



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

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 - 9:30 AM

Zoom

MINUTES

All members present except: Mr. Mr. Bill Spanjer, Jr. Chapel Field
Mr. Travis Powers, Highland Falls
Ms. Jennifer Evans, Pine Bush
Mr. Jason Scherden, West Point

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

The meeting began at 9:32 am.

1. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting (February 11, 2025)
Motion to approve minutes made by Mr. Kevin Crudele (Tri-Valley) and seconded by Mr. Joe DiMattina (Florida). All in favor. Motion carried.
2. Section IX Report – Mr. James Osborne
 - a. Mr. Osborne noted that the 3 Night Rest Rule may cause some problems with scheduling.
 - b. Mr. Osborne asked that all Athletic Directors review the Schools Without Boundaries proposals in the Section IX materials. Mr. Greg Ransom will be looking for a league recommendation.
3. OCIAA President's Report – Mr. Mike Bellarosa
 - a. Executive Committee Position Renewals
 - i. Mr. Mike Doucette – Athletic Director Representative Small School
 - ii. Mr. David Coates – Athletic Director Representative Large School
Motion to approve the renewal of these positions made by Mr. Jason Semo (Cornwall) and seconded by Mr. Tim Bult (Minisink). All in favor. Motion carried.
 - b. Proposal: The NYSPHSAA Championship Advisory Committee is seeking approval to establish a three-night rest rule for regional competition for all sports.
Motion to approve made by Mr. David Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. George St. Lawrence (Goshen).
Discussion took place and Mr. Coates pulled back his motion to amend the proposal to a Two (2) Night Rest Rule for Regional Competition
Motion to approve a Two Night Rest Rule by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Mr. Greg Sirico (Warwick). All in favor. Motion carried.

- c. Proposal: Consider approval to create a consistent approach to championship awards for NYSPHAA Championship events, enhancing clarity, equity, and recognition across all sports.
Motion by Mr. Semo (Cornwall) and seconded by Mr. Coates (Middletown).
Motion carried.
- d. Proposal: Consider approval of consistent approach for awards at Regional Championship events in team sports by standardizing the presentation of only the Regional Champion plaque.
Motion by Mr. Semo (Cornwall) seconded by Mr. Tim Bult (Minisink).
Motion defeated.
- e. Proposal: Consider approval for the 8-man Regional championship to be held on Week #21.
Motion by Mr. Semo (Cornwall) and seconded by Mr. Coates (Middletown). All in favor.
Motion carried.
- f. Proposal: Consider approval to adjust Game Day Score Sheets for 2025-2027.
Motion by Ms. Sue Lendzian (Washingtonville) and seconded by Mr. Coates (Middletown). All in favor. Motion carried.
- g. Proposal: Cheerleading-Standard Practice for Fall and Winter Cheer
There was a discussion on how this would be enforced.
There was also concern about preventing athletes from progressing and learning new skills. There should be unity across all sports. Other sports allow clinics off season. The vote will not take place until we receive more information from Ms. Lendzian after States this weekend.
Motion to table proposal by Mr. Tim Bult (Minisink) and seconded by Mr. Aaron Hasbrouck (Burke). All in favor. Motion carried.
- h. Proposal: The Girl's Lacrosse Committee is recommending prohibiting all artificial noise makers at NYSPHSAA Regional, Semifinal, and Final games.
Motion by Mr. Coates (Middletown), seconded by Mr. Mike Doucette (Chester). Motion defeated.
The group was in favor of restricting noise makers but felt it needed to be consistent across all sports. Perhaps Section IX can bring it to the State.
- i. Proposal: The NYSPHAA Baseball Committee is seeking approval to allow scrimmages to be conducted after the 6th practice day.
Motion by Mr. Sirico (Warwick) and seconded by Mr. Rich Silverstein (Kingston). All in favor. Motion carried.
- j. Proposal: Consider approval to add the definitions for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the NYSPHSAA Handbook.
Motion by Mr. Coates (Middletown) and seconded by Ms. Amanda Zgroddek (Eldred). All in favor. Motion carried.
- k. Discussion Items: Proposal: Consider approval for NYSPHSAA Constitutional revision to address representation on the Central and Executive Committee, as well as NYSPHSAA Sport Committees, Standing Committees, and Ad Hoc Committees.
A discussion ensued. The belief is we are well represented across our Section.
- l. Fall and Spring start dates have been approved for the 2025-2026 school year, as well as the Three Region Concept.
- m. Please review the NYS Temperature Bill included in the materials.

