

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

UHSAA Office

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

9:00 am

Members Present: Greg Wilkey, Darrell Jensen, Jason Smith, Bill Sivert, Ryan Bishop, Darin Thomas, Steve Gordon, Kade Morrell, Jim Langford, Craig Morris, Brady Fails, Jim Wood, Clayton Carter, Darin Jenkins, Kayce May-Riches, Craig Hammer, Marc Hunter, Rob Cuff, Jeff Cluff, Jan Whittaker, and Jon Oglesby. Excused: David Dunn, Todd Quarnberg, Tom Sherwood, Doug Webb, Ryan Bishop Mike Monson, Jade Shepherd, Ty Kennedy, Jodi Parker, and Jackie Thompson. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. **Welcome and Chair Business:** Chair Hammer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He excused Jackie Thompson, Jodi Parker, David Dunn, Todd Quarnberg, Tom Sherwood, Doug Webb, Ryan Bishop, Mike Monson, Jade Shepherd and Ty Kennedy. He thanked Emme Liddell (Taylorsville HS), Stewart Hudnall (Herriman HS), Jamie Sheetz (Park City HS), Hannah Figueiredo (Lehi HS), Everett Kelepolo (Nebo School District), Ryan Grunig (Sky View HS), Daron Gatherum (Duchesne HS), and Travis Madsen (Wasatch Academy) for substituting in their respective regions.

A. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Jenkins said the past few weeks have been a time of reflection. They were preparing for the school's award banquet and found out about the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas. He wept thinking of the students who were killed and that the opportunity to perform and participate in life had been taken from them. The next day he turned fifty and was not wanting to go to school. He was not having a great day until he went into the Gym where the entire student body and staff were waiting to sing him a "Happy Birthday" song. Those are the moments that make life worth the effort. He said his district is reading a book entitled, "Heart" and he said it discusses the type of heart prints left on the people they serve. The tribute from his student body was a great heart print. He challenged members to leave good heart prints on the students. He then offered a prayer.

B. Pledge/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Gordon said it has been a difficult year. He attended the principal's conference in St. George and Rulon Gardner was a guest speaker. Mr. Gordon shared some quotes from Mr. Gardner's book. Dale Murphy was at the Secondary Principal Conference the previous night. Mr. Murphy said a good baseball player will do well 30% of the time at the plate. Mr. Gordon hopes that they do better than 30% at their jobs, but keep things in perspective. We will not do everything right all the time. We need to follow our heart and make the best decisions possible. He then led the members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Acknowledge Outgoing Committee Members: Mr. Hammer recognized the outgoing members from the Committee:

Greg Wilkey	Region 1
Mike Monson	Region 11
Clayton Carter	Region 21
Kayce May-Riches	Region 23

Mr. Hammer thanked them for their service and members gave them a around of applause.

D. Minutes of April 27, 2002, Meeting (summary on UHSAA website):
MOTION: Mr. Jenkins made the motion to approve the minutes of April 27, 2022. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. **BOT Report:** Mr. Wood reported the meeting of May 3, 2022.

- Chair Holmes recognized Mr. Gordon leaving the BOT
- USBE report
- Winter financial report
- Activity report from staff members
- Unified Sports growth
- Coaches' certification – should be completed before coaching students
- 2022-2023 Calendar was reviewed
- Officials update, sportsmanship issues
- Dissenger Reed Insurance presentation/renewal for 2022-23
- Catastrophic Insurance continues, reimbursement at 50% for 2022-23
- Format and Procedures for the next alignment, and procedure for breaking ties with bubble schools
- The BOT approved the final format and procedures for the 2023-25 alignment
- The BOT approved Juan Diego to move boys' basketball from 3A to 5A classification
- Sportsmanship Initiative – increased awareness. Applications for school banner was due on May 27
- Dare2Lead Student Conferences will be in the fall on region basis.
- NFHS Articles
- Elections were held, Superintendent Holmes as chair and Ms. Richards as vice chair

3. **2022-23 Meeting Schedule for Boards (p. 148):** Members discussed the proposed meeting schedule. Wednesday, June 7 was changed to Monday, June 5. Wednesday, August 3 was changed to Tuesday, August 2.

