

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**UHSAA Office**

**Thursday, January 20, 2022**

**9:00 AM**

Those in attendance: Marilyn Richards, Belinda Johnson, Jeffrey Nielsen, Cory Anderson, Paul Sweat, Larry Bergeson, Jerre Holmes, David Dunn, Steven Gordon, Jim Wood, Bryan Durst, Brent Strate, Rob Cuff, Jeff Cluff, Brenan Jackson, Jon Oglesby and Jan Whittaker. Excused: Gary Olson, Dave Lund and Greg Miller. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. **Welcome and Chair Business:** Chair Holmes welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. He excused Gary Olson, Dave Lund and Greg Miller. Craig Morris, Waterford HS, was attending for Greg Miller. Paul Sweat had recently lost his father and the BOT gave him their condolences. Ms. Whittaker also lost her father in December.

A. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Anderson said he appreciates being able to serve on the BOT. He feels it important to know there is a higher power, something bigger, that is relevant to us today with all of the challenges. He discussed API: Assume Positive Intent. We need to appreciate what individuals are going through. He appreciates and respects everyone's own opinions. He then offered a prayer.

B. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Sweat said something we get to enjoy while living in the United States is that ordinary people do extraordinary things. It is seen everyday in the community, state and country. There is an opportunity to be as good as they want to be. Regardless of current status in life, individuals can change at any time. He said a vehicle for this upward mobility is provided by the UHSAA. Without high school activities, he would not be here today. He chose to go back into education because he had such a great experience at Wasatch HS. It has been a privilege to spend 31 years in education and to be part of the BOT.

When he was wrestling as a junior, a new coach, Steve Sanderson, was hired. Steve came from humble beginnings and had three little boys Cody, Cael and Cole when he moved into Heber. Steve set high expectations for himself and his family. Mr. Sweat has had a front row seat watching Cael Sanderson's career. He won every match in college and was four-time champion. He participated in the Olympics and won a gold medal. He went on to have a successful career as a wrestling coach. Mr. Sweat said it is amazing what he has accomplished. Cael Sanderson's ascension to be one of the greatest athletes and coaches ever had his path pass through UHSAA activities. High school athletics teach students to live great and to live the American Dream. He then led members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Approval of Board Agenda:

**MOTION:** Mr. Bergeson made the motion to approve the Board Agenda. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

D. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2021 Meeting (summary on UHSAA website):

**MOTION:** Mr. Dunn made the motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 18, 2021. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Updated Handbook on Website: Mr. Cuff said anytime a change is approved it is updated on the Handbook. The date on the cover page indicates last time it was updated.

**2. Executive Committee Meeting Report:** Mr. Dunn reported the meeting.

A. January 12, 2022 Meeting (summary on UHSAA website):

- Ready reference calendar
- Fall championships – winners congratulated
- Spring AD Conference – April 6-9
- NIAAA Conference held in Denver
- SB 67 was discussed
- State championships and festivals
- Summer Moratorium adjustments for the entire school – June 29-July 5, 2022
- RegisterMyCoach – coach certification
- Football Coaches presented info for 7 on 7
- RPI for tennis was approved for boy's tennis
- Unified Sports – basketball, soccer, track
- Shot Clock – recommended to the BOT
- Recommended NIL policy to BOT
- Recommended first consideration of Format and Procedures for 2023-2025 realignment
- Super Fan and Circle Fame recipients were announced
- Education-Based articles were provided by Mr. Cuff

3. **USBE Report:** Mr. Strate shared a word with the group: squirrely. He was watching a documentary on the Civil War and one of the soldiers referred to his experiences as “squirrely times.” Mr. Strate feels we live in squirrely times. He also talked about President Harry Truman. When he became vice-president in 1945, he didn't know what the Manhattan project was until the death of President Roosevelt. President Truman had to make the decision on the Atomic Bomb. He had a sign that read, “The Buck Stops Here.” Mr. Strate said that is how it is for the board members. He and Ms. Richards were at a region meeting discussing issues. He said no matter what is decided in the March meeting, the Buck Stops Here. It is both wonderful and daunting at the same time. We need to be humble and listen with respect. There will be people who will disagree. Members have a great opportunity to serve. Mr. Strate added that the USBE is working on a transgender policy – they are adhering to the policy of the UHSAA.