- n. Sharon Delmonico Athletic Trainer of the Year Award
A draft of the nomination form and criteria for the Sharon Delmonico Athletic Trainer of the Year Award along with the criteria and nomination form for the Student Scholarship will be presented to the Executive Committee. We will need winners determined by early May.
- 4. OCIAA Athletic Coordinator's Report – Mr. Christopher P. Mayo
Items of Concern:
 - a. 2025-2026 OCIAA Calendar
 - i. The calendar cannot be approved until the districts approve their calendars.
 - ii. We will vote on this at our April meeting.
 - b. Dropped Teams – Spring
 - i. If dropping a team, please inform the Athletic Coordinators Office as well as any schools you are scheduled with.
 - ii. FDR has dropped Boys Varsity Lacrosse.
 - iii. FDR is adding a Boys Modified Lacrosse team and are looking for scrimmages.
 - c. Football – Mr. David Coates
 - i. Alignments are complete.
 - ii. Committee is working on the playoff structure and schedule.
 - iii. The committee has accepted Cairo Durham and Taconic Hills to play non-league games with our schools. They have not been approved as a member of Section IX Football and will not be able to represent Section IX in our playoff system.
 - d. OCIAA Scholar Athlete Breakfast
 - i. Keynote speaker: Still waiting on confirmation.
 - ii. The breakfast is still scheduled for June 12 at Otterkill. There are no new developments on the bankruptcy.
 - e. Tyler Muise MVP Award
The application is in the materials. Please be sure to send all required documentation listed in the criteria with the application by May 2.
 - f. Heat Acclimatization Guidelines, Lightning Policy, and Tornado Policy and Drone Policy are included in the materials. Please be sure to distribute to the coaches.
 - g. The Softball Waivers of NFHS Rules, submitted by Mr. DiMattina (Florida), and included in your packet, have been approved.
 - h. Combining of Teams – Mr. Tim Bult
No new information.
 - i. Unified Flag Football
 - i. Please see the memo from Mr. Silverstein (Kingston) in the materials. His recommendation is that in the Fall 2025 we run Unified Bocce only and then look at Unified flag Football as a pilot program in Fall of 2026.
 - ii. Section IX was overlooked from any funding from the NFL teams for the inaugural season of Unified Flag Football.

5. Old Business

- a. Ms. Lendzian thanked Monroe-Woodbury for hosting the Competitive Cheer Championship.
- b. Mr. Osborne confirmed that the start date for all Fall sports is Monday August 18, 2025.
- c. Mr. Daniel Morse congratulated our State Wrestling Champions
 - i. Charlie Wylie – Port Jervis – Girls Wrestling
 - ii. Victoria Alvarado – Warwick – Girls Wrestling
 - iii. Will Soto – Newburgh – Boys Wrestling
 - iv. Luke Satriano – Valley Central – Boys Wrestling
 - v. Mason Ketcham – Washingtonville – Boys Wrestling
 - vi. PJ Duke – Minisink Valley - Boys Wrestling

Schools with state wrestling champions may provide Mr. Patrick Rossi (Athletic Coordinator's Office) with a high resolution photo for banners.

6. New Business

- a. Data Privacy
Mr. Mayo received a call regarding data privacy on sports apps that we do not sponsor. There is a concern about data privacy. Mr. Mayo noted this information would be public knowledge to any spectator at a game. The BOCES tech department will look into the issue. Please speak with you administration and tech departments for guidance.
- b. Weather
Athletic Directors should consider moving spring games earlier in the season if weather permits and fields are dry, knowing rainouts are likely in the spring.

7. Next Athletic Directors Workshop – Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 9:30 am
@ Orange-Ulster BOCES Carl Onken Center Room B/C

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

8. Adjourn

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