

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Siempre Utah
Wednesday, January 11, 2023
9:00 am

Members Present: Jed Johansen, Robert McDaniel, Todd Quarnberg, Darrell Jensen, Jason Smith, Bill Sivert, Doug Webb, Ryan Bishop, Darin Thomas, Doug Snow, Steve Gordon, Kade Morrell, Karen Soper, Nate Marshall, Jade Shepherd, Craig Morris, Ty Kennedy, Brady Fails, Jim Wood, Craig Hammer, Marc Hunter, Everett Kelepolo, Rob Cuff, Jeff Cluff, Brenan Jackson, Jon Oglesby, Jan Whittaker and Steve Marsing. Excused: Tom Sherwood, Karl Jensen, Darin Jenkins, Roberta Hardy, and Teri Davis. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. **Welcome and Chair Business:** Chair Hammer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He excused Tom Sherwood, Karl Jensen, Darin Jenkins, Roberta Hardy and Teri Davis. He welcomed Quinn Linde from Murray who was substituting for Tom Sherwood.

A. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Webb said we live in a world where oftentimes there is a lack of kindness and compassion. He said the members have an opportunity to be an example of true compassion, caring and serving to their students. He then recited a quote, “Life becomes harder for us when we live for others, but it also becomes richer and happier.” He then offered a prayer.

B. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Snow recognized his father who was a Vietnam Veteran. He was born and raised in Cleveland and was a police officer and then joined the military and he became a helicopter pilot. Mr. Snow said he didn’t talk much about his time in Vietnam. As he was cleaning out his father’s belongings after he passed, he found a box with medals and letters indicating he had saved several lives. The family had no idea. As he thought about patriotism, he felt his dad represented patriotism and showed it by how he treated people. In Cache Valley, there is a restaurant called, “Angie’s.” The current owner is a man from Afghanistan, but he started there as a dishwasher. His father would invite him to their home for Sunday dinners. Being patriotic is being a good citizen and treating people well. Before his father passed, he made the comment that he would go back again to Vietnam to serve. He then led the members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Chairs’ General Observation: Chair Hammer asked members if they were approached by someone and asked how the sites for state tournaments are determined, what would their answer be? Mr. Hammer said ultimately it is the Executive Committee that makes that decision and sometimes there are not many options.

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting – November 9, 2023 (summary on UHSAA website):

MOTION: Mr. Wood motioned to approve the minutes of November 9, 2023. Mr. McDaniel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Academic All-State Deadlines, UHSAA Moratoriums, Etc.: Members were reminded to refer to the Ready Reference Calendar and the UHSAA Website.

F. Updated handbook on Website: Most recent changes are reflected on website.

G. Winter Sports Assignment Sheets (meeting handout): Ms. Whittaker asked members to look at the assignment sheets and determine who will attend the events and return the completed form to her.

H. Distinguished Service Luncheon (p. 83): Mr. Cuff reviewed the procedures for the banquet. He reminded them the introduction should be 1-2 minutes in length.

2. BOT Meeting Report:

A. November 17, 2022 (summary on UHSAA website): Mr. Wood reported the meetings.

- USBE Report
- Football endowment games – 53 games, 115K to the Foundation
- Catastrophic insurance – schools will be reimbursed 50% of premium
- Fall activities were reviewed
- 2022-2023 Calendar
- Nominations for Spirit of Sport and Heart of the Arts were due January 15
- Sportsmanship Items, Region Student Leadership Conferences
- Emerging Sports – Esports
- No new school applications
- Coach certification on RegisterMyCoach
- Coaches' credentials
- Officials update
- BOT terms were reviewed
- Legal report by Mr. Van Wagoner
- 2022 Distinguished Service Award recipients were announced
- First consideration of classifications and determined bubble/tied schools for 2023-2025 alignment. Meetings and dates were discussed.

