

BOARD OF CONTROL ACTION ITEMS MAY 19, and JUNE 17 2008



The May 19 meeting of the Board of Control was attended by: J. Fullen, J. Vallina, R. Antonini, D. Cardone, P. Cherubin, D. Conn, T. Kushner, D. Matsook, B. Rocco, L. Shultz, B. Sinning, F. Vulcano, R. Wadding, T. O'Malley. Also in

attendance was J. Collins .M. Manzo, K. Charlton

The June 16 meeting of the Board of Control was attended by: R. Constantine, J. Fullen, J. Vallina, R. Antonini, P. Cherubin, B. Cleary, T. Kushner, L. Shultz, B. Suit, F. Vulcano, R. Wadding, T. O'Malley. Also in attendance were M. Manzo, J. Collins, and Kathy Charlton.

ELIGIBILITY REVIEWS

Transfer Provision

The following students were declared eligible under Article VI, Section 2I of the PIAA By-Laws:

North Catholic.....Joseph Szramowski
Serra Catholic.....Tyler Good
South Fayette.....Lucas Mortensen
Oakland Catholic.....Kaitlynn Kirchner

PERIOD OF PARTICIPATION

The following student was denied additional semesters of eligibility for participation in interscholastic athletics in 2008-09 under Article VIII, Section 1 of the PIAA By-Laws:

Butler.....Nicolas Bellisario

ELIGIBILITY HEARINGS

Lincoln Park-Justin Hosack

After reviewing the information and testimony presented regarding the transfer of Justin Hosack from Hopewell High School to Lincoln Park School, the BOC declined to grant eligibility under Article VI, Section 4C and found that the transfer was motivated in some material way by an athletic purpose relating to basketball. Accordingly, the BOC declared Justin ineligible to participate in

basketball only for a period of one year from the date of the transfer, March 17, 2008. The student is eligible to participate in all other sports.

Aliquippa – Ahman Milot

After reviewing the information and testimony presented, the BOC denied the period of participation waiver submitted by Aliquippa High School on behalf of Ahman Milot. The decision was based on the fact that the testimony given did not meet the criteria required for granting a waiver as identified in Article VIII, Section 1 of the PIAA By-Laws.

(NOTE-At a PIAA appeal hearing, Ahman Milot was granted the period of participation waiver for 2008-09 and is eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Aliquippa.)

2008-09 BUDGET APPROVED

The WPIAL Budget Committee developed and approved a preliminary budget at a planning meeting on June 10, 2008. Following discussion and modification, the WPIAL BOC adopted a \$1,889,110 operating budget for the year ending June 30, 2009. This budget represents a 3.0% increase from the 2007-08 budget. In 2007-08 revenue exceeded expenses by \$94,000 which helps to maintain a healthy financial condition.

The 2008-09 budget includes the following:

- To maintain the dues at \$150 for high schools and \$50 for junior high schools.
- To maintain the revenue share ratio at 50% for schools and 50% for the League.
- To provide a fee increase of \$5 per official for each event.
- To increase the mileage reimbursement from .40/mile to .45/mile.
- To monitor costs carefully in daily operations and venue procurement for championship events.

SEPARATE SCORING SYSTEM FOR SWIMMING AND DIVING

The BOC denied the request of the Avella and Norwin School Districts to change the scoring system of swimming and diving on the basis that the National Federation of High School Sports, the governing body of rules, is the only organization that can change the existing rules governing swimming and diving at the interscholastic level.

CONTEST OFFICIALS' BACKGROUND CHECKS

The BOC recommended to the PIAA Board of Directors that the PIAA begin to require background checks for all PIAA contest officials' In the consensus opinion of the BOC, Article XV, Section 5 of the PIAA By-Laws would be more effective if officials were required to submit background checks prior to being registered and placed on active status.

VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ACTION ACCEPTED

The BOC accepted the Valley School District's response to the inquiry regarding multiple infractions for using ineligible athletes. Any reoccurrence in the use of ineligible athletes may result in the probation of the Valley interscholastic athletic program.

FALSIFIED SWIM TIMES

The BOC accepted the Riverside High School administration's response in reprimanding the varsity swim coach for falsifying swim times.

PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES ACCEPTED

Plum High School

The BOC accepted the Plum High School administration's procedural guidelines outlining steps to ensure the use of eligible student athletes.

