 - Three Region Format: Mr. Robert Zayas wanted a committee formed to review the documents and make sure each team is represented equally. Sports included: Soccer, Volleyball, Field Hockey, Softball, Baseball, Lacrosse, Basketball, Flag Football.
 - Schools Without Boundaries: A committee was formed to discuss new proposals for State playoffs for schools without boundaries. These are Private, Charter, or Parochial schools, that are not limited geographically. Mr. Ransom will send information to Mr. Chris Mayo. We do not have to vote but the committee would like input from each Section.
 - Section IX's proposal that sports wishing to change classes, must do so by May of the previous year was discussed and will be voted on in May.
- f. NYSPHAA Discussion Items

Mr. Ransom reviewed and highlighted discussion items that will be voted on at the March 4, 2025 AD Workshop. (Included in meeting materials.)

3. OCIAA President's Report – Ms. Suzanne Lenzian

- a. Reminder for coaches to do their official's ratings.

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

- a. Mr. Mayo presented Mr. Tim Bult (Minisink) with the Wrestling Dual State Championship Banner. Congratulations to the winners.
- b. Mr. Mayo informed the Athletic Director that interns working with them are welcome at our meetings.
- c. Scholar Athlete Awards
 - Breakfast June 12, 2025, at Otterkill Golf Club, 9 am.
- d. The Tyler Muise MVP Award applications will be sent out shortly. Please nominate a special needs student that has enhanced your sports teams.
- e. Mr. Coates discussed Taconic Hills and Cairo-Durham wanting to join Section IX 8 man football. The committee voted no 6-1. A discussion of pros and cons followed. If denied, they would be offered non-league games and a full schedule if possible. The concept of membership into Section IX Football can be revisited yearly.

Motion to vote on allowing Taconic Hills and Ciaro-Durham into Section IX 8 Man Football by Mr. Coates and seconded by Mr. Jason Semo. Motion failed.

- f. Fall 2025 schedules have been approved by the scheduling committee. Please look them over and let Mr. Mayo know of any discrepancies so adjustments can be made. A vote will take place in March.
- g. Combining of Teams
- Mr. Bult announced that Homestead (2 kids) will combine with Liberty (host) for JV Baseball.
 - Mr. Bult reminded us that Livingston Manor and Roscoe will be combined for the 2025-2026 school year. This was announced at the January 14, 2025 meeting.

| SPORT | LEVEL | HOST SCHOOL | COMB. SCHOOL #1 | RECO | RATIONALE | IS# | YEAR |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------|------|-------------|
| Baseball | JV | Liberty | Homestead | Yes | Homestead - 2 kids | Team | Spring 2025 |
| | SUB-VARSITY | | COT Committee Approval | 2/11/2025 | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Girls Lacrosse | Modified | Red Hook | Rhinebeck | Yes | Rhinebeck - 3 kids | Team | Spring |
| | SUB-VARSITY | | COT Committee Approval | 2/13/2025 | | | |

- h. NYSAAA Annual Conference
Please register for the upcoming conference March 11-14, 2025.
- i. Boys Volleyball
There are five schools registered for Boys Extramural Volleyball. On February 22, 2025 there is an all schools playdate. If there is enough interest, this could become a sport in the fall.

5. Spectator Conduct

A discussion was held on spectator conduct. Mr. Mayo thanked the school districts that have put plans in place to make sure officials are escorted to their dressing rooms and their vehicles after the conclusion of games. There have been several instances this year with spectators going after the officials. It is expected that the districts will continue to take necessary steps to help try and mitigate this behavior. Mr. Mayo mentioned that one way to help stop aggression towards officials would be to remind organizations that officials should not engage with the crowds. Game administration should introduce themselves to officials and let officials know that they are to come to them if there are any problems in the stands. It was suggested that this be brought to the Section IX Athletic Council so there is a uniform policy when dealing with problem spectators that would cover all the schools.

6. Old Business - No old business.

7. New Business

- a. Mr. Aaron Hasbrouck (Burke) noted that Mr. Ken McMillan from the Times Herald Record has made some negative remarks on social media regarding coaches not providing information to him. Discussion was held regarding the obligations of coaches to the media. Athletic Directors were reminded to please submit scores to RSchool which can be viewed on the Section 9 website. Mr. Justin Rodriguez, from the Mid-Hudson News, has been writing some great stories about our athletes. Athletic Directors were reminded to let their coaches know if they have a good story on one of their players, to report it to Justin.

- b. Ms. Amanda Stevens (Fallsburg) announced that Fallsburg has dropped Varsity Baseball and Softball teams this year, but may be looking to schedule a few scrimmages or non-league games against other schools if there is availability.
- c. Mr. Mayo thanked Washingtonville and NFA for hosting the OCIAA Swimming Championships.

8. Next Athletic Directors Workshop – March, 4, 2025, at 9:30 am via Zoom

Section IX Meeting – Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 9:30 am via Zoom

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Giametta (Beacon) and seconded by Mr. Semo (Cornwall). All in favor. Motion carried.