

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

UHSAA Office

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

10:00 A.M.

Members Present: Craig Hammer, Jed Johansen, Rodney Shaw, Todd Dawson, Josh LeRoy, Jason Smith, Jared Wright, Kevin Henshaw, Kim Monkres, Roger Arbabi, 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. **Excused:** Ryan Bishop. **Minutes:** Jennifer Thomas

1. Welcome & Chairman Business: Chair Craig Hammer welcomed the committee.

1. He introduced the new members:
 - a. Josh LeRoy – Cyprus HS – Region 4
 - b. Roger Arbabi – Park City HS – Region 10
 - c. Daryl Guymon – Logan HS – Region 11
 - d. Devin Smith– North Summit HS – Region 15
 - e. David Cluff – Milford HS – Region 20
2. UHSAA has 159 UHSAA Member Schools for the 2024-25 school year.

B. Reverence/thought: Mr. Kade Morrell provided a thought about the why? Why do we as educators do this? He shared an experience of going to the wedding reception of a former student. He saw two previous students who had struggled to attend school. When they saw Mr. Morrell, they came over and shared that they are now both in post-graduate school and doing great. He emphasized to the committee that we never know how our efforts as administrators, educators, and coaches, will impact the students. It struck him that they were so excited to share with him what they were doing. It was a great reminder of the why's. He then provided a prayer.

C. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic thought: Mr. Darin Jenkins shared that the month of July was nostalgic for him as the 4th and 24th of July were celebrated this year. He was able to attend a couple of small-town parades. His town of Tabiona is one of the smallest towns in Utah, but on the fourth it is crowded with people who are all brought together to celebrate Independence Day. The Olympics are another example of this. It is amazing what brings people together. Patriotism and athletics can bring us together and he is grateful we live in a country that allows us the freedom to do this. He then led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. NFHS summer conference: Chair Hammer asked Mr. J. Smith to share his experience as a first-time conference attendee. The highlight for him was the banquet for the High School Hall of Fame. Mr. Rodney Shaw shared that he enjoyed the camaraderie between coaches. Mr. Jed Johansen said it was a great reminder of the positives of working with students. Mr. Steve Gordon was able to take his daughter, and she also loved the banquet. Ms. Roberta Hardy said it was the best conference she has attended. She especially enjoyed the speakers. Mr. Rob Cuff said it was his 23rd conference and they get better each year.

E. Minutes of previous meeting: June 3, 2024 (summary on UHSAA website).

MOTION: Mr. Todd Dawson made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. It was seconded Mr. Jenkins. The motion carried.

2. USBE Report: Ms. Teri Davis shared that they are currently working on a couple of projects in collaboration with the US Board of Education. Shape Utah, USBA and UHSAA. The first project is

education-based athletics where they are connecting learning to athletics and are making life connections that will carry past high school. They also connect to the portrait of a graduate. Students learn important lessons better during athletics. They learn teamwork, problem solving skills, strategy, etc.

Graduation credits. When a PE credit is given, it cannot be a fitness for life credit. The UHSAA Athletic Participation Guidelines are on the USBE website. If the coach is not certified, a PE credit cannot be given. With Unified Sports, if your district is not participating, they need to. It must be offered to students with disabilities. If you do not know how to get involved, USBE is here to help. UHSAA assistant directors Mr. Chris Shipman and Ms. Missy Mackay-Whiteurs can also help. Sportsmanship is in the standards, so if you have a student that is struggling with this, they are not meeting the standard and cannot get a PE credit. If complaints are made, UHSAA is there to support you. They need to demonstrate competency. USBE also has a course in Midas that will start on October 26. It is an online course and helps athletic administrators encourage their coaches to legitimize giving the credit. You can sign up for this on Midas.

