



PIAA DISTRICT ONE-COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 9, 2022 @ 1:00PM – MCIU23

Dr. Barber, District One Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Present at the meeting: Michael Barber, Steve Brandt, W. Rodney Stone, Sean Kelly, Madeline Mulhall, Bill Keenan, Stephanie Taylor, Terri Fasano, Corey Siegel, Jason Sherlock, Mike Semar, Robert Kurzweg, RJ Bretz, Todd Vaccaro, Sylvia Kalazs, Lou Sudholz, John Creighton, Geoff Per, Joe Derickson, Becky Flynn Hensel, Matt Heiland, Vicki Zebley, Maureen Gregory, Cyndi Moss, Nancy Monahan, Tom Brady

Absent from the meeting: Danielle Turner, Holly Farnese, Seth Bruner, Dave Baun, Denis Gray, Rap Curry

Guest at the meeting: None

Approval of the Minutes

- Upon motion by L. Sudholz/ R. Bretz, the committee approved the minutes of District One Committee meeting from October 19, 2022. **Unanimous (24 Votes)**

Treasurer Report

- Upon motion by J. Derickson/R. Bretz, approval of the Treasurer's report was tabled until November to allow the District One office additional time to utilize the new PIAA accounting system. 2022 Year-end numbers still need to be rounded up into the new accounting software. The District One Committee had the opportunity to review the activity in the Citizens Bank MMA and Checking accounts. **Unanimous (24 Votes)**

Copy of the complete Treasurer's Report is available from the office of Danielle Turner, PIAA District 1 Treasurer.

Student Transfer List

- Upon motion by T. Vaccaro / J. Derickson, the committee approved all Transfer Student requests on the list provided to D1 Committee members, with the exceptions of a student from Upper Darby and a student from Springfield (D). The students initially removed from the transfer list were evaluated and approved later in the meeting during hearings involving each school. **Unanimous (24 Votes)**

Foreign Exchange Student List

- Upon motion by S. Brandt / J. Derickson, the committee approved all Foreign Exchange Students Requests on the list provided to D1 Committee members. **Unanimous (24 Votes)**

Public Comment - No public comment was made.

Executive Secretary Report – Mr. Stone / Mr. Kelly

- Sean Kelly updated the committee on the status of the Fall Playoffs and gave a quick overview of the feedback received regarding the use of Hometown Ticketing.
- Sean Kelly provided additional explanation and interpretation of unique circumstances involving the post-season waiver rules.
- The District One Committee acknowledged and thanked all host schools during the playoffs especially schools hosting neutral site championships and PIAA playoffs.
- The committee held a discussion regarding the need for neutral sites for championship contests. The discussion was referred back to each sport's steering committee for discussion.

PIAA BOD Report – Dr. Barber

- The PIAA Board of Directors approved a NHFS pilot program to change the diving championship from 11 dives to 6 dives at the October 11 Board Meeting. The District One Committee asked Dr. Barber to add this as an agenda item at the next PIAA BOD meeting. The D1 swimming steering committee does not support this change to 6 dives.
- A 3rd reading of the Competition Formula revisions will be considered in December. Changes to the Competition Formula will drop the inclusion of transfer students as a factor and will include all Team Sports within the scope of the policy. District One has expressed concern over the changes to the competition formula and the elimination of the transfer factor.
- The PIAA has introduced a Junior Officials program which will allow 16- and 17-year-old students to officiate JHS/MS contests. All member school ADs and Principals received a letter from the PIAA Office describing the program and has asked member schools to promote this program to their students. PIAA Registration fees for students will be waived. Requirements to become a PIAA official can be found on the PIAA website.

New Business

- The District One Committee revisited discussion from March 2020 in reference to establishing a minimum number of contests required for calculations of a sport's Power Ranking System. Committee members are asked to review these factors and determine if a provision should be added to the current system.

Establish a Minimum Number of Contests to be played for the Point System (Discussion - March 2020)

Soccer / Field Hockey / B.G Lacrosse – 18 PIAA Max # of contests

- 90 % - 16.2
- 85 % - 15.3
- 80 % - 14.4

Softball – 20 PIAA Max # of contests

- 90 % - 18
- 85 % - 17
- 80 % - 16

Basketball – 22 PIAA Max # of contests

- 90 % - 19.8
- 85 % - 18.7
- 80 % - 17.6

The Power Rating is determined by dividing the sum of the win points, schedule points, and bonus points by the number of the games you played.

