EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING UHSAA Office Wednesday, October 5, 2022 9:00 am

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

1. Welcome and Chair Business: Chair Hammer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He excused Ryan Bishop, Karl Jensen and Teri Davis.

A. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Kennedy talked about the diversity in his school. He has thought about the intentional work the Association is doing around diversity. He shared a passage, "We are not here to tolerate our differences, we are here to accept them. We are not here to celebrate our sameness; we are here to salute our distinctions. We are not born into equal circumstances or with equal abilities, but we should have equal opportunities. As individuals, we unite in our values, celebrate God." He then offered a prayer.

B. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Sherwood shared a quote from Senator Cory Booker, "Patriotism is love of country, but you can't love your country without loving your countrymen and countrywomen. We don't always have to agree, but must empower each other. We must find the common ground. We must build bridges across our differences in pursuit of the common good." Mr. Sherwood feels that everyone in the room pursues the common good and does right by kids. We find common grounds despite our differences. He then led members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Chair's General Observations (including Section 7/8 Meeting): Mr. Hammer reported that he, Mr. Cuff and Ms. Whittaker attended the Section 7/8 Meeting in Hawaii. He shared the great experience they had at Pearl Harbor. One Section in California has 568 football schools and one person is full-time managing the program. They align annually.

Mr. Cuff said the Section meetings are a great opportunity to see and hear what is happening in other state associations. The 11 western states join together so each state hosts every 11 years. UHSAA hosted in 2018 in St. George. His first section meeting as an Executive Director was in Hawaii in 2009. It is helpful to discuss the issues that all associations are facing – transgender, transfer, NIL, etc. Seven to eight years ago, a lawyer from California said, "If you do not have a transgender policy, get one now. It is headed your way." The UHSAA did develop a policy a couple of years later and it was never tested. A Utah legislator got hold of our transgender, but he didn't because UHSAA had a policy in place. It was the section meetings that provided the information to be prepared. This is just one example. The Section meetings provide an opportunity to dialogue, participate in breakout sessions and network. Mr. Cuff said Pearl Harbor was one of the best opportunities for education and remembrance that he has had. He said it was amazing. He feels Utah is very well respected in the other states. There were

many opportunities to share what Utah is doing. Other states learn from us, just like we learn from them.

Mr. Hammer said Karissa Niehoff, NFHS Executive Director, and some of her staff attended the meeting. He has never seen a bigger push and focus nationally on officials with regards to recruiting, protecting them and sportsmanship. Sportsmanship is paramount.

D. Minutes of August 2, 2022 (summary on UHSAA website):

MOTION: Mr. Jenkins made the motion to approve the minutes of August 2, 2022. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- E. Ready Reference Calendar Guides (refer to UHSAA website):
 - 1. Academic All-State deadlines
 - 2. Eligibility lists deadlines
 - 3. UHSAA Moratorium dates

F. Member School Dues, Catastrophic Insurance, By-Laws Confirmation Deadlines: Ms. Widerburg encouraged members to remind schools of outstanding fees. A list was provided for each region.

G. Fall Sports Assignment Sheets: Ms. Whittaker will collect the sign-up sheets later in the meeting.

2. BOT Meeting Report: Mr. Thomas reported the August 18, 2022, meeting.

- New members were introduced
- David Dunn was acknowledged as an outgoing member
- Two new members schools for 2022-2023 school year
- Orientation materials and procedure
- UHSAA Website
- RegisterMyAthlete
- BOT elections in January for School Board members
- Catastrophic Insurance reimburse at 50%, will be reviewed again in May 2023
- 2022 UHSAA/UIAAA Student Leadership by regions in the fall
- Sportsmanship program 13th year
- Promotion of high school activities
- RegisterMyCoach credentials for certified coaches
- Sports Medicine Committee report
- Layton Christian was approved to move boys' soccer from 3A to 4A classification
- RSL Academy was approved to move boys' soccer from 3A to 6A classification
- Mount Vernon was approved to move to independent status in boys' basketball
- Corporate Sponsorships Rhett Jepperson was introduced from PlayFly
- Background checks for game officials
- ArbiterSports
- Summer Moratorium was approved June 28 to July 4, 2023
- Emerging Sports survey will be sent to schools in September
- Audit report was given and approved
- UHSAA Budget, following a public hearing, was approved

