

**DISTRICT IX COMMITTEE
ANNUAL PRINCIPALS' MEETING
APRIL 17, 2024**

The District IX Committee held their Annual PIAA Principals' meeting on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at the Red Fern in Kersey, PA. The day included the April District IX Athletic Directors' Association meeting from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM, the Principals' meeting from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM, the D9 Committee Reorganizational meeting from 11:30 AM to 11:50 AM, the Principals' Luncheon Program and dinner from 12:00 PM to 1:15 PM, and the April D9 Committee meeting from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM.

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Mark Byers, PIAA's Chief Operating Officer, conducted the reorganizational meeting of the D9 Committee for the purpose of electing officers for the time period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Members attending the reorganizational meeting included: Ed Baumcratz, Bud Brennen, Scott Daum, Kevin Doverspike, Mike Erickson, Pete Grecco, Misty Hartle, Roddy Hartle, Bill Howard, Dr. Bill Jordan, Anita Orton, Dave Osborne, Randy Reitz, John Sherry, Aaron Straub Bob Tonkin, Dr. Josh Williams, and Bonnie Wolbert. Excused from the meeting was Dr. Tom Lesniewski.

At the reorganizational meeting, Aaron Straub was re-elected as Chairman of the committee, and Kevin Doverspike was re-elected as Vice-Chairman. The Secretary/Treasurer position will be filled at a later time.

APRIL 17TH D9 COMMITTEE MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Aaron Straub at 1:30 PM. The following members were present: Bud Brennen, Scott Daum, Kevin Doverspike, Mike Erickson, Pete Grecco, Misty Hartle, Bill Howard, Dr. Bill Jordan, Anita Orton, Dave Osborne, Randy Reitz, John Sherry, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, Dr. Josh Williams, and Bonnie Wolbert. Excused from the meeting were Shawn Deemer, Dr. Tom Lesniewski, and Terry Straub.

GUEST: Roddy Hartle

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Pete Grecco and seconded by Mike Erickson to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2024, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE:

Bill Howard made a motion, seconded by Bud Brennen, to approve the March financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

John Sherry made a motion, seconded by Bud Brennen, to approve the April financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

Winter sports' reports will be presented at a later time. A codification for management and workers' fees for double-headers, triple-headers, and all-day events will be presented and finalized at the annual Audit Meeting which will be held July 16, 2024.

COMMUNICATION AND COMMITTEE ACTION:

The resignation from Bill Howard as the District 9 Basketball Rules' Interpreter was accepted with regret.

The fall sport bracketing and tournament information for the 2024 and 2025 fall championships was distributed for review.

A discussion was held concerning the release of a vote tally sheet for the recent D9 committee election. The decision to release the tally sheet was made prior to the start of the election.

A discussion was held concerning the appointment of current committee members to assist with the secretary's and treasurer's duties for the remainder of the spring sports season and up to June 30, 2024. On a motion by Pete Grecco and a second by Bill Jordan, Bonnie Wolbert was appointed to assist with the secretary's duties. On a motion by Bill Jordan and a second by Dave Osborne, Anita Orton and Josh Williams were appointed to assist with the treasurer's duties. Both motions carried unanimously with Bonnie Wolbert abstaining from the secretary's vote and Anita Orton and Josh Williams abstaining from the treasurer's vote. A motion was made by Scott Daum and seconded by Kevin Doverspike to compensate the individuals for the above-mentioned positions at a rate of \$20.00 per hour. Motion passed unanimously with Wolbert, Orton, and Williams abstaining.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATES:

A summary report with the approved minutes from the March 20, 2024, PIAA Board of Directors' meeting was distributed for review.

The next PIAA Board of Directors' meeting will be on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 2:00 PM at the PIAA office.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

COOPERATIVE SPORTS AGREEMENTS:

A motion was made by Pete Grecco and seconded by Dave Osborne to approve a cooperative sports agreement between Clarion-Limestone (host school) and Clarion Area (sending school) regarding girls' and boys' Varsity Cross Country. Motion passed unanimously.

TRANSFER REQUESTS: (FOR 2023 – 2024 SCHOOL YEAR)

<u># (INT)</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>MOTION/SECOND</u>	<u>YES / NO</u>	<u>NOTES / RESTRICTIONS</u>
#27(EB)	Obama Academy	DuBois Area	P. Grecco /M. Hartle	Approved	No post season T&F
#28(AM)	Elk Catholic	St. Marys Area	B. Howard / M. Erickson	Approved	No post season Golf/CC
#29 (AB)	Elk Catholic	St. Marys Area	J. Williams / S. Daum	Approved	No regular/post Soccer
#30 (RL)	Lockwood MT	DuBois Area	B. Howard / B. Jordan	Approved	No restrictions

POST SEASON ELIGIBILITY REQUEST:

<u># (INT)</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>MOTION/SECOND</u>	<u>YES / NO</u>	<u>NOTES / RESTRICTIONS</u>
#3 (ES)	Karns City	Keystone	J. Williams / P. Grecco	Approved	None
#4 (OB)	Kileen Texas	Kane	J. Williams / M. Hartle	Approved	One opposing vote

Parents' Representative Positions on the D9 Committee

Two representatives are appointed by the District 9 Committee to serve a two-year position as Parents' Representatives. One male and one female parent representative are appointed every even-numbered year.

The role of the Parents' Representatives is to maintain open lines of communication between the PIAA and parent organizations and/or individual parents who may have concerns or issues.

Anyone interested in serving in the position of a parent's representative should send a letter of interest along with a resume to Chairman Aaron Straub at Elk County Catholic High School. Letters of interest must be received by May 31st.

Anita Orton (current female parents' representative) and Kevin Doverspike (current male parents' representative) have both expressed an interest to continue to serve.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

A recommendation was made to list the D9 Certified Athletic Trainers' names and email addresses on the official D9 website. Dave Osborne will coordinate this with the webmaster.

Sportsmanship:

To date, District 9 has had 15 disqualifications this 2023-2024 school year.

SPORT SPECIFIC COMMITTEES:

Softball / Baseball

The deadline to count baseball games for play-offs is Wednesday, May 15th. The softball seeding committee will meet via Zoom at 10:00 AM on May 16th. The baseball seeding committee will meet via Zoom at Noon on May 16th.

Tennis

Information for the upcoming singles, doubles, and team tournaments has been sent out. Note that singles' entries are due April 30th at noon which is a change from what was originally announced.

Track & Field

Bill Jordan, the Track and Field chairperson, will be sending out information for this year's district championship event in the near future.

OLD BUSINESS:

A short overview was given on two sport specific incidents that have occurred this spring. In baseball, an incident occurred where a misapplication of the extra-innings rules occurred. It was noted that the extra inning rules differ between softball and baseball. In baseball, runners are not placed on second base to start any extra inning. In softball, a question arose on the legality of playing fields. Rule 1 - Article 1 states that in softball the playing field must be free from any obstructions.

NEW BUSINESS:

A packet was distributed to the committee members containing over 150 decision letters that have been written by the chairman over the past five years. This was part of an RTK request.

Member schools or committee members who receive RTK requests as it relates to District 9 or the PIAA should immediately forward those requests to the Executive Director of the PIAA for processing.

A motion was made by Mike Erickson and seconded by Bill Howard to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

The next District Committee Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 5, at Fox's Restaurant in Ridgway at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie S. Wolbert

Bonnie S. Wolbert
Acting Secretary
District IX Committee