B. December 8, 2022 (summary on UHSAA website):

- Adopted the first consideration of six classification alignment and schools placed in regions
- Public Hearing will be held on December 14 via Zoom
- Schools would be placed into regions on December 15
- First contests of the new alignment will take place Fall 2023
- Schools will be allowed to apply to a higher classification in a specific sport or activity. The requests will be heard at the January BOT meeting. If their request is granted, they will remain in that classification for the duration of the two-year alignment.

C. December 15, 2022 (summary on UHSAA website):

- Board Members reviewed the public feedback the Public Hearing the previous night.
- The BOT adopted the consideration of the 2023-2025 alignment.

Mr. Cuff reminded members the Spirit of Sport and Heart of the Arts nominations were due on January 15. He asked members to consider individuals deserving of the honor and submit a nomination. They will be honored at one of the state championships. Names can be submitted to Mr. Cuff or Ms. Whittaker.

Mr. Cuff said members had received an email petition from five member schools regarding their placement. The new Region 3 has petitioned regarding the five-school region. Feedback period is open for 10 days and will close at noon on January 17. This allows staff time to collect the information and send it to the Board in preparation for their meeting on January 19. The five schools will be invited. There was a discussion by members regarding the BOT 6A region assignments. The five-school region felt it would be difficult to schedule games. It was also discussed why there were more schools in 4A and 5A than 6A. Mr. Cuff invited everyone to attend the January 19 BOT Meeting. Mr. Hammer said realignment is tough. Utah has a challenge with geography and rural/urban issues.

Applications/petitions for schools moving up a classification by sport/activity are due by Wednesday, January 18, in order to be placed on the next BOT agenda.

3. Fall Activities Report: Mr. Cuff provided a list of state champions and placements for fall.

4. Calendar: Mr. Oglesby reviewed the calendar. He encouraged everyone to refer to the website calendar. He said the 2023-2024 Tentative Calendar will be posted soon.

A. 3A Boys' Tennis Play-in Site: It has been proposed to move 3A boys' tennis play-in to Richfield.

MOTION: Mr. Gordon made the motion to move the 3A Boys' Tennis play-in to Richfield. Ms. Soper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Oglesby said the coaches are working on an amended schedule for the end of the season to end the season a week earlier. There was not consensus in order to present today.

B. 4A Baseball: Mr. Cluff said 4A baseball is scheduled to be held at the Ogden Raptors Baseball Field. They notified Mr. Cluff that their training camp starts that week. They are trying to accommodate us, but potentially we might need to find a different venue. The back up site would be SLCC or UVU. He is working to keep the tournament north for the rotation.

5. UIAAA:

A. UIAAA conference in St. George – April 12-15, 2023: Mr. Hunter reminded them of the conference. The Leadership Training Courses will be held February 6 at the UHSAA Office at 8:00 and 12:30.

Mr. Kelepolo reported that a soccer group presented at ADEC. They wanted to discuss the path to gain back their two games. Mr. Oglesby said they are trying to get their games back, but they were asked to fix the root issue of why the games were taken away. Mr. Cuff said the girls' soccer ejections went from 31 to 22, so please discuss with boys' soccer coaches. We want to see improvement and the girls have led out.

6. Staff Items:

A. Sportsmanship Items: Ms. Whittaker reported.

1. UHSAA Student Leadership Conferences: Great things have taken place in the Regions' Student Leadership Conferences.

2. Sportsmanship/Gold Star Coach Award: Classification winners will be announced soon. Each school that nominated a coach should have received a certificate to present to their coach at an appropriate school event. Names can be found on the website.

B. Golf Items: Ms. Whittaker said that the PGA is still working to secure courses. Sites will be announced at the next meeting.

