

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 8, 2023
9:00 AM @ the UHSAA Office

Welcome & Chair Business: Chair Craig Hammer welcomed the board.

Reverence/thought: Mr. Jade Shepherd shared a thought about gratitude. It is the greatest way to silence egos and appreciate every moment in our lives. It makes life more meaningful. Gratitude produces contentment and contentment gives peace. He then offered a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic thought: Ms. Roberta Hardy shared about voting and that it is a sacred duty. People have died for the right to vote. We need to take our liberty to vote seriously. She then led the pledge.

Chair's general observations: Chair Hammer welcomed all to the gym for the next three months.

Minutes of previous meeting – October 4, 2023: Chair Hammer requested that someone make the motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

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

Deadlines for dues, CAT insurance, By-laws & Arbiting fees: Ms. Jennifer Thomas provided a spreadsheet showing dues that have been paid by schools. She reminded the board the deadline was September 15, 2023 and asked each committee member to reach out to those schools in their regions that have not yet paid.

Academic all-state deadlines, UHSAA Moratoriums, etc.: The committee was reminded of the upcoming deadlines.

USBE Report: Ms. Teri Davis shared that the USBE is developing two pathways for further education: one with SLCC and one with Weber State. If a teacher is licensed, they can get hours through the USBE for an Athletic Administration certification through SLCC. For a Coaching Leadership master's degree, they can go to Weber State. Additional information is available on the USBE website under the Physical Education section. The USBE would also like to see any volunteer opportunities that schools/teams are doing during the year. The local SHAPE conference will be held on March 4, 2024 from 8-3. There will be classes available for coaches to attend, and Ms. Davis encouraged them to attend.

Football Endowment Games Report: Mr. Rob Cuff provided the breakdown of finances for the fall football Endowment games. Ticket prices were consistent, and the games did better financially than they ever have. This income goes back to the schools by way of the Catastrophic Insurance reimbursement. The schools get 50%. Mr. Jeff Cluff is the contact on how to set up GoFan ticketing. He can provide trainings. Number of games held was 53 (44 games in 2008).

Region Visits by Staff: Mr. Cuff explained that the UHSAA staff is trying to get to regions and attend meetings. He encouraged the committee members to get together with the assistant director who is coming to those regions. The goal of the UHSAA staff is to visit at least one meeting for each region.

Calendar: Mr. Jeff Cluff provided an update on the current calendar and the upcoming tentative calendar for next year. The 2023-24 calendar was updated for 3A girls wrestling due to a conflict between 3A wrestling and drill. Girls state wrestling will now be February 2-3, 2024. The 2024-25 tentative calendar will be posted on the UHSAA website soon. Mr. Cluff will be meeting with Mr. Josh Taylor to work on and finalize this. The fall calendar will shift next year due to the Thanksgiving date for 2024. Please refer to UHSAA website for changes and updates throughout the year. The website calendar is the most accurate place to look for information.

Fall Activities Report by UHSAA Staff:

Volleyball: Ms. Jan Whittaker shared the winners in each class and asked for any concerns or questions. There were none. The volleyball tournament will be held again next year at UVU.

Boys Golf: The tournaments went well, barring a few weather-related issues. Ms. Whittaker turned the time over to Mr. Cluff to share a story about the 4A golf tournament. Mr. Cluff explained how a golfer from Crimson Cliffs showed integrity during the tournament.

Football: Mr. Brenan Jackson shared the teams that are playing in the semi-finals and finals of state football this year. He asked the committee members' help in handing out trophies and encouraged them to attend if they have the opportunity to do so.

Girls Soccer: Zion's Bank Stadium and America First Stadium were great venues for girls' state soccer. A breach of contract did occur, as UMA – Hillfield pulled out of the state tournament. This forced another school to not have a game and to have to pay the officials.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made a motion to fine UMA - Hillfield \$1500 and to also have them pay Parowan back the official's fees in the amount of \$292.75. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jason Smith. The motion carried.

There was a lighting delay due to a game between Judge Memorial and Rowland Hall. The game was never completed, and due to this, it affected the bracket, which caused issues. It was recommended that both teams be fined \$1000 for not finishing the game, which caused inaccurate scores in the RPI.

MOTION: Mr. Jenkins made a motion to fine both Judge Memorial and Rowland Hall \$1000 each for not completing their game. It was seconded by Mr. Jared Wright. The motion carried.

Cross Country: Mr. Chris Shipman discussed his first experience running this tournament. He asked if anyone had feedback on the event. Mr. Shepherd asked if there was any consideration for RPI in Cross Country. Mr. Cluff invited him to make a proposal and present it to the board. Mr. Jed Johanson pointed out that it would be very difficult to do an RPI due to the differences in courses, weather, etc.

Girls Tennis: Ms. Missy Mackay-Whiteurs shared that tennis went well. It was her first experience running a state tournament and she learned a lot. She was impressed with the skill of the tennis players and had a great experience.

