

**DISTRICT 9 COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2005
RIDGWAY, PA**

On October 19, 2005, the District 9 Committee met at Aiello's Café in Ridgway, PA. The following members were present: Ed Babcock, Mike Brown, Randy Cathcart, Roger Collins, Tony Flint, Denny Geitner, Jerry Linsenbigler, Jim Manners, Carla Smith, Dave Stanley, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, Susan Valentine, Tom Wagner, Tim Walter, and Bob Wicker.

MEETING WITH MR. BRAD CASHMAN:

Mr. Cashman discussed new policies and by-laws of the PIAA Constitution. Mr. Cashman addressed a series of prepared questions that were submitted prior to the meeting. Included in the prepared questions were items dealing with football playoff games, site selection, structure, classifications of schools, public vs. private school issues, officials' assignors, officials' fees, the need of game and officials' contracts, red cards in soccer, trainers' certification, new weight classes in wrestling, and pre-season physicals and recertification.

The District 9 Committee would like to thank Mr. Cashman for visiting District 9 and updating our schools on PIAA matters.

FOOTBALL MEETING:

Mr. Dave London, Principal of Punxsutawney Area High School and representing the District 9 Football League, addressed the principals and athletic directors of schools that sponsor football. The schools in District 9 League are having a problem finding teams to play to complete their schedules. The District 9 Committee will survey the principals concerning the football issue.

DISTRICT 9 COMMITTEE MEETING

At 1:15 PM the meeting was called to order by Chairman Manners.

A motion was made by Tom Wagner and seconded by Roger Collins to accept the minutes of the September 21, 2005 meeting. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

The list of District 9 certified athletic trainers will be updated. If your school has not submitted a copy of your trainer's certificate, please mail to Jim Manners or Bob Tonkin.

FINANCES:

A motion was made by Randy Cathcart and seconded by Bob Wicker to accept the treasure's report. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Aaron Straub and seconded by Jerry Linsenbigler to bill schools for their entry fees at the end of each sports season. One billing for fall sports, one billing for winter sports, and one billing for spring sports. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was received from the soccer officials chapter requesting a fee increase for officials officiating games in District 9. The letter was referred to the officials' representatives.

Two individuals inquired about a need and a desire of the District 9 Committee to create a history of District 9 Championships. The request will be discussed when more information could be obtained.

A letter was received from Mike Brown, Athletic Director at Redbank Valley High School, concerning an athlete who was given a sum of money for winning a road race. Mr. Brown noted the money was returned to the organization that sponsored the road race.

A letter was received from PennDOT regarding game announcements. PennDOT is asking schools to read the announcement about driving and drinking and seat belt laws at high school athletic events.

The PIAA expenses for technology were reviewed.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

A parent of a Sheffield Area High School student-athlete requested an appeal hearing on the District 9 decision not to grant athletic eligibility to her son. Neither the parent nor the student attended the appeal hearing. The decision of the District 9 Committee was upheld by the PIAA.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Chairman of the election committee, Roger Collins, reported his committee has a number of recommendations for consideration. A motion was made by Bob Wicker and seconded by Susan Valentine to table the recommendations until the November meeting. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Aaron Straub and seconded by Randy Cathcart to grant athletic eligibility to the following students:

Alexander J. Eckert (Venango Catholic High School)
Rebecca Potter (Venango Catholic High School)
Andrew Larock (Brockway Area High School)

The motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Wagner and seconded by Susan Valentine to grant athletic eligibility to the following foreign exchange students:

Shehzadali Saiyed (Brookville Area High School)
David Knobel (Clarion Area High School)

The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

The District 9 Policy manual is now on the District 9 Website. Policy updates will be available on the website.

District cheerleading competition will be held in the late winter or early spring but not in the fall.

The District 9 officials representatives have submitted a list of officials to the PIAA to officiate inter-district fall sports competition.

Forms to order fall sports merchandise have been mailed to schools.

SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEES:

The chairmen of soccer, cross country, and volleyball reported the tournaments were ready to begin.

Tennis chairman, Aaron Straub, reported the tennis tournaments concluded. There were no concerns or problems in the tournament operations.

Golf tournament chairman, Tony Flint, summarized the results of the boys' and girls' golf tournaments. There was an issue of the dress code. A few athletes ignored the country club's dress code.

The football committee will meet prior to the start of the November committee meeting.

Swimming chairman, Tim Walter, has been in communication with Clarion University and the District 6 chairman to establish the format for the swimming and diving championships.

The next District 9 Committee meeting will be on November 9, 2005 at Aiello's Café in Ridgway, PA.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Tonkin,
District 9 Secretary