

CIAC BOYS AND GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 15, 2016

Members present: Pete Capezzone, Mike Cohen, Brian Collins, Kevin Connell, Matt Diglio, Aaron Flamino, Tim Geary, John Goetz, Judy LaFontaine, Mark Logan, Ed Lucas, Ellen Turner, Gene Waring, Donn Friedman-Chair, Steve Wysowski and Joe Tonelli – CIAC staff.

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Donn Friedman at 3:35 p.m.

Minutes – On a motion by Mike Cohen, the minutes of November 17, 2015 were approved.

Correspondence – An email was distributed by Brian Collins from an assistant coach at Glastonbury High School regarding the location of the medical tent and the importance of having a trainer at the finish line in order to identify athletes that need to be checked and/or need medical attention. After a discussion by the committee and a follow-up with meet director Bill Baron, it was confirmed that the tent is in the best location possible and serves us well. Although it was a challenge acquiring trainers because of league tournaments and football games, in the end we had an excellent team of trainers for both meets. It was also mentioned that in addition to the current radio communication between the park personnel and the trainers, it may be helpful to have two additional radios, one for the finish line trainer and one for a designated person, like a former coach, stationed at the home stretch to identify runners that appear to be struggling. We will talk to Marc Aceto from the trainer's association to get his perspective and expertise on these issues. Since we hire an ambulance with EMT's to be on site for all state meets to compliment the excellent crew of trainers, all agreed that the medical coverage is good and meets the needs of the event.

Income and Expenses – The income and expense associated with the meets were incomplete at this time. Our income from the parking fee was reduced because the park now charges a \$7 parking fee for all events held on weekends. Therefore, with the parking and admission fees set at \$10 for every car entering the main gate for the Saturday class meets, the CIAC share was only \$3, rather than \$5. Since approximately 1,500 cars enter the park on a good weather day, CIAC income was reduced by approximately \$3,000. This was offset somewhat by charging \$10 for the Open Meet, rather than \$5. With the CIAC share increasing from zero to \$5 for the open meet, it added approximately \$2,500 to CIAC income. It should be noted that the weather was good for both meets which definitely helped the cause. Joe Tonelli mentioned a discussion he had with Jeff Maron regarding the number of cars that park on Tolland Turnpike and then enter the park without paying. Cars parked there not only create a safety hazard for the event workers exiting through that gate, but also they are hurting us income wise. Jeff and I will talk further about this, but we agree that we should charge \$10 per person for anyone that walks through the Tolland Turnpike entrance. This will not only add to our income, but it may also provide an incentive for people to enter the park through the main gate. We would split the income for the walk-ups with the park. The committee agreed that this concept was worth pursuing.

NFHS Online Meeting – The NFHS track and field online rule interpretations meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Old Business – Joe and Steve Wysowski reported that CIAC received no complaints whatsoever regarding the road race rule. The committee members present also did not have any issues to report, so it seemed to be a good transition into the current rule. The committee revisited chip timing as we agreed to do. The bottom line is that what we are doing is working well, and unless we obtain a sponsorship to cover all the costs, the concept will not be considered. The committee agreed that chip timing is not considered to be a necessity at this time.

2016 State Meet Summary – The committee confirmed that the "Class Meets" and "Open Championship" races went very well. As previously stated, the weather was good for both meets. Special thanks to Bill Baron and his team of workers for their effort in running these quality events. As always, Jeff Maron and his staff were super.

Update of 2017 Packet – Donn reviewed the suggested updates to the boys and girls cross country packet. After discussion and by unanimous consent, the committee approved the 2017 tournament packet with the appropriate revisions. Several excellent suggestions were made by the committee which Donn will incorporate into the packet. A few committee members will review the packet before Donn submits the final draft to Judy.

Other Business – Finish line banners were suggested. After discussion, the committee agreed that accentuating the finish line area is a good idea, and CIAC will look into the best way to accomplish this goal.

Adjournment – With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m. The next meeting of the boys and girls cross country committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 3:30 p.m.