

CIAC BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2018

Present: Matt Ryan, William Thompson, Anna Mahon, David Telesca, Robert Lehr, Joel Cookson, Mike Fritch, Erin Clark, Daniel Moleti, Trish Witkin, Damian Frassinelli, Neil Rinaldi, Gregg Simon, Anthony Azzarra, Joe Tonelli, Uyi Osunde, Sheila Riffle, Michele Cordeau, Dave Tanner, Mary Lee Weber.

The meeting began at 2:30 p.m. with Chair Anthony Azzarra presiding.

1.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 1.1 Review and approval of the Board of Control Minutes for December 7, 2017 – After review and discussion the Board voted to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion: To approve minutes – S. Riffle / second – D. Moleti / motion approved.

- 1.2 Treasurer's Report – M. Ryan, presented the financial report as of November 2017. Gregg Simon added that all of the data from the fall championship season is not yet reflected in the report, but that preliminary indications are that it was a good fall championship season financially.

Motion: To approve Treasurer's Report – D. Tanner / second – W. Thompson / motion approved.

- 1.3 Request From Boys & Girls Soccer Committee – Change methodology to determine "school of choice" – The Board considered a request from the Boys and Girls Soccer Committee to change the criteria used to determine a "school of choice" for the purposes of applying the "success in tournament" factor for CIAC boys and girls soccer tournaments. The current method of counting any school that brings in 25 students of the same gender or more from outside its district as a "school of choice" was developed by a subcommittee of the Board of Control approximately four years ago and has been applied to any tournament that uses a "success in tournament" factor (currently boys and girls soccer, and girls basketball). The committee did not specify a specific change at this time, though it favored a method that would base the determination on a percentage of student population rather than a hard number. Dave Tanner, who serves on the soccer committee, indicated that finding the most equitable way to determine a "school of choice" has been a consistent source of conversation for the committee since the process was put in place. There was discussion on the merits of the current system and some challenges that could arise with trying to make the determination based on things like percentages, or using different methods for different sports.

Motion: Deny the request from the Boys & Girls Soccer Committee to change the methodology to determine "school of choice" – M. Ryan / second – W. Thompson / motion approved.

Some Board members did suggest there might be a need to form another subcommittee to look at this issue in greater detail and develop a proposal, but no formal action was taken.

- 1.4 Letter of Self-Report – Disqualification rules – [] – The Board considered a letter of self-report for violation of the rules regarding disqualifications. [] allowed a girls basketball player that had been disqualified to attend (though not play) the subsequent game, in violation of the disqualification rules. The Board considered appropriate action given the relatively minor nature of the infraction, the fact that the rule itself had been modified in recent years, and that the school provided the self-report – while also recognizing the need to apply consistent penalties when violations occur regardless of intent.

Motion: To fine the school \$250 for violation of the disqualification rules – S. Riffle / second – M. Ryan / motion approved.

Motion: To rescind the fine while indicating to school that violation did occur – D. Tanner / second – D. Telesca / motion approved.

- 1.5 Decision regarding school start times position statement – The Board considered what action it wished to take regarding the current position statement on school start times that exists in the CIAC Handbook. Several member schools had indicated a desire to see CIAC either edit or remove the statement as it was leading to some challenges for schools as they addressed start time concerns at their buildings. The Board considered three options: leaving the statement as is, revising the statement, or removing it from the Handbook. The Board members felt revising the statement to better reflect the position of both the CIAC staff and Board members would be preferred, and that removing the statement entirely at this time could also be seen as a statement.

Motion: To revise the school start time position statement in the CIAC Handbook – W. Thompson / second – M. Ryan / motion approved.

Gregg Simon indicated CIAC staff would work on revising the language and present it to the Board for approval at a subsequent meeting.

2.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2.1 Golf Committee Updates – Gregg Simon updated the Board members on one of the proposals that came from the CIAC Golf Committee to expand the number of outside competitions athletes would be allowed to participate in. The proposal is currently being vetted by coaches and AD groups, and if supported a final proposal will be presented to the Board at a future meeting.
- 2.2 CIAC Need-Based Grant Update – Gregg Simon shared with the Board members the preliminary language concerning the creation of the Robert Ford Athletic Grant program as mentioned in a previous Board meeting. The hope is to have the program launched and in place later this spring. And he shared the Grant is being named after longtime CIAC contributor and staffer Robert Ford who recently passed away.
- 2.3 Boys & Girls Soccer Committee Update – Gregg Simon updated the Board on a proposal change the Board and Girls Soccer Committee made regarding the accumulation of red and yellow cards during the season. The Committee voted to change the number of cards a team can accumulate before being placed on probation based on whether or not the team qualifies for postseason (league or CIAC) play.

3.0 CONSULTANT REPORTS

- 3.1 CAS – No report
- 3.2 CAPSS – No report
- 3.3 CABA – No report
- 3.4 Sports Medicine – No report
- 3.5 CATA – No report
- 3.6 Unified Sports – No report
- 3.7 CAAD – No report
- 3.8 CHSCA – Mike Fritch reported the All-State Boys and Girls Soccer banquets would be taking place this weekend.
- 3.9 Officials – Joe Tonelli reported the officials are getting ready for the winter season.

4.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 4.1 Eligibility – With the Chair of the Eligibility Committee not present, Gregg Simon reported on the Eligibility Committee which did not have any appeals for its most recent meeting.
- 4.2 Eligibility Review Board – Gregg Simon on the Eligibility Review Board's most recent meeting. The Board heard five cases and approved two.

5.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 5.1 Schools of Choice enrollment process and reporting
- 5.2 Subcommittee to look at Sunday play rules.

6.0 STAFF REPORTS

- 6.1 Joel Cookson – Informed the Board members the deadline for the CAS-CIAC Battle of the Fans student spirit competition was approaching fast and hoped the Board members would encourage their students to participate.
- 6.2 Bob Lehry – Informed the Board members the CIAC Singles Bowling Invitational would be taking place Saturday, January 20th.
- 6.3 Mary Lee Weber – Relayed to the Board members that she is currently working on a possible sponsorship with the Department of Public Health which would be focused on injury prevention.

7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 15, 2018