Jeannette High School

The BOC accepted the Jeannette High School administration's procedural guidelines regarding the supervision of sports teams and acknowledges receipt of said guidelines in a timely manner.

NEW CASTLE BASEBALL COACHING INCIDENT

After considering the testimony and presentations made, the BOC found that the misconduct of the head baseball coach and two assistants resulting in their ejections at a game with Hampton on May 2 and the head coach's admitted attempt to circumvent the automatic disqualification of the coaches from the next contest by hastily scheduling a game with Neshannock High School for May 3, were unsportsmanlike, detrimental to school, individual and public welfare, prejudicial to the purposes of the PIAA and in flagrant violation of PIAA By-Laws. The BOC determined the following actions:

- The head coach and two assistants are publicly censured for their inappropriate actions.
- The New Castle varsity baseball program is placed on probation through the end of the 2008-09 school year.

In addition, New Castle High school is directed to:

- Suspend the head coach for five games and each assistant for three games during the 2009 season.
- Require all three coaches to attend and successfully complete a coach's education program, sponsored by ASEP.
- Require the athletic director to successfully complete an NFHS leadership training course.
- Require New Castle High school administrator to attend all home and away varsity baseball games during the 2009 season.
- Require the administration to submit a written report before June 15, 2009 certifying and confirming the above sanctions.

Failure to comply with the above sanctions will result in suspension of the New Castle varsity baseball program for one year.

ALLEGED FOOTBALL COACHING VIOLATIONS

GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL

The BOC accepted the Gateway High School administration's response to an alleged football coaching violation during the off-season.

NORTH HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

The BOC accepted the North Hills High School administration's response to an alleged football coaching violation during the off-season.

COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIPS APPROVED

Apollo Ridge, Indiana, Homer City

The BOC approved a request between Apollo Ridge, Indiana, and Homer City School Districts to establish a cooperative sponsorship of sports agreement in middle school, junior high, and varsity wrestling with the Indiana School District as the host school. Homer City is a District VI school.

COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP RESCINDED

The BOC rescinded the application from the Trinity Christian School to expand the existing cooperative sponsorship agreement with the Penn Hills School District to include 9th grade football as well as junior varsity and varsity football with Penn Hills High school as the host school.

COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP EXPANDED

The BOC accepted and approved the request from Waynesburg, Carmichaels, and Jefferson Morgan to expand the existing cooperative sponsorship of a sports

agreement in boys and girls soccer to now include the West Greene School District. Waynesburg will serve as the host school

NEW MEMBER SCHOOL

The BOC approved the application of the Cornerstone Christian Preparatory Academy for senior high membership to the WPIAL beginning with the fall sports season of the 2008-09 school year. Cornerstone Christian Preparatory Academy is a private school located in the Peters Township School District.

PIAA TEAM GOLF

The PIAA extended the regional golf deadline from October 13 to October 15. The extended deadline will permit the WPIAL to complete all events of the league's individual and team golf programs. As a result the WPIAL Golf Committee recommended and the WPIAL BOC approved the WPIAL participation in the PIAA team golf championship for the 2008 season. Participation in the PIAA team golf championship will not affect the existing WPIAL section and exhibition match schedules.

The WPIAL will enter one boys' and one girls' team in the PIAA team Western Regional qualifier which is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15. The top two (2) teams from the Western Regional Qualifier will advance to the PIAA team championship at the Heritage Hills Golf Resort in York, PA on October 20 and 21, 2008. The girls' team champion will represent the WPIAL at the PIAA western qualifier. The top team among the teams competing in the WPIAL Division I and II team championships at Cedarbrook Golf Course on Monday, October 13 will represent the League at the western qualifier.

(NOTE-A revised October golf calendar is posted on the WPIAL website in the schedule section)

JEANNETTE-NORTH CATHOLIC ANGER MANAGEMENT CLASS

The BOC accepted reports submitted by the administration of North Catholic and Jeannette High schools regarding the completion of WPIAL BOC directive of mandatory attendance of an anger management class for their boys' basketball teams.

NESHANNOCK BASEBALL COACH CODE OF ETHICS VIOLATION

The BOC determined the following with respect to a Code of Ethics Violation by the head baseball coach of Neshannock High school:

- The BOC accepted in principle the administrative response to and sanctions placed upon the varsity baseball coach in response to the coaching violation.

