

**DISTRICT 9
COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2008**

The District 9 Committee held the September 17, 2008 meeting at Aiello's Café in Ridgway, PA. Chairman Jim Manners called the meeting to order. The following members were present: Ed Babcock, Randy Cathcart, Roger Collins, Tony Flint, Denny Geitner, Jeff Kepler, Jerry Linsenbigler, Jim Manners, Carla Smith, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, Susan Valentine, Tim Walter, and Tom Wagner.

A motion was made by Roger Collins and seconded by Randy Cathcart to accept the minutes of the August 2008 meeting. The motion carried.

A letter was sent from Jim Manners to the District 10 chairman requesting a meeting to discuss running regional events between Districts 9 and 10.

The Annual Principals' Meeting and the Annual District 9 Banquet will follow the same format as past years. The principals' meeting and banquet will be held on April 1, 2009.

FINANCE:

A motion was made by Susan Valentine and seconded by Ed Babcock to accept the treasurer's reports. The motion carried.

The amounts owed to District 9 for entry fees, merchandise, and awards were reviewed.

The newly passed fees for radio stations to broadcast District 9 baseball, softball, soccer, and volleyball events were discussed. Ticket prices for multiple events held the same day were discussed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Updates for the 2008 -2009 District 9 Quick Facts will be mailed to members' schools as soon as all corrections are made.

A motion was made by Tim Walter and seconded by Susan Valentine to grant junior high membership to East Forest High School. The motion carried. Therefore the cooperative sports agreement between East Forest High School and Kane Area High School can continue.

A letter was received which inquired about the male parents position on the district committee. The appointment will be made at the October meeting.

Cindy Wagner was appointed to serve as the female parents' representative.

The District 9 policy concerning appointments as the parents' representatives' position and the junior/middle schools representative will be discussed at the October meeting. Consideration will be given to align the appointment and election to occur the same year as the PIAA Board of Directors elections for these two positions.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

A motion was made by Ed Babcock and seconded by Susan Valentine to grant athletic eligibility to Rebecca Farnham, a tuition student who lives in the Port Allegany School District but attends school in the Oswayo Valley School District. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Babcock and seconded by Susan Valentine to grant athletic eligibility (pending the proper paperwork) to Bret D. Huber, a student who attends Jeff Tech and moved from the Punxsutawney Area School District to the Brockway Area School District. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Randy Cathcart and seconded by Denny Geitner to grant athletic eligibility to the following foreign exchange students:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Home Country</u>	<u>Host School</u>
Jan Sykora	Czech Republic	Bradford Area High School
Tim Neugebauer	Germany	Bradford Area High School
Mohannad Al-Henaki	Saudi Arabia	Brockway Area High School
Thais Oliveira	Brazil	Brockway Area High School
Nabdab Ravi Latha	India	Central Catholic High School
Julia Creutzburg	Germany	Port Allegany High School
Freddy Gomez	Venezuela	Clarion Area High School
Alexander Mergenthal	Germany	Cranberry Area High School

The motion carried.

A great deal of discussion was held concerning background clearances for officials. There have been a number of items in local and state newspapers concerning the topic. The topic will be an agenda item at the October Board of Directors meeting.

Sports chairmen are encouraged to post tournament information on the District 9 Website. Schools should use the site to find information concerning District 9 tournaments.

Discussion was held concerning the number of committee members needed to run district championship events.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

Awards (Aaron Straub, Chairman)

A motion was made by Randy Cathcart and seconded by Tim Walter to purchase District 9 awards from Siegel Engraving Company for the 2008 – 2009 school year. The motion carried.

Extra plaques can be purchased by contacting Chairman Straub.

Merchandise (Jerry Linsenbilger, Chairman)

Order forms will be sent to schools to purchase fall merchandise.

Sportsmanship (Denny Geitner, Chairman)

Chairman Geitner presented a list of schools that were eligible to receive the 2007-2008 District 9/ PIAA Sportsmanship Award.

A motion was made by Roger Collins and seconded by Ed Babcock to award East Forest Area High School and Coudersport Area High School the 2007 – 2008 Sportsmanship Award. The motion carried.

SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEES:

Football (Bob Tonkin, Chairman)

A review of the number of teams and the qualifying criteria for AAAA football playoff games have been questioned. The final decision will be made prior to the football steering committee meeting in October.

Swimming and Diving (Tim Walter, Chairman)

The District 6/9 swimming and diving meets will be held on February 27 and 28, 2009 at Penn State. The financial arrangement and the meet management will be reviewed at the October district committee meeting.

Golf (Tony Flint, Chairman)

Schools that order lunches for their golfers at district golf matches will be billed through a District 9 invoice and paid to District 9.

Soccer (Tom Wagner, Chairman)

Dubois Area High School will qualify through the District 6 tournament. The cooperative sports agreement between Clarion Area High School and Clarion-Limestone High School has moved their boys' and girls' soccer programs to AA classification.

Tennis (Aaron Straub, Chairman)

Information for the District 9 tournaments is posted on the District 9 website.

Volleyball (Aaron Straub, Chairman)

A number of ways to seed teams entering the volleyball tournament were discussed. The method to seed teams for the 2008 – 2009 tournament will be the same as last year. A survey will be sent to principals and athletic directors for input for seeding methods for next year.

The "A" finals will be held at St. Marys Area High School and the "AA" finals will be held at Clarion Area High School.

INFORMATION:

The PIAA does not sponsor a championship in gymnastics.

Concerning "red shirting" at the junior high school or middle school level please refer to the PIAA Constitution and By-laws Article XIX Junior High/Middle Schools.

The next District 9 Committee meeting will be held at Aiello's Café Ridgway, PA on October 15, 2008 at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Tonkin,
District 9 Secretary