C. Theatre Judges Pay: Ms. Whittaker said at the last meeting, theatre judges' pay was sent back to the regions for discussion. Currently, individual events receive \$50/full day and one-acts \$150/full day. It was discussed to raise it to \$20/hour or increase the full and half day pay. The proposed amounts were \$100/half day and \$200/full day and no mileage. Mr. Webb said his region was concerned with consistency with all officials.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to increase the theatre judges' pay to \$100/half day and \$200/full day. No mileage. Mr. Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

D. Unified Sports: Mr. Oglesby reported Unified Basketball will be held on March 7 at Weber State. He invited schools to join Unified Sports and noted there is a growing interest. He also said Unified State Track will be integrated into the State Track Championships at BYU. Unified heats will take place during the traditional "break." The three unified events will be 4x100 meter relay, a 50-meter dash, and shot put. These will be non-scoring events and medals will be awarded. More information will be coming.

E. Basketball Shots Clock Review: Mr. Oglesby said the majority of schools have functioning shot clocks. A few schools were still waiting on parts. Please don't use temporary clocks, play without a clock. All post-season games will be using a shot clock.

F. Credentials: Mr. Cluff reported the winter credentials were mailed. Late hire credentials will be mailed and should be ready before the winter championships.

G. Officials Campaign Update: Mr. Cluff reported we receive 6-10 inquiries a week from individuals interested in officiating. He thanked Mr. Sivert for signing up to officiate in baseball and basketball.

H. Ejection Report (meeting handout): Mr. Cluff reviewed the fall ejection report. Many of the football ejections were because of uniform violations such as eye black, illegal towels, illegal arm bands, etc. Taunting and racial slurs were drastically reduced. When a school receives an ejection report, the school must agree to follow the policy. Any questions, contact Mr. Cluff.

I. Spring Schedules (due February 1): Mr. Cluff reminded members that the spring schedules are due February 1. They must be entered into Arbiter. Any games added, deleted or removed from the system within 14 day, are subject to a fine from the assigner depending on the situation or scenario.

J. Lone Peak: Mr. Cuff said Lone Peak requested independent status for competitive cheer. This is unique because the request is being made mid-season. Typically, it is established prior to the sport season. Shane Hill, assistant principal, and Braden Walker, AD, were representing Lone Peak. Committee members were sent the letter from Lone Peak making the request. Mr. Hill said their competitive cheer does not want to participate in divisionals or state. They would like to participate at a national level and in order for that to happen, they need to have independent status. Ms. Whittaker clarified Lone Peak was seeking independent status so they can compete at USA and Varsity Brand during the UHSAA season and not participate with UHSAA. The EC determined that an individual cheerleader could compete at two club competitions with their club team and still participate with the high school team. Mr. Quarnberg said we all agreed to support UHSAA and he feels this will open the door for many other schools. Mr. Hill said they had indicated in the survey they were not interested. Ms. Whittaker said the survey was whether they would have a competitive team or sideline team. Mr. Thomas felt if one team is allowed independent status, it will set precedence. Mr. Hill said Lone Peak is taking issue with some of the administrative policies of the state competition such as judging. Mr. Quarnberg said many have those same concerns, but we need to support UHSAA and let the first tournament happen. Members continued the discussion. Mr. Smith felt we needed to stay the course. Mr. Hammer said this Committee has discussed competitive cheer multiple times. Mr. Walker said many coaches came to their coach asking Lone Peak to come to the Committee.

MOTION: Mr. Thomas made the motion to recommend to the BOT to deny Lone Peak's request to have independent status for competitive cheer. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Ms. Whittaker said schools were told in June if they didn't want to compete in UHSAA events, they would need to request independent status. Mr. Morrell said we need to support the Association and give it a chance. Mr. McDaniel pointed out they missed the window to petition for independent status. Mr. Cluff said we allow schools to withdraw themselves from state competitions if that is what they choose to do. Motion carried.

7. UHSAA Current Items:

A. Wrestling Items: Mr. Jackson reminded members all teams must enter their first official weigh-in of each week. The weights are put into TrackWrestling. If a coach allows a wrestler to lose too much weight they have to wrestle up. There will be a \$100 fine if official weights at the first of the week are not entered. If there are repeat offenders, it will be referred to the region chair for a hearing.

