

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 9, 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, 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, Jon Oglesby and Steve Marsing. Excused: Ryan Bishop, Jade Shepherd, Karl Jensen, and Teri Davis. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. **Welcome and Chair Business:** Chair Hammer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He excused Ryan Bishop, Jade Shepherd, Karl Jensen and Teri Davis. Eugene King was representing Jade Shepherd and Everett Kelepolo will be representing Ryan Bishop and Marc Hunter in addition to his assignment as Diversity and Inclusion chair.

A. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Thomas said he has a sign above his office door that reads, "Luck happens when hard work and preparation meet opportunity." He raised triplets and they graduated in 2020. Life is not fair, but students need to learn resilience, hard work and preparation. Be ready when an opportunity arrives. As administrators, are we prepared to take opportunities to make an impact on staff and students? We are in a good position to influence students and help them learn resilience and prepare to move into adult life. He then offered a prayer.

B. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Fails said his school had the opportunity to compete in the 2A Football Championship in Saint George. It was a huge opportunity for his community and both schools closed for students to participate. More importantly, they held a Veteran's Day assembly to honor and pay tribute to the veterans of their community. He shared a thought regarding veterans and thanked those veterans for their sacrifice and service. He then led members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Minutes of Previous Meeting – October 5, 2022:

MOTION: Mr. Marshall made the motion to approve the minutes of October 5, 2022. Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

D. Deadlines for Dues, Cat Insurance, By-laws and Arbiting Fees: Ms. Widerburg talked to individual committee members regarding schools in their region still owing fees.

E. Academic All-State Deadlines, UHSAA Moratoriums, etc.: Mr. Hammer reminded members of the dates and they can be found on the Ready Reference Calendar on the UHSAA Website.

2. **Football Endowment Games Report:** Mr. Cuff reported that 53 football games were held this year compared to 44 games in 2008. He thanked schools for their contribution from gate tickets which go back to schools to help pay for the catastrophic premiums. The Foundation was developed in 1999. The Foundation is nearing the 3-million mark. Over the last 12 years,

1.5 million has been returned to member schools. Schools need to apply to host endowment games and basketball games will be starting soon.

3. **Region Visits by Staff (p. 64):** Mr. Cuff stated that staff would like to attend at least one region meeting. Please work with the assigned staff member. With the realignment year, the staff and BOT representative are anxious to visit and discuss the realignment process and receive feedback.

4. **Calendar:**

A. 2022-23 Calendar (pp. 65-68): Mr. Oglesby distributed a handout listing the boys' tennis dates. These were adjustments needing to be made to encompass a first-round play-in for all classifications and the UTR bracket reveal date.

MOTION: Mr. McDaniel made the motion to accept the proposed adjusted tennis dates. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

(1) Lacrosse: The end of season date is May 12.

B. 2023-24 Tentative Calendar: Mr. Oglesby said the tentative calendar should be available for the January EC meeting. Tentative basketball sites for 2023-24:

1A SVC – Mr. Jenkins said he is receiving pressure to move from SVC. Members were reminded they would need an available high school near the site or move to an 8-team bracket.

2A SUU

3A SVC – Would prefer a different venue. Hotels are an issue at SVC.

4A SLCC

5A/6A U of U

C. UHSAA Website: Refer to website for changes and updates.

5. **Fall Activities Report:**

A. Volleyball: Ms. Whittaker reported the tournament went well at UVU. They have new courts at the facility. Next year, all classifications will be at the UVU facility.

B. Boys' Golf: Ms. Whittaker reported golf went well. They had two weeks of great weather.

C. Football: Mr. Jackson reported the first 8-player semifinals were held at SUU. It was held in a blizzard. The championship game will be held at SUU. There were 10 games at SUU in three days with semifinals for 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A. Finals will be held at Utah Tech. Semifinals and finals for 5A and 6A will be held at the University of Utah.

Mr. Jackson asked for support to move the smaller classification games to Zion Stadium. He feels it is a great venue for smaller classification. The facility seats 6000. Zion Stadium would also be available for finals. He asked members to discuss with their schools if a college venue is still the preference for finals. Mr. Cuff suggested using Zion Stadium for semifinals and then the schools might want to host the finals there as well the following year.

