

# DISTRICT I IHSAA ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL ZOOM MEETING

**January 9, 2023 11:00 AM**

President Jen Hall called the zoom meeting of the District I Board of Control to order at 11:00 AM.

**Members Present:** Dena Naccarato, Leslie Wells, Jan Bayer, Jimmy Hoffman, Ryne Eberlin, Jen Hall, Troy Anderson, Royce Johnson, Keri Carter, Sharon Meador, **Commissioners/Interpreters:** Roger Stewart, Ted Yurek, Rayna Longstreet, Greg See, **Secretary** Larry Schwenke and Asst. Secretary Todd Gilkey.

**Members Absent:** Joel Sandford, Brian Carlson, Kelly Reed, **Commissioners/ Interpreters:** Josh Behrens, Tony Norris, Michelle Sobek.

**Visitors:** Bob Burton – NIOA, Josh Hegstad – IHSAA Sportsmanship Committee

### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting: Motion to approve by Les Wells, second by Keri Carter. **Motion approved**
2. Treasurer's Report. Motion to approve by Jan Bayer, second by Les Wells. **Motion approved**

### DISCUSSION AGENDA

1. **Board Luncheon Sponsor:** N/A
2. **FYI Web Site:** [www.1stdistrictactivities.org](http://www.1stdistrictactivities.org)
3. **Spring District Tournament Site and Date Information:**
  - AD's were very helpful in providing the winter District I-II tournament information. ADs please forward spring tournament information as soon as it is scheduled.
  - **Reminder to ADs that Spring Schedules are due to the commissioners by Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 so they have time to enter them in Dragonfly.**
4. **FYI IHSAA Nominations Due in March:**
  - Board members were asked to consider nominations for the following awards due in March. Input from school personnel is welcomed!
    - Distinguished Service Award
    - Spirit of Sport Award
    - Official of the Year (NIOA)
5. **IHSAA Sportsmanship Committee Presentation- Josh Hegstad**
  - Josh indicated the committee is made up of representatives from each district, officials and students. They plan to add parent reps as well.
  - He encouraged everyone to visit the sportsmanship link on the IHSAA website.
  - Points of emphasis include:
    - T-shirts presented to sportsmanship recipients from each team at district tournaments.
    - Common sportsmanship language across the state.
    - Education regarding inappropriate social media posts. Develop a school/team policy.
    - Parent meeting promotions.
    - Crowd management, supervision and education.
    - Promoting and increasing positive social media posts.
    - Encouraging visual sportsmanship ads/posters etc.
  - Josh noted that the Student Advisory Committee will hold a roundtable session at the State AD (IAAA) Conference in April
6. **Zoom Meeting 12/4/23 Review:**

- The zoom meeting was convened to consider Bonners Ferry Girls Basketball violations of IHSAA Rule **8-12-2 (consecutive practice day limit) and Rule 5-12-2 (non-school participation)**
  - See Action Agenda
- 7. Mullan – St Regis Football Co-op 2024-2026:**
- The Mullan and St Regis Administrations are asking the IHSAA for a 2-year combined co-op in football that would be hosted by St Regis and compete in post season play in Montana. Mullan would not have enough players to field a team if denied.
  - See Action Agenda
- 8. Coeur Du Christ IHSAA Regular Membership Request:**
- Coeur Du Christ, an associate member, is applying to become a regular member school for the 2024-25 school year. The school meets all the criteria set forth by the IHSAA and plans to compete in 1A Football, Basketball and Volleyball.
  - See Action Agenda
- 9. District I Dance Competition Change:**
- We have only one 4A dance team and one 5A dance team in District 1. According to the rules of competition, both teams will automatically qualify for state with all of their routines.
  - Dance Interpreter Brianna White is asking the BOC to approve eliminating a qualifying completion that would save the schools over \$1,300 in expenses.
  - See Action Agenda
- 10. Post Season Coaches Ballot Discussion:**
- Some commissioners and board members believe the current negotiated procedure for determining the selection of officials for district and state competition is not the most workable system. The coaches balloting requirement is sometimes difficult and not always completed. Some commissioners and members are ok with the system and find coaches actively participating. The consensus however, is that our commissioners should have more say in determining post-season assignments.
  - The NIOA has offered to present a plan to give the official's peer vote 60% and Commissioners 40% with some adjustment for working commissioners.
  - AD representative Troy Anderson and coaches representatives Keri Carter and Kelly Reed will survey the ADs and coaches and share results at the March meeting.
  - Members felt the topic should remain on the discussion agenda for the in-person March meeting.

## **REPORT AGENDA**

- 1. Commissioner/Interpreter Reports:** All commissioners shared their appreciation for the salary increases negotiated for officials and to the schools and BOC for increasing commissioner salaries.
- **Basketball– Rayna Longstreet**
    - Weather has been good until today when we had to reschedule some games.
    - The season is going well with 65 officials including 12 solid new refs.
    - ADs have been fabulous and officials have been flexible.
    - We had some problems early with new ADs learning the payment timelines with Dragonfly.
    - Post-season will be coming up soon!
    - Superintendent Wells complimented Rayna and Bill on the job they are doing especially for small schools by assigning a variety of officials, not the same ones over and over.
  - **Wrestling – Greg See**
    - Greg indicated the season is going well with no significant sportsmanship issues or serious injuries.
    - Tri-State (60 teams) and George Wild Tournaments were big successes and we have some major events coming up like Post Fall's River City Duals and CDA's North Idaho Rumble
  - **Softball – Ted Yurek**
    - Ted feels the official pay boost will help in recruiting and retaining new officials. He has 5 new people who have expressed interest.