1A Baseball: Mr. Cluff shared that it was another great fall season. They were able to take two games to St. George due to weather and that helped a lot. It was a great baseball season overall.

Current Items by UHSAA Staff

Spirit of Sport Award and Heart of the Arts Award: Mr. Cuff shared that these two awards are given by the NFHS. They are for a student but can also be for a coach. He asked the committee members to please think of someone in their school that they can nominate. Not many nominations come in each year. The Spirit of Sport Award is for an athlete. The Heart of the Arts Award is for a fine arts student. Nominations need to be submitted by January 15, 2024.

Christmas Moratorium: Mr. Jackson explained that the Christmas moratorium is scheduled for December 21-25, 2023. The Summer Moratorium is scheduled for June 28-July 4. If a school wants to change the dates of their summer moratorium, it must be the entire school.

Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Report (SMAC): There will be new national standards for the concussion protocols. Those will be updated in our protocols in March 2024. Air quality is also being addressed.

Boys Soccer Probation: Sanctioning recommendations were sent back to regions to come up with disciplinary measures for soccer due to the large number of red cards. Taking games away was also punishing the schools who didn't have red cards. The recommendation of the committee is to do the following: If a player is ejected for violent conduct or a violent conduct/foul language/insulting red card, they would have to sit out the remainder of the game they are currently playing, plus two additional games. Any coach who receives a red card will be removed from the current game plus two additional games. Any varsity team receiving five red cards for conduct/foul language/insulting will result in the coach being unable to coach during the state tournament and a fine. Three games no longer count as two. It is now game for game for boys' soccer with 14 total games for the season. The committee has determined that improvement is needed before consideration will be given to get the games returned.

MOTION: Mr. Kim Bailey made a motion to adopt the above recommendation of the committee. Mr. Quinn Linde seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Basketball Items: Mr. Jackson shared that UHSAA is receiving tournament sanctioning requests for time changes. He reminded the board that Utah schools cannot start events earlier than 3:00 p.m., so time changes to earlier times cannot be accommodated.

Coaches Certification: Overall, coaches are doing a better job at getting certified. However, there are still coaches that aren't getting certified. If they are no longer part of the school, please remove them from your Register My Athlete coaches list. By board rule, coaches cannot be around students until they are certified. The only programs recognized by the state board of education for CPR are the four listed.

Speech/Debate Sanctioning: Mr. Shipman shared that Alta High School has applied for the Speech and Debate Tournament of Champions to exemption to charge more. They have done this for many years upon yearly approval of the committee.

MOTION: Mr. Wright motioned to approve Alta's request to receive an exemption. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Unified Sports: Unified basketball and swimming will occur in the winter. Soccer went great in the fall. Unified sports continues to increase in participation numbers. Ms. Davis encouraged every district in the state of Utah to participate. The USBE would like to support Special Olympics and help it grow.

Academic All-State Windows: There are two deadlines in the winter. Winter sports and activities. If you have covers that no longer fit due to Jostens changing up the size of the certificate, they have new folders now in the new certificate size You can contact them for more information.

Wrestling Weight Management Update: The testing will be occurring next week. The testing area only needs to be shut down, not the entire school. If scheduling conflicts arise, work with Mr. Shipman or Mr. Chad Blevins. Please have an administrator in the testing site to avoid any potential issues.

Wrestling Items: There is a request from the Wrestling Coaches Association for a under 14 tournament to be included in the competition schedule that would allow individual wrestlers to participate in the tournament and to be able to wrestle with 8th and 7th graders if needed. It will count as part of their contest limitations.

MOTION: Mr. Kade Morrell made a motion to allow for the tournament. Mr. Steve Gordon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Lacrosse Items: Mr. Shipman provided a reminder that each school is only allowed to have one Varsity team, one JV team, one Sophomore team, etc. There cannot be multiple JV teams.

MOTION: A motion was made to have a running clock for sub-varsity if both teams agree or by agreement within the region. Mr. Morris made the motion. Mr. Kevin Henshaw seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Swim Items: Mr. Steve Marsing shared that in Unified swimming they will have two special needs swimmers and two unified swimmers. The deadline for schools to submit Unified swimmers will be around December 1, 2023.

MOTION: Mr. Bailey made a motion that if there are at least eight 2A swim teams with four swimmers on their team, first and second place trophies will be awarded to the 2A school winners at the 3A meet. Any individual swimmers will compete in 3A. Mr. Karl Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Murray High School was honored for Unified sports by ESPN as an honor roll school. They will be featured on ESPN.

Sportsmanship Items: Ms. Whittaker shared that every school was encouraged to create a Sportsmanship video for the contest. The winners have been announced. They were congratulated.

Gold Star Coach Award: Every school was asked to nominate 1 person by November 1, 2023. The goal is to have every school represented.

Mr. Cluff shared a situation regarding an official being punched in the back of the head by upset fans. The result was campus police agreeing to be with the officials as they arrive and leave each game. This is becoming widespread and is a problem. It is important to have a plan in place to escort the referees for football and it is recommended for other sports as needed. The sportsmanship committee will address this in their meeting.

