

**DISTRICT 9
COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2008**

The District 9 Committee held the January 16, 2008 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, Randy Cathcart, Roger Collins, Tony Flint, Denny Geitner, Jerry Linsenbigler, Jeff Kepler, Jim Manners, Carla Smith, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, Cindy Wagner, Tom Wagner, Tim Walter, and Bob Wicker.

Mr. Stephen Shutters, Principal of Union High School, addressed the committee concerning the steps Union School District took to investigate and correct a coach who took the varsity football team off the field before the competition of a game. A motion was made by Tony Flint and seconded by Randy Cathcart to accept Mr. Shutter's explanation of the events surrounding the incident and the corrective action taken by the Union School District. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Babcock and seconded by Tim Walter to accept the minutes of the December 2007 meeting. The motion carried.

FINANCE:

A motion was made by Bob Wicker and seconded by Denny Geitner to accept the treasurer's reports. The motion carried.

The budget and policy committees will meet before the February committee meeting.

The amount owed to District 9 for entry fees, merchandise, and awards was presented.

Approaching various organizations to help sponsor District 9 championship events was discussed.

The cost of rental fees for venues to hold District 9 and PIAA events was discussed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was received from a District 9 basketball fan. Since the letter was not signed, the letter was not discussed. The District 9 policy is not to discuss any correspondence that is not signed.

Please note, a number of District 9 schools have changed their e-mail addresses.

Chairman Manner provided the committee with an update on the history and the present statues of the transfer rule.

Information has been received that there has been an outbreak of herpes gladiatorum at certain District 9 wrestling schools. Please review the information on the PIAA website concerning the prevention and treatment of herpes gladiatorum.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

An update of the December PIAA Board of Directors meeting was e-mailed to District 9 schools.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

A motion was made by Aaron Straub and seconded by Ed Babcock to grant athletic eligibility to Loren Lingenfelter, a student at Brookville Area High School. The motion passes by an 11 to 3 vote and one abstention. (Transferring from Punxsutawney Christian High School)

A motion was made by Ed Babcock and seconded by Randy Cathcart to grant athletic eligibility to Sarah Nichole Esposito, a student at Dubois Central Catholic High School, pending the proper paperwork. The motion carried. (Transferring from Brockway Area High School)

A motion was made by Ed Babcock and seconded by Roger Collins to grant athletic eligibility to Waheedulla Stanikza, a foreign exchange student at Kane Area High School. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Babcock and seconded by Jerry Linsenbigler to approve a cooperative sports agreement between Rocky Grove High School and Franklin Area High School in wrestling effective September 2007. The motion carried.

The following schools have moved up a classification for the 2008 through 2010 seasons:

Punxsutawney Area High School – boys’ and girls’ tennis

Clearfield Area High School - boys’ and girls’ tennis

St. Marys Area High School – boys’ and girls’ cross country and track and field

A motion was made by Tony Flint and seconded by Denny Geitner to permit the Keystone Shortway Athletic Conference and the Alleghany Mountain Basketball League to hold championship games which are in excess of the 24 games permitted by the PIAA. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

BUDGET AND FINANCE:

The committee will meet in February.

AWARDS:

Extra championship plaques can be ordered by contacting awards chairman Aaron Straub. A letter was received from Mark Sirianni stating his company would like to be considered as a vendor for District 9 awards.

SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEES:

CROSS COUNTRY:

A motion was made by Bob Wicker and seconded by Ed Babcock to support the PIAA Cross Country Steering Committee’s recommendation to increase the number of cross country classifications from two to three. The motion carried with one negative vote.

A letter was received from the Keystone Shortway Athletic Conference suggesting some changes be made in running the District 9 Cross Country Championship Meet. The cross country committee will discuss the letter at the February meeting.

FOOTBALL:

The football committee will meet in February.

VOLLEYBALL:

The PIAA Volleyball Steering Committee met and voted to request the number of matches be increased from 22 to 24 matches. Only 7 schools responded to the volleyball

questionnaire that was sent at the conclusion of the 2007 season. The volleyball committee will meet in February and will discuss the District 9 seeding procedure.

BASKETBALL:

A motion was made by Ed Babcock and seconded by Tim Walter to accept the method to break ties that are contained in the seeding for “A” and “AA” basketball materials. The motion carried. **The procedure is outlined in the materials sent to schools by Chairman Manners.**

SWIMMING AND DIVING:

Information for the District 6/9 Championship Meet will be sent to schools on January, 17th.

A motion was made by Tony Flint and seconded by Ed Babcock to adjourn. The motion carried.

**THE NEXT DISTRICT 9 COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE ON
FEBRUARY 6, 2008 AT AIELLO’S CAFÉ IN RIDGWAY STARTING TIME –
9:30.**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Tonkin,
District 9 Secretary