

CIAC BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING MINUTES
October 17, 2019

Present: Gregg Simon, Glenn Lungarini, Sheila Riffle, Linda Iacobellis, Vince DeNuzzo, Joe Velardi, David Eustis, Deb Petruzzello, Joe Canzanella, Joe Tonelli, Bob Hale, Stephanie Ford, Joel Cookson, Robert Lehr, Dan Scavone, Matt Fischer, James Wygonik, Dave Tanner, Damian Frassinelli, Matt Perachi, Henry Rondon, Carl Nissan, Anthony Azzarra, Nadine Gannon, Ralph Mayo, Matt Ryan, Dan Zittoun, Chris Cipriano

Glenn Lungarini welcomed David Eustis from Xavier High School as a new member of the Board.

Note – Due to some late arrivals, several items such as consultant reports took place prior to the action items. The minutes reflect the order of the meeting as outlined in the agenda.

1.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 1.1 Review and approval of the Board of Control Minutes for September 19, 2019 – After review and discussion the Board voted to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion: To approve minutes – D. Tanner / second – V. DeNuzzo – motion approved.

- 1.2 Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer's report was presented for Board consideration.

Motion: To approve treasurer's report – N. Gannon / second – J. Wygonik – motion approved.

- 1.3 Eligibility Appeal – Recruiting Violation – [] High School – The Board considered an appeal of the eligibility status for a [] High School boys basketball athlete. [] Athletic Director [] presented the appeal. The student-athlete had been deemed ineligible by the Board of Control in a previous meeting for a violation of recruiting rules. The school did not appeal the sanctions put forward by the Board for either the school or coaches involved in the violation, but felt the student-athlete should be given additional consideration as he was an unwitting participant in the violations.

Motion: To restore the athlete's eligibility after being ineligible for the first 50-percent of the basketball regular season – V. DeNuzzo / second – M. Ryan – motion approved).

- 1.4 Eligibility Appeal – Transfer Rule – [] High School – The Board considered an appeal of an eligibility decision by the Eligibility Review Board that a student was ineligible for participation for 365 days under the transfer rule. The appeal was for a football athlete for [] High School. An athlete had transferred from [] High School to [], and the sending school indicated the transfer was for athletic reasons, which required the student to not participate in athletics for 365 days. [] President [] and Athletic Director [] presented the appeal. The school indicated the transfer had been made due to struggles with transportation for the student's mother, who was dealing with a medical condition. Gregg Simon presented the Board members with the information the Eligibility Review Board considered from [] that indicated they believe the transfer was for athletic reasons.

Motion: To uphold the decision of the Eligibility Review Board – V. DeNuzzo / second – D. Zittoun – motion approved (Board member [] recused himself during this action item).

- 1.5 Eligibility Appeal – Amateur Status – [] High School: The Board considered an eligibility appeal for a boys soccer athlete from [] High School. The athlete came to

Connecticut from Ecuador, and the school discovered prior to the season that he had been paid a nominal amount of money for participating on a weekend soccer team separate from his school, thus making him ineligible for CIAC participation. The school immediately sat him out prior to the season.

Motion: To restore the student's athletic eligibility – D. Zittoun / second – R. Mayo – motion approved.

- 1.6 Sunday Play Approval – The Board considered a request from the Windsor High School boys basketball team for a waiver of its Sunday play regulations to participate in a Holiday Tournament that might include Sunday play prior to 12:30 p.m.

Motion: To approve the request to waive the Sunday play regulations – D. Zittoun / second – J. Wygonik – motion approved.

- 1.7 Self-report – Use of Ineligible Player – [] High School: The Board considered a self-report from [] high school for use of an ineligible player by its girls volleyball team. The athlete had transferred to the school the previous winter, and the school did not realize she had competed in volleyball at her previous school, making her ineligible for the first 50-percent of the regular season due to the transfer rule. The student competed in four games before the error was discovered. The school had already forfeited the four contests and was holding the athlete out of competition until her eligibility was clarified, and detailed additional steps it would take with its guidance department to insure the error did not occur again.

Motion: To fine the school \$400 (\$100 per game) – D. Zittoun / second – D. Tanner – motion approved.

- 1.8 Hockey Cooperative Team Opt-Out Approval – E.O. Smith/Tolland: The Board considered a request from the E.O. Smith/Tolland boys ice hockey co-op to permit the team to compete through an opt-out per CIAC regulations. The co-op had previously disbanded but wanted to return as a co-op while opting out of CIAC Tournament play for the coming season (the request had already been approved at the league level).

