



## PIAA DISTRICT ONE-COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**December 13, 2023 @ 1:00PM - Montgomery County Intermediate Unit**

Dr. Michael Barber, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:00PM.

**Present at the meeting:** Michael Barber, Stephen Brandt, Rodney Stone, Sean Kelly, RJ Bretz, Sara Kurpel, Shannon Fisher, Stephanie Taylor, Seth Brunner, Corey Siegel, Jason Sherlock, Mike Semar, Robert Kurzweg, Cyndi Moss, Lou Sudholz, Henry Hunt, Sylvia Kalazs, Geoff Per, Lisa Ford, Vicki Zebley, Joe Derickson, Becky Flynn-Hensel, Christopher Jaramillo, Maureen Gregory.

**Absent from the meeting:** Holly Farnese, LaDontay Bell, John Creighton, Bill Keenan, Dave Baun, Denis Gray, Matt Heiland, Tom Brady.

**Guest at the meeting:** Mao Howell, NASD School Board

### Approval of the Minutes

- Upon motion by Sudholz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sherlock, the committee approved the minutes of District One Committee meeting from November 8, 2023. **Unanimous (21-0)**

### Treasurer Report

- Upon motion by Kurzweg, 2<sup>nd</sup> Per, the committee approved the Treasurer's Reports for November 2023. **Unanimous (21-0)**

Operations Balance	\$861,606.51
Net Change	\$176,262.72

*A copy of the complete Treasurer's Report is available from the office of PIAA District 1 Treasurer.*

### Student Transfer List

- Upon motion by Bretz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kurzweg, the committee approved all Transfer Student Requests on the list provided to D1 Committee members. **Unanimous (21-0).**
- The District One Committee reviewed a transfer document from a student (AC) who transferred from Downingtown East to Downingtown West HS on 10/13/23. The

Principals of Downingtown East and Downingtown West HS did not approve the student's transfer. Both Principals signed Sections 4B and 5B, indicating that there were reasons they believed the student transferred for athletic purposes. As a result, without Principal approval the student remains ineligible to participate in athletics at Downingtown West. Upon a motion by Per, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brunner, the student was granted eligibility for the winter and spring seasons in 2024. The Committee determined that the student was eligible for all sports with the exception of football during the 2024 season. The student's period of football ineligibility will remain until one year after the date of transfer. The student will be eligible to participate in football on 10/13/2024.  
**Vote (21-0) with one abstention – Sigel.**

### **Foreign Exchange Student List**

- Upon motion by Geoff Per, 2<sup>nd</sup> RJ Bretz, the committee approved all Foreign Exchange Student Requests on the list provided to D1 Committee members. **Unanimous (22-0)**

*(Semar entered the meeting)*

**Public Comment** – No public comment

### **Executive Secretary Report** – Mr. Stone / Mr. Kelly

- Sean Kelly reviewed the 2023 Fall Playoffs Revenue and Expense reports. Overall, the Fall playoffs were a success. Ticket sales and attendance were comparable to 2022. Fall expenses and invoices will continue to be paid to schools and vendors as they arrive at the office. Reports are available upon request and the District One office is available to answer any questions.
- Sean Kelly reviewed the PIAA Fall disqualification reports. Boys Soccer continues to be a concern with a large number of supplemental disqualifications. Schools are encouraged to continue to promote proper sportsmanship.
- Winter Sport Updates
  - Girls Wrestling Championship dates have been set. Specific details will be sent to schools as we receive them.
    - D1 Girls Districts – Saturday, 2/17 at William Tennent
    - PIAA Girls Regionals (D1 DXI D12) – Sunday, 2/25 at Quakertown HS
      - 5 D1 qualifiers will advance to Regionals.
      - 4 Regional qualifiers will advance to the States.
  - The District One office continues discussions with member schools and local universities regarding hosting the D1 Basketball Championship. Specific game details will be shared with member schools as sites and dates are confirmed.

- The District One Competitive Spirit Championships will be held on January 6, 2023, at CB South HS. Registration for the championships is open. There will be an informational coach meeting on 12/20 via zoom.

#### **PIAA BOD Report – Dr. Barber**

- Dr. Barber reviewed the PIAA BOD December meeting from 12/7/23.
  - School Classification parameters for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 were approved.
  - The Board approved, on a third and final reading basis, effective immediately, a motion to add language to ARTICLE VI, TRANSFERS, RESIDENCE and RECRUITING, Section 11.B.,#11, of the Bylaws, to clarify prohibition on school athletic personnel being in contact with individuals from schools other than their own, and to consider adding prohibitions relative to communications via social media or other electronic communication.
  - PIAA approved the hiring of two new Assistant Executive Directors to the staff. District One welcomes Lyndsay Barna and Keenan Huss to the PIAA. Both are expected to start after the new year.