4. **Fall Activities Report:** Mr. Cuff said what a difference one year makes. Last year, fall revenue was very disappointing. This year we have had a revenue rebound. Cross Country was ticketed for the first time and generated \$26K, 2A fall baseball was added and 1A football returned. Revenue for this fall was at an all-time high. Mr. Cuff thanked them for their support.

**5. Calendar:**

A. 2021-2022 (pp. 81-84 and UHSAA website): Check website for most current information.

B. 2022-2023 Tentative Calendar (coming soon): The tentative calendar is still in the edit process.

**6. Review of Winter State Events:** Mr. Cuff provided a list of state fall champions.

**A. Boys and Girls Basketball:** Mr. Oglesby reported on sites.

4A	Dixie State
2A	SVC
3A	Weber State
1A	SVC
5A/6A	University of Utah, Monday-Thursday BYU, Saturday

5A/6A Girls' Basketball final games will be televised for the first time. We have not held state basketball championship games at BYU since 1987. Mr. Sweat suggested a messaging campaign regarding BYU's mask and vaccination policy for attendees. GoFan ticket purchases require the individual to agree to the BYU policy.

**B. Drill Team and Swim:** Ms. Whittaker reported that swim would be at BYU and Drill team at UVU. Final ratings for drill will be published on January 25.

**C. Wrestling:** Mr. Jackson reported.

1A/2A Boys	SVC	February 11,12
1A/2A/3A Girls	SVC	February 16, 17
3A Boys	SVC	February 16, 17
4A Boys and Girls	SVC	February 18, 19
5A Boys and Girls	UVU	February 16, 17
6A Boys and Girls	UVU	February 18, 19

Mr. Jackson said he was very appreciative of SVC. Barry Smith will help with the SVC tournament. This is the first time the boys and girls will be combined in the state tournament. Last year 500 girls did hydration testing and there were nearly a 1000 girls this year. He feels the girls' program will continue to grow. High School Today highlighted Utah regarding the promotion of girls' wrestling. Mr. Sweat said it was great what has happened with girls' wrestling. Mr. Dunn felt Jeff Newby should be recognized for their efforts in promoting girls' wrestling. The UHSAA relied on their numbers to sanction wrestling. Mr. Jackson said he would be willing to recognize him at the 5A/6A tournament. The excitement is building with the combined boys' and girls' tournaments.

**MOTION:** Ms. Johnson made the motion to honor Coach Newby at the wrestling tournament. Mr. Dunn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**7. Reports:**

**A. Ejection Report (meeting handout):**

(1) Status of Coaches' Ejection and NFHS Course Completion: Mr. Cluff said the report was not complete because some of the data information was incorrect specifically related to the race issues in the sportsmanship category. He felt winter ejections have been significantly reduced. There have been more technical fouls and warnings given at the table. He feels sportsmanship is being addressed at the school level which needs to continue.

B. Officials' Campaign Update: Around 640 officials registered for basketball, which is down about 10 officials in wrestling, swim down about 15%, and drill team officials was also down. A committee will be meeting to discuss the next pay raise for officials.

C. Sportsmanship Items: Ms. Whittaker reported that the UHSAA Student Leadership Conference was held on a region or classification level. She attended some of the region conferences and found them to be very creative and inspiring.

(1) Gold Star Coach Award: Each school was asked to nominate a coach to receive the award. The UHSAA wanted to recognize outstanding coaches who are making a difference in their student athletes' lives. A certificate will be sent to the school and schools are asked to recognize the coach at an assembly, etc. One coach from each classification will be selected to receive an award.

