

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, October 4, 2023
9:00 A.M.

1. **Welcome & Chair Business:** Craig Hammer started the meeting and welcomed the committee.

Reverence/thought: Mr. Everett Kelepolo shared four points on why we have athletics in schools. He then offered a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic thought: Mr. Jason Smith shared that the location of Northridge High School is very near Hill Air Force base. Sometimes light fixtures and ceiling tiles shake due to the planes overhead. Mr. Smith likes to think of it as the sound of freedom going over his high school. He encouraged the committee to try to thank those who are serving in the military and to also thank their families who sacrifice also. Their kids can sometimes attend six to eight different schools while growing up and become so resilient. If you have any students with parents who are serving in the military please thank them, and their parents too, if you have the opportunity. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of August 9, 2023: Chair Hammer requested that someone make a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Craig Morris made the motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Steve Gordon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Summer Moratorium: Mr. Rob Cuff reminded the committee that the UHSAA Moratorium dates are June 28-July 4, 2024.

Member school dues, CAT insurance, By-Laws confirmation: Ms. Jennifer Thomas asked the board to remind their regions that annual dues, activity fees, catastrophic insurance and the UHSAA certification checklist were all due on September 15. She encouraged them to follow-up with their regions to make sure everything had been submitted to UHSAA.

Fall Sports Assignment Sheets: Mr. Cuff asked the chairs of each classification to fill out the provided sports assignment sheets to help at the upcoming fall state tournaments.
2. **BOT Meeting Report:** Mr. Cuff provided the BOT meeting report. He shared the new board of trustees for the 2023-24 year.
3. **USBE Report:** Ms. Teri Davis was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Cuff shared that she is continuing to work on pathways for UIAAA administrators and coaches and is hoping to have updates at the next meeting.
4. **Corporate Sponsorships:** Mr. Rett Jepperson shared information about a new sponsor: Chargel. He encouraged the committee to try their caffeine-free athletic gel drink.
5. **Region Visits:** Mr. Cuff encouraged the committee to provide the dates of their region meetings so the assigned UHSAA directors can attend.

6. **Committee Assignments:** Mr. Cuff shared that committee assignments have been updated and are in the committee materials provided with the meeting agenda.
7. **Football Endowment Games Report:** Mr. Cuff thanked the board for participating in the endowment games. There were 53 endowment games were held this fall. (There were 44 games in 2008).
8. **Calendar:** Mr. Jeff Cluff reviewed the 2023-2024 calendar. Calendar information can be found on the UHSAA website. He reminded the committee that the calendar is always changing. Some rules clinics have been added.
9. **Follow-up Items from previous meetings and other items:**

Sportsmanship Items: Ms. Whittaker shared that the Dare2Lead Student Leadership Conference student leadership training was held with one representative from each region. They were encouraged to hold their student leadership conferences this fall.

Sportsmanship Report (Video Competition): Video submissions are due on October 16. Ms. Whittaker encouraged all schools to participate.

Gold Star Coach Award: Ms. Whittaker reminded the committee that the deadline is coming up.

Emerging Sports update: The survey needs to be completed for this year and then will occur every other year.

Breach of Contract: Juan Diego committed a breach of contract due to not showing up to a volleyball tournament, which affected 3 other teams. The committee was asked to decide on how to handle this. The committee also needs to decide how to enter the missing game. Mr. Ryan Bishop explained, as one school who lost out on the game, that the schools that couldn't play are out a game and have no way to reschedule.

MOTION: Mr. Ryan Bishop motioned that by missing the tournament, Juan Diego committed a breach of contract, which means it is a win for the schools that were affected and four losses for Juan Diego. This was seconded by Jared Wright. The Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion that a fine of \$500 for each school that was unable to play a game, be issued, plus the entry fee for the tournament. Mr. Todd Dawson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Swim Items: Mr. Steve Marsing informed the committee that the Provo Rec Center has been secured for a 2A region championship. A swim Zoom meeting on occur on October 23rd to inform coaches of swim related items. He especially encouraged the new coaches to attend.

Officials update: Mr. Cluff shared that the recruiting process for fall sports went well. 45 new officials registered and their dues were waived for the first year. The job fair at Snow College has gone well for two years in a row. It is expensive to get started with officiating so Mr. Cluff is looking for ways to provide scholarships to get more new officials started. He is on a board that is constantly trying to build the pool of officials. He asked the committee members to please help with this, especially in the rural areas.

Coaches Credentials: All credentials for the fall season have arrived. There are two colors for coaches (green and pink). Officials passes have also arrived. The officials' credentials will also have an annual pass on the back. Mr. Cluff encouraged the committee to check for the annual pass, as that is what provides entry into sporting events. The media credentials allow entry to the events without an annual pass. Many school administrators have not requested credentials for their group. Mr. Cluff encouraged them to do so. The winter sports first credential deadline is November 1, 2023.

1A Baseball Update: There were changes due to the weather, but the games are underway. The final games will be at Kearns High School this weekend.

Baseball/Softball 2 weeks prior: In the past the coaches have been allowed to coach catchers and pitchers. They would like to completely remove the two weeks prior for the entire team.

Aktivate update: Mr. Cluff shared that any student who completed their Register My Athlete registration prior to September 5, 2023, will not have to provide a birth certificate. Any subsequent registrations will need to upload their birth certificate. It is now an annual requirement. This is a requirement from the legislature. If the student doesn't have a birth certificate, the statute provides alternative uploads such as a passport. The strength and conditioning coach will be added to Aktivate soon. Any volunteer that will be around kids, needs to be a certified as a coach through Register My Coach.

