

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

9:00 AM

Those in attendance: Craig Hammer, Jed Johansen, Rodney Shaw, Todd Dawson, Ryan Oaks, Jason Smith, Kim Monkres, Quinn Linde, Steve Gordon, Kade Morrell, Nate Marshall, Jade Shepherd, Ty Kennedy, Craig Morris, Kim Bailey, Roberta Hardy, Jeff Brinkerhoff, Karl Jensen, Darin Jenkins.

Excused: Jared Wright, Ryan Bishop, Kevin Henshaw, AJ Gilmore.

Minutes: Jennifer Thomas

Welcome & Chair Business: Mr. Craig Hammer welcomed the committee.

Reverence / thought: Mr. Nate Marshall provided a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance / patriotic thought: Mr. Jeff Brinkerhoff shared a story about his father and uncle. Their family had a bout of Spanish Flu and only the two brothers survived and became orphans that were raised by their community. The older boy was Mr. Brinkerhoff's father. The younger brother got in some trouble and was faced with the choice of going to jail or joining the military. He chose the military and was sent to Africa. A letter then came to the older brother letting him know the younger brother was heading to Sicily, where the fighting was more intense. Mr. Brinkerhoff's father then received a letter his younger brother had been severely injured and needed to recover for months. The younger brother was then needed in England to train recruits against Nazi Germany and he agreed, even though couldn't stand up. The younger brother was killed on beaches of Normandy. Mr. Brinkerhoff's father then received a purple heart medal in the mail for his brother. He was only 24 when he died. This is a great reminder to Mr. Brinkerhoff of patriotism and what the Pledge of Allegiance really represents. He then led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of January 17, 2024, meeting:

MOTION: Mr. Darin Jenkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Rodney Shaw. The motion carried.

Academic All-state deadlines, UHSAA Moratoriums, Eligibility lists deadlines: Refer to the Ready Reference Calendar and the UHSAA website.

BOT Meeting Report: Mr. Craig Morris provided a summary from the last Board of Trustees meeting held on January 24, 2024.

USBE Report: Ms. Teri Davis attended the recent NIAAA conference and enjoyed it. The USBE is currently following 26 bills. On March 8, 2024 Ms. Davis attended the Unified state basketball tournament and found it very inspiring. The USBE is currently working to align Utah state P.E. standards to Special Olympics to give the students P.E. credit for participating. Their goal is to provide more athletic opportunities for students. Graduation credits should be given for participation in athletics. This is a key piece to stabilize things in Utah. Ms. Davis also attended the SHAPE conference. Both UIAAA and UHSAA were represented and contributed to the conference. Ms. Davis expressed appreciation for their support. In March Ms. Davis attended the national SHAPE conference. She came away with things that need to be done in Utah to stabilize athletics and PE in the state of Utah. There were researchers there that shared Utah is in the bottom 8 for every category for PE. Utah needs to pay attention to practices and policies and has to make sure coaches and P.E. teachers are doing a quality job and taking advantage of

professional learning opportunities. We can't be complacent. Ms. Davis then expressed appreciation that the USBE, USBA and UHSAA are working together to advance education-based activities for students.

Winter Activities Report

Winter Results: Mr. Rob Cuff congratulated the winter sports state championship winners and runners-up.

Basketball: Mr. Brenan Jackson thanked the board members who helped hand out trophies. Great year for basketball. Saw a lot of good sportsmanship. The administrators did a great job with their crowds.

Wrestling: Mr. Chris Shipman shared it was an awesome experience this year as the first-time running wrestling. They may need to explore more venues that have more space. 1A/2A girls combined and had their own state championship. There were at least four competitors in each weight. Every school got to go home with medals.

Drill Team: Ms. Jan Whittaker said it was a great week of drill. She thanked those who helped. This year they couldn't have UVU for the weekend, so the competitions were held during the week. They have received a guarantee that they can go back to the old schedule next year. The talent level gets better each year. She gave a shout out to the winners this year. She asked if there were any questions. Rodney Shaw asked about when mixed teams would start. She explained it will start in the new alignment year.

Cheer: Ms. Missy Mackay-Whiteurs said her first experience with comp cheer was great. She then announced the winners in each classification. She also shared that sportsmanship was great during the competition.

Swimming: Mr. Steve Marsing shared that they had great state tournaments at BYU. There was good participation from administrators. He thanked Ms. Whittaker for all of her help. He explained that they gave out trophies for 2A for the first time this year. There were a lot of records broken this year and 38 Unified Special Olympics swimmers participated. They also added the combined 100 yd freestyle relay to the Unified swimming and it was a great experience.

Ejection report: Mr. Jeff Cluff provided an updated report. He discussed the breakdown as compared to last year. There have been quite a few ejections this year. It went up a little from last year. There continues to be a sportsmanship issue in boys' sports. The sportsmanship committee is working on solutions to improve this.

