

**DISTRICT 9
COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2009**

The District 9 Committee held the January 14, 2009 meeting at Aiello's Cafe in Ridgway, PA. Chairman Jim Manners called the meeting to order. The following members were present: Roger Collins, Tony Flint, Jeff Kepler, Jerry Linsenbigler, Jim Manners, Carla Smith, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, Susan Valentine, Cindy Wagner, Tom Wagner, Tim Walter, and Bob Wicker.

A motion was made by Roger Collins and seconded by Tim Walter to accept the minutes of the November meeting. The motion carried.

FINANCE:

A motion was made by Bob Wicker and seconded by Susan Valentine to accept the treasurer's report. The motion carried.

Accounts receivable were reviewed.

The financial report for the district football championship games was presented.

A review of the fall merchandise sales was given.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

A summary of the December PIAA Board of Directors' meeting was e-mailed to District 9 schools.

A motion was passed to move the start date of winter sports for the 2009-2010 school year to Friday, November 20, 2009. This is one day earlier due to starting winter practice the same week as Thanksgiving.

Effective February 1, 2009 all first time applicants must include all clearances to become a PIAA Registered Sports Official.

The PIAA staff is looking into the possibility of using the "Cogent System" to tract officials' clearances.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was received from Mr. Christopher R. Korbar, representing Mid-Atlantic Services Western Pennsylvania Child Care, inquiring how his school can join the PIAA and establish a cooperative sports agreement with a District 9 school. Chairman Manners has been in contact with Mr. Korbar.

A letter was received from a parent in the Redbank Valley School District inquiring about the PIAA rules dealing with registration of his son in the Redbank Valley School District. Mr. Manners referred the parent to the PIAA By-laws.

A letter was received from Mrs. Heather McMahan-Vargas, Principal of Ridgway Area High School, concerning an incident that occurred at a junior high wrestling match. At the directions of an assistant coach, a wrestler taped a weight to himself in order to be eligible to wrestle. Ridgway Area High School took a number of steps to correct the situation including the termination of the assistant coach.

A motion was made by Tim Walter and seconded by Susan Valentine commending Ridgway Area High School for reporting and correcting the violation of the rules. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

There has been some concern about the eligibility of a student that transferred from a District 6 school to Clearfield Area High School. A motion was made by Susan Valentine and seconded by Jeff Kepler requesting Clearfield Area High School submit the proper transfer paperwork to the District 9 Committee. The motion carried.

Five letters inquiring about the male parents' representative position on the District 9 Committee were received. After discussion, Mr. Kevin Doverspike was appointed to the position.

The "district seeding committee" will meet at the February committee meeting.

Abraxas High School will participate in track and field beginning the 2008-2009 school years.

A motion was made by Tony Flint and seconded by Roger Collins to grant permission to the Allegany Mountain Basketball League and the Keystone Shortway Athletic Conference to play league championship games. The motion carried.

Discussion was held dealing with an afternoon seminar for District 9 principals. The seminar might be part of the April's District 9 principals meeting. The date for the principals' meeting, elections, and annual banquet is Wednesday, April 1, 2009.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS:

The athletic directors association is compiling a list of the fees paid to District 9 sports officials.

BUDGET/FINANCE:

The budget committee will meet in February to continue discussion about various methods to gain corporate sponsorships.

The committee has not received any additional information from the individual who presented various advertising strategies for District 9 sports programs.

POLICY:

The policy/web committee is in the process of updating the district's website, as well as, the policy manual.

CHEERLEADING:

A motion was made by Tom Wagner and seconded by Tony Flint for the district committee to support competitive cheerleading. The motion carried.

ELECTION:

Please refer to the District 9 Policy Manual for the rules/time-line to be followed concerning the annual election to the district committee.

SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEE:

CROSS COUNTRY:

There will most likely be some changes made to the Parkview Country Club course for future PIAA championship races.

At the steering committee meeting, adding a third classification and having a certified PIAA official at meets passed.

GOLF:

District 9 schools that have golf courses located in their school district that would like to host district golf should contact Chairman Tony Flint in writing.

The number of days to complete the individual and team golf championship will remain the same as in past years. The number of qualifiers per school will change. Each school will have two qualifiers, as well as, any individual who meets the qualifying standard. Teams (most likely eight teams) that are eligible for the team championship will have four competitors.

A motion was made by Tony Flint and seconded by Tom Wagner to accept the format for district golf. The motion carried.

FOOTBALL:

There will be a special football steering committee meeting on January 15, 2009 to discuss six classifications in football.

The football steering committee recommended moving the starting date for football to one week earlier.

BASKETBALL, SWIMMING AND DIVING, AND BASKETBALL:

Materials to enter the District 9 Tournaments have been sent to members schools and have been put on the District 9 Website.

SOCCER:

The soccer committee will meet at the February district committee meeting to discuss seeding and playing at neutral sites.

Congratulation to Mr. Tim Walter, Athletic Director at Bradford Area High School, for being selected the PSADA Regional Athletic Director of the Year.

A motion was made by Roger Collin and seconded by Tom Wagner to adjourn. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:30.

The next District 9 Committee meeting will be on February 11, 2009 at Aiello's Café Ridgway, PA.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Tonkin,
District 9 Secretary

