

PIAA DISTRICT IX COMMITTEE MEETING January 15, 2025

The District IX Committee met on January 15, 2025, in Ridgway, PA. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Aaron Straub at 10:00 a.m. The following members were present: Ed Baumcrazt, Bud Brennen, Scott Daum, Kevin Doverspike, Mike Erickson, Peter Grecco, Misty Hartle, Roddy Hartle, Bill Howard, Dr. Bill Jordan, Dr. Tom Lesniewski, Anita Orton, Dave Osborne, Randy Reitz, John Sherry, Aaron Straub, and Bonnie Wolbert. Excused from the meeting was Dr. Josh Williams.

VISITORS' PRESENTATION:

Mr. Roger Walter, Clarion Area High School Principal, Mr. Rob Sintobin, Clarion-Limestone High School Principal, and Mr. Brad Frazier, Clarion-Limestone Athletic Director, discussed Clarion Area and Clarion-Limestone's request to create a co-op involving boys' and girls' varsity track and field beginning in 2024-2025.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Bill Howard and seconded by Ed Baumcrazt to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2024, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

* The committee entered a thirty (30) minute executive session. No decisions were made.

FINANCE:

Scott Daum made a motion, seconded by Misty Hartle, to approve the December 2024 treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Scott Daum to open a second account at S & T Bank for the Bob Tonkin Athletics for Life Scholarship fund purposes only with the same authorized signers as the first District 9 PIAA account. Motion was seconded by Bill Howard. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATION AND COMMITTEE ACTION:

A discussion was held regarding the Superintendent's position on the District IX Committee. More discussion will be held at the February meeting.

Dr. Bill Jordan gave an update on the Bob Tonkin Athletics for Life Scholarship. All District IX schools have been given information to post. Scholarship applications must be submitted to bill.jordan@acvdsd.org by the deadline of March 15, 2025. Applications are available on the PIAA District IX website. Scholarship monies will be provided directly to the student. A panel of District IX committee members will screen all applications. One female and one male graduating senior student-athlete shall be chosen as recipients.

The week of January 13, 2025, was recognized as the Winter Officials' Appreciation Week.

CHAIRMAN UPDATE: (Items given clarification are below.)

(1). Requirements for completing the Sportsmanship Course for non-supplemental disqualifications.

*Only on supplemental disqualifications is it necessary to complete and submit sportsmanship courses and appropriate certificates of completion. Information can be found in the PIAA Bylaws – Article 13 Section 8 A and B (page 31).

(2). The PIAA Correspondence Portal

* The District Chairman of the committee is under no obligation to respond to correspondences made to the PIAA portal.

* The District Chairman or the District Committee may respond if a school is identified to seek clarification of the request or allegation.

(3). TURKEY BOWL – Article 16 Letter D

* District committees have the ability to allow teams to play one additional football game and allow that game to be played outside the defined season (end of year) although that was never the intent.

(4). FORFEITS

* Forfeits do NOT need to come before the District Committee although they can, and the committee can accept the findings of the school.

* The procedure is for the Principal of the forfeiting school to send a letter to the Principal of the accepting school and explain that they played an ineligible player, and they are forfeiting. The forfeit is not able to be refused.

* If the forfeiting team lost, the score stands and statistics stand, except for the ineligible player. If the forfeiting team won, the score reverts to 2-0 (Basketball), and individual statistics can stand. PIAA remains silent on individual statistics, BUT the ineligible player's statistics do not stand.

(5). College KIDS are NOT permitted to scrimmage or practice with teams in any sport.

* College kids, alumni, or graduates are NOT permitted to practice or scrimmage with a team. Only coaches who are approved and under contract can work out with a team.

(6). Failure to file a Section 8 results in a forfeit.

(7). Competitive Spirit competitions “should be” under the same expectations of other tournaments, but the PIAA has not yet gotten in sync with that at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Co-op REQUESTS:

Bill Jordan made a motion, seconded by Kevin Doverspike, to approve a boys' and girls' varsity track and field co-op be formed for the 24-25 season between Clarion Area and Clarion-Limestone High School with Clarion-Limestone being the host. Motion carried unanimously.

TRANSFER REQUESTS: (For 2024-2025 School Year)

<u>Student #</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Motion/Second</u>	<u>Approve/Deny</u>
#T-21	Port Allegany	Bradford	S.Daum/Randy Reitz	Approved (15-0-1) - Regular
#PS-5	Port Allegany	Bradford	S.Daum/Ed Baumcrazt	Approved (15-0-1) – Post

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

Bill Howard reported he will be presenting a 50-Year Officiating Award to Colin Geiser at the KSAC Basketball Championships in February being held at PennWest-Clarion University. Bud Brennen reported he and David Wright presented Tim Barnes with his 50-Year Officiating Award while at a January meeting of the Clearfield County Chapter of Basketball Officials. The District Committee received a thank-you note from Mr. Barnes.

SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEES:

The District IX Competitive Spirit Championships were held at DuBois Area High School on January 11, 2025. Those six (6) teams representing District IX in the PIAA State Championships at the Santander Area in Reading, PA, on January 30 and 31 are:

- Elk County Catholic – AA Small Division Champion
- Punxsutawney – AAA Small Division Champion
- DuBois Area – AA Large Division Champion
- Karns City – AAA Large Division Champion
- Union/A-C Valley – Co-Ed Division Champion
- Redbank Valley – State Qualifier

The following championships are scheduled for the listed dates and venues.

- Wrestling "Team" Championships - February 1, 2025, at Brookville High School.
- Wrestling "Individual" Championships - February 21 and 22 at PennWest-Clarion University.
- Swimming and Diving Championships -February 28 and March 1 at St. Marys High School

NEW BUSINESS:

Bill Howard made a motion, seconded by Kevin Doverspike, to purchase a 10' by 20' tent plus sides from BSN Sports for use at cross country, track & field, and other outdoor championship events at the cost of \$1362.50 plus sides. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER:

A motion was made by Mike Erickson, seconded by John Sherry, to adjourn at 1:32 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

The next District Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Fox's Restaurant in Ridgway, PA. Seeding meeting to be held at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie S. Wolbert

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District IX Secretary