D. Girls' Soccer: Mr. Jackson reported the tournament went well. All finals were held at Zion Stadium. It was stormy on Saturday and there was a concern that the game wasn't cancelled. Some girls experienced hypothermia and didn't finish the game. Mr. Jackson felt it was the schools' and parents' responsibility to make sure the athletes were properly equipped for the cold weather.

E. Cross Country: Mr. Oglesby thanked the members for their help at cross country. He felt it was a better flow this year with the changes that were made. He felt the overall feedback was good. He appreciated the Coaches' Association for the great job marking the course. Mr. Johansen said he had received positive feedback and they liked the changes that were made this year.

There continues to be discussion about returning to Sugar House Park. Mr. Kelepolo reported that a group of coaches came to the ADEC meeting in September with the desire to move back to Sugar House Park. ADEC voted unanimously at their last meeting to not pursue the Sugar House proposal or send it on to the Executive Committee. The AD's and coaches feel the course itself is a better option at Sugar House Park. However, he suggested to the coaches that they need to propose a better solution, split days, Saturday, etc.

F. Girls' Tennis: Mr. Oglesby reported girls' tennis went very well. There was great weather and the match competition was exceptional. Coaches commented that the outcome was good in terms of rankings. He received very few complaints. He is encouraged moving forward for the boys' season because of how well the UTR worked for girls' tennis.

G. 1A and 2A Fall Baseball: Mr. Cluff said that baseball in Utah should be played in the fall, not spring. The weather was great. Snow Canyon HS hosted the 1A championships and they treated everyone very well. The 2A championships were held at SLCC.

6. **Current Items:**

A. Spirit of Sports Award /Heart of the Arts Award (due January 15): Mr. Cuff said the NFHS has an annual award for Spirit of Sports and Heart of the Arts. Utah has had great recipients in the past. The Spirit of Sports Award is for a student or advisor who has overcome more than the average adversity. He is seeking nominations for the award. Please send a name and the UHSAA will send out the application and do the leg work.

The Heart of the Arts award is for someone involved in music, speech/debate or theatre/drama. Please send nominations to Mr. Cuff. There will be section winners and NFHS winners selected from the state nominations. The recipients of these awards will meet with the BOT at a luncheon and be honored at a state basketball championship.

B. Christmas Moratorium (December 21-25): Mr. Jackson reported the Christmas moratorium adjustment form is online. Individual sports may adjust dates to the Christmas moratorium unlike the summer moratorium. He will email out the adjustments to the Committee.

C. Summer Moratorium (June 28-July 4): The summer moratorium is June 28-July 4 for the entire school. Adjustments can only be made for the entire school.

D. Weight Management Update: Mr. Jackson reported weight management begins next week on November 17, 18 and 19. The master assessors will be coming to most schools;

however, some schools will need to combine and travel. Weight Management is very important because it sets the guideline for the athletes' lowest minimum weight class. It is a health issue for these athletes. There have been many updates to the wrestling policies and procedures. Please be sure coaches and athletic directors are familiar with them. Coaches must input weekly the official weigh in for wrestlers.

E. Soccer Items: Mr. Jackson said he would like permission/direction to look to Zion Stadium for all semifinals for boys' soccer. They are interested in hosting and it would be advantageous having one site. If Rio Tinto is available for finals, they would host finals. Mr. Jackson would like to pursue having all semis for boys and girls at Zion Stadium and the contingency site for finals if Rio becomes unavailable.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to approve boys' and girls' soccer semifinals at Zion Stadium. Zion Stadium would also be the contingency site if Rio Tinto is not available for finals. Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Jackson said, because of the suspended games, the coaches' association wants to work as a group to make a proposal for more stringent consequences on players, coaches and possibly schools (repeat offenders). The proposal will be going to ADEC and then to the EC in January. Mr. Jackson has not seen the proposal. Mr. Cluff said some groups use cumulative cards to add extra penalties – missed games for cumulative yellow cards. Mr. Jackson said it's an issue that needs to be addressed by coaches, administration and parents because the officials are feeling beat up at every contest. The kids are taking their cue from coaches and their parents and thinking the behavior is okay. Mr. McDaniel was interested to know if there is data showing areas with more concerns. Is it a different scenario with different cultures? Mr. Jackson said it needs to be solved at the school level or we won't have officials. Mr. Cluff directs the officials to get the administration involved if there is an issue. He thinks the culture in soccer is completely different than any other sport.