3. **UHSAA Procedures and Materials:**

- A. **2024-25 meeting schedule:** Mr. Cuff went over the meeting schedule for the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees. Additional Board of Trustees meetings will be held, due to this being a realignment year. If you cannot attend an Executive Committee meeting, please send someone from your school or another district school, so you will be represented.
- B. **Reimbursement claims for Executive Committee members for meetings and tournament supervision:**
 - 1. **Mileage:** Make sure you know your district policy. We will reimburse you for personal car travel.
 - 2. **Meals:** We always provide lunch. If you need to travel early or late, we will reimburse you for breakfast and dinner.
 - 3. **Lodging:** UHSAA has agreements with hotels, so if you need to stay over, please let us make the reservation. Contact Mr. Jeff Cluff for hotel reservations.
- C. **Committee Assignments:** Mr. Cuff referenced the list of committees and explained that all Executive Committee members are expected to participate on one or more committees.
- D. **UHSAA Awards:**
 - 1. **DSA nomination form:** This is due November 1. These are by region. Narrow down to one per category to submit to the committee.
 - 2. **Super Fan nomination form** due November 1: This can come in by school. It doesn't have to be a region nomination. Sometimes nominations are not received, and UHSAA must ask for them. Please nominate.
 - 3. **Circle of Fame:** This is due on November 1. Send an email to Mr. Cuff with the name of anyone you would like to nominate.
 - 4. NFHS Hall of Fame – due November 1
- E. **UHSAA Information:**
 - 1. **2024-25 Classifications and Regions:** Mr. Cuff referred the committee to the list of regions and the Executive Committee, showing their terms. In addition to the Regional Executive Committee members, there is Mr. Hammer as Chair; Ms. Davis as the USBE representative; and Mr. Everett Kelepolo as the UIAAA Executive Director. Mr. Cuff then referred the committee to the list of Board of Trustees. The first few are elected twice. Once as a School

Board member and then for the UHSAA Board of Trustees. There are also the superintendents, who represent the classifications. The next group is the principals, who represent according to classification. There is also the charter school representative, private school representative and Mr. Brent Strate from the USBE.

2. About the UHSAA and NFHS: The NFHS is the parent organization of UHSAA. UHSAA has the opportunity to be on the national rules committees.

F. Role of UIAAA with UHSAA Executive Committee: Ms. Jan Whittaker explained that the UIAAA is the screening function for Executive Committee. They have a yearly conference in St. George. It will be held on April 9-12, 2025.

G. UHSAA Participation: Ms. Whittaker referenced the committee to the 2023-24 UHSAA participation results and explained that this information is collected each year and is sent on to the NFHS. This year participation has increased by 5,000 students.

H. Promoting High School Activities: Mr. Brenan Jackson asked the committee to get this out to their communities. Sometimes parents think schools should only be focused on education. This article helps to show the benefits of athletics and activities for students.

I. Relationship to Board of Trustees: Chair Hammer

1. Superintendent Jerre Holmes, North Summit School District
2. Vice-Chair Marilyn Richards, Jordan School District
3. Classification principals on BOT
 - a. Mr. Jason Smith – Northridge HS – 5A/6A
 - b. Mr. Mike Mees – Pine View HS – 3A/4A
 - c. Mr. Devin Smith – North Summit HS – 1A/2A
4. Invite BOT members to region meetings

J. UHSAA Athletics Committee Function: Chair Hammer went over the Region Chair responsibilities. They need to do classification meetings, participate in bracketing, qualifying procedure, site determination, dates. They also must supervise region qualifying forms and deadlines.

4. UIAAA Business: Mr. Kelepolo said that the UIAAA provides AD training. Classes will be held on September 23. The next meeting will be held on September 16. Regions were asked to discuss the two weeks prior rule for sports that still have them to protect the first day of tryouts, so all schools have them the same day. ADEC will discuss it in their next meeting.

5. Academic All-State: Mr. Shipman discussed the importance of meeting the deadlines so the students can get their certificates in a timely manner. The deadlines are Sept. 10 – Oct 8; Jan. 6 – Feb. 4; Feb. 12 – Mar. 11; and Mar. 18 – Apr. 17.

6. UHSAA Calendar:

- A. 2024-25 Calendar:** This calendar is constantly changing. Refer to it often. The reveal dates will be changing due to the committee's request.
1. The state Cross-Country meet location needs to be decided. The committee decided to return to Sugar House for one year and then re-evaluate as needed.

MOTION: Mr. David Cluff motioned that the times be approved for the Cross-Country state meet. Mr. Dawson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. **5A/6A Girls Volleyball Dates:** UVU has a scheduling issue. The only days available are Nov 7 and 8. In the past it was a three-day event. The tournaments need to be condensed or go to high schools.

