



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

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 - 9:30 AM

MINUTES

All members present except: Mr. Bill Spanjer, Chapel Field
Mr. Jason Semo, Cornwall
Mr. Chris Herrera, Newburgh Free Academy
Ms. Theresa Uhelsky, Valley Central
Mr. Gregory Sirico, Warwick Valley

Guests Present: Mr. Dennis Burkett, MHAL Coordinator
Mr. Greg Ransom, Section IX Executive Director
Ms. Linda Trapani, Section IX Treasurer
Mr. Justin Sturge, Assistant Athletic Director, Middletown

1. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting (December 9, 2025)

Motion to approve minutes made by Mr. Ryan Jasper (Monticello), seconded by Mr. Michael Carofano (Beacon). All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Section IX– Mr. Greg Ransom

- a. Discussion was made regarding the Girls Wrestling Dual Meet proposal:
Motion to approve made by Mr. Tim Bult (Minisink Valley), seconded by Mr. J.J. Gass (Port Jervis). All in favor. Motion carried.
- b. Discussion was made regarding the two Championship Philosophy Committee proposals. These proposals will be voted on at a later Athletic Director's Workshop.
- c. Mr. Ransom advised that virtual bowling started during COVID to alleviate concerns during the pandemic. Virtual bowling should not be used any further.

3. OCIAA President's Report – Mr. Mike Bellarosa

- a. Request from Rondout Valley to change classification in Girls Lacrosse to Class C:
 - i. Much discussion was had regarding a policy concerning classification change requests at the Sectional level.
 - ii. *Motion to approve Rondout Valley's request made by Mr. David Coates (Middletown), seconded by Mr. Aaron Hasbrouck (Burke). All in favor. Motion carried.*

- b. Information regarding nominations for the Sharon Delmonico Athletic Trainer of the Year will be coming from the Regional Office.
 - c. Ms. Suzanne Lenzian (*Washingtonville*) announced the NYSAAA award winners; congratulations to the recipients.
4. OCIAA Athletic Coordinator's Report – Mr. Christopher P. Mayo
- a. Section IX Football – Mr. David Coates
 - i. Mr. Coates asked districts to return their football intent letters to the Regional Office; the deadline is Friday, January 16, 2026.
 - ii. The Section IX football committee has contacted other Sections regarding potential match-ups for non-league games.
 - b. Fall schedules
 - i. Discussion and changes reviewed
 - c. Scholar –Athlete Awards – June 4, 2026 @ Otterkill Country Club
 - i. This is the 10th anniversary of the Tyler Muise MVP award. Districts should begin considering nominations.
 - d. Combining of Teams – Mr. Tim Bult
 - i. Mr. Bult reviewed the combining of teams applications that were submitted: see attached information.
 - ii. *Motion to approve made by Mr. Bult (Minisink Valley), seconded by Mr. Coates (Middletown). All in favor. Motion carried.*
 - e. NYSAAA – Ms. Jennifer Evans
 - i. Please register for the conference being held March 17-20.
 - ii. Mr. Mayo highlighted the networking that occurs at the conference.
 - f. Discussion regarding Modified and JV flag football – schedules will be sent to the teams interested in modified.
 - g. Discussion regarding Representation vs. Participation. Mr. Mayo and Mr. Ransom explained the differences.
 - h. Updates were given for Alpine Skiing and Bowling Section IX Championships:
 - i. Discussion was had regarding the increased costs for smaller sports.
 - i. Due to changes in the Sectional schedule, girl's golf divisional multi-matches have been changed. Mr. Mayo asked the Athletic Directors to check their schedules on the Activity Scheduler.
5. Old Business
- a. Mr. Gass (Port Jervis) renewed the previous discussions regarding moving boys golf to the Fall season. Discussion was made, athletic directors were asked to discuss with their golf coaches, and a vote will be taken at the February Athletic Director's Workshop.
 - b. Ms. Lenzian announced information regarding the SAAC Conference.
6. New Business
- a. Mr. Mayo brought forward a request from Mr. Jason Semo (Cornwall) regarding interest in Girls Ice Hockey. No other athletic director noted interest in their districts.
 - b. Due to a scheduling conflict with the NYSAAA Conference, the March Athletic Director Workshop will be held via *Zoom* on **Monday, March 16, 2026**. A link will be provided.

7. Next Athletic Directors Workshop –
Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 9:30 am
Orange Ulster BOCES – Carl Onken Conference Center Room B/C

Next Section IX Meeting –
Thursday, March 10, 2026, at 9:30am
Via Zoom

8. Adjourn
Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Bult (Minisink), seconded by Mr. Kevin Crudele (Tri Valley). All in favor. Motion carried.