

**UTAH HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, March 19, 2025
9:00 AM**

Members Present: Craig Hammer, Justin Whittaker, Rodney Saw, Todd Dawson, Josh LeRoy, Jason Smith, Jennifer Christensen, Kevin Henshaw, Kim Monkres, Roger Arbabi, Jim Crosbie (for Daryl Guymon), Steve Gordon, Kade Morrell, Nate Marshall, Devin Smith, Ty Kennedy, Craig Morris, Kim Bailey, Roberta Hardy, David Cluff, Karl Jensen, Darin Jenkins, Teri Davis, Everett Kelepolo, Steve Marsing, Rob Cuff, Jeff Cluff, Brenan Jackson, Jan Whittaker, Missy Mackay-Whiteurs and Chris Shipman. **Excused:** Ryan Bishop.

Minutes: Jennifer Thomas

1. **Welcome & Chair Business:** Chair Craig Hammer welcomed the board.
 - A. **Reverence / thought:** Mr. Karl Jensen shared that today is the last day of winter and he is ready for spring. He grew up in Carbon area where his father was a miner. His father took him hunting and fishing, but he had never been to the mine where he worked. One day he asked if he would like to visit the mine and took him to the opening of the mine. Once they entered and went in a ways, his father told him he wanted to show him what complete darkness was. He turned off lights in mine. Mr. Jensen tried to look at his hands, right in front of his face and then looked around to find any light, but the darkness was complete and oppressive. This was such a powerful lesson on the power of light and the absence of light and how each of us can bring light to those around us. He encouraged the committee to continue to support one another with the light each brings to the world and to reach out to others so no one ever finds themselves wallowed in darkness. He then offered a prayer.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance/patriotic thought:** Mr. Kevin Henshaw explained that there are several students at his school who have come to the United States for the first time, and he has had several conversations with them. Many had no idea about all the extracurriculars that are offered in U.S. schools. This has made him grateful for all we have and can offer to students in this country. He then led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - C. **Chair's general observations:** Chair Hammer explained that Mr. Jim Crosbie is attending the meeting for Mr. Daryl Guymon and Mr. Everett Kelepolo is attending for Mr. Ryan Bishop.
 - D. **Minutes of January 15, 2025, meeting:**

MOTION: Ms. Kim Monkres motioned to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Roger Arbabi. The motion carried.
 - E. **Academic All-state deadlines, UHSAA Moratoriums, Eligibility lists deadlines:** Refer to the Ready Reference Calendar and UHSAA website.
2. **BOT Meeting Report:**
 - A. Mr. Jason Smith provided a report on the January 23, 2025 meeting.
3. **USBE Report:** Ms. Teri Davis said she appreciates Mr. Jensen's message and is thankful for all that the UHSAA and committee members are doing. She explained that we need to continue to give the students the best opportunities possible.

4. **Winter Activities Report:**

- A. Winter results:** Mr. Rob Cuff introduced Mr. Brandon Riley, who is the new General Manager at PlayFly. Mr. Riley then shared a brief background about himself. Mr. Cuff then outlined the winter results in each classification.
- B. Basketball:** Mr. Brenan Jackson announced the winners in each classification and said all went well.
- C. Wrestling:** Mr. Chris Shipman said that they had a successful state tournament and then announced the winners in each classification.
- D. Drill Team:** Ms. Jan Whittaker said state drill had another great tournament and announced the winners by classification.
- E. Cheer:** Ms. Missy Mackay-Whiteurs announced the state winners by classification and thanked everyone for another great state event in comp. cheer.
- F. Swim:** Mr. Steve Marsing said that this year's state tournament was the fastest swim season ever in Utah, with 13 state records set in the tournament. He then announced the winners in each classification.
- G. Ejection Report:** Mr. Jeff Cluff explained that they continue to have ejections on the boys' side of things. Two specific situations where 13 team members were ejected in one boys' basketball game, and seven in a subsequent boys' basketball game were ejected. This increased the overall numbers quite a bit, but overall ejections are improving.
- H. Officiating Update:** Mr. J. Cluff said he is proud to report there is an 8.81% increase in officials over last year. They are headed in the right direction. He expressed appreciation for the committee's support of officials.
- I. Spring Sport Credentials:** They were ordered on Friday and should be arriving at the UHSAA office around the end of March.
- J. Baseball Items:** The 4A baseball state championship in St. George has hit a snag with Utah Tech University. They are still trying to secure that venue. As of now, it is scheduled to be at Utah Tech, but they may have to select another venue.
- K. RPI Review:** Mr. Josh Taylor, Mr. Cuff and Mr. J. Cluff presented the RPI versus MaxPreps. Different options were discussed:
1. What should be done regarding the RPI?
 2. Classification adjustment and what to do with schools like LCA and Wasatch Academy?
 3. Should they count or be a non-factor when played?
- There was also a proposal to drop to 1.0 in the RPI and then talk to regions about MaxPreps. Mr. J. Cluff suggested they decide if they want to go with MaxPreps.