Officiating Update/Officials Pay Committee Report: Mr. Cluff explained that they are currently down on the number of lacrosse officials. He requested patience as they try to resolve this issue.

Spring Sport Credentials: The Spring deadline was March 8, 2024. The credentials have been sent to BagTags for production.

Baseball Items: It is recommended that 3A baseball move to a 16 team tournament for this season.

MOTION: Mr. Steve Gordon made a motion to move 3A baseball this season to a 16 team tournament. Mr. Kade Morrell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2A state baseball will be held at UVU; 3A state baseball is moving to Kearns HS; 4A state baseball will be held at SLCC; 5A will be held at UVU; 6A at BYU; with the finals of 5A/6A at UVU.

Calendar: Mr. Cluff shared that the 2023-24 calendar is located on the UHSAA website and will be updated as needed. The 2024-25 calendar is also located on the UHSAA website.

Football Sites: Next year the 8 player and 1A-2A-3A Semifinals will be held at Zion's Bank Stadium with finals at SUU. (Same as last year).

MOTION: Mr. Kim Bailey made a motion to approve those sites. It was seconded by Ms. Roberta Hardy. The motion carried.

Christmas Moratorium: It was originally to be held on December 21-25, 2024. The UHSAA staff had a discussion and recommended that it be changed to December 22-26, 2024.

MOTION: Ms. Hardy motioned that the Christmas Moratorium that was originally scheduled for December 21-25, 2024 be changed to December 22-26, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jason Smith. The motion carried.

UIAAA: Mr. Marc Hunter shared that the Cross-Country Association attended the ADEC meeting. They shared that they don't like the RAC. They would like to return to Sugar House Park. However, it was pointed out that it has a huge impact on Highland and students/staff and therefore cannot work. It was proposed that a survey be sent out to schools again.

MOTION: Ms. Hardy made a motion that a survey be sent out to schools regarding the Cross-Country state meet location. It was seconded by Mr. Todd Dawson The motion did not carry.

Mr. Hunter said there was a robust discussion on the RPI. Mr. Cluff shared that there is no perfect system. In June there will be a discussion about the RPI and if there are tweaks that are needed.

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

Diversity and Inclusion Report: Mr. Kelepolo talked about their efforts to reduce ejections in athletics due to racial or homophobic comments.

Staff Items:

Sportsmanship Items: Ms. Whittaker explained that the Sportsmanship committee will look at specifics on how to create better sportsmanship.

Gold Star Coach Award: Will be announced the end of the week. 1 male and 1 female in each classification will be awarded.

School Sportsmanship Award Criteria: Applications open May 1, 2024. They will be due the end of May. The Sportsmanship Committee will have a meeting mid-April.

Student Leadership Conferences: They will be held in Fall 2024. More information is forthcoming.

Sports Season Committee Meeting: It will be held on April 9th, 2024.

Golf Items: Ms. Whittaker asked the committee to remind their golf coaches to make sure they complete the two different coaches' clinics that are required. She also asked them to email her who their golf region representative is.

Drill Team Items: The form to request region dates and sites will open on April 1. Whoever is responsible for the region needs to do this. The entry fees for drill competitions need to raise from \$12 to \$15 per dancer to cover the rising costs.

MOTION: Ms. Kim Monkres made the motion to raise the cost for region drill competitions from \$12 to \$15 per dancer to cover the rising costs. It was seconded by Mr. Dawson. The motion carried.

Volleyball Items: It was proposed to the committee to combine 1A-2A-3A boys' volleyball because several schools have not started the program.

MOTION: Mr. Bailey motioned that 1A-2A-3A combine in boys' volleyball. It was seconded by Mr. Jade Shepherd. The motion carried.

Layton Christian Academy didn't let UHSAA know they had formed a team in boys' volleyball until after the deadline, so they have an independent schedule, but have requested to be placed in a classification for the tournament.

MOTION: Mr. Ryan Oaks motioned that Layton Christian Academy be allowed to participate in 4A for the 2024 boys' volleyball state tournament in May. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Whittaker provided a reminder to have the volleyball uniform in compliance with NFHS rules.

A decision on bringing 8 or 12 to the tournament. 3 out of 5. Once playing with a loss, it would be 2 out of 3.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ms. Monkres to bring 16 teams to the state venue for the 2024 Spring boys' volleyball tournament. Consolation round will be best two out of three. Girls' volleyball will be addressed in June 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Karl Jensen. The motion carried.

Swimming Items: Mr. Marsing shared that next season 2A swimming will be the same as it was this year if they have enough teams. There will be a Zoom meeting on the following Monday at 8 p.m. with the swim coaches. They will be exploring the possibility of moving the season to the fall, due to pool availability.

Special Olympics Utah – Unified Sports: Mr. Shipman shared that Unified Track events are still being worked out and he will have an update at the next committee meeting.