Officials Pay Sub-Committee: Mr. Cluff asked for volunteers to be on this committee to help make the decision on assisting rural schools with officials' costs. Five committee members volunteered, and one BOT member had already volunteered.

Football items: Mr. Brenan Jackson explained that the semi-finals for 8 player football and 1A/2A/3A football will be held at Zion Bank Stadium. The 4A/5A/6A semis and finals will be held at the University of Utah. The finals for 8 player and 1A/2A/3A will be held at SUU. All rounds will require GoFan ticketing.

Soccer items: All semi-finals and finals information are on the UHSAA website. The semifinals will be held at Zion's Bank Stadium and the finals will be held at America First Stadium.

Boys Soccer Probation Feedback: The soccer coaches' association has made efforts to come up with a penalty to mitigate the issues in boys' soccer. Makenzie Hyer, Alta soccer coach and Soccer Coaches Association representative, shared the changes that have been made. The committee agreed with the changes to the document and fining at each level (i.e., Varsity and sub-varsity). Ms. Hyer asked for clarification on whether a second red card would give more than a two-game suspension or suspension of even more games. The committee agreed that it would be two games for the first red card, four games for the second red card and then ejection from the team for the season for any subsequent red cards. Mr. Cluff encouraged the schools to do a better job of submitting reports of the game within 48 hours, to provide checks and balances necessary to know what is happening in the soccer games. The soccer association will be going to each region to explain the new application of the rule. Mr. Hammer asked the committee if they are comfortable to decide today or if they want to go back to their regions. They would like to go back to their regions. Mr. Cluff will email the modified form discussed in the meeting for them to also present to their regions. Mr. Cluff asked if they want to allow the term and exemption back or not. He asked for a vote on the 3 for 2 so coaches can get their schedules done.

MOTION: Mr. Jason Smith motioned that for this year there is no 3 for 2 and if improvement happens, in the future soccer could potentially regain more games. Mr. Kim Bailey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Cross Country items: Mr. Chris Shipman informed the committee that championship information was sent out to schools. They are still looking for volunteers to help with the state meet.

Wrestling Items: If your school is hosting a hydration test, an administrator needs to be at that test site. Mr. Shipman will be at some of the sites. Mr. Cluff provided a reminder that nothing should be going on in the facility on the hydration gym testing dates.

Academic All-State: Mr. Shipman reminded the board that the fall deadline closed the day before. If there are qualifiers that didn't get turned in, please send to Mr. Shipman as soon as possible. The awards committee will be deciding on how to handle home school students. The home school students must have official grades in order to qualify.

Show up for Sports Service Initiative: Ms. Missy Mackay-Whiteurs explained that this initiative is coming from First Lady Cox. The initiative would like to show off what teams and schools are doing. This would be shown on social media and teams would be invited to attend a Jazz game.

Softball Items: Kelly Holman from Panguitch High School visited to talk about softball. He provided a presentation about the softball divisions in 2A. He would like to create a 1A separation from 2A to help his team have a bigger timeframe for weather related issues. The committee decided to have the 1A and 2A committee members take Mr. Holman's information back to their regions and will then discuss their feedback at the next committee meeting.

10. **UIAAA Report:** Mr. Marc Hunter shared that two visitors attended ADEC, but had not gone through the survey process, so they will do so. 6A wrestling has three requests: To start pairings after January 1 and to change the seeding to Pennsylvania's system. He also informed the committee that the UIAAA conference is April 17-21, 2023.
11. **Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report:** Chair Everett Kelepolo presented on the initiatives. The first meeting is next Wednesday. He shared the names of all committee members.
12. **Competitive Equity Committee Report:** Mr. Cuff explained that the committee met via Zoom on August 25, 2023. The next meeting will be today after the committee meeting. They will prepare a proposal for the November 8, 2023 meeting. Format procedures for the next realignment must be finalized by the August 2024 meeting. Standard deviation was discussed. Post-season point value was also discussed. Free and reduced lunch, socioeconomic and demographics, urban versus rural, the number of sports offered, practice facilities, etc. were also considered and discussed. The goal for today's meeting is to have a proposal ready for discussion in November.
13. **Legal Report:** Mr. Mark Van Wagoner feels that the rules committee needs to get ahead of what is going on in high school sports today. There were issues in appeals hearings yesterday that highlighted this issue. He encouraged committee members to email him with any ideas of how to get ahead of this issue.

14. Reports:

1A Athletics: Ms. Roberta Hardy – no report.

2A Athletics: Mr. Ty Kennedy – no report.

3A Athletics: Mr. Kade Morrell – no report.

4A Athletics: Ms. Kim Monkres – no report.

5A Athletics: Mr. Jason Smith – no report.

6A Athletics: Mr. Jed Johansen mentioned that Weber High School was in the news for recruiting violations. What has been reported is inaccurate. He shared that we may never know the whole story, so it is important to remember that.

- 15. For the Good of the Order:** Mr. Cuff shared that the Distinguished Service Award nominations need to be submitted by November 1, 2023. The committee can send in all the nominations from their regions or the individuals that are nominating can send in the nominations individually. The Super Fan Award is also due November 1. Super Fans can be nominated by each school. There is a great article about mental health in the current High School Today magazine. Mr. Cuff encouraged all the committee members to read the article.

Final Notes before Meeting Closed: Before using a running clock, the committee was encouraged to think about what impact it has on the student athletes. In Lacrosse, for sub-varsity contests, they have used a running clock in the past. A formal proposal needs to be made to the committee to make rules regarding the running clock. Mr. Morris suggested that a proposal be made that allows the two schools to agree to a shortened clock. Mr Cluff suggested that any of the committee members that want a shortened clock or game/match in sub-varsity games should bring a proposal to the next meeting.