F. Coaches' Certification (p. 69): Mr. Jackson said there is great training and information on nfhslearn.com if the districts will allow the use of the site. He also mentioned R277-605 is the State School board rule on first aid CPR training. It lists the four programs that have been approved by the State Superintendent to use for the training. The State Superintendent's assistant will review courses with a hands-on component for approval if a program is not on their list.

G. Basketball Shot Clock: Mr. Oglesby said that the Executive Committee needed to decide today whether to move forward using the shot clock. He said the coaches are in favor of pushing forward and allowing schools to add on as the clocks are installed.

MOTION: Mr. Snow made the motion to move forward with the shot clock and have schools add as they can. The shot clock will be utilized in post season. Mr. Everett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The NFHS has training regarding operation of the shot clock and it can be found on the basketball page of the UHSAA Website. There are no state adoptions so rules will be implemented as is in the rulebook. Sub-varsity officials are prepared to use the shot clock if it is requested. Officials have received training since early spring. The clock operator needs to be trained.

H. Speech/Debate Sanctioning: Mr. Oglesby said the 1A, 2A, 3A debate site has moved from Ben Lomond to Ogden.

MOTION: Mr. Wood made the motion to move 1A, 2A, 3A debate to Ogden HS. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Oglesby said the nation speech and debate association has developed an online “Challenger Series.” Participants from different parts of the country do scrimmages and matchups in a teaching setting. According to UHSAA rules, those scrimmages would count as a sanctioned competition. There is no cost to schools because it takes place online in a classroom setting. It is different from a tournament where students are traveling. The UDCA is proposing that schools that participate in the NFHS “Challenger Series” be added as a contest, but if they participate in the “Challenger Series” throughout the year that it would only count as one contest toward their tournament exceptions for the entire year.

MOTION: Mr. Fails made the motion to accept the proposal and count the “Challenger Series” as one contest toward tournament exceptions for the year. Ms. Soper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

I. Unified Sports (UHSAA/SOUT): Mr. Oglesby said the Unified Basketball Tournament will be held on March 7-8 at Weber State. A format is being developed for unified track so that it will be part of the schedule at the State Track Meet at BYU.

J. Rosters on RegisterMyAthlete: Mr. Oglesby reported that a number of schools are not entering all players on a roster. As a reminder, all players need to be on the RMA roster.

K. Academic All-State Windows (p. 70): Mr. Oglesby reviewed the windows for Academic All-State. Recipients are required to be in RMA including Activity participants.

L. Swim Items: Mr. Marsing reported they are developing a unified swimming program. So far, there are 21 athletes participating. They will participate in the 50 and 100-yard free style prior to preliminary state event. Coaches have been made aware and forms have been sent to them to fill out. Mr. Cuff asked if the awards could be given on the second day so parents don’t need to attend for two days. Mr. Marsing said that could be considered.

M. Sportsmanship Items:

(1) School Video Competition: Ms. Whittaker reported the competition has been completed and the winners are Valley, Enterprise, Grantsville, Bear River, Maple Mountain and Roy high schools. A \$1000 scholarship will be sent to each winner.

(2) Gold Star Coach Award: Ms. Whittaker asked members to encourage schools to nominate a coach for the Gold Star Coach. There will be a male and female classification winner. This is to honor coaches that are doing great things to help the students of Utah.