- *Teams that do not play the minimum number of contests (TBA) will have their power rankings determined by dividing the win points, schedule points and bonus points by the established minimum number of required games.*
- *When the minimum number of required contests are not played, the District One Office will have the ability to review the circumstances with the PIAA District One Committee and make a determination regarding the number of games to be used as a divisor.*
- The District One Committee revisited discussion concerning the adding and dropping of contests to a schedule late in the season. The concern discussed is the possible manipulation of a team's ranking to improve playoff seeding and avoid potential opponents. Committee members are asked to review these concerns with their member schools and provide feedback if an additional policy needs to be implemented.
- On Saturday, October 30th a District One Sub-Committee met via zoom to review the submission of transfer paperwork for a student who transferred from Cardinal O'Hara HS to Upper Darby HS. The transfer paperwork was signed by the sending school principal on October 27, 2022, in section 5A. The sending school principal's signature indicated there was no belief the transfer was for athletic intent. After reviewing the transfer documents the District One Sub-Committee voted (15-0) to approve the student's transfer. (It should be noted that the Upper Darby football team did not qualify for the District One playoffs and the student, if healthy, would be eligible to play in the approved

Thanksgiving Day contest). As part of their decision to approve the student's transfer, the District One Committee requested that the Upper Darby Administration appear for a formal hearing at its November meeting.

On Wednesday, November 19, 2022, the Upper Darby HS Administration appeared before the District One Committee. The hearing was in reference to the use of an ineligible student along with the improper and late filing of transfer paperwork. Upper Darby had the opportunity to present the results of their finding and internal investigation. They also outlined the steps and process that will be implemented in the future to prevent any additional missteps in filing student transfer paperwork. After deliberations, the District One Committee voted (24-0) to accept and approve Upper Darby's self-report. As a part of the approval conditions, the committee placed the Upper Darby athletic department on probation for a period of one year. Details and conditions of the probation will be outlined in a letter to the school.

- The District One Committee requested a hearing with New Hope Solebury HS in reference to a coach disqualification report received by the PIAA on October 11, 2022. The NHS school district formally requested a continuance as they continued their own internal investigation. The District One Committee voted (24-0) to approve this request and will wait to hear back from the NHS Administration.
- Cheltenham HS Administration appeared before the District One Committee to review a Report of PIAA Violations that was submitted to the District One Office in August 2022. Additionally, the committee asked Cheltenham HS to review the follow up report of a student's ejection from a contest on October 2nd. After lengthy discussion, the Committee voted (24-0) to table the hearing and allow the Cheltenham HS Administration the opportunity to gather more information and report back to the District One Committee.
- The District One Committee reviewed the transfer paperwork of a student who transferred from Monsignor Bonner/Prendergast to Springfield (D) HS. The transfer paperwork was signed by the sending school principal on November 7, 2022, in section 5A. The sending school principal's signature indicated there was no belief the transfer was for athletic intent. After reviewing the transfer documents the District One Committee voted (24-0) to approve the student's transfer. As part of their decision to approve the student's transfer, the PIAA District One Committee requested the Springfield (D) Administration appear before the committee for a formal hearing at its December meeting.

Old Business

- The committee continued discussion on the use of official assignment software for PIAA D1 playoffs and D1 member schools. The PIAA D1 will use Arbiter Software through the rest of this school year. D1 will continue to evaluate the various platforms and will set up a meeting with all assignors in District One to discuss other options.

Officials Report – Tom Brady & Maureen Gregory. No items to report this month.

Middle School Report – Matt Heiland. No items to report this month.

Eligibility Document Review

- The PIAA District 1 Committee conducted a document review on behalf of a student from **Hatboro-Horsham HS** - reference to Article I-Age and Article VIII-Eligibility. Upon motion by G. Per /M. Heiland, the committee approved the request to grant a waiver of the Age rule and grant an additional two semesters of eligibility.
Unanimous. (24 Votes)
- The PIAA District 1 Committee conducted a document review on behalf of a student from **Wissahickon HS** - reference to Article I-Age and Article VIII-Eligibility. Upon motion by R. Bretz / G. Per, the committee approved the request to grant a waiver of the Age rule and grant an additional two semesters of eligibility.
Unanimous. (24 Votes)

Eligibility Hearings – no eligibility hearings this month.

Adjournment

Upon motion by J. Creighton / G. Per, the Committee approved the motion to adjourn at 5pm.
Unanimous (18Votes)

The next meeting of the PIAA D1 Committee will be held on December 14, 2022, 1:00PM @ Montgomery County IU.

Respectfully submitted, SJK