- Compliance Training was provided to the Board
- NFHS High School Today articles were shared

3. USBE Report: Ms. Davis was excused.

4. Region Visits (p. 46): Mr. Cuff reviewed staff assignment to region meetings. He also asked members to invite their BOT representatives to their region meetings because of the upcoming realignment process.

5. Committee Assignments (pp. 47-48): Mr. Cuff reported pages 47-48 was an updated list of committee assignments for this year. The Award Selection Committee will meet prior to the next EC meeting on November 9 to determine Distinguished Service Award winners. November 1 is the due date for DSA (nominated by region) and Super Fan Awards (school nominations).

6. Football Endowment Games Report: Mr. Cuff said there were 53 endowment games held. So far, \$100,000 has been collected with a few schools still missing. The endowment revenue is transferred to the UHSAA Foundation which comes back to schools through the catastrophic reimbursement. A finance report will be ready in November.

7. Calendar (Refer to UHSAA Website for Updates): Mr. Oglesby reminded members the calendar is available on the UHSAA Website and it is the most up to date information available. Please contact Mr. Oglesby with any issues or concerns. The tentative calendar for 2023-2024 will be available soon.

8. Follow-up Items from Previous Meetings and Other Items:

A. Sportsmanship Items: Ms. Whittaker reported the student leadership conference is being held by region. The video competition information was sent to schools. Please encourage schools to create a sportsmanship video and show them at schools. The deadline is October 18 and a school winner in each classification will be awarded a \$1000 scholarship.

The Gold Star Coach information will be sent next week. Every school is asked to nominate a Gold Star Coach. The criteria is on the UHSAA Website. We want to honor those coaches who are making a difference in the lives of students, and who are great role models in helping students strive for success in all aspects of their lives. Each nominee will receive a certificate and there will be a Gold Star Coach winner in each classification – one female and one male coach. The nominations will be due December 1.

Mr. Sherwood said he has had some officials reach out who would like to be part of the Sportsmanship Committee. He reminded regions/schools to look at the criteria for Banner Stars. There are things that need to be done now. The video is required for the Gold Star. Please promote, "Raise the Bar."

B. Theatre Items: Ms. Whittaker met with the Theatre Committee. They would like to increase the standard from 120 points to 125 points for One Act Plays to qualify for state. This mostly affected the 5A and 6A Classifications.

The theatre Committee is concerned with appropriate content. There is a lot of inappropriate content in the individual events. Mr. Thomas said he participated in the meeting and was surprised at the lack of concern with the advisors for some of the content. They said it was part

of the arts. Basketball Players using the same language are tossed out of the game. Principals need to sign off indicating appropriate content, but many are not and others have not even seen the script or performance. There is a rule that if there is inappropriate content, they can post a disclaimer. Mr. McDaniel said people interpret it differently. Mr. Oglesby said the Utah Debate Coaches' Association internally has set their own standards and that has made a big difference. Mr. Marshall said the conversation really centered around the principal's responsibility to review the material. Mr. Smith asked where the responsibility lies with the teacher. Head Coaches are held accountable for behavior. Why are theatre teachers being released from their responsibility? The principal's form is supposed to come to the region event and it is not happening in many cases. Mr. Webb said he doesn't know how we can have a disclaimer based on state statute with the sensitive material bill. Mr. McDaniel said it is more difficult with the schools that have large programs. He thinks some standards can be put together. This needs to be discussed in everyone's next region meeting and be prepared to discuss in November's meeting.