Academic All State: Mr. Shipman explained that UHSAA sanctioned activities are currently in their two-week post nomination window right now.

Tennis Items: Ms. Mackay-Whiteurs requested 4A decide on where to play their bracket play: Cottonwood or Spanish Fork. 4A committee members selected Spanish Fork.

Softball Items: Ms. Mackay-Whiteurs shared that 6A will be taking 16 teams to the state tournament.

UHSAA Summer Moratorium Adjustments: Mr. Jackson said that Highland HS would like to have the moratorium for their football team changed to June 9-15 due to their football field being re-done. The rest of the school will keep their moratorium at the scheduled time. It was decided that the entire school must change their moratorium. It cannot be sport by sport.

Coaches Certification: Mr. Jackson reminded the committee to make sure all their coaches are certified on time and to also make sure they are wearing their credentials at the state tournaments.

Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Items: Dr. Kerry Kelly presented about air quality and how it affects students exercising outside. There are multiple air quality challenges in Utah. In the winter, inversion occurs and, in the Summer, elevated ozone levels occur. Wildfires lead to particle pollutions. She showed the sensors they would like to use. Students working out outside are at risk due to the air quality. We currently lack resources to help with decisions in many parts of the state. Having the sensors and more resources can help with decision making.

Mr. Jackson then shared that concussion protocol updates were emailed out and are in red and blue on the provided document. This is coming from the NFHS. These changes will be moving to Board of Trustees for approval, but he wanted to make sure the committee was okay to move it forward. The committee agreed to do so.

Mr. Jackson also provided a QR code with six questions on Emergency Action Plans for after school hours. The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is trying to find what assistance schools need to put those plans in place.

The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is also encouraging schools to hold a pre-game medical time out before each event where the trainer hands out a card with emergency contacts to the visiting team in case something happens during the game. More information on this is on the UHSAA website.

Soccer: Mr. Jackson asked if anyone is playing Futsal and Indoor Soccer at their schools. Indoor soccer should not be played as it is the same as outdoor soccer, but Futsal is different. It is played as 4 on 4 with a goalie. It also uses a different sized ball and the goal is smaller. The committee also agreed that it was different from soccer.

Music Items: Solo and Ensemble state competitions are coming up soon. Woods Cross HS is the location for the north event and Provo HS is the location for the south event.

Member School Requests:

UMA-Hillfield – They are requesting to appeal the action taken against their girls' soccer team.

Mr. Van Wagoner requested that the committee go into Executive Session.

MOTION: Ms. Hardy made the motion that the Executive Committee go into an executive session to discuss the UMA-Hillfield appeal. It was seconded by Mr. Morris. The motion carried. (The only person not in the room for the executive session was Mr. Kevin Henshaw, Region 8).

MOTION: Mr. Bailey made a motion that the committee go out of executive session. Mr. Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MOTION: Ms. Hardy motioned to uphold the action Region 16 took against UMA-Hillfield's girls' soccer program. Mr. Jensen seconded it. The motion carried.

Draper APA: Mr. Cluff is speaking on their behalf. Draper APA is requesting to play 2A baseball next season in the spring. They are basically switching seasons from fall to spring.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to allow Draper APA to move from competing in the fall season for 2A baseball to moving to the spring season 2024-25 in 2A baseball. Mr. Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Layton Christian Academy: Pastor Mike Crowder and Principal AJ Schrader requested the following changes in classifications: boys' soccer to 6A, boys' basketball to 5A, and boys' and girls' volleyball to 4A.

Salt Lake Academy: Ms. Becky Hogan and Mr. Sam Gibbs spoke on behalf of Salt Lake Academy. They are requesting to have boys' and girls' volleyball moved to class 4A. They are also requesting to be re-admitted into full standing in boys' basketball. They requested to be independent in 2020 and to stay independent for 5 years. They now do not have any of the boys or coach from that program. They have been playing in the USSA. They would like to return into 2A for next year, which is a year earlier than the five years.

MOTION: There was a motion made by Mr. Morris to go to into a closed executive session. It was seconded by Mr. Morrell. The motion carried. (The only person not in the room for the executive session was Mr. Kevin Henshaw, Region 8).

MOTION: Mr. Bailey made a motion to go out of the executive session. It was seconded by Mr. Morris. The motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned that the Executive Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees that the member schools (Layton Christian Academy and Salt Lake Academy) wait until the realignment year to make their requests. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dawson. The motion carried.

Realignment 2025-2027: Discussion about different proposals ensued. The Board of Trustees will discuss this at their upcoming meeting on April 28, 2024. 1A wants to look at enrollment numbers.

For the Good of the Order: Mr. Cuff referred the board to the following articles provided in their meeting materials: *Creating Program Pride* and *After High School*.

NFHS Summer Conference: It will be held in Boston, Massachusetts from June 27 – July 2, 2024. Committee members were asked to meet with Mr. Cuff after the meeting if they would like to attend the conference.