MOTION: Mr. Langford motioned to approve the meeting schedule with the above changes. Mr. Fails seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. **Executive Committee Terms 2022-23 (pp. 149-150):**

Region 1	Jed Johansen – Syracuse HS
Region 11	Doug Snow – Ridgeline HS
Region 21	Karl Jensen – Telos HS
Region 23	Roberta Hardy – Pinnacle HS

Mr. Cuff reported there will be 148 full members and 10 associate members for 2022-23 including Belmont Classical and Vista HS for a total of 158 schools. There was discussion on the new member schools from 2021-22.

5. **Board of Trustees Terms 2022-23 (p. 151):** Mr. Cuff said the BOT is now finalized as listed on page 151. The 4A Principal is Darin Thomas (Hurricane HS).

6. **UHSAA Calendar (pp. 152-156):** Mr. Oglesby reported the 2022-23 Calendar is now posted on the UHSAA website. He encouraged schools to look at the certification deadlines that are listed. Please work to finish certification early. Please contact Mr. Oglesby if there are

issues. Ms. Whittaker reminded members that golf coaches need to hold an etiquette clinic for their teams and completion of that clinic needs to be declared on the UHSAA website. The deadline for 2A-6A Boys' is September 15 and 1A Boys' and 1A-6A Girls' is April 15.

7. **UIAAA Business:** Mr. Hunter said the new AD workshop will be September 13 or 20 at the UHSAA Office. Their annual golf tournament will be held on July 13, 2022. Funds from the tournament go towards the scholarship fund. He said the NIAAA Conference could possibly be hosted in SLC in 2026. Mr. Hammer said the NFHS Summer Conference will be held in SLC in 2026.

8. **Legal Reports:** Mr. Van Wagoner was excused. There are no legal issues currently to report.

9. **Activities Report (pp 157-158):**

A. Baseball: Mr. Cluff said the first day of the baseball was a challenge due to rain. Many tournaments had to be moved, but the weather cooperated after the first day. 2A was held at Kearns HS, 3A at UVU, 4A at Dixie State and 5A/6A at UVU and BYU. Great post season. Salt Lake Bees partnered with UHSAA and provided fifty free tickets to each school champion in softball and baseball and discounted prices for their fans. They will honor them at a team night and introduce them on the field.

Mr. Sheetz asked about pitch counts because he heard there had been issues. Mr. Cluff said he is working on a communication with the coaches. He thinks they understand, but there are some coaches who choose to disregard. Mr. Sheetz felt this spring he was exposed to intentional violations of pitch count. Mr. Cluff said there is much controversy, but it is getting better with pitch counts showing on some scoreboards and announcements after each inning. There will be more discussion.

B. Ejection Report: Mr. Cluff distributed and discussed the final report for the year. Overall, there were not more ejections, but in certain sports there were increases. Mr. Cluff said these are reported ejections, but he feels there are additional ejections in soccer because of the language barrier with the officials not all ejections are being reported to UHSAA. He would like the schools to report soccer ejections to him to make sure the reporting is accurate. He encouraged schools to support officials and continue to educate students and parents on sportsmanship issues.

C. Boys Soccer: Mr. Jackson reported the soccer tournaments went well. He thanked Juan Diego Catholic HS and Jordan HS for hosting the semifinals. Herriman was an 18-seed team and came through the bracket to win the championship in the last few seconds.

D. Unified Track and Field: Mr. Oglesby said this year they put more emphasis on the individual participation at Unified Track. He appreciates Copper Hills HS hosting the event and their support for many years. Mr. Oglesby announced they will be integrating Unified Track into the State Track Meet. More specifics will be coming in August. Mr. Langford shared the great experience they had including unified track events at their region meet on the second day. He thinks it will be a fantastic addition to the state meet.