Ms. Whittaker said the Committee discussed an increase in pay for theatre judges. A judge doing individual event rounds (4-5 hours) receives \$50 and no mileage. They are asking for \$20/hour. Mr. McDaniel felt it should be by rounds not hours. The judges for One Act Plays receive \$150 for an average of 12 plays. Discussion.

Mr. Shepherd brought up an issue/concern with 2A theatre. There are a number of schools in 2A Theatre that the whole premise for their school is theatre. Every student that goes to their school is focused on theatre. Regions 18 and 19 are rural schools trying to compete with urban schools focused on theatre. Mr. Morris said he would reach out to Liahona and see if they would consider petitioning to move to a higher classification. Mr. Cuff said often activity only schools are placed geographically. They would need to request it at an EC meeting and then it would go to the BOT.

- C. Competitive Cheer: Ms. Whittaker distributed the list for 2023 classifications:
 - (6A) 6A - All-girl(12)(6A) 6A - Co - ed(13)(5A) 5A - All-girl(27)(5A) 4A/5A - Co - ed(5/6)(4A) 3A/4A - All-girl (10/6)(3A) 3A - Co - ed(7)(2A) 1A/2A - All-girl(7/5)1A/2A - Co-ed(4/5)(2A)

Mr. Thomas said he has had emails with concerns with 3A competing with 4A and 4A competing with 5A. They felt they should compete separately. Ms. Whittaker said the number of teams needed to qualify for a state tournament is eight. Ms. Whittaker said this is fluid because if a male member gets injured, the team will move to all-girls.

She reported there would be 1st and 2nd trophies for all 8 classifications for an overall champion. There will be plaques for 1st and 2nd place for all 8 classifications in Show Cheer and Game Time, and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place medals for all 8 classifications for Jump Off.

Varsity runs most of the national competitions. Lori Rupp runs RC Competes and works with State Risk Management for certification. Ms. Rupp will be helping run the divisionals. There is a cost and schools will be charged an entry fee. She feels this is the first year and there will be growing pains. There are several teams that don't want to enter everything and they can

choose to enter certain categories and just pay a fee for that portion of the competition. To win the overall championship they need to participate in Show Cheer and Game Time. After the first year, the categories can be evaluated and changes can be made. The categories were chosen, for this first year, through a survey.

Mr. Sivert said he had been approached with concerns over the scoresheet and judges. Ms. Whittaker said different competitions use different scoresheets. She said they have opened up training to anyone wanting to judge and the judges from Varsity have been invited to join. Mr. Thomas said he had been approached about divisionals and thought teams should be able to qualify for state with Varsity Tournaments. Ms. Whittaker said we don't ever use an outside entity (club) to qualify for a state tournament. She reminded members they have made several accommodations to allow them to participate in outside competitions. Individuals have been allowed to participate in All-Stars. Finals will be held at UVU. 70% of the divisional finishers will move on to state. She said they are open to change after this first year and there will be tweaks. Mr. Hammer said we need to unite. Competitive Cheer was sanctioned and Ms. Whittaker has worked very hard to make it fair. There are many who are not happy, but as principals we need to support the Association. Mr. Quarnberg asked what the cost was for drill team to enter a competition as opposed to cheer? Ms. Whittaker said drill team costs are based on number of team members and categories. She said it is about \$18 per girl. Mr. Sherwood said the rates are comparable and will fall below the fee schedule. Ms. Whittaker said the fees will average \$20-25 per participant.

