



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

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 - 9:30 AM

MINUTES

All members present except: Mr. Chris Herrera, Newburgh
Mr. Kurt Buddenhagen, Sullivan West

Guests Present: Mr. Dennis Burkett, MHAL Coordinator
Mr. James Osborne, Section IX Secretary
Ms. Linda Trapani, Section IX Treasurer
Mr. Justin Sturge, Assistant Athletic Director, Middletown
Mr. John Jefferson, Athletic Director Poughkeepsie
Mr. Brooks Alexander, Incoming Athletic Director, O'Neill

1. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting (October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve minutes made by Mr. Ryan Jasper (Monticello), seconded by Mr. Jason Semo (Cornwall). All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Mayo welcomed Mr. Brooks Alexander, the incoming Athletic Director for O'Neill. Mr. Earl will be leaving at the end of the month.

2. Section IX– Mr. Greg Ransom / Mr. Jim Osborne

- a. Congratulations to all our Sectional and Regional Tournament participants.
- b. Section IX needs Athletic Directors to become chairpersons as well as offering your sites to be used for Sectional and Regional competitions.
- c. Section IX is getting new medals sponsored by Orange Bank & Trust. They are transitioning from blue to grey shirts, sponsored by BSN.
- d. The Section IX Budget has a dues increase of 3.7% and budget increase of 5%. Section IX is looking for ways to increase their income. Options such as paying more dues, paying more at the gate, making sure both combined teams are paying, more sponsors, and sale of shirts were discussed.
- e. Nordic Skiing – Three schools are asking for a bylaw change to reduce scoring from 4 to 3.

Motion to adopt the change by Mr. Jasper (Monticello), seconded by Mr. Mike Doucette (Chester). All in favor. Motion carried.

- f. Outside agency approval for Coaches vs. Cancer pending Certificate of Insurance.
Motions by Mr. Rich Silverstein (Kingston), seconded by Mr. Semo (Cornwall). All in favor. Motion carried.
3. OCIAA President's Report – Mr. Mike Bellarosa
- a. NYSPHSAA Discussion Items
Mr. Bellarosa reviewed the discussion items in the packet and posted online. These items will be up for a vote at the December AD meeting.
- b. Section IX Budget
Motion to approve by Mr. David Coates (Middletown), seconded by Mr. George St. Lawrence (Goshen). All in favor. Motion carried.
- c. Poughkeepsie and Tuxedo Park Applications
Mr. John Jefferson, Athletic Director Poughkeepsie, spoke on the reasons why Poughkeepsie would like to join Section IX. He is trying to rebuild the program and help the children academically.
Tuxedo Park has already been approved as a Friend and Neighbor. They would like to become an associate member and would only be able to vote on matters that concern their school directly.
Ballots will be sent out to the Leagues for a vote and signature of the Athletic Director and Superintendent. The Section will vote in January.
4. OCIAA Athletic Coordinator's Report – Mr. Christopher P. Mayo
- a. Spring Schedule Vote
Motion to approve by Mr. Jasper (Monticello), seconded by Mr. Kevin Crudele (Tri-Valley). All in favor. Motion carried.
- b. 2026-2027 BEDS Chart / Sport Classifications
Materials in packet. Please look over for any corrections.
- c. 2026-2027 Sports Teams Alignments
Materials in packet. Please look over for any corrections.
- d. Fall Division Champions
Congratulations to all our Division and League winners.
- e. Winter Rules Interpretations Meetings
Meetings are in progress. Chair people will send handbook to Chris Mayo.
- f. Coaching Courses
Reminders for coaching courses will be sent out for CPR with Amanda Zampini and Health Science with Jason Semo.
- g. Combining of Teams – Tim Bult
- Girls Varsity Skiing - Fallsburg and Tri-Valley
 - Boys Varsity Wrestling – Fallsburg and Tri-Valley
 - Boys Varsity Lacrosse – Red Hook and Rhinebeck and Pine Plains
 - Boys Modified Lacrosse – Red Hook and Rhinebeck and Pine Plains
- Motion to approve made by Mr. Tim Bult (Minisink), seconded by Mr. Semo (Cornwall). All in favor. Motion carried.*
- h. NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame Applications
Please review the application for Malcom Burkes and Pat D'Aliso for a vote in December. Please send letters of recommendation for Pat D'Aliso to Mr. Semo.

- i. RSchool / Arbiter discussion
Posters have been provided to the schools along with social media information to alert parents as to what app they should be using. All winter games will be removed from Arbiter. Please check RSchool to make sure your games are correct. Please let Chris know if you have any ideas for a new program. A Software Committee will help with the decision.
5. Old Business
 - Please have students register on the NYSPHAAA Student Athlete Advisory app. Section IX seats are based on interest.
Send nominees to Suzanne Lenzian for NYSAAA awards.
 - Girls Wrestling discussion.
 - Discussion on allowing Poughkeepsie to join Section IX. Ads discussed the positives and negatives of Poughkeepsie re-joining Section IX. They discussed issues from the past that plagued them and the schools in Section IX that participated against them. The benefits of having them back in the MHA were also discussed with the focus of a new administration and a promise of clear communication and forward thinking and planning for schedules.
6. New Business
 - Fred Ahart Foundation. Please consider donating a basket or funds to the foundation through Section IX. Bring donated items for raffles.
 - Fallsburg will not have a Girls JV Basketball team.
 - Seward will not have a Girls JV Basketball team.
 - Cornwall is still looking for participants for Dec 29 and 30 Basketball Tournament.
 - Congratulations to Section IX Football winners.
 - Please have coaches review extended time and 5 quarter play with officials prior to game.
7. Next Athletic Directors Workshop –
Tuesday December 9, 2025, at 9:30 am
Orange Ulster BOCES – Carl Onken Conference Center

Next Section IX Meeting –
Thursday, January 6, 2026, at 9:30am via Zoom
8. Adjourn
*Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Semo (Cornwall), seconded by Mr. Bult (Minisink). All in favor.
Motion carried.*