MOTION: Mr. Kim Bailey made a motion to adopt MaxPreps for a year in 1A & 2A in all sports except football and to modify the margin of victory (for a year). It was seconded by Mr. David Cluff. The motion carried. Opposed by one.

MOTION: Mr. J. Smith made the motion to lower the RPI from 1.25 to 1, for out of state competition and to eliminate any independents from the RPI. It was seconded by Mr. Justin Whittaker. The motion carried.

- L. **Post-Season Ticketing Policy:** UHSAA has received numerous requests about sharing funds with opposing teams. The current ticketing policy says that two administrators, one from each school, should discuss and determine what to do with funds and then settle up after the game. Discussion ensued on if the policy should be revised and the host team keeps the revenue in post season games at home sites (with the exception of quarter-final football).

MOTION: Mr. Todd Dawson made a motion to change the policy (starting next fall) to say that the host school should receive all revenue from post season games at home sites (with the exception of quarter-final football). Mr. Darin Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. **UIAAA:**

- A. **UIAAA Conference:** Mr. Everett Kelepolo shared that the UIAAA Conference will be held on April 9-12, 2025 at the Abby Inn in St. George. He shared the classes that will be given during the conference.

6. **UHSAA Calendar:**

- A. **2024-25:** There are always changes and updates, so please check the calendar often.

1. **Soccer:** In 1A/2A soccer there is a conflict for the semi-finals game originally schedule on the 9th at Zion's Bank. It needs to be moved to the 7th or the 8th of May.

MOTION: Mr. Craig Morris made a motion to move 1A/2A boys' soccer to the 7th or the 8th of May as needed. Mr. Devin Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. J. Cluff suggested that a change for this year and future years be approved that sub-varsity teams be allowed to play games up until the Friday before Memorial Day for spring sports due to weather cancellations.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made a motion that starting this spring and in subsequent years, sub-varsity teams be allowed to play games up until the Friday before Memorial Day for spring sports, due to weather cancellations. It was seconded by Mr. Nate Marshall. The motion carried.

2. **Lacrosse:** A handout with game times was provided.

- B. **2025-26:** This calendar is also being updated, so check often.

1. **Cross Country:** Waiting to get on the agenda with the Sugar House Park board to schedule cross country for next year.
2. **Christmas Moratorium:** It is scheduled for December 21-25, 2025.

Mr. J. Cluff discussed the pitch count violations in baseball and asked for a decision on the fine for not reporting the pitch count within 24 hours. The amount of the fine was discussed as was the first violation of misuse of a player (over the allowed pitch count) is a 2 game suspension. The second and subsequent offenses are a forfeiture of a game.

MOTION: Mr. J. Smith made a motion that starting on March 20, 2025, the regions will levy a \$250.00 fine paid to the region, for any school who competes in a baseball game and is the home team, if they do not enter the pitch count within 24 hours after the completion of the game. It was seconded by Mr. Whittaker. The motion carried.

7. **Staff Items**

- A. **Sportsmanship Items:** Ms. Whittaker encouraged schools to apply so they can earn another star for their banner.
- B. **Women in Sports Day Report:** This was held on Feb 19. Over 200 participants attended and it was a great day. The speakers next year will be Karissa Niehoff from NFHS and The Utah governor's wife Abby Cox.
- C. **Golf Items:** Ms. Whittaker reminded the committee that golf is a little different regarding the coaches' clinic. Coaches have to take a clinic and also do an etiquette clinic with their players.
- D. **Drill Team Items:** A drill rep needs to sign up for region competition dates for next year. It is located on the drill page on the UHSAA website. Mr. Smith brought up concerns about the length of the drill season. It is currently about 10 months. He proposed that the season ends in January after state and tryouts stay the same dates in March and then the season begins again on June 1, giving the drill girls a four month break. He asked the committee to take the idea to their regions and it will be re-visited at the next committee meeting. Ms. Whittaker also reminded the committee to make sure all drill and cheer team members have signed up on Aktivite, since they try out so early.
- E. **Volleyball Items:** It was proposed that for the state tournament they keep 16 teams in 1A-4A. A proposal in 5A-6A that consolation does not come back the second day after losing either game the first day was discussed in regions and a decision needed to be made.

