

**DISTRICT 9
COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 3, 2014**

The District 9 Committee held the April 3, 2014 meeting at Aiello's Cafe, Ridgway, PA. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Manners. The following members were present: Bud Brennen, Randy Cathcart, Roger Collins, Scott Daum, Kevin Doverspike, Sandi Hanes, Bill Howard, Jim Manners, Dave Osborne, Matt Splain, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, Bill Vassallo, Susan Valentine, Tim Walter, and Bonnie Wolbert. Guests were Brock Benson and Bill Jordan.

A motion was made by Roger Collins and seconded by Susan Valentine to accept the minutes of the January 15, 2014 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE:

A motion was made by Tim Walter and seconded by Bill Howard to accept the January, February and March treasurer's reports. The motion carried unanimously.

Accounts payable were reviewed.

All winter sports financial reports were presented.

A motion was made by Susan Valentine and seconded by Bill Howard to accept a change in the reconciliation of checking account statements to a monthly review. The change was suggested by Boyer & Ritter, CPAs. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was received from Amy Beers, Principal of Sheffield Area High School, and Corey Copley, Athletic Director of Sheffield Area High School, concerning implementing a rule to address schools cancelling contest to gain an advantage in the seeding process for district playoff contests.

There has been a modification in the language in the PIAA Code of Ethics to address a school cancelling, scheduling or rescheduling a contest to gain a competitive advantage.

Also, the Board of Directors is looking at Section 5 Failure to Participate in a Contest.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Mr. Bill Jordan, Principal of A. C. Valley High School, presented his school's plan to prevent a student from a non PIAA member school (even though the school is located in the A. C. Valley School District) from participating on a team sponsored by the A. C. Valley School District. The committee accepted and thanked Mr. Jordan for his presentation.

A letter was received from Mr. Brock Benson, Principal of Johnsonburg Area High School, concerning the participation of an ineligible player in a junior varsity basketball game. A motion was made by Scott Daum and seconded by Roger Collins to accept Mr. Benson's explanation and plan to prevent the situation from occurring again. The motion carried unanimously.

The Basketball, Football, Budget and Finance, Merchandise and Programs, Handbook, and Website District 9 sub-committees will meet on Friday, May 2, 2014 at 8:30 at Aiello's Café:

A motion was made by Matt Splain and seconded by Scott Daum not to support a Principal's Designee ability to sign a certificate of eligibility, a transfer waiver request form, or a request for decision on eligibility. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

AUDIT COMMITTEE:

A motion was made by Kevin Doverspike and seconded by Randy Cathcart to appoint Roger Collins as the Audit Committee Chairperson for the 2014 – 2015 school year. The motion carried unanimous.

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS:

Congratulations to Tim Walter who was elected to serve as the president elect of PSADA.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

In the 2013 – 2014 school year, there have been 27 disqualifications for unsportsmanlike behavior in District 9.

SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEES:

TENNIS:

The tennis steering committee will be in charge of seeding for the District 9 Tournaments.

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL:

The last date to count baseball and softball games for a team's record will be May 14th. The last day to enter the tournament will be May 15th.

BASKETBALL:

If there are any suggestions for changes in the District 9 Basketball Tournament, the suggestions should be emailed by the school's principal to Jim Manners.

COMPETITIVE SPIRIT:

There is a District 9 concern about the number of schools that advance to state competition in Competitive Spirit Competition.

The next District 9 Committee Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 11th, at 9:00 at Aiello's Café.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Tonkin,
District 9 Secretary
Respectfully submitted,

ANNUAL PRINCIPALS' MEETING:

The following items were discussed by various members of the District 9 Committee:

- Competitive Spirit Competition
- Football – changes in the District 9 Playoff Format and Code of Ethics
- Audit and Budget Update
- Sportsmanship Award – process for nominating a school for the award
- PIAA Steering Committee – purpose of the steering committees
- Agenda items – the process for schools to place items on the agenda

The following items were discussed by Dr. Robert Lombardi, Executive Director of the PIAA, and Mrs. Melissa Mertz, Associate Director of the PIAA:

By-Law Changes:

1. Changes of co-op dates
2. End of football on 85th date
3. Modify language to Code of Ethics
4. Certificates of Eligibility to be submitted to the PIAA Office
5. Modify language to clarify "probation"
6. Coaching education requirements
7. Mixed gender

Policies and Rules – Regulation Changes

1. Site selection in football playoff games
2. Change communicable skin form
3. Volleyball libero – uniform
4. Tournament application process
5. Brackets, pairings, and number of qualifiers – tournaments
6. Getting information to PIAA office for teams that qualify for inter-district competition
7. Hosting a "Spring Festival"
8. Ball contracts – Rawlings
9. Lacrosse balls
10. Football contact – once regular season begins
11. Charter schools

DISTRICT 9 ELECTION:

Roger Collins, Election Chairman, review the process to run for a position on the district committee. The following people were elected to serve on the district committee for the 2014 – 2015 school year: Brock Benson, Randy Cathcart, Roger Collins, Tony Flint, Bill Howard, Jim Manners, Dave Osborne, Matt Splain, Aaron Straub, Bill Vassallo, and Tim Walter.

RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING:

The following were elected as officials for the 2014 – 2015 school year:

Chairman - Jim Manners
Vice-Chairman - Aaron Straub
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Tonkin