

**DISTRICT 9  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 29, 2023**

The District 9 Committee held a committee meeting on November 29, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Aaron Straub. The following members were present: Bud Brennen, Scott Daum, Shawn Deemer, Kevin Doverspike, Mike Erickson, Pete Grecco, Misty Hartle, Bill Howard, Dr. Bill Jordan, Dr. Tom Lesniewski, Dave Osborne, Randy Reitz, John Sherry, Terry Straub, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, Dr. Josh Williams, and Bonnie Wolbert.

Not attending the meeting was Anita Orton.

**GUESTS:**

Mr. Phil Epsoito, Athletic Director at DuBois Catholic High School, and Karrie Miller, Principal at DuBois Catholic High School, addressed the committee concerning violations of the PIAA Constitution. A written and verbal report was presented. A motion was made by Josh Williams and seconded by Bill Howard to accept the report. The motion carried unanimously.

The committee appreciates the approach DuBois Catholic High School has taken to correct the violations.

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Pete Grecco and seconded by Bill Howard to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2023 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCE:**

A motion was made by Scott Daum and seconded by John Sherry to accept the treasurer's reports for October 2023 and November 19, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

Accounts payable and receivable were reviewed. A motion was made by Pete Grecco and seconded by Terry Straub to approve the accounts receivable and payable report. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial reports of all fall sports were presented.

After the completion of the spring championship events, the number of championship programs sold at contests will be reviewed.

The use of HomeTown Ticketing will be discussed at the January committee meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

A letter was received from Oswayo Valley High School's head volleyball coach concerning an incident that occurred at a district volleyball match. A motion was made by Pete Grecco and seconded by Shawn Deemer to accept the response of the volleyball coach. The motion was carried with one abstention.

A letter was received from Keystone High School's administration concerning an incident where a junior high school basketball player practiced with the varsity team. A motion was made by Kevin Doverspike and seconded by Bill Jordan to accept the action taken by the Keystone High School Administration. The motion carried unanimously.

The Pennsylvania Athletic Oversight Committee meeting was reviewed.

A letter was received from Brockway Area High School's Administration requesting a hearing concerning a student transferring to Brockway Area High School from DuBois Catholic High School. A hearing is scheduled for December 7, 2023.

**CHAIRMAN'S UPDATES:**

The next PIAA Board of Directors meeting will be on Wednesday, December 6, 2023.

A summary of the October 11, 2023 PIAA Board meeting can be found on the PIAA website.

The 2024 -2025 classification parameters have been released. Please check the PIAA Website Site.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:**

**COOPERATIVE SPORTS AGREEMENTS:**

A request was received concerning the termination of a cooperative sports agreement between Northern Potter High School and Cowanesque Valley High School in football.

A motion was made by Josh Williams and seconded by Mike Erickson to table a request to change host and guest schools in the cooperative sports agreement between Forest Area High Schools and North Clarion High School pending final school board approval. The motion carried unanimously.

**TRANSFER REQUESTS: (FOR 2023 – 2024 SCHOOL YEAR)**

| <b>#</b> | <b>From</b> | <b>To</b>   | <b>Motion/Second</b> | <b>Approve/Deny</b>       |
|----------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| #10      | Pottsgrove  | Kane        | M.Erickson/S.Daum    | Approved                  |
| #11      | Elk C.C.    | St. Marys   | D.Osborne/B.Jordan   | Approved (1abstention)    |
| #12      | St. Marys   | Johnsonburg | J.Sherry/M.Erickson  | Approved                  |
| #13      | DuBois C.C. | Brockway    |                      | Hearing                   |
| #14      | Oil City    | Cranberry   | T.Straub/S.Deemer    | Approved                  |
| #15      | Boys Latin  | A C Valley  | B.Howard/T.Straub    | Approved-regular session. |

**FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS APPROVED:**

| <b>#</b> | <b>From</b> | <b>To</b>     | <b>Motion/Second</b> | <b>Approve/Deny</b>    |
|----------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| #4       | Thailand    | Oswayo Valley | J.Sherry/S.Deemer    | Approved (1abstention) |

**POST SEASON ELIGIBILITY REQUEST:**

| <b>#</b> | <b>From</b> | <b>To</b> | <b>Motion/Second</b> | <b>Approve/Deny</b> |
|----------|-------------|-----------|----------------------|---------------------|
|          |             |           |                      | NONE                |

**HEARINGS:**

NONE

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:**

**SPORTSMANSHIP:**

In District 9 there have been 11 disqualifications this year

**SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEES:**

**FOOTBALL, GOLF, CROSS COUNTRY, TENNIS, SOCCER, and VOLLEYBALL**

Summaries were presented.

**SWIMMING:**

District 9 Diving and Swimming Championships will be held at Clearfield Area High School. The dates will either be February 29 and March 2 or March 1 and March 2, 2024.

**BASKETBALL:**

A survey may be taken of coaches and officials to recognize coaches and officials who promote basketball in a positive manner. Awards may be presented on Super Saturday.

**WRESTLING:**

The AA team wrestling tournament will be held at Brookville Area High School on February 1, 2024. The AA individual wrestling tournament will be held at PennWest Clarion University on February 23 and 24, 2024.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A discussion was held on a response from Freeport High School concerning a volleyball incident at a second round PIAA Class AAA Volleyball match that was played at Punxsutawney High School.

An update was given on a co-op discussion presentation that was held at the last D-9 Committee Meeting.

Schools are reminded that voluntary upgrades must be received in the PIAA office by Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. Requests should be emailed to Melissa Mertz and sent on school letterhead and signed by a school administration.

Any new co-op request or co-op terminations that affect classification must be received in the PIAA office by Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A discussion was held concerning Varsity, Junior High and youth programs practicing together. Pete Grecco, D-9 wrestling chairman, will send out a memo to all schools clarifying the PIAA position on this matter.

A short discussion was held on evaluating how the new seeding system was received by the participating schools. All comments were favorable.

A motion was made by Mike Erickson and seconded by Terry Straub to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM.

The next District 9 Committee Meeting will be on January 9, 2024 at 10:00 AM at Fox's Pizza Den in Ridgway, PA.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Tonkin  
District 9 Secretary