D. Emerging Sports Report:

(1) Boys' Volleyball: Ms. Richards expressed appreciation to the members of the Emerging Sports Committee. The Committee had good discussion and the same issues keep coming up. She discussed the pros and cons. It would help another group of students to have a connection with the high school. Regions are asking to look at the schedule for volleyball and the criteria for emerging sports. The Committee will be meeting one more time before the March meeting. Mr. Morris pointed out that the same concerns were voiced for lacrosse. Lacrosse hasn't been a perfect transition, but lacrosse has been successful and students are thriving.

(2) Competitive Cheerleading: Mr. Holmes is concerned if there are enough 2A schools that can compete. Ms. Whittaker said she is sending information by the end of February and then schools will declare participation. At that point, a decision to combine schools to a classification will be determined. Tryouts for cheer and drill are not until the third Monday in March.

E. Coaches' Certification: Mr. Jackson reported the required credential policy is helping to increase the number of credentialed coaches. Coaches need to be credentialed to be on the field or court at state tournaments.

F. UHSAA Summer Moratorium (June 29 - July 5, 2022): If a moratorium adjustment is requested it must be for the entire school.

G. Football Items: Mr. Jackson reported on 8-player football. The EC discussed 8-player football. The discussion included information from a survey that was sent to 1A and 2A schools. Thirty-three schools responded to the survey. The results of the survey:

- Are you in favor of adding 8-player football? 90% Yes, 9.1% No
- Would your school participate in 8-player football?  
15.2% Yes, 48.5% No, 36.4% (Depends on the season)
- What season would you prefer to play? 81.8% Fall, 18.3% Spring

The EC asked Mr. Jackson to pursue 8-player football and look at some options to present to the BOT for possible sanctioning. Currently, there are five teams that are interested, but there are other possibilities. Ms. Johnson asked if only the lower classifications are being considered. Mr. Jackson said only lower classifications at this point. There needs to be eight teams to make a viable tournament. Girls can also participate. This is not a new sport because it is already sanctioned. An 8-player team could opt to play an 11-player team. Mr. Cuff said next year

could be a hybrid and during realignment a decision could be determined if there would be a classification for 8-player football. Mr. Jackson said it is a fast pace, high scoring game with 8-players. Utah is the only state that doesn't offer one or more of 6, 8 or 9-player football.

**MOTION:** Mr. Bergeson made the motion to have Mr. Jackson pursue 8-player football. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

H. Unified Sports: Mr. Oglesby asked schools to contact him or Mr. Jackson if interested in Unified Sports. Coach Sami Graham, unified coach from Wasatch HS, was award the Coach of the Year Award. Wasatch District is very supportive of Unified Sports. She and her team were invited to Florida to compete.

I. Title IX Celebration (pp. 87-88): Mr. Oglesby said the Association is honoring Title IX Pioneers in the State of Utah. First honoree was Natalie Williams, then Becky Anderson, today Liz Wiscombe is being honored. There will be familiar faces coming.

J. Legislative Report: Mr. Holmes welcomed Ashley and Dave Spatafore and thanked them for their service up on Capitol Hill. Mr. Spatafore said this is his 48<sup>th</sup> legislative session. He reported on two numbered bills and one open bill.

Senate Bill 67 is regarding the School Athletic Director Certification. The bill would allow for a supplemental salary for a certified AD. A CMAA (\$5000) would receive more than a CAA (\$2500) certification. The bill passed through the Education Committee. It would be a fiscal cost of \$200K each year. Mr. Holmes said one of the points is to encourage an individual to certify to help keep them in the position and lessen the turnover.

House Bill 11 is regarding transgender youth. The bill is significantly different than last year. Essentially the bill follows the UHSAA policy. It included a required birth certificate change and some states don't allow a change. The bill hasn't been assigned to committee, yet.

Unnumbered Bill is Athletics Coaching Standards amendment. Representative Jordan Teuscher is proposing the UHSAA be the receptacle of information on coaches. If a coach is applying for a position in another high school, the new high school could contact UHSAA. The UHSAA would not want to police nor collect the data. Mr. Holmes said schools could just call the district where they previously coached for information. Mr. Spatafore wants to see the language of the bill before getting into specifics. Mr. Strate thought Rep. Teuscher wanted an evaluation for coaches within two weeks of end of season to use in their portfolio. Mr. Strate has not been able to meet with him. Mr. Cuff said the coaches are pushing the bill because they are looking for protection from parent groups. The bill would force an evaluation and then be housed at the UHSAA. This is difficult to discuss until we see the language of the bill. Mr. Bergeson said it is difficult for the district to keep track of the coaches and voiced concern for the UHSAA.