N. Emerging Sports Report (meeting handout): Ms. Whittaker reported on the Emerging Sports Committee meeting. She distributed a list of the activities that met the emerging sports criteria and those activities that met the threshold for sanctioning consideration. Esports and Mountain Biking were the sports that met the sanctioning consideration. Mr. Morris is the chair of the committee and reported the committee did not give a recommendation to sanction Mountain Biking at this time. The committee did not make a recommendation on Esports wanting more input from a unified entity how to develop the program. Ms. Whittaker

said the committee wants to add another component to the Emerging Sports Consideration that an organization needs to present and inform the board how the sanctioned activity would function. She said there are over 100 schools participating in Esports, but different organizations are running the competitions. Mr. Sherwood said Esports is currently working to organize a coaches' association. It is a worldwide sport, universities have scholarships and we are late in the game.

Tory Norman, Provo Esports Coach, President of the Coaches' Association, and Super Coach for PlayVersus, made a presentation. Esports participants want to represent their school and would like to be sanctioned. He said the coaches' association will be organized by March and they will be prepared for sanctioning. Mr. Norman said the Esports program costs less than \$1000. The UHSAA will be able to help negotiate costs once they are sanctioned. Mr. Hammer is concerned about the fee schedules that districts set in the spring. Will they be prepared with specific costs? Mr. Norman said most events are held at the school except possibly the finals. The coaches feel like the UHSAA will provide clear direction moving forward. Mr. Quarnberg said most schools are running Esports already and have the computers. Discussion on filters. Mr. Hammer said it is imperative that the information be provided by March. The coaches are asking for activity sanctioning for the school year 2023-24.

Emerging Sports Survey: Ms. Whittaker reported the committee would recommend that the Emerging Sports Survey be done every two years instead of annually.

MOTION: Mr. Wood made the motion to do the Emerging Sports Survey every two years. Mr. Morrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

O. Theatre Items: Ms. Whittaker said members were asked to discuss with regions about increasing the standard from 120 to 125 for state qualification.

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood made the motion to increase the standard/qualifying score on one-act plays from 120 to 125 to qualify for state. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Increase judges pay: Ms. Whittaker said the committee suggested an increase to \$20 per hour. Mr. McDaniel said his region is not in favor of an hourly increase. Mr. Johansen said his region was okay with an increase, but felt a flat rate would be better. Ms. Whittaker said the committee suggested \$25 per one-act and one-acts last about one hour. Discussion on half day and full day rate. There are 20-30 judges for State and around 12 judges for regions. Mr. Marshall said the committee discussed having schools pay a participation fee for region so schools could help pay for officials. Members were asked to discuss \$100 for half day and \$200 for full day in regions. A decision will need to be made in January.

Material Content: Currently the principal signs a form and disclaimer if there is possibly inappropriate content in the individual events or one-act plays. Mr. Smith asked why it wasn't the coach's responsibility. Mr. McDaniel thinks there should be guidelines or criteria. Mr. Hammer said it would be difficult to cover everything. Mr. Webb said all things changed with the new law requiring a committee to determine the appropriateness of books, videos – everything. Mr. Hammer said the principal needs to take the time to decide if they can sign the form. Do your best.

P. Coaches' Credentials: Mr. Cluff reminded them the deadline for winter sport credentials is November 16. AD's can request a credential through the late hire form. Mr. Oglesby sent a memo with all the information and instructions to requests credentials.

7. **Officiating:**

A. Fall Update/Enrollment Numbers: Mr. Cluff reported that numbers of officials were down about 1% overall. There are many new officials and the media campaign has produced interest. It will take time to train these new officials.

B. Ejections/Reporting: A new form and instructions will be coming after football championships. There will be a requirement for all schools to complete an ejection form for their athletes/coaches. Schools must report all ejections for their athletes and coaches. The officials will also be reporting. It was suggested the AD would be responsible for filling out the form.

C. Sub-Varsity Football: For 2023-24, it is required that schools play on the same night, same site. The start time is not before 4:00 pm on Wasatch Front.

D. Basketball Tournaments: Mr. Cluff asked when scheduling basketball tournaments, make sure the tournament is sanctioned and please notify him so he can add the tournament to Arbiter.