#### **New Business**

- The District One Committee reviewed a self-report submitted by Gwynedd Mercy Academy in the sport of basketball that dealt with a violation of In Season-Out of Season participation rules and open gyms. Upon a motion by Bretz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sudholz, the District One Committee accepted the school's self-report. Gwynedd Mercy Academy's Girls Basketball program will be placed on probation for one year and will be required to meet the guidelines and conditions that were outlined in the self-report letter. **Vote 21-0 – with one abstention – Flynn-Hensel.**
- The District One Committee reviewed a self-report submitted by Faith Christian Academy regarding a wrestling scrimmage that was participated in prior to the allowable date. Upon a motion by Kurpel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bretz the District One Committee voted to table the discussion until additional conversation can be held with the school. The Committee has asked that the District One office meet with the Administration of Faith Christian Academy to gather additional information regarding the violation. The District One office will report back to the Committee at the January meeting. **Unanimous 22-0.**

- The District One Committee reviewed and approved the conclusion of the one-year probationary period for the following schools.
  - Cheltenham Football
  - Coatesville Football
  - Springfield(D) Football
  - Avon Grove Girls Volleyball
  - Upper Darby Football

Upon a motion by Hunt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Flynn-Hensel, the District One Committee approved the end of the probationary period noting the schools fulfilled the probationary requirements.

**Unanimous 22-0.**

- District One Women’s Athletics representative, Lisa Ford presented on a program “**Operation Warm.**” Operation Warm has teamed up with the Philadelphia Eagles to help support girls athletics in the PA-Tri-State area. Member schools are encouraged to sign their schools up to potentially receive Girls Sports equipment.
  - District 1 schools who may be interested in participating in the program may use the link to sign up at – [WISH LIST – OPERATION WARM.](#)

*(Jaramillo / Moss left the meeting)*

- The District One Operations Committee met via Zoom on Friday, December 8, 2023, at 10am. In attendance: *Fisher, Brunner, Sigel, Kurzweg, Hunt, Creighton, Derickson, Heiland.*  
The Operations Sub-Committee discussed the following topics and made the following recommendations.
  - Payment of Athletic Trainers
    - Members of the Operations concluded that payment to Athletic Trainers for home playoff contests should be processed through the school. If permitted by their school contract with the athletic trainers, schools can reimburse their athletic trainers and include them in their game help budget for playoff contests. District One will reimburse the school.
    - For neutral site playoff contests, District One will continue to pay the rate of \$35/hour for Athletic Trainers who work championship events.
  - Playback contests during District One playoffs.
    - The Operations Committee did not make any recommendations to change the current process of playing out all playoff contests for PIAA State playoffs.
    - Members of the District One Committee will be asked to monitor playoff contests and report occurrences if members schools do not participate in contests with sportsmanship or integrity.

- Establishment of minimum number of contests for calculating the power ranking system.
  - Members of the Operations Committee recommended that a minimum number of contests be established as a divisor for calculations of the sports power ranking system. 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. If a fewer number of contests are played then the established minimum number contests. The established minimum number will be the divisor.
    - Soccer / Field Hockey / B.G Lacrosse – 18 PIAA Max # of contests.
      - Minimum divisor 14 contests.
    - Softball – 20 PIAA Max # of contests
      - Minimum divisor 16 contests
    - Basketball – 22 PIAA Max # of contests
      - Minimum divisor 18 contest
  - Example: if a school plays 13 soccer games, the team’s ranking will be divided by 14. Rankings will be done manually.
- Del Val League Football Schedule.
  - The Operations Committee did not make any recommendations on this topic. The committee did not express any interest in establishing a District-wide schedule.
  - District One member schools are asked to consider working with each other when scheduling non-league contests.
- Volleyball Power Ranking system
  - Members of the Operations Committee recommended a change to the Boys and Girls Volleyball Power Ranking System. Effective Fall 2024, the Boys and Girls Volleyball Ranking system will include the wins and losses against all non-PIAA teams. The overall win/loss records of non-PIAA teams will be included for Rankings. Only 5 set matches will count towards a team’s overall record.

The District One Committee members were asked to take these topics and recommendations back to the leagues for discussion and consideration.

Additionally, the Committee was asked to gather information and review the current Baseball Power Ranking system. Leagues will be asked to consider counting all scheduled contests in the Power Ranking system for playoff consideration. The current baseball system only counts league contests.

These recommendations from the Operations Committee will be considered at the January 10<sup>th</sup> District One meeting.

## **Old Business**

- There was no Old business to consider this month.

## **Officials Report – Tom Brady & Maureen Gregory**

- There was no business to present to the committee this month.

## **Middle School Report – Matt Heiland**

- There was no business to present to the committee this month.

## **Eligibility Hearings**

- Dock Mennonite (Sukaly). Post-season waiver request. (TBA)
- CB South (Scott). Post-season waiver request. (TBA)
- Souderton (Beckett). Post-season waiver request. (TBA)
- Chester (Staples). Article VIII. Request for a decision of eligibility. (TBA)

## **District One Hearings**

- CB South / WC Henderson – Sportsmanship / D1 Soccer playoffs – 3pm.
  - Hearing not held, both schools agreed to postpone this hearing until the January meeting. Time TBD.

## **Document Review**

- No document reviews were conducted this month.

## **Adjournment**

- Upon motion by Brandt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Taylor, the meeting adjourned at 4:00PM. **Unanimous (20).**

The next meeting of the PIAA D1 Committee will be held January 10, 2024 – 1pm at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit.

*Respectfully Submitted SK/HF*