D. Emerging Sports: Ms. Whittaker reminded schools to fill out the emerging sports survey. She will send a reminder to schools if not received by October 15. Accurate numbers are important. Schools need to survey their students to find out what activities they are participating outside of UHSAA sanctioned sports. Mr. Quarnberg asked about Esports. Ms. Whittaker said other organizations are running the programs. We will look at the numbers again in November and then it will be discussed. Mr. Sherwood said the discussion is to sanction them as an activity not a sport. He thinks it would be helpful to organize a coaches' association and run it like UMEA. This step would help in the sanctioning process. There are lots of kids making connections with others who they wouldn't otherwise. His school is trying to travel to other schools just for social interaction. Mr. Quarnberg thinks his district would support it better if the UHSAA was running it because of content concerns. Mr. Fails said they have 30-35 students in their Esports club. They also teach a course that deals with the business side of Esports – Gaming Development Fundamentals, Part I and II. Esports can be lucrative. Mr. Sherwood said they are going to monetize Esports by selling ad space. Worldwide this is the biggest spectator sport. There is a fall and spring season. Ms. Whittaker will meet with the Emerging Sports Committee if Esports meets the threshold. All voices involved should be invited to the table.

E. Swim Items: Mr. Marsing said they are working on inclusion in swimming for disabled swimmers. They are working with Mr. Oglesby and attended an NFHS inclusion meeting last week. They would like to have unified heats at the state meet in 50 or 100 freestyle. It would be a non-scoring event and participants would receive medals. Mr. Sherwood said there are challenges with unified swimming. Do they need an individual coach? He would need a full-time aid to be with a disabled student.

There has been a large turnover of coaches, almost 25% are new coaches. Mr. Marsing has been holding Zoom meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for October 11 at 7 p.m. Please encourage new coaches to participate.

Schools assign swim officials. Robyn Peterson is an assigner and works with officials and coaches to register officials in Arbiter. There are no changes from last year.

F. 1A Baseball: Mr. Cluff reported they are having beautiful weather for the tournaments.

G. 2A Basketball: The 2A championship was held at SLCC. It helped holding the 2A tournament in the north for larger crowds.

H. Officials Update: Mr. Cluff said we continue to experience issues with officiating. Start times, availability, Friday night football all continue to present problems obtaining officials. Double headers help so they can work two games. Fan sportsmanship continues to be an issue. Education of fans and students would be helpful. Beginning in March, a committee will be meeting to discuss fee increases for officials. Sub-varsity coaches are hard on officials. They need to be reminded that officials are being trained at the sub-varsity level. He reported twenty-eight officials were recruited at a Snow College event. This should be a boost in Central Utah.

Discussion on para-professionals and fewer school teachers as coaches. It makes it difficult to emphasize education-based activities in high school sports. Mr. McDaniel said the coaches are feeling the same thing from parents and they are running out of coaches. Mr. Cluff said during the next alignment, schools will be assigned football games on Wednesday and Thursday nights and most will be playing double headers. Mr. Quarnberg voiced concern for the rising costs of security and police officers. Mr. Sherwood said he would like to be made aware if coaches are misbehaving even if they are not ejected. Mr. Cluff said he doesn't have an official reporting process, but he could make that happen. It was brought up that transportation is sometimes an issue. The later the game, the better for obtaining officials. Mr. Cluff said we continue to have several officials register, but it becomes difficult to keep them beyond 2-3 years. That is where the problem lies. Many quit because of sportsmanship.

I. Coaches Credentials: Mr. Cluff distributed credentials to members. If there are issues with credentials, please contact Mr. Cluff or Mr. Oglesby.

J. RPI: Mr. Cluff said we need to issue fines to Riverton and Bingham because they had a duplicate game entered in soccer after the RPI had been released.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to fine Riverton and Bingham \$500 for a duplicate game entered and not corrected before the release of the RPI. Mr. Sivert seconded the motion. Motion carried.

K. Winter Schedule Deadline (October 15): Mr. Cluff reminded members of the winter schedule deadline on October 15.

L. Football Items: Mr. Jackson said the first 8-Player State Tournament in the history of Utah will be held this year. Utah held a six-player tournament in 1948. The semifinal will be held Thursday morning at SUU. As a reminder, November 4 will be 1A and 2A at SUU and 3A and 4A will be on November 5.