Mr. Spatafore said he and some staff members were meeting with Representative Candice Pierucci and the Sutherland Institute. They have concerns with the immodesty of uniforms. Mr. Spatafore would like to stay away from legislation. We follow NFHS rules.

The UHSAA is sponsoring a break with the legislature on January 26 from 10:30 to 12:15 for both the house and senate. The next break has been scheduled 2023 – Tuesday, January 24. Mr. Cuff invited members to come and join the staff for the break.

8. **Basketball Shot Clock:** Mr. Oglesby said the Executive Committee made the recommendation to the BOT to adopt the basketball shot clock for all classifications at the varsity level for boys and girls. Region and host school could decide for sub-varsity. There is not a rule that three officials would be required for the shot clock, but it does help the officials. Mr. Holmes was pleased they suggested the regions and host schools determine the sub-varsity. Schools may need more time to add additional shot clocks. Mr. Wood said 1A does not have a choice except to support the shot clock because 2A and 3A schools won't play unless they have a shot clock and three officials. Mr. Cluff said that if officials' expectation is to have three officials on sub-varsity games, they are wrong. The management of shot clock is to the scorer or timekeeper. The only other issue he sees is in the separation of the score. Some states that have adopted the shot clock have also adopted a mercy rule. He feels the mercy rule should be considered (March agenda).

**MOTION:** Ms. Richards made the motion to adopt the shot clock for 1A-6A for varsity only. Regions and host schools can decide on sub-varsity. Mr. Bergeson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9. **Realignment 2023-2025:** Mr. Cuff said that the information being presented will be for a first consideration. He said there are two areas with change.

1 - Format:

Use the **2020** Child Nutrition Program (CNP)

2 - Procedures:

Once schools are initially aligned into classifications, any school with a classification enrollment plus or **minus 10%** of the school with the highest enrollment in a classification shall be considered tied (bubble schools) in enrollment for the purposes of classification assignment. The BOT shall resolve the tie and retains the responsibility for alignment of all member schools.

Last alignment the percentage was 7%. It was felt the change to 10% would provide more bubble schools for flexibility to the BOT to move schools around. The Committee looked at the BOT survey and the current BOT members wanted to keep football alignment and all other sports aligned. The staff will make suggestions for tie-breaker procedures for the bubble schools at the May meeting. The Committee felt there wasn't enough RPI data to propose to eliminating regions. Too many are tied to region championships. Mr. Cluff said the RPI has saved the Association with challenges of Covid-19 and the many cancelled games.

**MOTION:** Mr. Gordon made the motion to accept the format and procedures as a first consideration. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10. **NIL (Name, Image, Likeness):** Mr. Van Wagoner said the UHSAA Amateur Rule does not prohibit any student from profiting off of NIL unless it has something to do with sports, schools or the Association. At that point, we would have some interest. He suggested adding two items to Section 6: Amateur Rule under Interps and Guidelines (page 95).

*6. Wearing a school team uniform or any identifying school insignia while appearing in any advertisement, promotional activity or endorsement for any commercial product or service;*

*7. Lending his/her name and team affiliation for purposes of commercial endorsement. Any appearances by student for nonprofit organizations must be approved by the*

*Board of Trustees concerned. This provision is not intended to restrict the right of any student to participate in a commercial endorsement provided there is no school team or school affiliation.*

**MOTION:** Mr. Bergeson made the motion to accept the language presented under Section 6: Amateur Rule under Interps and Guidelines. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**11. Legal Report:** Mr. Van Wagoner reported last fall he was contacted about the fact that the UHSAA had determined that chiropractors were not qualified to approve athletic health physicals. The Utah Chiropractic Physicians Association (UCPA) has asked to present today why chiropractors should have permission to approve the pre-participation examination form for student athletes.