It is difficult to obtain table help for the state tournaments. Clearfield said they will run the 6A tournament (tournament help, mat cleaning, set up) and the UHSAA will pay them a stipend. He thanked them for their willingness to help. The 5A Committee members were asked to provide two individuals for table help for two days. Mr. Jackson said the schools will be put on a rotation and each school will take a turn.

B. Sports Medicine Advisory Report: Mr. Jackson reported KUTV did an interview regarding the stoppage of heart in the professional football game. He said they wanted to know if high schools were prepared and if they have emergency action plans during and after school. It is required that every school has an action plan, AED (portables for field), and cooling tubs. Mr. Jackson said the number of fatalities nationally increased in the month of August. Mr. Quarnberg pointed out the need for availability of an epipen. They had an incident where it was needed on the football field after school hours and it was locked in a drawer and the key was not available. He feels we need epipens with the AD's and asked Mr. Jackson to advocate for that

to happen. Mr. Jackson said the trainers are licensed health care providers and should have access.

Mr. Jackson said SMAC is working on a grant to obtain a unit for every school that will show in real time “clean air” levels. Currently it is up to the districts when to shut down practices or games due to unclean air.

Mr. Morris asked about the additional WetBulbGlobes that were provided by the NFHS. Mr. Jackson contacted the NFHS and there are no more to be sent. Mr. Cuff said it was difficult for them to obtain. Utah received 116 and Texas received 200 for 1400 schools. Mr. Jackson said it is a problem for the Marching Bands practicing on asphalt. We could work with the schools that didn’t receive the WetBulbGlobe and try to negotiate a group price.

C. UHSAA Moratoriums (Summer: June 28 – July 4, 2023) (p. 91). Mr. Jackson reminded members of the moratorium date. This is for the entire school. If an adjustment is requested, it must be for the entire school. He reminded members of the heat acclimatization procedure. The information can be found on the football page.

D. Soccer Consideration (information sent to Committee): Mr. Cuff said at a BOT meeting during the alignment, a proposal came from Kim Bailey, principal of Parowan HS. The proposal was sent to Committee members as part of today’s agenda materials. Many of the guests present were there regarding the proposal. The BOT sent the proposal to the EC because they felt it had more to do with post-season than the current alignment.

Mr. Bailey and Mr. Harold Robison, assistant principal of Millard HS, presented the proposal. Mr. Bailey feels the charter and private schools have a competitive advantage especially against the rural schools. He wants to build a level playing field having similar teams compete against each other. In a rural school, he does not have the opportunity to recruit. They would like an opportunity to be successful. Mr. Robison feels it is not just limited to soccer, but other sports as well. Mr. Bailey said his proposal is based on the RPI and there would be two tournaments in 2A, public district and charter/private. His proposal is for fall 2023.

Mr. Marshall said he felt the BOT’s suggestion to create a committee would be a better venue for discussion. He feels the discussion needs to be across the board and not just soccer. Mr. Morris said he represented his region and many of those schools were in attendance. Mr. Morris is not aware of any private or charter school in favor of the proposal. They are in favor of looking at the success factor. He said they are subject to the same eligibility, transfer, and academic rules. Mr. Smith said the difference is the pool they can pull athletes. He agrees they need to study it. Mr. Morris pointed out that not every private school is the same and they operate differently. There is a difference with boarding schools that host international students. There are many different factors.

Mr. Hammer opened discussion with the EC members. Mr. Marshall would recommend pushing the discussion to a subcommittee as recommended by the BOT. The discussion was to study competitive factors and possibly align by sport success. Mr. Shepherd said it is also a rural/urban issue. Mr. Bishop said the Association is operating on the same model that was set in 1970. Things have changed and evolved and the RPI is moving us in a new direction. We can’t have it both ways - RPI and regions. Mr. Hammer said things have changed, but Utah still has geography issues. Many states have gone to a success factor as a model. He felt if we are guilty of anything, it is trying to make it fair for all kids. Mr. Cuff said the staff would appoint

members to the committee. There will be a discussion item in March and if members want to volunteer, please contact Mr. Cuff.