MOTION: Mr. Whittaker made a motion for 5A/6A boys' and girls' volleyball to not go back the second day of consolation in the state tournament, if the team lost either game on the first day. Mr. Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried with one opposed.

Beginning next year, a textured volleyball can be used by boys' volleyball, if preferred. The committee was asked to take it back to their regions for discussion.

1A would like to change back to 3 out of 5 in consolation for the 3rd and 4th place games. They prefer it over 2 out of 3.

MOTION: Mr. Jenkins made a motion to allow 1A to play 3 out of 5 in the 3rd and 4th place games at the volleyball state tournament. Mr. David Cluff seconded the motion. The motion did not carry.

- F. **Esports Update:** PlayVersus will be the platform used for ESports. It will be proposed to the Board of Trustees that the following games be used for the first season of Esports: Super Smash Bros., Rocket League and Mario Kart. The season will be held January to April and will start in 2026.

- G. **Swim Items:** Mr. Marsing shared that schools need to declare their moratorium dates for swimming. The deadline is to declare is March 31. A \$50.00 fine will be given if it is not done before the deadline.
- H. **Special Olympics Utah – Unified Sports:** Mr. Shipman announced that the Unified Basketball games would be held at the Delta Center on March 28th.
- I. **Academic All State:** Spring sports are currently open for submissions.
- J. **Track and Field Items:** Mr. Chris Shipman referred the committee to the 2A Track and Field TRI Seeding that was approved earlier in the fall and he encouraged committee members from other classifications to look it over.
- K. **Wrestling Items:** There was a lot of biting at the state tournament. If an official sees the bite occur, it is a flagrant misconduct penalty.
- L. **Student Leadership Conferences – Fall 2025:** Ms. Mackay-Whiteurs requested that the committee look for a region rep to lead the conferences.
- M. **Tennis Items:** A proposal was sent out about having 1A/2A state championship tournament instead of playing up with 3A. Brighton high school would be willing to host.
- N. **Softball Items:** It was decided that 1A and 2A would have a separate championship if 1A had enough teams. At this time, 1A only has 7 teams.

MOTION: Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the Executive Committee revisit the proposal in the fall requesting that that 1A and 2A softball each have a separate state tournament. It was seconded by Mr. Jensen. The motion carried.

- O. **Theatre Items:** One school will be participating this activity for this year. They have a team, and the region said they are allowed to participate.
- P. **Cheer Safety Clinics 2026:** The clinic will be held in 2025 as in previous years. In looking forward to subsequent year, a survey will be sent out to other state associations to obtain information on if they are held and if so what they do or don't do.
- Q. **UHSAA Summer Moratorium Adjustments:** Mr. Jackson reminded the board that it will be held from June 30-July 6.
- R. **Coaches Certification:** This can be done on NFHS Learn.
- S. **Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Items:** Mr. Jackson shared a video about his family member, rodeo legend Kasey Field from the website LoveYourMindToday.org, which provides mental health resources.
- T. **Boys Soccer Items:**

MOTION: Mr. Bailey made the motion to approve the Bountiful soccer student. Seconded by Kim Monkres. The motion carried

U. **Approved Soccer Clubs:** The form must be complete. The club and event must be approved or the student athletes cannot attend.

V. **Basketball Items:** It is proposed that South Summit HS be fined \$1,500.00 for not reporting their scores, which affected the RPI.

MOTION: Mr. D. Smith made a motion to fine South Summit HS \$1,500.00 for not reporting their scores. It was seconded by C. Morris. The motion carried.