MOTION: Mr. J. Smith made a motion to condense the 5A/6A tournament to two days. Mr. Jared Wright seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. **Basketball Dates and Sites:** Venue dates may need to change. 4A is scheduled at SUU. 5A/6A has an issue related to Weber State. There are some potential construction issues. The tournament may need to be held at University of Utah for the first few days and then return to Weber for the rest of the tournament. Mr. Jackson is working on alternative sites.

MOTION: Mr. Morrell made the motion for 3A state basketball to play on February 24, 25, 26. Mr. Nate Marshall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Due to the rule change of no more games once the season ends, a long-standing freshman tournament can no longer occur. Special Guests Mr. Matt Barnes from Olympus HS and Mr. Dan DelPorto from the Utah Basketball Coaches Association requested an exception to allow the freshman to still have the tournament. It was grandfathered last year, due to the rule change.

MOTION: Mr. Kevin Henshaw made a motion to approve the freshman tournament to continue each year after the season end date. Only freshman teams that are part of a high school can participate. Mr. Craig Morris seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3A Baseball Dates need to be changed to May 12-17, due to the change in the format. This will be the same week as 4A. It will be tentatively held at UVU.

MOTION: Mr. Morrell made the motion to accept the modified dates. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. Refer to UHSAA website for changes, and updates throughout the year.

7. **UHSAA Items:**

- A. **UHSAA Website Overview/UHSAA App:** Reminder that if you see issues or problems let Jeff or Curt know.
- B. **Social media:** It is getting a lot of traction through fans. Ms. Audrey Barton does an excellent job running UHSAA's social media. To get something posted on social media, contact Mr. J. Cluff.
- C. **Aktivate – Athlete and Coach:** This is headed in the right direction. We have a great relationship with them.
- D. **Sports Try-Out Checklist Form:** This has been added to the forms page on the UHSAA website.

- E. **Eligibility Lists:** This is a required form. It must be completed in Register My Athlete.
 - F. **Electronic Programs:** For team sports they are available on our website during the state tournaments. There are schools that do not submit team photos. We get a lot of feedback from fans. Mr. J. Cluff encouraged them to make it a priority, so the student-athletes are represented.
 - G. **MaxPreps/RPI:** They are the official provider of UHSAA's stats. Please use them.
 - H. **Yearly Results/Record Book:** There is a form on the UHSAA website to submit results and records.
 - I. **Region Report Form**
Also needed is to report meetings and agendas from regions. Please do this.
 - J. **Posting Region Meeting Agendas/Minutes**
8. **UHSAA Credentials:** The first order is complete. Most missed the deadline to order administrator and trainer credentials. The next order will be delivered in September. The deadline is August 14.
9. **Ejection Procedures:**
- A. **Coaches, Student Athletes and Fan Behavior:** There has been some progress in most areas, but reporting did not improve, as only 56% reported.
10. **Officials:**
- A. **Online registration numbers and background checks:** Registration went great in July. Over 1,400 people registered to be officials. We are trending in the right direction.
 - B. **Arbiter Pay Update:** Reminder that we continue to encourage schools to use Arbiter Pay. Please encourage your Regions to do this.
 - C. **Arbiter Website:** There is a link through the UHSAA website. If you have questions, don't call the Arbiter Sports hotline. Mr. J. Cluff is the person to contact.
 - D. **Live/Online Clinics:** All fall clinics can be accessed online. The only clinic that hasn't been updated is the football coaches, because a special meeting is being scheduled regarding illegal and improperly worn football equipment. The knees must be covered and protected. This will be addressed in an upcoming meeting.
 - E. **Sub-Varsity Football Games:** Sub-Varsity games cannot be played before 4 p.m. on the Wasatch Front. There are only a few minor exceptions.
 - F. **2024-25 Pay Scale:** It is located on the UHSAA Website and is coming in the August mailing packet to the schools.
12. **Coaches Training:** Mr. Jackson explained that each coach must complete this. NFHS Learn can be used as it has most of the required trainings.
- A. **UHSAA Certification Checklist:** Eligibility lists have been added to this checklist.