MOTION: Mr. Fails made the motion to recommend to the BOT to create a subcommittee to research available data and success factors. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Coaches Certification (p. 92): Mr. Jackson asked if schools/districts are using nfhslearn.com for certification requirements? He said one of the courses offered would meet three of the requirements. The district must approve the courses in their policies.

8. **Legal Report:** Mr. Van Wagoner announced the UHSAA had prevailed in the Tenth Circuit Court regarding girls' football. Discussion on legislative issues and possible bills.

9. **Reports:**

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

10. **For the Good of the Order:**

A. BOT Election Results: Mr. Cuff reviewed the election results for school board members.

- 1A: Corey Anderson's remaining term through June 30, 2023, will be filled by April Torgerson. The 1A three-year term beginning July 1, 2023 was won by election by Zack McKee from the Rich School District.

- 5A: Belinda Johnson's vacancy will be filled by Kami Anderson of Murray School District. In the alignment, Murray has been moved to the 4A classification so an election will need to be held in April for 5A at the UHSAA Office for a two-year team.

- 3A: Gary Olson's remaining term through June 30, 2024, will be filled by David Warren.

- 6A: Marilyn Richards was re-elected in January to her position and will serve another three-year term.

- USBE: Brent Strate has been appointed to continue his representation on BOT.

- 6A: Cyprus was moved to a 5A Classification so Robert McDaniel's 6A Principal position will need to be filled for one-year. A nomination in March will be taken from the Executive Committee.

- 1A: Jim Wood's term is ending June 30, 2023 as the 1A Principal. By Constitution, the position will now be filled by a 2A Principal. A nomination in March will be taken from the Executive Committee.

- 3A/4A Superintendent: Mr. Larry Bergeson is retiring June 30, 2023, and the Superintendents' Association will appoint a new representative for a three-year term.

B. UHSAA Super Fans/UHSAA Circle of Fame: Mr. Cuff announced the nominees. These individuals will be honored at a state tournament event and the BOT will be hosting a luncheon in their honor in March.

- Super Fan Award:
 - 1A Patty Bedonie, Monument Valley HS
 - 2A Gary Robins, Millard HS
 - 3A Derrick Beddoes, Grand County HS
 - 4A Bob and Christine Lindley, Mountain Crest HS
 - 5A Rowe Harrison, Tooele HS
 - 6A Eric Stoker, West Jordan HS

MOTION: Mr. Wood made the motion to approve the nominees. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.

- Circle of Fame:
 - Jim Fuller
 - Tom Wharton

MOTION: Mr. Morrell made the motion to approve the nominees. Mr. Fails seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.

C. Spirit of Sports and Heart of the Arts Awards: Mr. Cuff is looking for nominations and they are due on January 15.

D. Performing Arts Conference (pp. 93-94): Mr. Cuff reported that Mr. Oglesby had been the keynote speaker for the conference. He congratulated him on a wonderful job. Pages 93-94 was an article about the Conference and they quoted from Mr. Oglesby’s presentation.

E. Creating a Positive Parent Spectator Environment (pp. 95-96): Mr. Cuff provided materials that could be used in schools to create a positive environment. He also pointed out the “Bench Bad Behavior” campaign. If we can bench bad behavior in schools, it will help to retain officials and recruit new officials.

F. Sports Hall of Fame: Mr. Cluff announced on Monday, January 23, The Utah Sports Hall of Fame is inducting 17 officials into their Hall of Honor. He asked members to recognize and congratulate these officials if they have had any interactions with them.

Next Meeting: March 22, 2023, at 9:00 am.