MOTION: Mr. Fails made the motion to approve 8-player semifinals to be played at SUU on November 3. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

M. Wrestling Items: Mr. Jackson distributed a handout from the Wrestling Coaches' Association. Every wrestler must have an official weekly weigh-in which is recorded in TrackWrestling. To increase the integrity of the weigh-in process, coaches are expected to do the following DURING the weigh-in process before each competition: 1) Fill out the weigh-in sheet of the opposing team as the athletes of opposing team weigh-in (in INK).

FOR THE FIRST COMPETITION OF THE WEEK: All weigh-ins of each competing wrestler must be entered into TrackWrestling before the competition starts. Both coaches need to verify the accuracy of the weigh-in sheet before the weigh-in is committed in the OPC. Coaches can either enter them after weigh-ins are concluded when they go and do their match ups for the dual, or they can enter the weights live during the weigh in process entering them in the OPC with the opposing coach present and verifying weights.

To increase the integrity for divisional seeding, coaches MUST enter ALL results into TrackWrestling.

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood made the motion to approve the above wrestling proposal from the Coaches' Association. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

N. Soccer Items: Mr. Jackson reported soccer finals cannot be held at Rio Tinto because they are re-doing their fields. He has procured another site at Zions Bank Stadium in Herriman. It seats about 6,000 people. Start times need to be adjusted for the 5A/6A start times because Zion's is also the homesite for Providence Hall football. They have a football game at 6:00 so the soccer games need to start earlier. The games will be held at 10 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. 2A/3A/4A soccer finals will be held at Zions Bank Stadium on Saturday, October 22.

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood made the motion to approve 5A/6A soccer at Zions Bank Stadium on October 21 at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Mr. Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Jackson said the Zions Bank Stadium is a great venue. He would like to consider hosting the semifinal football games at Zions. Mr. Jackson said 4A is scheduled at Rice Eccles on November 11. If two St. George schools are playing, the final would be at Utah Tech at 7 p.m. If 4A is at Utah Tech, the 8-player football would not play at Utah Tech on Friday, they would play at SUU at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

O. Cross Country Items: Mr. Oglesby said the race schedule is posted. The schedule is rotated each year, but he said in the future he would have the EC vet the schedule prior to publication. He reported a group of coaches are very vocal about moving the race back to Sugar House Park after this year. Mr. Kelepolo, UIAAA President, said in their meeting they discussed going back to Sugar House Park. The ADEC Committee discussed the course was great, but how can we charge with an open park? Highland HS is going to have construction for the next two years. Mr. Oglesby said ADEC will get feedback and then it will come back to the EC to make a long-term decision. Mr. Quarnberg reminded members when cross country was in Wasatch County, there were complaints it was too steep. Can we please everyone? Mr. Wood asked if there was a change of venue, if the event could be held the week prior. Mr. Oglesby said it might be a possibility, but there are differing opinions. Mr. Oglesby is open to feedback regarding changes that need to be made in the future.

P. Tennis Items: Mr. Oglesby said the tournament had great matches using the UTR seeding system. Overall, coaches liked the increase in competition. It was very competitive

and there were no ties. He said a few tweaks can be made. Mr. Morrell thanked Mr. Oglesby for his hard work with the UTR because it was successful.

Q. Basketball Shot Clock Discussion: Mr. Oglesby said earlier in the year it was approved that the shot clock would be used for the 2023 basketball season. It has come to the Association's attention that many schools have been promised shot clocks in July and are now being told the 1st week in November. Be prepared for a discussion on the shot clock November 9.

R. Lacrosse Items: Mr. Oglesby said the new NFHS rule has an end line. He is working with the officials' association to figure it out. It is problematic in football stadiums. Once it is figured out, schools will be notified. Lacrosse is a growing sport and schools are adding teams. 4A is having growing pains and Region 11 is working on scheduling solutions. Mr. Oglesby thanked members for their efforts.

S. Show Up for Sports Service Initiative: Mr. Oglesby sent out the information on Monday. He will be sending information every Monday. Jazz partnered with First Lady Abby Cox to encourage teams to participate in service during the month of October.