E. Track and Field: Mr. Oglesby said they used coaches' boxes for the first time and he received positive feedback. He said they are working to improve and organize the team tents by pre-assigning locations.

F. Boys' Tennis: Mr. Oglesby reported they had a rain delay on the first day, but there were no further weather issues throughout the tourney. The tournament went great. He then thanked Mr. Jackson for helping one weekend when Mr. Oglesby was at State Track.

G. Lacrosse: Mr. Oglesby reported the semifinals for lacrosse were held at Westminster College. He said they were a great host and are interested in hosting all semifinals next year. Zions' Bank Stadium for the championships was a great venue. There may need to be some game time shifts for next year.

H. Softball: Ms. Whittaker said they had a rain delay the first day, but great weather throughout the rest of the tournament. She said 4A at Dixie State University went very well. She said everyone was excited to have the 5A/6A finals at BYU. She asked the members if they liked the format for bracketing, reseeding after the first round. Mr. Cluff said the reseed holds the integrity of the bracket. Mr. Smith he would like to explore reseeding more sports. Mr. Sheetz asked if the two games could be played on Saturday and the "what if" game on Monday. Mr. Cluff said it could be considered. He feels that change would be better for softball than baseball.

Ms. Whittaker said they need to look at 2A softball division assignments for the coming year.

I. Girls Golf: Ms. Whittaker said significant changes have been made in golf that begin in the fall. They are working on a program with running leader boards. Schools will need to input scores all season. There will be a mandatory coaches' clinic prior to the season. Schools are asked to coordinate with local courses and the coach needs to discuss team size and what will work at the courses. Sites for spring for 2023 have not been set.

Ms. Whittaker said schools have had questions about putting advertising sponsors on their golf shirts. There are uniform codes for most sports through NFHS, but not for golf or tennis. The staff would like to propose a uniform logo rule for sports not included in NFHS rules books. The verbiage for the proposed rule is similar to the NFHS rules. A copy of the proposed rule was distributed to members. The rule would be included in the individual sports page of the UHSAA Handbook.

MOTION: Mr. Wood made the motion to approve the Uniform Logo Rules for sports not having a NFHS Uniform Logo rule (golf and tennis). Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10. Information and Follow Up Items:

A. RPI Review: Mr. Cuff said the only discussion was whether to hold to a 24-team bracket. This gives eight teams a bye and other sixteen seeds play. This would cut down on preliminary play. Mr. Smith pointed out that the RPI was approved on the basis it would be an all-comers tournament. He would be curious how the non-qualifying schools would feel. Mr. Oglesby said it will help with transportation issues for the lower teams. Mr. Smith is concerned for the lower teams scheduling games. Mr. Morris feels there should be flexibility in bracket numbers with percentage of number of teams in a classification. Mr. Cluff said the RPI was to create all-comers tournament. With 5A's last alignment, it became more complex. The maximum teams would be twenty-four, but could be less by classification and sport. The Association is going to continue to grow. This will help establish how the post season is set.

B. Sumer Moratorium (June 9 – July 5, 2022): Mr Jackson reminded schools moratorium adjustments are for the entire school. Mr. Jackson will email the EC members the schools that have requested an adjustment.

C. Coaches' Certification: Mr. Jackson reminded members that certification is not the UHSAA rule, it comes from the USBE. Make sure coaches are certified. There are new courses on the NFHSlern.com website that can help fulfill the requirements if the district approves. The only approved CPR courses are from the American Red Cross and American Heart Association. Exceptions to these courses must be approved by the State Superintendent.

Mr. Cluff said in the last meeting it was approved to add an additional ordering date for coaches' credentials. July 15 is the deadline for ordering as many coaches' credentials for the year that are complete. The sport will not be included so there is one credential for all sports they coach. Athletic Directors will receive a credential from the UHSAA. This will NOT replace the annual athletic pass. Credentials will not be accepted for admission at tournaments. The credential will read, "not for admission." There will be a deadline for each season and a late hire portal is available for those hired after the season credential deadline. Fines will be given if not certified during the season. Orders can be made as early as July 15, but the fall sports deadline is August 10.