Jeff Metler, general counsel for UCPA, introduced Kristina Stichter, past president of UCPA and chair of the licensing committee. Also, John Stucky, past president of UCPA and Monte Layton who has been a chiropractor for Utah Jazz, University of Utah and REAL. The Board members were provided a letter sent by the attorneys. Dr. Stichter had a power point presentation. Chiropractors are part of entry physicians and have the ability to diagnose and do examinations in order to accomplish the diagnose. She went through their licensing process and on-going education and certification. Dr. Stucky said patients should be able to choose their provider. Chiropractors want to be part of the team taking care of high school athletes. Mr. Jackson asked if they receive additional training for the heart, lung and concussion. Dr. Stichter said they receive training to become licensed and forty hours are required of continuing education every two years. They would like to see a chiropractor added to the UHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC). Mr. Jackson said 30 states of those that responded to a survey do not allow Chiropractors and 14 states that do and/or require extra training or it is in state statute to allow them. The group was thanked for their presentation.

Mr. Cuff introduced Dr. Karl Weenig, SMAC chair. He thanked Dr. Weenig for attending today. Mr. Jackson said Dr. Weenig has spent many hours discussing and researching SMAC items and concerns. Dr. Weenig said many hours have been spent together with the UHSAA with the many issues with Covid-19. He appreciated the presentation of the UCPA. He does agree with the team philosophy. The question of SMAC was who should put their name on the physical to certify no concerns for the athlete to participate. He discussed information from 2019 which indicated a primary physician, DO or nurse practitioner physician assistant should be conducting pre-participation exams. The American Academy of Pediatrics indicates the ideal pre-participation physical examination should be done in the office of their primary care provider. They have the ability to discuss mental health issues, cardiovascular issues and other issues that have been being followed by the doctor. Dr. Weenig said SMAC could have done a better job communicating with the chiropractic community when the recommendation was made. This was not a mere oversight and was deliberated with the Committee. Mr. Jackson said SMAC became concerned because physicians were seeing more heart and respiratory issues because of Covid. Then based on information from other organizations it was determined to remove chiropractor approval on the exam. Dr. Weenig said this is not medical field vs chiropractics. They only want to do what is best for students. Mr. Cluff asked if SMAC would be okay if a chiropractor had advanced training. Dr. Weenig would want more information as to their training/hours. How much training is about cardiovascular, etc. How does the general public know about their advance training? He thought it could be entertained with research. The NCAA requires a MD or DO. Dr. Weenig is not comfortable to make a recommendation until he knows more about their certification training.

Mr. Van Wagoner would like the UCPA to show the specifics of training to SMAC to make sure their training covers the concerns of the SMAC. This will help with better understanding if the training is sufficient.

## **12. For the Good of the Order:**

A. BOT Election Results (p. 96): Mr. Cuff congratulated Ms. Johnson and Mr. Lund for their reelection to the BOT at the USBA Conference. Other elections needed: 4A principal and Charter School representative (Thursday, April 28 at 11:00 am)

B. Circle of Fame:

- Craig Hammer, Washington School District
- Bart Thompson, UHSAA Assistant Director
- Cindy Stuart, Rich HS Coach

C. UHSAA Super Fans:

- 6A The Williams Family
- 5A Kevin Egan
- 4A Emery “Slim” and Sue Jones
- 3A Linda Wingfield
- 2A Kathleen Schoemig
- 1A Chad Reed

D. Spirit of Sport Award:

- Greyson Bennett, North Sevier HS

E. Heart of the Arts Award:

- Emily Roundy, Green River HS

F. NFHS Today: Mr. Cuff provided Education-Based articles.

- (1) Students Play Sports to have Fun (p. 97)
- (2) Participation in Girls’ Wrestling Explodes (pp. 98-100)

## **13. Approval of Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION:** Mr. Anderson made the motion to approve the financial report as distributed. Mr. Bergeson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Mr. Gordon made the motion to adjourn. 1:45pm

Next meeting: March 24 at Sleepy Ridge in Orem.