

**DISTRICT 9
COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2012**

The District 9 Committee held the December 5, 2012 meeting at Aiello's Cafe, Ridgway, PA. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Manners. The following members were present: Bud Brennen, Randy Cathcart, Kevin Doverspike, Tony Flint, Sandi Hanes, Jim Manners, Dave Osborne, Matt Splain, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, Bill Vassallo, Susan Valentine, Tim Walter, Bob Wicker, and Bonnie Wolbert.

A motion was made by Tim Walter and seconded by Bob Wicker to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2012 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE:

A motion was made by Susan Valentine and seconded by Sandi Hanes to accept the October and November treasurer's reports. The motion carried unanimously.

Accounts payable were reviewed.

All fall sports financial reports, programs reports, merchandise reports, etc will be presented at the January meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was received from Mr. Todd Stanko, Principal at Kane Area High School, explaining why Kane Area High School forfeited a girls' soccer match. The explanation was accepted by the committee.

Principals and athletic directors should review the forfeiture rules that are outlined in the PIAA Handbook. (Under Rules and Regulations)

Mr. Tim Janocko, Principal at Clearfield Area High School, and Mr. Bob Gearhart, Athletic Director at Clearfield Area High School, presented the action taken after a soccer coach refused to complete a match. The Clearfield Area School District has permanently removed the Head Boys' Coach from his position. A motion was made by Randy Cathcart and seconded by Tony Flint to accept the action taken by the Clearfield Area School District and their administration. The motion carried unanimously.

A letter was received from Dr. Randy Cathcart, Principal at Clarion Area High School, concerning the playing conditions (snow on the field) at Bradford Area High Schools football stadium. Tim Walter, Athletic Director at Bradford Area High School, assured the committee action has been taken to correct the problem.

A letter was received from Mr. Michael Moore, KSAC President and Principal at Union High School, concerning a rain date for the District 9 Cross Country Meet and inviting a speaker to the Annual Principals' Meeting to speak on the new rules surrounding Title IX.

A cross country rain date will be discussed by the cross country committee. If the meet is to be run in Ridgway, there are a number of problems running the meet on a week day when school is in session.

There are a number of items that have to be completed at the Annual Principals' Meeting. The new Title IX issues are a Department of Education issue. After the District 9 Meeting (that is held after the luncheon) scheduling a speaker would be possible. The speaker would be addressing the group in late afternoon or early evening. Additional consideration will be given.

A letter was received from Mr. Terry Straub, Athletic Director at St. Marys Area High School, concerning a number of swimming and diving issues. His concerns included a two day meet, "slow" water at Clarion University, and rotating the meet between the schools competing in "AA" swimming and diving.

Prior to the committee meeting, the swimming and diving committee met. The 2012 - 2013 District 9 "AA" Meet will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2013 at Clarion University. Coaches are asked to suggest a time schedule that will provide adequate rest between events for their swimmers. The suggestions should be sent to Tim Walter, Swimming and Diving Chairman.

A letter was received from Mrs. Amy Beers, Principal at Sheffield Area High School, and Mr. Corey Copley, Athletic Director at Sheffield Area High School, concerning their attempts to acquire the necessary proof to verify a Sheffield student-athlete is eligible to participate in athletics

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

The minutes of the December PIAA Board of Directors Meeting have been emailed to District 9 Schools.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

A letter was received from Mr. Andy Godinich, Guidance Counselor at Cranberry High School, explaining the circumstances surrounding the transfer of a student from Oil City High School to Cranberry high School. A motion was made by Bob Wicker and seconded by Tim Walter to grant athletic eligibility to Matthew Baugher pending both principals sign the amended transfer form. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Tony Flint and seconded by Bob Wicker to grant athletic eligibility to two Dubois Area High School student-athletes. The motion carried unanimously.

The facility usage contract with Clarion University has been updated.

Last year at Clarion University a young child fell through the guard railing onto the gym floor. There is a court case concerning the incident.

A presentation was made by Kane Area High School concerning the Competitive Spirit Competition. Kane Area High School was represented by Mr. Todd Stanko, Principal, and Mr. Christopher Niklaus, Cheerleading Coach. A number of concerns were addressed by Mr. Niklaus including the grade levels of the students permitted to participate, eligibility rules, school size and classifications, judging organizations, no defined season, etc. The concerns raised by Kane Area High School will be considered by the district committee and sent to the state level.

Possible dates for the Annual Principals' Meeting were discussed. Hopefully, the date can be set at the January meeting.

SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEES:

FOOTBALL:

A motion was made by Bill Vassallo and seconded by Bonnie Wolbert to have the football committee "re-think" the use of schedule points. The motion carried. Dave Osborne and Tim Walter voted against the motion.

The football committee will look at the use of schedule points, especially for "AAA" seeding prior to the January meeting.

Prior to the January meeting, the football committee will review all the criteria for entering and the format for seeding all football classifications.

VOLLEYBALL:

The volleyball committee will discuss ending the “AA” tournament as an “open” tournament. Also, the committee will discuss the possibility of competing for a “true second” place in the “A” tournament and “pre-seeded” brackets in the “A” classification.

BASKETBALL:

The format for the 2012 – 2013 basketball tournament will remain the same as in past years.

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL:

The last day to count games will be May 14, 2013.

The next District 9 Committee meeting will be January 16, 2013 at 9:00, at Aiello’s Café, Ridgway.

A motion was made by Tony Flint and seconded by Tim Walter to adjourn. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Tonkin,
District 9 Secretary