D. Soccer Items: Mr. Jackson reported there was an issue in 2A Soccer. Merit Academy determined to not show for the first-round play-off game with APA. He feels there needs to be a penalty to discourage others from the same action. Mr. Cuff said after the bracket is published it is considered a breach of contract.

Canyon View HS also had a no show at golf. It was discussed they should be handled in the same manner.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to fine Merit Academy and Canyon View HS \$500 plus any expenses that were incurred (officials, rent, etc.). The UHSAA would reimburse the expenses to the school. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Jackson said there has been a real spike in poor sportsmanship in boys' soccer. He feels it is to a point that the Association needs to make a statement and take a stand. Do members want to consider putting boys' soccer on probation and remove two games from their game limitation? He said they are seeing more aggressive play with intent to harm and/or contact with officials. The student athletes are verbally attacking the officials. It is out of control. Mr. Smith feels strongly they need to punish the coaches and/or take away contests. The behavior should not be tolerated. Mr. Cluff said there were 164 ejections: four for fights; 28 for language and jester; 50 because of second caution; 15 serious foul play; 5 for taunting; 2 unsportsmanlike conduct; over 45 for violent conduct. Only 18 ejections happened in sub- varsity contests. Mr. Smith feels that when it reaches a violent conduct foul, it is from the emotional buildup in the game and much of it is driven by sideline behavior. This is where coaches can be helpful.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to place boys' soccer on probation and take away two contests for three years. It would be reviewed annually and could be increased to four contests. Mr. Madsen seconded the motion. Mr. Cluff said the sportsmanship issues are driving officials away from the game. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Wrestling Items (meeting handout): Mr. Jackson said there was a request from the coaches' association, after a survey, to change the divisional seeding criteria. The current seeding is very cumbersome and complicated. There was no motion to change the divisional seeding.

(1) Bracketing: 6A coaches want to use the 2A bracket. Mr. Jackson feels the 2A bracket is the best. The 2A bracket prevents athletes in meeting up again after divisionals.

MOTION: Mr. Gordon made the motion for 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A to use the format of the 2A Bracket for wrestling. Mr. Morrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

(2) 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A Rotation: Mr. Jackson said 4A has the last divisional tournament. 3A, 5A and 6A have their divisional tournament on the first weekend of February. 4A has divisional on the second week of February. The request is to rotate the schedule so 4A is not always having the second week of February. All four divisionals cannot be the same weekend because of the number of officials. Mr. Jackson asked 4A if they would be willing to always have their divisional on the last weekend if 4A always had state on Friday and Saturday. It was agreed.

(3) 6A Divisional Host: Skyridge has agreed to host. Classification approved.

F. Football Reminders (refer to football page on website): Mr. Jackson said everything regarding football is on the website. Make sure teams are following the heat acclimatization. If they plan to do a five-day camp with full contact, they must do 8-days of heat acclimatization. No padded camps after July 15. Check website for complete information.

(1) Sites solidified:

1A, 2A, 3A, 4A Semifinals	November 4, 5	SUU
1A, 2A, 3A Finals	November 11, 12	Dixie State
4A Finals	November 11	TBD

MOTION: Mr. Fails made the motion to approve the sites as presented. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

G. 8-Player Football: Mr. Jackson provided an update on teams participating. There are currently seven teams with a possibility of one other. There might be a possibility of a state tourney if the eight-team requirement is met. If there are not eight teams, the last two weeks would be seeded by the RPI and the top four teams would be allowed to play.

H. Music: Mr. Jackson said the UMEA made the request to change the State Solo and Ensemble to earlier in April. It would conflict with drama tournaments. The EC was not supportive.

I. Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Items: Mr. Jackson said there has been much discussion regarding a chiropractor signing the Pre-Participation Evaluation. The chiropractors have been added back on as a signer for three years. After March 10, 2025, a chiropractor must be board certified in their discipline. When they sign the Pre-Participation Evaluation, they affirm that they are board certified in their field. Athletic Directors and principals will not need to worry if they are certified. If they sign, the signer is held liable that they are board certified in their area. A letter has been sent to the Chiropractic Association's attorneys and communication with them has taken place.

J: Soccer Requests (pp. 159-161):

(1) Layton Christian Academy (LCA): Mr. Jackson said LCA has requested (p. 159) to move boys' soccer program for 2022-23 to the 4A Classification. This would be like their request in basketball. Mr. Morrell asked what it does to the region? Mr. Cuff said in basketball any 3A or 4A team that plays LCA get an extra game. LCA played 7-8 4A/5A schools this past season in soccer. Mr. Smith asked about their facilities to host. Principal Miller said they have rented facilities, but use their football field for soccer. Mr. Morris said, as a private school representative, this is putting pressure on them if they are successful that requesting to move up will become the expectation. Why is it good for LCA, but necessarily for all private schools? Mr. Miller recognizes there is private/public school tension. Their school has an international flavor and basketball and soccer are the popular sports. They would like to help reduce the tension by requesting to move up in certain sports. They want to be a good member and their circumstances are not all private school circumstances.

(2) RSL Academy (p. 160-161): Mr. Jackson said the RSL Academy is requesting to move to the 6A Classification in boys' and girls' soccer. Becky Hogan, AD, said they have competed very well with 6A teams. Ms. Hogan explained that the elite team and high school teams do not cross over with soccer. Elite team members live on campus and attend RSL Academy. Mr. Jackson said there is a memo of understanding for students that tryout for their professional league (elite) if they tryout and are cut they are allowed to return to their boundary school. Ms. Hogan said most students trying out for the elite team are from out of state. Mr. Thomas asked why the request for 6A? Ms. Hogan said geographically 6A make the most sense for them. RSL was not interested in independent status for soccer. They would be unattached in a region and 6A teams will get a free game if they play them.

MOTION: Mr. Langford made the recommendation to the BOT to honor both requests of LCA to 4A and RSL to 6A in soccer. Mr. Morrell seconded. In Favor: 10. Against: 10. Mr. Morris and Ms. May-Riches abstained. Mr. Hammer voted no. 10 to 11 to not recommend.

K. Cross Country Update: Mr. Oglesby said a small group is proposing to return to Sugar House Park for cross country. The coaches' association is working on a survey. He has not heard the results of the survey. He has nothing to report. If coaches provide a survey for change, it would go to ADEC and then to EC if ADEC gives a positive recommendation. Concerns were discussed moving back to Sugar House Park.

L. Tennis Items: Mr. Oglesby is meeting with the coaches' association classification representative to consider how to move forward. After the season, he felt there were not as many negative comments on the RPI as anticipated. There are some concerns because we do not have the ability to weight the scores of matches differently. It is a win or a loss. Mr. Oglesby said the UTR (Universal Tennis Rankings) values the matches differently compared to three set and a tiebreaker or two sets, etc. The UTR model uses everything the athlete does in and out of high school. There is no advantage for the athlete doing only high school. The advantage of using UTR is a benefit in close matches. The data process of what is sent to the state association is much cleaner. The program can be used for free. Unless the Committee chooses to move to the UTR, it is not an option to weight the matches. Mr. Oglesby said there is a possibility to weighting the different levels of play such as first singles weighted more than 2nd, etc. One of the biggest issues for this season was teams not entering data correctly. There were many late corrections.

Mr. Oglesby said the coaches' association needs to decide what they genuinely want to do. As a sport administrator, he feels they should be using UTR. By August, there should be a proposal for fall tennis.

M. Boys Basketball Requests (pp. 162-164):

(1) Mount Vernon (p. 162): Mount Vernon is requesting independent status for boys' basketball. Principal Mike Lambson said their school relies on independent students. About 50% of the enrollment is international students. They feel that an independent status is a better fit for scheduling and academics.