Emerging Sports Report: Ms. Whittaker explained that data was gathered for this. A sheet was provided. Information will be gathered again the year after next. Esports will be coming in to present as ESports is still in consideration. Mountain biking needs to be discussed after the Esports presentation this afternoon. Mr. Tom Sherwood presented why Esports should be sanctioned. They would like the season to be in the spring (February to May). Fall is a second choice.

Volleyball Items: The only big issue with the continuing popularity of volleyball is that the sets go very long. In the first day of competition for 3A and 4A, it went past midnight. There needs to be considerations to attempt to shorten the length of the tournament days. Options are to cut down on the number of teams that go to state or alternatively to remove the consolation bracket. Another option is to have consolation, but to reduce matches to two out of three sets. The committee was asked to go back to their regions and get their input.

Drill Team Items: Last year it was discussed to make Drill Team a co-ed team. The reasoning is that it doesn't give an advantage for boys to be on the team. There are logistical reasons for this. A discussion ensued and post discussion, the committee was asked to take this back to their regions and come prepared in January to discuss.

Sports Seasons Committee Report: The committee discussed the golf seasons, swimming facilities and the logistics of moving sports around and the complications it can potentially cause. A survey was sent out to each principal requesting feedback from the schools on how they would be affected if their sports moved seasons. The sports that were discussed were moving all soccer to the fall, all volleyball to the fall and moving the swim season earlier in the school year so it finishes before Christmas break. Schools are asked to fill out the survey, providing as much feedback as they can and to return it by December 1, 2023.

Tennis Items: The Tennis Coaches Association met with Ms. Mackay-Whiteurs and they have a challenge with the summer moratorium due to conflicts. The committee feedback was that the Board of Trustees has reduced it from two weeks to one week already and would not be willing to change it anymore. A play-in game was suggested for 3A and 4A in the Salt Lake area at Brighton and Corner Canyon the Thursday before the tournament

MOTION: Mr. Kade Morrell made a motion to allow 3A to have a play-in game like 4A does. It was seconded by Ms. Kim Monkres. The motion carried.

The committee agreed to override the rule in Friends of the Court and allow filming of matches by fans to continue to occur. They will also stay with the 60 minutes for singles and 30 minutes for doubles.

Softball Items: 1A and 2A met to discuss the proposal from Panguitch. They feel like they need to have their own classification but need to see how many 1A teams will be fielded. Mr. Cuff let them know there must be 8 teams to start the season, in order to have a 1A classification in softball. The schools must declare by December 15, 2023.

MOTION: Mr. Bailey made the motion to make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to allow 1A softball to have their own state tournament if eight 1A schools have declared that they are playing softball by December 15, 2023. It was seconded by Ms. Roberta Hardy. The motion carried.

Cheer Items: There was a recommendation to separate all classifications into two separate categories of all-girl and co-ed cheer.

MOTION: Mr. Bailey made a motion to separate each classification into two categories: All-girl and co-ed cheer; regardless of the number of teams. It was seconded by Mr. Henshaw. The motion carried.

Baseball/Softball Two Weeks Prior: The Baseball Coaches Association has asked that the committee consider removing the two weeks prior restrictions for baseball.

MOTION: Mr. Jason Smith made the motion to remove the two weeks prior restriction for baseball and softball. It was seconded by Mr. Ryan Bishop. The motion carried.

UIAAA

NIAAA Conference: It will be held in December in Orlando, Florida.

UIAAA Conference: It will be held on April 17-20, 2024.

Wrestling and Pole Vault Surveys: Respondents want to sanction pole vault for all classifications. A survey was sent out and only 51% of 5A schools want the pole vault. This was tabled due to the percentage. Wrestling proposed that divisional pairings don't occur until after January 1. The second proposal is to score only one wrestler per weight. A survey was sent out on all three proposals. They will be recommending this to the committee.

New school applications for 2024-25

Vanguard Academy: Two employees gave a background of their school and explained why they want to join the Association. They have 500 students, grades 7th to 12th grade on the same campus. They are applying for a 1A classification. The UHSAA staff will do a site visit and further investigate if adequate facilities are available at the school. Vanguard Academy will attend the Board of Trustees meeting and the Membership Review Committee will be involved in the process. Mr. Cluff will handle it as the chair of the Membership Review Committee.

West Field High School: They are splitting off between Fremont and Roy High Schools in Weber School District. The boundary has shifted to complete West Field High School. They are expecting 1408 starting in the fall of 2024. They are applying for a 5A classification but will have a more accurate number in January. This will also potentially reduce numbers of Fremont and Roy high schools.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made a motion to recommend West Field High School to the Board of Trustees as a new member school. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion carried.

For the Good of the Order

UHSAA Distinguished Service Nominees

MOTION: Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the Distinguished Service Nominees. It was seconded by Ms. Monkres. The motion carried.

UHSAA Super Fans: 5A is still needed.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Quinn Linde to adjourn the Executive Committee meeting at 2:47 p.m.