- The head baseball coach was publicly censured for participation of an inappropriate scheduling of a baseball game with New Castle High school in an attempt to avoid penalties incurred by the New Castle baseball coaches.
- Neshannock High School administration must provide written documentation to the head baseball coach's completion of the ASEP Coaching Principles Class.

FEMALE BOC REPRESENTATIVE

The Board of Control approved the appointment of Jeannine Patton to the BOC for the 2008-09 year. Ms. Patton is a parent residing in the North Hills School District. Ms. Patton succeeds Angels Lydon who resigned from the position.

BOC ELECTION RESULTS

The results of the Board Of Control election for 2008-09 were announced at the annual meeting on April 24, 2008, by Kathy Creese representing the accounting firm of Creese, Smith, & Co. Listed in alphabetical order, the elected members of the 2007-08 BOC are:

Dan Cardone-Athletic Director, North Hills HS
Kathy Charlton-Principal, Hempfield Area HS
Bill Cleary-Athletic Director, Serra HS
Richard Constantine-Admin. Ass't., Uniontown Area SD
Dr. Terrence Kushner-Ass't. Sup't., Upper St Clair SD
Dr. Bart Rocco- Ass't. Sup't, West Mifflin SD
Thomas Shirey- Principal, Highlands HS
William Suit- Principal, Shaler HS
John Thomas- Superintendent, Aliquippa SD
John Vallina-Athletic Director, Burgettstown HS

BOC REORGANIZATION

Pursuant to the PIAA Constitution, the following were re-elected as WPIAL Officers by the BOC for the 2008-09 school year:

BOC Officers

President.....Richard Constantine
Vice President.....Jack Fullen
Treasurer.....Jon Vallina

PIAA BOC Representatives

District VII Chairman..... Richard Constantine
District VII Vice ChairmanJack Fullen
District VII Treasurer.....Jon Vallina
District VII Alternate.....Pam Cherubin

Girls' Athletic Representative to BOC

Linda Shultz.....Athletic Director, Mapletown HS

Parent Representatives to BOC

Dan Conn.....Seneca Valley School District
Jeannine Patton.....North Hills School District

INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

WPIAL SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD APPLICATIONS

The deadline for member schools to submit sportsmanship applications is September 19, 2008. Interested schools must submit a completed "Member School Self-Assessment Form". Member schools are also encouraged to nominate other member schools for the sportsmanship award by submitting a completed "Member School Nomination form by August 1, 2008. Additional information and required forms can be downloaded from the home page of the WPIAL web site.

The WPIAL Sportsmanship Committee will convene on October 2 to review submitted applications for 2007-08 Sportsmanship Awards.

BILL CLEARY APPOINTED PRIVATE SCHOOL REP TO PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Serra Catholic High School, Athletic Director, Bill Cleary was appointed to the PIAA Board of Directors for the 2008-09 school year by the Private Schools Committee of the PIAA.

WPIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Member school principals submitted 56-male and 54 female applications for the 2007-08 scholar-athlete awards. After an intensive review of each application, the Scholarship Committee selected two male and two female winners. A one-time \$5,000 scholarship is awarded to each of the winners during the first year of study at the college of his/her choice. The four scholar athletes were honored at a luncheon with their parents, principal, and athletic director at the Embassy Suites Hotel on May 19, 2008. In addition to the scholarship, each student was presented an attractive plaque as a permanent token of their selection. In the event that the student athlete is unable to accept the stipend, the scholarship will be deposited in the WPIAL Scholarship Trust Fund in memory of the student awardee.

The committee also selected 16 scholar athlete finalists each of whom received a one-time stipend of \$500 and an attractive shadow box plaque emblematic of their selection as a WPIAL Scholar Athlete Finalist.

In addition, each student from a member school who submitted an application will receive an attractive certificate symbolizing each as the WPIAL Scholar-Athlete for their school.

Four member schools, Waynesburg, Baldwin, Connellsville, and Montour each have had three scholar-athletes selected. Including the current year, the WPIAL has awarded \$398,000 in scholarship grants to 218

different students from member schools in the 16 year history of the scholar-athlete program.

(NOTE-A listing of 2007-08 scholar-athletes and finalists is listed on the WPIAL web site in the "general Info" link.

