

**DISTRICT 9
COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 12, 2007**

The District 9 committee held the April 12, 2007 meeting at Aiello's Café in Ridgway, PA. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Manners. The following members were present: Ed Babcock, Mike Brown, Randy Cathcart, Roger Collins, Tony Flint, Denny Geitner, Jerry Linsenbigler, Jim Manners, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, Susan Valentine, Tom Wagner, Cindy Wagner, Bob Wicker, and Tim Walter.

A motion was made by Tim Walter and seconded by Bob Wicker to accept the minutes of the February meeting. The motion carried.

FINANCE:

A motion was made by Tom Wagner and seconded by Randy Cathcart to accept the treasurer's reports. The motion carried.

The finance committee will meet in May and will update the committee concerning any financial matters at the June meeting.

A motion was made by Jerry Linsenbigler and seconded by Susan Valentine to accept a proposal to receive tickets for championship events from the Huddle Company at no cost to the district. The motion carried.

The cost of ambulance and EMT coverage at the district wrestling tournament was discussed.

The finance committee reported the outcome of a meeting with the Army Recruiting Unit concerning the sponsorship of championship events. A proposal for sponsorship will be made at the June meeting.

A motion was made by Bob Wicker and seconded by Mike Brown to authorize the treasurer to pay one half of the cost of "spring" awards prior to the delivery date. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The majority of comments concerning the championship basketball weekend at the Bryce Jordan Center were very favorable. Two concerns were the student seating areas at the Friday afternoon games and the cost of lodging in the State College area.

A letter was received from Dr. Larry Henry, Superintendent of Karns City School District, addressing a conflict with the PIAA championship basketball format coinciding with the PSSA testing. Dr. Henry suggested single games and the use of "smaller sites" to help resolve the problem.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

A policy regarding the participation of "Wheelchair Bound Athletes" was passed. The policy will be available at the principals' meeting.

Under Article XIII, Penalties (forfeiture of contests) explains what an ineligible coach may or may not do. This is when a coach has been ejected during a previously played contest.

The new transfer rule passed the second reading. Copies will be available at the principals' meeting. The committee has a concern of the role of the principal in the proposed transfer rule.

Cross country was not added as a team sport. Thus, there will be no additional classifications.

A recommendation to play a golf contest after three days of practice failed.

The recommendation of the football steering committee to amend Article XVI, "Season and Out of Season Rules and Regulations" failed the second reading. The District 9 Committee would like the Board of Directors to investigate a fourteen week football season.

The Board of Directors is requesting a survey be done in each school district to determine the number of sports and contests that are played each year. The District 9 Committee is concerned about the number of football, soccer, and wrestling competitions.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

A motion was made by Ed Babcock and seconded by Susan Valentine to grant athletic eligibility to Michael Joseph Rajeki, a student transferring from Center Grove Middle School to Dubois Area High School. The motion carried with one abstention.

A motion was made by Aaron Straub and seconded by Susan Valentine to grant athletic eligibility to the following foreign exchange students:

Jimena Canto (from Mexico)	Venango Catholic High School
Marius Topp (from Germany)	Moniteau High School

The motion carried.

There was discussion concerning Bradford Area High School playing in a District 10 football league and playing in the District 9 PIAA football playoff games. The PIAA Handbook addresses the issue.

A request was made by Mr. Gary Elder, Principal of Oswayo Valley High School, requesting the district committee grant athletic eligibility to an Oswayo Valley High School student under the "Waiver of Maximum Age Rule." A motion was made by Randy Cathcart and seconded by Roger Collins to table the request. The motion carried.

The district committee will review the District 9 Website at the June meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SPORTS COMMITTEES:

Roger Collins reviewed the election procedure for District 9 elections for committee members and PIAA amendments.

There will be an admission charged at all District 9 baseball and softball games this year. In the past, admission was charged at only the championship games.

There is a possibility of a regional boys' volleyball tournament match involving teams from District 6, 9 and 10. Further information will be provided.

A motion was made by Ed Babcock and seconded by Bob Wicker to change the dates of the District 9 boys' tennis tournament. The new dates will be sent to the schools that sponsor tennis by Chairman Aaron Straub.

ANNUAL PRINCIPALS MEETING:

Mr. Bradley Cashman and Mr. Mark Byers from the PIAA office addressed the people attending the meeting on the four amendments to the constitution and updates of interest to member schools.

Roger Collins reviewed the election procedure for District 9 elections for committee members and PIAA amendments.

The following members were elected to the District 9 Committee for the 2007 – 2008 school year: Mike Brown, Randy Cathcart, Roger Collins, Tony Flint, Jerry Linsenbigler, Jim Manners, Aaron Straub, Susan Valentine, Tom Wagner, Tim Walter, and Bob Wicker.

RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

The District 9 Committee had the re-organizational meeting following the Annual Principals' meeting. Mr. Bradley Cashman conducted the election for officers for the 2007 – 2008 school year. The following members were elected to serve as District 9 officers: Chairman – Jim Manners, Vice-Chairman – Aaron Straub, and Secretary/Treasurer – Bob Tonkin.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.

The Annual District 9 Banquet followed the meeting.

The next District 9 meeting will be on June 13, 2007 at Aiello's café in Ridgway, PA.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Tonkin,
District 9 Secretary