Motion: To approve the opt-out request for the E.O. Smith/Tolland boys ice hockey co-op – M. Ryan / second – L. Iacobellis – motion approved.

- 1.9 Self-report – Recruiting Violation – [] High School – The Board considered a self-report of a recruiting violation by the [] High School boys basketball team. The [] boys basketball coach sent out a flyer for a regional travel team to middle school athletes, and tied participation in the travel team to enrollment at [] High School, in violation of CIAC recruiting regulations. A subsequent flyer was sent out correcting the information, but the Board members felt that the correction did not full address the nature of the violation.

Motion: To confirm that there was a recruiting violation – S. Riffle / second – D. Tanner – motion approved.

Motion: To fine the school \$500, place the boys basketball program on probation for 1-year, and require the coach to complete the Connecticut High School Coaching Education module on CIAC rules and regulations (module 5) – M. Ryan / second – D. Zittoun – motion approved. In addition to the motion, the Board members requested in his communications with the school that Gregg Simon indicate that the Board was not

convinced the revised flyer sent out did not reflect recruitment and that the athletics department look carefully at the information it is sharing to insure no future violations.

2.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2.1 Legislative Update – Glenn Lungarini updated the Board on current legislative issues. He shared there seems to be growing legislative interest in addressing school start times, and anticipates that there might be legislation proposed in this area. CAS-CIAC will work to insure it is a part of any move on this topic as athletics will be impacted. He also informed the group that there has been some discussion about schools having the option of designating non-binary student classification.
- 2.2 Sportsmanship Meeting – Gregg Simon provided an update from the most recent Sportsmanship Committee meeting, and discussed the involvement of students in that committee. Henry Rondon then reported on the first meeting of the Student Athletic Advisory Board. The group continued offering input on a variety of topics, and both the SAAB and Sportsmanship Committee have put a focus on treatment of officials and behavior of adult fans as areas of concern.
- 2.3 Recruiting By-Law Language Changes – Gregg Simon presented the Board members with suggested revised language in the penalties section of the CIAC Recruiting By-Laws. At the previous meeting the Board members had indicated they were open to revising some of the language related to penalties for recruiting violations. CIAC staff asked the members to look at the suggested revisions, and then a vote for approval of the changes would come at a future meeting with suggestions from the Board members.

3.0 CONSULTANT REPORTS

- 3.1 CAS –
- 3.2 CAPSS – No report
- 3.3 CABE – No report
- 3.4 Sports Medicine – No report
- 3.5 CATA – Marc Aceto reported that CATA is looking forward to working with CIAC in supporting schools on heat illness prevention. He indicated 140 schools have completed the CIAC survey regarding their current protocols and equipment. CATA is working on helping coaches find the best way to get an accurate temperature which is important in treating heat illness.
- 3.6 Unified Sports – Bob Hale reported the CIAC Unified Sports held three soccer events the previous day, all of which were league sponsored. The first middle school event of the season would be held today at Wolcott.
- 3.7 CAAD – Matt Perachi shared that CAAD is piloting a program as part of a cooperative effort with “Coaching Boys Into Men” an organization that works to develop athletes. At its November 6 meeting the CAAD Board of Control is planning to offer feedback on the golf proposal to change seasons, and at its October 2 meeting it awarded 10 grants to ADs to help attend the national NIAAA meeting.
- 3.8 CHSCA – Joe Canzanella reported the organization is working to create a revised All-State Banquet list. It is currently vetting the boys golf proposal, and the group is concentrating on possible revisions to the All-State football game.
- 3.9 Officials – Dan Scavone reported the Officials Advisory Board held its first meeting on October 10. On November 11 officials organization will be recruiting and have a table set up at the state-wide health and PE teachers event.

4.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 4.1 Eligibility – The Eligibility Committee reviewed seven cases and approved two.
- 4.2 Eligibility Review Board – The Eligibility Review Board heard three appeals and approved one.
- 4.3 Cooperative Team –

5.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

6.0 STAFF REPORTS

- 6.1 Joel Cookson shared that following the conversations from the Sportsmanship and SAAB that the CIAC offices would be creating a sportsmanship PSA featuring students and coaches and Board members should reach out if they wanted their schools to participate.
- 6.2 Henry Rondon reported the first championships of the fall were coming up with the divisional and state open cross country championships at Wickham Park in the coming weeks.

Chairperson Anthony Azzarra closed the meeting by recognizing and thanking CIAC Executive Staff member Joe Tonelli for his decades of service to high school athletics and the CIAC.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 14 (8:30 a.m.)