- B. NFHS Learning Center (nfhslearn.com):** This site contains many valuable courses for coaches and administrators.
- 13. Region Visits by Staff:** Mr. Cuff referred the committee to the list of staff visits per region. The UHSAA directors will try to get to a meeting before December.
- 14. UHSAA Summits:** Mr. Cuff shared that the first UHSAA Summit was held in Richfield on Monday. The Miller Conference Center in Sandy will be the location for the second Summit next Monday.
- 15. UHSAA Foundation:**
- A. Committee Members:** Mr. Jerry Bovee, Chair; Ms. Marilyn Richards, BOT; Mr. Chris Neddo; Ms. Belinda Johnson; and Mr. Rex Thornton.
- B. Catastrophic Insurance:** This is due on September 15. Schools are asked to pay the premium and then 100% will be returned by the foundation once all the monies have been received for this year.
- C. Endowment Games:** A webinar will be held on August 13, 2024, at 10 a.m. on how to use GoFan for the endowment games. It is a requirement to use GoFan for endowment games and UHSAA post-season.
- 16. Legal Report:** Mr. Mark Van Wagoner shared that over the summer he has been gathering information related to the recruiting of foreign students for the purpose of athletics. There has been some discussion about the new transfer rules and potential tweaks to the rules to best accommodate the changes to prevent potential scheduling issues between schools. Chair Hammer then asked the committee to share in their region meetings what the penalty is for not holding out ineligible transfer students for 50% of the contests.
- 17. Staff Items:**
- A. Sportsmanship Committee:**
- 1. 2024 School Sportsmanship Award Recipients:** The winners are on the website.
 - 2. Zero Ejections:** The ovals will be sent out soon.
 - 3. Fifteen years of UHSAA Sportsmanship “Raise the Bar.”**
 - 4. Sportsmanship page:** There is a link through UHSAA website. The Sportsmanship Handbook is updated regularly. It is a valuable resource.
 - 5. Sportsmanship Video Competition:** Submissions are due by October 15. Please spread the word on this.
 - 6. Gold Star Coach:** Please nominate one coach per school that is doing a great job and making a difference in the lives of the students.
 - 7. UHSAA Website Sportsmanship Item:** A sportsmanship spotlight will be started on the website. If you see anything that should be highlighted, please send it to Ms. Whittaker.
- B. Golf Items:** There are two clinics required for golf. One is the coach’s clinic, and one is the etiquette clinic that is completed with the student-athletes. There should be a region representative assigned for golf and they are responsible to input their scores for golf. This needs to be done throughout the season. Some regions are only putting them in at the end of the season. Please talk to your region representative to make sure the scores are entered within 24-48 hours after the meet.

- C. **Drill Team Items:** Some regions have not selected dates for their competitions. Please contact the region representative and have them sign up. Tryouts for cheer and drill need to potentially be moved so that student athletes aren't trying out at multiple schools. Teams need to be announced before the summer so there is time for the ordering of uniforms and safety clinics.
- D. **Esports Update:** Plays Versus will be the platform and it is free. The season will be held from January to April. They are planning to have a pilot season next year and any schools that want to participate can do so. Ken Garff will partner with UHSAA. Super Smash Bros, Mario Kart and Rocket League are the games that will be used.
- E. **Cheer Items:** Ms. Mackay-Whiteurs explained that State Risk will no longer be providing safety clinics for cheer, due to it being a sanctioned sport. Special guest Ms. Lori Rupp presented cheer safety certification reasoning and importance. State Risk has rules, NFHS has rules and UHSAA has rules. The clinic covers all these rules. Every team has their own Goggle Drive that contains all the needed documents. The safety clinics train new coaches and athletes, so they understand how to execute the skills safely.

Discussion ensued and the final consensus was to have the Board of Trustees discuss this and decide if the Executive Committee needs to do anything regarding this issue.
- F. **Sportsmanship Specialists Training – Student Leadership:** Ms. Mackay-Whiteurs asked for a representative from each region. Mr. Cuff requested that the committee add sportsmanship to their region agendas every meeting.
- G. **Show Up Sports Challenge (Service Initiative):** The committee was encouraged to work with Ms. Abby Cox and Ms. Ashley Smith's initiative and do a service project with your teams.
- H. **Tennis Items:** A tennis meeting was held on June 24 with all the tennis coaches. The tennis coaches' association will be changing to new leadership in time for the realignment.
- I. **1A/2A Softball:** If enough teams participate, 1A will be having their own tournament.
- J. **Summer Moratorium (June 30-July 6):** Mr. Jackson pointed out that this is on the calendar. He reminded the committee that it can be changed but must be the entire school.
- K. **Boys Soccer Probation:** They got one game back, so they now will have 17 games in the next season.
- L. **Football Items:** The venues have been scheduled. In the lower classifications, the classifications will be rotated to help with parking at Zion's bank.
- M. **Wrestling Items:** Mr. Shipman requested that the committee let him know their plans for Wrestling divisionals when the meeting ended. The 1A and 2A schedule is set. 2A will be held on Thursday and Friday, 1A will be held on Saturday. Mr. Shipman provided an option for 3A - 6A to be held at UVU with one classification per day and then on Saturday to have qualifiers for two classifications come together and wrestle in each session.