W. **Football Camps:** To do a full contact camp, an eight day heat acclimatization is required. There is a practice method called THUD, which is live play until contact is made. Contact is above the waist and no one goes to the ground. Some schools would like to be in helmets and shoulder pads and do a five-day THUD camp, which would fall within the eight days of heat acclimatization. They would do this instead of a full-contact camp. The school can choose to either do a full contact camp or a THUD camp.

MOTION: Mr. Kevin Henshaw made the motion to allow schools the additional choice to do a THUD camp instead of a full-contact camp. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey. The motion carried.

Beaver HS would like to play Moapa Valley HS (from Nevada) at SUU for their endowment game. There will not be a charge to UHSAA for the facility at SUU.

MOTION: Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve Beaver HS to play Moapa Valley HS (from Nevada) at SUU for their endowment game. It was seconded by Mr. Morris. The motion carried.

X. **Music Items:** The state festival for Solo & Ensemble will be held at Woods Cross and Provo. All are welcome to attend.

Y. **Executive Committee Terms:** Mr. Cuff explained that Ms. Jen Christensen and Mr. Justin Whittaker were voted by their regions to finish the year as Executive Committee members. Mr. Cuff then checked with each region to see if they will continue to serve on the committee and announced a change for Mr. Jason Smith, who will be moving to a position in Davis School District. Mr. Mike Martini at West Field HS will replace him. Mr. Ryan Bishop will be the principal at Wasatch HS, so Mr. Matt Christensen from Spanish Fork HS will be the new committee member. Mr. Roger Arbabi is retiring, so Mr. Caleb Fine will replace him on the committee. Mr. Daryl Guymon is also retiring, and Mr. Jim Crosbie will replace him. Mr. KC Olson from Monticello will replace Ms. Roberta Hardy. The other committee members will confirm with Mr. Cuff after they meet with their regions.

Z. **Board of Trustees Terms:** Mr. Cuff shared that the new 5A school board representative is Michelle Barber. The 2A school board representative is Mitchell Glazier. The 5A/6A Superintendent, Mr. Paul Sweat's term is ending, so the superintendent's association will select a new representative. The 1A/2A Superintendent and Chairman Mr. Jerre Holmes is also retiring and will also be replaced by the superintendent's association. As Mr. Jason Smith is leaving Northridge HS and going to Davis School District, he will need to be replaced on the Board. 3A/4A Principal Mr. Mike Mees is retiring and will need to be replaced. The

charter school representative election will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, and a representative will be chosen at that time.

- AA. Member School Requests:** Mr. Jackson introduced Mr. Gabe Pethtel, who is the new Athletic Director at Layton Christian Academy (LCA). He requested that LCA go independent in three more sports: boys' volleyball, football and boys' soccer.

The Committee discussed if they wanted to make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees that LCA be allowed to go independent in the three sports they have requested.

MOTION: Mr. Kade Morrell made a motion that the Executive Committee make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees that LCA be allowed to immediately go independent in boys' volleyball and boys' soccer and then football in the fall of 2025. Mr. Kevin Henshaw seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Devin Delin from the PGA led a discussion regarding Utah high school golf. He requested that the committee let him know if they have a good course in their area that would like to allow high school golf teams to play their state championships at the course. They are struggling to find courses that are willing to host the state tournaments and would appreciate help finding additional courses.

MOTION: Mr. Henshaw made a motion to increase the green fees in golf to \$75.00. It was seconded by Mr. Whittaker. The motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Bailey made a motion to allow 16 teams in each classification, plus up to 10 golfers from non-qualifying teams to participate in the state golf tournaments. Ms. Hardy seconded the motion. The motion carried. One committee member opposed the motion.

8. Reports

- A. **6A Athletics:** Nothing to report.
- B. **5A Athletics:** Nothing to report.
- C. **4A Athletics:** Nothing to report.
- D. **3A Athletics:** Nothing to report.
- E. **2A Athletics:** Nothing to report.
- F. **1A Athletics:** Nothing to report.

9. For the Good of the Order:

- A. **Music Programs:** Mr. Cuff referred the committee to a document which showed what states hold state music competitions.
- B. **Being a Good Teammate:** Mr. Cuff provided a second article about being a good teammate and a student from Springville HS had provided an answer.

10. **NFHS Summer Conference – Chicago, Illinois (June 27 – July 2, 2025):**
 - A. **Information and Interest:** Committee members were invited to let Mr. Cuff know after the meeting if they have an interest to attend.