(2) RSL Academy (p. 164): RSL Academy is requesting to align with Mount Vernon in the sports of boys' basketball. If Mt. Vernon is approved for independent status, they are requesting that international student playing boys' basketball could choose to participate at either RSL Academy or Mt. Vernon. They feel this will give more opportunities to international players and will not eliminate opportunities from other Utah student-athletes in the sport of basketball. This would give Mt. Vernon more flexibility and allow international students more years looking for an opportunity to stay in the United States. A student attending Mt. Vernon would have the option to participate in boys' basketball at either school.

MOTION: Mr. Marshall made the recommendation to the BOT to approve Mount Vernon to go independent in boys' basketball and international students from Mount Vernon would have the opportunity to participate at RSL Academy in boys' basketball. Mr. Fails seconded the motion. Motion carried.

N. Cheer Items: Ms. Whittaker reported they held an in-person coaches meeting with over one hundred assistant and head coaches. They presented the program and they are looking at two ideas how to structure the competition. She has been working with the coaches' association for feedback. The guidelines should be on the cheer page of the website in the next two weeks. There will be two divisions in each classification: all girl and coed. If competing in coed, one male must participate in each category. Show category makes up 70% of the points and Game Day category has three separate routines at 10% of the points for each. The three routines are sideline cheer, sideline dance and fight song. Teams will be assigned to divisional competition based on geography and classification. Seventy percent of those teams will move on to state at UVU. Schools can qualify for state in one category of Show or Game Day. They would not qualify for the overall state champion if they only participate in one category. She has surveyed schools for participation. All schools need to declare which division (coed or all girl) by September 5. Classifications and divisions will be determined at that point. A minimum of 8-teams will be considered for a classification tournament.

O. Drill Team: Ms. Whittaker said 4A has changed their drill end date to January 24 because they have no quarterfinals. The reveal would be January 26. Would 2A, 3A be interested in adjusting their dates? The 2A and 3A Classifications will notify Ms. Whittaker if they want to change their end date to January 24.

P. Volleyball Start Times: Ms. Whittaker said members were asked to discuss in regions if the start times between games could be changed from one hour and fifteen minutes to one hour and thirty minutes. This will help with the consistency of start times. The coaches' association and officials were in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Morrell made the motion to increase the maximum starting time between varsity and sub-varsity games from one hour and fifteen minutes to one hour and thirty minutes. Mr. Fails seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Q. Emerging Sports: Ms. Whittaker said the Emerging Sports Declaration Form will go out September 1. She reminded member schools they need to survey their students to find out

what their students participate outside of UHSAA sanctioned sports. Accurate reporting of numbers is very important.

11. **Reports:**

A. Sportsmanship Committee: Ms. Whittaker distributed a list of the 2022 School Sportsmanship Award and Zero Ejections. Student Leadership Conferences will be held on a region or multi-region basis. A training meeting is scheduled for the Sportsmanship Specialists on August 29. One representative from each region is requested. Send names to Ms. Whittaker. The Committee is hoping the sportsmanship initiative information will be communicated to all the member schools.

B. 1A Athletics: Nothing to report

C. 2A Athletics: Mr. Fails said they will work with Ms. Whittaker on softball divisions.

D. 3A Athletics: Nothing to report

E. 4A Athletics: Mr. Grunig asked if the girls' soccer end date could be moved from October 4 to October 9 because they do not have first rounds. They would like to move boys' soccer end date to May 2. Mr. Jackson will discuss it with the classification.

F. 5A Athletics: Nothing to report

G. 6A Athletics: Nothing to report

H. Officials: Mr. Cluff said because of gas prices he is receiving questions about travel reimbursements. He is concerned it could become a scheduling issue. He wanted to make members aware.

12. **For the Good of the Order:** Mr. Cuff provided articles regarding Title IX. He included an article on compliance with Title IX. Mr. Cuff asked members to share the article with schools and districts because it answers many questions on Title IX. He said there will be celebrations of Title IX at the NFHS Summer Conference.

Meeting adjourned at 1:23.