MOTION: Mr. Kim Bailey made the motion to approve the option for 3A-6A Wrestling. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- N. Track Items:** Ms. Samantha LeFevre from Kanab presented a solution for a TRI (Track Ranking System) by division. The purpose is to make the process more objective instead of subjective. Current ways for qualifying are to hit the standard or qualify at region. She pointed out with this system, at times very good athletes are left at home, especially in 2A. There is a huge disparity between regions on who qualifies for state. The proposed plan allows the athletes to qualify in three ways. 1: Meet the UHSAA standard. 2: Representation as a region champion. 3: Quality of the athletes at the state event. If they had a performance during the season that qualified them, they can qualify for state.

The committee discussed the above proposal and decided that it will need to be presented to ADEC, the Coaches Association and then the Board of Trustees. Mr. Kelepolo with ADEC will follow up on this.

- Q. Swim Items:** Mr. Steve Marsing shared that Swimming would remain as a winter sport. There will be no change in the start date this year, but next year it will be three weeks later.

- R. Baseball Items:** Mr. J. Cluff discussed the 1A fall baseball tournament. The plan is to modify the baseball championship and to move it to a double elimination tournament. This would be the same number of games that the 2A tournament has.

MOTION: Mr. Jenkins made the motion to change the 1A fall baseball tournament to a 7-game double elimination tournament and to hold the tournament at UVU if the price is the same as hosting it at Kearns. Mr. D. Cluff seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion that UHSAA adopt a 15-run rule after 4 innings and 10 run rule after 5 innings. Ms. Hardy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- S. Baseball Count (pitchkount.com):** This program is currently being tested out in Fall baseball. It will cost \$210 per school. It is a great system that tracks pitch counts and helps manage pitchers.

MOTION: Mr. Bailey made the motion to adopt PitchKount. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- T. Member School Requests:** Mr. Cuff presented Mr. Paul Schulte from the Utah Military Academy. He requested that their baseball team be independent and move to spring baseball and keep their program going. Because they started eight player football, they don't have enough athletes to participate in fall baseball.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to allow UMA Camp Williams to go independent in baseball, moving from fall to spring for one year to enable them to keep their baseball program so they can move to fall in a region with the realignment. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Daryl Guymon from Logan high school requested to go independent in their girls' basketball program for a year. Their region has already discussed it, and they are willing to play them.

MOTION: Mr. Marshall made the motion to allow the Logan High School girls' basketball program to go independent for a year to try and strengthen their program. Mr. Devin Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- U. **Compliance Training:** Region minutes and agendas will need to be posted to the UHSAA website. The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees meeting agendas and minutes are posted to the UHSAA website. The Board of Trustees is posted to the Public Notice Website. A closed meeting occurs at times during Board of Trustees meetings and only if certain conditions apply.
- V. **Realignment:** There will be a public meeting on August 22 to address the upcoming realignment. In November, the first consideration will be held. In December there will be a Zoom meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion for a second consideration of the format and procedures of the new alignment. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

18. Reports:

- A. **Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Report (SMAC):** Mr. Jackson shared that the Return to Play requirements have been updated.
- B. **6A Athletics; Mr. Rodney Shaw** – Nothing to report
- C. **5A Athletics; Mr. Ryan Bishop** – Nothing to report
- D. **4A Athletics; Mr. Kevin Henshaw** – Nothing to report
- E. **3A Athletics; Mr. Steve Gordon** – Nothing to report
- F. **2A Athletics; Mr. Craig Morris** – Nothing to report
- G. **1A Athletics; Mr. Karl Jensen** – Nothing to report

Next Meeting: October 2, 2024, at 9 am.