WPIAL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY

The 2008 class was inducted in the WPIAL Hall of Fame at the Embassy Suites hotel on June 20, 2008. Four hundred fifty people were present to honor the thirteen individuals and three teams selected. The individuals included coaches, athletes, contest officials, and contributors. The three teams selected were among the best ever to compete in the League in football, basketball, and baseball. The class included five individuals and one team from schools that no longer exist and are now part of merged school districts.

The 2009 induction ceremony has been scheduled for June 19, 2009. Member schools are encouraged to nominate deserving individuals from their school for possible induction.

SPORTS REPORT

WPIAL SPRING SPORTS CHAMPIONS 2008 TEAM CHAMPIONS

- **Baseball**
Class A Carmichaels
Class AA Beaver
Class AAA West Allegheny
Class AAAA Peters Twp.
- **Softball**
Class A Vincentian Academy
Class AA Riverside
Class AAA Ellwood City
Class AAAA Latrobe
- **Boys Tennis**
Class AA Sewickley Academy
Class AAA Upper St Clair
- **Boys' Track**
Class AA Riverside
Class AAA Canon McMillan
- **Girls' Track**
Class AA Quaker Valley
Class AAA Norwin
- **Girls Lacrosse**
Peters Twp.
- **Boys' Volleyball**
Class AA Ambridge
Class AAA North Allegheny

**WPIAL STATE CHAMPIONS
2007-08**

Oakland Catholic.....AA Swimming
 Jeannette.....AA Football, AA Boys Basketball
 Serra..... A Boys Basketball
 BurrellAA Wrestling
 Thomas Jefferson.....AAA Football
 Pittsburgh Central Catholic.....AAAA Football
 Peters Twp.....AAA Boys Soccer
 Sewickley Academy.....A Boys Soccer
 South Park (Co-Champion).....AA Girls Soccer
 Shady Side Academy.....AAA Girls Tennis
 Canon McMillan.....AAAA Baseball
 Vincentian Academy.....A Softball
 Upper St Clair.....AAA Boys Tennis

**TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP SUMMARY
2006-07**

Fifty-three team champions were crowned in 23 sports in 2007-08. Schools garnering two or more team champions include:

North Allegheny-4: (Field Hockey-AAA, Boys' Cross Country-AAA, Boys Volleyball-AAA, Boys Swimming-AAA)

Sewickley Academy-3: (Boys' Tennis-AA, Boys' Golf-Div II, Boys' Soccer-A)

Quaker Valley-3: (Boys' Cross Country-AA, Girls' Tennis-AA, Girls' Track-AA)

Upper St Clair-3: (Boys' Golf – Div. I Boys' Tennis-AAA, Girls' Basketball-AAAA)

Shady Side Academy-3: (Girls' Tennis-AAA, Field Hockey-AA, Boys' Swimming-AA)

Bethel Park – 2: (Boys' Soccer-AAA, Girls' Swimming-AAA)

South Park – 2: (Girls' Basketball-AA, Girls' Soccer-AA)

Mt. Lebanon-2: (Girls Golf, Girls' Volleyball-AAA)

Peters Twp. -2: (Girls' Lacrosse,' Baseball-AAAA)

Latrobe –2 (Girls' Cross Country-AAA, Softball-AAAA)

Riverside – 2 (Softball-AA, Boys' Track-AA)

Serra –2 (Football-A, Boys' Basketball-A)

Jeannette – 2 (Football-AA, Boys' Basketball-AA)

Pittsburgh Central Catholic –2 (Football-AAAA, Boys' Basketball-AAAA)

WPIAL OFFICIAL SPONSORS



UPMC Sports Medicine

Part of University of Pittsburgh Medical Center



WPIAL OFFICIAL BALLS

2008-09 School Year

FOOTBALL
Spalding J5V

BOYS' and GIRLS' SOCCER
Select 01-253

BOYS' AND GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL
Spalding TF5000

BOYS' BASKETBALL
Rawlings Vision Comp-WPAVB

GIRLS' BASKETBALL
Rawlings Vision Comp WPAWVB

BASEBALL
Rawlings R100-WPA

SOFTBALL
Spalding (Dudley) SB-12L

WPIAL NEWSLETTER

Published by Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League, Volume 0708, No. 5, 615 Iron City Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15205.