E. Officials Pay Scale Committee: Mr. Cluff said the committee will be meeting to have a 1st proposal in the January meeting and the 2nd proposal by the March meeting.

8. **UIAAA:** Mr. Hunter said the national conference will be held in Nashville in December. The UIAAA Conference is April 12-15. The UIAAA is reducing the cost of the conference from \$130 to \$117. He reviewed the conference schedule. He also announced the NIAAA Conference for 2026 will most likely be held in Salt Lake City. Rich Barton is now the assistant director of NIAAA.

9. **New Member School Applications:** Mr. Cuff reported there were no new school applications for 2023-24. Mr. Kennedy said Belmont Classical Academy has been unresponsive to the region. Mr. Thomas said Vista School has not attended region meetings. No response from West Ridge Academy.

10. **Realignment 2023-25:** Mr. Cuff said an email had been sent to principals regarding the timetable (p. 71). November 17 – BOT will determine tied/bubble schools. December 8 – tied/bubble schools will be able to present/declare their preference of classification. December 14 – public hearing being held on Zoom. December 15 – the BOT will establish the realignment. There will be an opportunity January 19 for schools to request moving up a classification by individual sport/activity. Mr. Cuff provided an updated list of schools by district, charter schools and private schools.

A. Fall Baseball: Mr. Cluff reported the fall season started with eight teams in 2A. Only 7 participated in the state tournament. It is the staff's recommendation to discontinue the 2A Fall championship and merge the 1A/2A into one fall baseball tournament. Discussion on the divisions. Schools have a choice between fall and spring. Mr. Morris doesn't think 2A would object to combining.

MOTION: Mr. Jenkins made the motion to recommend combining 1A and 2A fall baseball. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. 8-Player Football: Mr. Jackson said 8-Player football was successful this year. St. Joseph Catholic HS and Diamond Ranch are interested in playing next year. It has provided a good opportunity for smaller schools. Any new 1A or 2A school could choose to play 8-Player. Staff would recommend keeping 8-Player football.

C. Soccer: There was a proposal for the 2A/3A classification to split into 2A public, 3A public and 2A/3A Private/Charter. Mr. Morris felt we need to be careful creating championships for pockets of success. Mr. Cuff reminded them of the staff proposal to align sport by sport, but there was push back for retention of regions.

11. **Legal Report:** Mr. Van Wagoner reported that Coach Garcia has asked to appeal his portion of the decision of the EC with regards to his actions at the State Wrestling Tournament. That will be heard by the BOT on November 17.

Nothing has been heard on the girls' tackle football case and nothing to report on the transgender case.

12. **For the Good of the Order:** Mr. Cuff provided articles from the NFHS. He encouraged members to incorporate the "Bench Bad Behavior" campaign at their schools.

A. Distinguished Service Nominees: Mr. Cuff reported on the individuals that were nominated for the Distinguished Service Award. They will be honored at the next EC meeting that will be held on January 11 at the South Mountain Golf Course. A luncheon will be held that day to honor them.

6A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Robert Resibeck	Layton HS
5A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Scott Stucki	Hillcrest HS
4A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Blaine Monkres	Dixie HS
3A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Jason Jacobsen	Canyon View HS
2A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Lexa Larsen	North Sevier HS
1A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Chaz Fisher	Altamont HS
Athletic Director of the Year	Craig Morris	Waterford HS
Female Official of the Year	Maria Fowler	
Male Official of the Year	Scott Maxfield	
Music Educator of the Year (Small School)	Timothy Kidder	North Sanpete HS
Music Educator of the Year (Large School)	Caleb Shabestari	Alta HS
Speech Educator of the Year	John Garofalo	Syracuse HS
Theatre Educator of the Year	Kory Howard	Manti HS
Distinguished Contributor	Jackie Parker	UHSAA Tennis Dir.
Distinguished Contributor	Dr. Karl Weenig	SMAC, Chair
Media	Devin Dixon	Southern UT Media
Media	Julie Slama	Valley Journal

MOTION: Mr. Fails motioned to approve the DSA nominees. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting is January 11 at 8:00 am at South Mountain Golf Course.