

**DISTRICT 9**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**JANUARY 16, 2019**

The District 9 Committee held the January 16, 2019 meeting at Aiello's Café in Ridgway, PA. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Manners. The following members were present: Bud Brennen, Melissa DeMatteis, Kevin Doverspike, Bob Gearhart, Pete Grecco, Bill Howard, Jim Manners, Dave Osborne, Randy Reitz, John Sherry, Terry Straub, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, and Bonnie Wolbert.

Mr. James Fryzlewicz, principal at Kane Area High School, addressed the committee concerning two matters.

Mr. Fryzlewicz explained a procedure Kane Area High School Administration has implemented to prevent an academically ineligible athlete from participating in an athletic contest. A motion was made by Bill Howard and seconded by Dave Osborne to accept the procedure. The motion carried unanimously.

A request was made by Kane Area High School to grant a Kane Area High School student an additional year of eligibility under Article I Section 3 – Age. The reasons to waive the age requirements were presented. A motion was made by Kevin Doverspike and seconded by Pete Grecco to grant an additional year of eligibility to the Kane student in cross country and track and field. The motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCE:**

A motion was made by Bill Howard and seconded by John Sherry to approve the November, December, and January treasurer's reports. The motion carried unanimously.

Accounts receivable and payable were reviewed.

Financial summary for the Competitive Spirit Tournament was presented.

The increase in game and site managers fees for District 9 football games were reviewed

The cost to hold District 9 and PIAA hearings was discussed.

The following items were discussed:

How many schools and non-school organizations pay the \$75.00 or \$100.00 PIAA tournament fee?

What is the penalty for schools that violate the 10 day "dead period" to the start of practice?

Who is responsible to make sure schools' eligibility sheets are correctly completed?  
Is the fine for not submitting an eligibility sheet being enforced?

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE:**

Chairman Manners updated the committee on the following items for the January Board of Directors meeting.

Budget Committee recommendations – increase ticket prices for PIAA events to \$8.00 and \$4.00, reduce mileage reimbursement in basketball and football, increase school dues by \$50.00, reduce the amount paid for officials' insurance

The cost of the lawsuit dealing with the ability of sports officials to unionize was discussed.

Second readings – clarification of language dealing with post season participation of athletes transferring after 10<sup>th</sup> grade, date of transfer and date of enrollment, and a super class in football and basketball.

The next PIAA Board of Directors meeting will be on January 23, 2019 at the PIAA Office.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:**

**TRANSFER REQUESTS:**

Sophomore student transferred from Franklin Area High School to Keystone High School.

Seventh grade student transferred from Ridgway Area Middle School to St. Marys Area Middle School.

A motion was made by Aaron Straub and seconded by Kevin Doverspike to grant eligibility to both students. The motion carried with one abstention. (Terry Straub)

**A complete list of all athletic transfer requests will be emailed to all District 9 principals and athletic directors. The list will include the transferring students' names.**

**FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS APPROVED:      No new requests.**

**A complete list of all foreign exchange student requests will be emailed to all District 9 principals and athletic directors**

**HEARINGS:**

A hearing was held to determine the athletic eligibility of a student who transferred from Clarion-Limestone High School to Brookville Area High School. A motion was made by Terry Straub and seconded by Bill Howard to grant eligibility to the student. The motion carried by a 4 to 2 vote with one abstention.

**COOPERATIVE SPORTS AGREEMENTS:**

A motion was made by Kevin Doverspike and seconded by Bonnie Wolbert to approve a co-operative sports agreement between Karns City High School and A C Valley High School in boys and girls soccer pending the proper paperwork. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Sherry and seconded by Bill Howard to approve a co-operative sports agreement between Northern Potter High School and Galetton High School in baseball pending the proper paperwork. The motion carried unanimously.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

Melissa DeMatteis and John Stoughton are continuing to work on updating the District 9 website.

A motion was made by Aaron Straub and seconded by Pete Grecco to appoint Thomas Lesniewski, Superintendent at Punxsutawney Area School District, to the superintendents' position on the District 9 Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Michael Erickson, Athletic Director at Bradford Area High School, was appointed to fill the vacant position on the district committee.

**SPORTS COMMITTEES:**

**FOOTBALL:**      Eight-man football was discussed at the football steering committee and discussion will continue at the district and state level. Reducing the football playoffs games by one week was discussed.

**BASKETBALL:** The format for the District 9 Basketball Tournament was presented.

**COMPETITIVE SPIRIT:** Discussion was held dealing with the classification policy to determine how teams are classified. Many times, schools with lower number of students must compete with schools with higher number of students. Other concerns will be included in the agenda for the competitive spirit steering committee meeting.

**VOLLEYBALL:** Recommendation for the Board of Directors: During the regular season, schools can use any color volleyball. For district and state competition the PIAA adopted volleyball must be used.

**GOLF:** Recommendation for the Board of Directors: If a tie occurs at individual regional golf, there will be no playoff. Awards will be presented to all tied athletes. In girls golf a score of 110 or below must be attended to advance to state play.

**SOCCER:** Recommendation for the Board of Directors: The mercy rule should be reduced from 7 to 6 goals.

**CROSS COUNTRY:** Recommendation for the Board of Directors: To adopt modified scoring for cross country meets.

**TRACK:** A motion was made by Bill Howard and seconded by Terry Straub to hold the 2020 District 9 Track and Field Meet at Brookville Area High School on Friday, May 15, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

The next District 9 Committee meeting -TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Tonkin

District 9 Secretary