T. Streaming Rights: Mr. Oglesby discussed post-season streaming contracts. When at a home site for a post-season game, you are allowed to use the school's own vendor. At the UHSAA controlled venues, KSL Sports takes over all streaming. Mr. Sivert said there is frustration when events are not streamed. Mr. Oglesby has had and will continue to have discussions with KSL Sports.

U. Region Report Form: Mr. Oglesby sent the link out to the Committee members

V. Academic All-State (p. 57): Academic All-State fall deadline was the previous day.

9. Mountain Ridge Hearing: A hearing was held for a wrestling coach at Mountain Ridge.

10. UIAAA Report: Mr. Hunter said Everett Kelepolo was the UIAAA President this year and will be representing the Diversity and Inclusion Committee on the Executive Committee. The next spring conference is April 12-15. UIAAA Section 7 meeting will be in Hawaii in June 2023. He invited members to consider joining the UIAAA. UIAAA Connection Podcast airs every Friday.

11. Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report: Mr. Kelepolo reported they had met on September 13. They discussed protocol from officials dealing with diversity and inclusion issues. They are currently reading, <u>8 Ways to Support Diversity</u>, <u>Equity</u>, and <u>Inclusion for All</u>. There will be NFHS National webinars four different weeks to discuss the book. The Committee had discussions of what was working within the districts for preventive actions. The next meeting will be held at West HS in January. Mr. Cuff asked members if they have any ideas from regions or schools for initiatives for Diversity and Inclusion Committee, please pass them on to him or Mr. Kelepolo.

12. Realignment 2023-25 (p. 58): Mr. Cuff said the format and procedures are in the UHSAA Handbook. They were approved last May by the Board of Trustees. Once the October 1 (3) counts are made public, the staff will subtract the self-contained student numbers, add in alternative student numbers to establish schools' enrollment numbers. This will be the starting

point for the Board of Trustees. November 17 will be the first meeting of the new alignment. Grades 11-12 enrollments are used for 4A, 5A and 6A. 1A, 2A, and 3A use 10-12 enrollment numbers. The bubble percentage changed from 7% to 10% to provide more bubble schools for flexibility and the 2020 Child Nutrition Survey for Free and Reduced Lunch will be used. It was felt the 2021 Child Nutrition Survey would be skewed because of Covid-19. It is hoped the alignment will be finalized on December 15. Appeals could happen in January. The RPI/Success Factor will be used to help break ties on bubble schools or tied schools for classification assignments.

13. Legal Report: Mr. Van Wagoner reported they presented their argument in the Wizard White Courthouse. He said it was an interesting argument in front of a three-judge panel. The judges determined that football was open to both genders. They had 30 minutes in total and Mr. Van Wagoner had 7 minutes. Part of his argument was it isn't a matter of equal protection, but if there is sufficient interest in something for a state championship event.

What is the appeal process from here? Mr. Van Wagoner said the one avenue left would be the Supreme Court. The Association could likely have gotten out of the case. The decision was made to stay in to support the districts and superintendents. UHSAA created an emerging sports program to help with Title IX.

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood made the motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Thomas made the motion to leave Executive Session. Ms. Soper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Hammer said, as it pertains to Mountain Ridge HS wrestling coach, it has been discussed, being transcribed and a decision will be forth coming.

14. 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

15. For the Good of the Order: Mr. Cuff reminded members again that November 1 is the deadline for Distinguished Service Award and Super Fan nominations. The forms will be sent with today's meeting summary.

Mr. Cuff shared some "NFHS High School Today" articles on sportsmanship. The NFHS is launching a campaign entitled, "Bench the Behavior." Information will be sent to schools as it is received from the NFHS. Reminders of the importance of good behavior. He said he had heard on the news regarding a youth program that when a parent is ejected the kid goes, too.

Next Meeting: November 9 at 9 a.m. Meeting adjourned.