- The state rules clinic will be Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> not Feb 7<sup>th</sup> ( He will notify ADs and Coaches) Training sessions will begin following the commissioners meeting in Boise on Jan 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Ted is excited that the North will host state softball for the 4As and 5As this spring. 3A's will be in Moscow

## 2. Sectional Reports:

- **Superintendent's Report- (Dena Naccarato, Jan Bayer, Leslie Wells)**
  - Jan indicated administrators would appreciate the referee's input perhaps on a short form as to their crowd's behavior to help increase sportsmanship.
  - Leslie lamented the difficulty small schools are having in getting kids to play. Dena noted that he's not alone. There has been an increase in the petitions around the state to have 8<sup>th</sup> graders play on the HS level so that they have enough participants to field a team.
- **Cheer/Dance- (Sharon Meador)**
  - They are just entering competition season and are asking the BOC's approval to cancel the dance district meet. Other than that, things are going very well.
- **AD Representative – (Troy Anderson)**
  - Troy asked Rayna about using the shot clock for 5A JV games. She indicated ADs should request three-man crews and she would try to make it happen. She would limit the shot clock use to JV games as she uses less experienced officials on the Frosh games.
- **IHSAA – (Dena Naccarato)**
  - The December IHSAA board meeting saw 10 more requests to petition down in individual sports. She feels it is a gigantic mess that we are going to have to live with for the next 2-year cycle. It's her mission to get a rule adopted that prohibits teams that petition down from post-season competition.
  - State swim is always difficult for spectators due to facility capacity. There is a new facility being built in Boise.
  - Region I Superintendents wrote a letter to the IHSAA concerning the impact the new classification system and the ability to petition up and down has on schools in the North. For instance Lake City and CDA have traditionally placed high in state competition and they may end up with only a half berth. If the goal is to get the best teams to state, the new system is not acceptable as is. Also schools near the bottom of the 4A classification like Lakeland will be even more impacted by the smaller 5As like Lewiston being included in the new 5A. In Individual sports like wrestling, changes must be made to the representation or district I-II will have little hope of winning state championships. Jimmy Hoffman fears that schools may try to find ways to "lose" students to get to a lower classification.
  - One solution would be to expand team sports to a 12-team bracket. This of course will raise costs. Increased costs would include IHSAA office expenses organizing and running expanded fields and of course school travel expenses. Another possibility is using MaxPreps ranking but that also bring issues of scheduling and travel not to mention the secretive formula used to rank the teams. Dena believes, in the end, MaxPreps will be used to determine state/playoff berths but there will need to be more transparency so schools are on a level playing field.
  - Jan Bayer noted that travel would be a real problem for our ADs to deal with. Dena agreed with that but notes that outside of district III other areas face similar problems. Dena believes the YEA could and should help more with travel. Many schools have been fully vested for over 10 years and have yet to recoup the \$50,000 investment. Does the YEA need such a large fund balance or should they find ways to help schools facing huge travel expenses?
  - Official's compensation was a discussion item regarding possibly putting all districts on the same negotiations schedule, which might help prevent comparisons year to year.
  - MaxPreps will include tournaments in Volleyball next year.
  - The January IHSAA Board meeting is next week. The 3 finalists for the Executive Director position will be interviewed on Tuesday. They are Julie Hammons, Chad Williams and a gentleman who works for the Florida Association. The selection will be announced on Wednesday.

## ACTION AGENDA

### 1. Mullan Request to Co-op with St Regis in the Montana Association:

Following discussion, a motion to approve the application was made by Dena Naccarato, seconded by Jan Bayer, **Motion Approved**

**2. Coeur Du Christ Regular Membership Request:**

Following discussion, a motion to approve Coeur Du Christ's request for regular membership was made by Keri Carter, seconded by Troy Anderson. **Motion Approved**

**3. Approval to Bypass District I Dance Qualifier For 2024 Only:**

Following discussion, a motion to approve bypassing the competition was made by Dena Naccarato, seconded by Sharon Meador. **Motion Approved**

**4. Bonners Ferry Girls Basketball Violation Ruling (From 12/4/23 Zoom Meeting)**

Following discussion, a motion to assess a \$1,000 fine for each violation (Rule 8-12-2 consecutive practice day limit and Rule 5-12-2, non school participation) and a 1 game head coach suspension with \$500 rescinded for each violation for self-report was made by Dena Naccarato, seconded by Sharon Meador. **Motion Approved**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to adjourn at 12:20 pm was made by Leslie Wells, seconded by Royce Johnson **Motion Approved**

The next meeting is scheduled for 11am March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Post Falls HS.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Larry Schwenke, District I IHSAA Board Secretary