

## CIAC BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING MINUTES

December 7, 2017

Present: Gregg Simon, Sheila Riffle, Karissa Niehoff, Dave Tanner, Dan Moleti, Michele Cordeau, Joe Canzanella, Robert Cecchini, Joel Cookson, Matt Fischer, Bob Lehr, Trish Witkin, Damian Frassinelli, Neil Rinaldi, Janice Saam, Anna Mahon, Linda Iacobellis, Matt Ryan, Joe Tonelli, Uyi Osunde.

The meeting began at 2:30 p.m. with Vice Chair Sheila Riffle presiding.

### 1.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 1.1 Review and approval of the Board of Control Minutes for October 26, 2017 – After review and discussion the Board voted to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion: To approve minutes – J. Saam / second – L. Iacobellis / motion approved.

- 1.2 Treasurer's Report – M. Ryan, presented the financial report as of November 2017.

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

- 1.3 Request For Waiver For Sunday Competition – The Board considered a waiver request to allow Sunday competition for the wrestling teams from Danbury, Xavier and New Canaan to compete at a wrestling tournament on December 16 and 17 which would include Sunday play. The waiver request is in accordance with CIAC rules, policy and procedures.

Motion: Approve the waiver request to compete on Sunday for three high school wrestling programs – A. Mahon / second – M. Ryan / motion approved.

Additional Motion: Granting CIAC authority to approve any additional waiver requests that come in for the same wrestling competition – L. Iacobellis / second – N. Rinaldi / motion approved.

- 1.4 Letter of Self-Report – Out-of-Season-Coaching Violation – [ ] – The Board considered a letter of self-report for violation of the out-of-season coaching rules by its girls soccer program. The school determined that both its head coach and a volunteer assistant coach were involved with a summer soccer team featuring [ ] players in violation of CIAC rules.

Motion: To fine the school \$500 (\$250 per incident) and require the head coach to take Connecticut Coaching Education Module 5 (CIAC rules and regulations) – L. Iacobellis / second – A. Mahon / motion approved.

- 1.5 Season Limitations Adjustments for 2018-19 – The Board voted via email to unanimously approve suggested changes to the 2018-19 season limitations games and practice schedule from the Season Limitations Committee.

Motion: Validate the unanimous online vote for season limitation changes for 2018-19 – D. Moleti / second – J. Saam / motion approved.

- 1.6 Request To Allow Student-Athlete Participation In Multiple Sports In Same Season – The Board considered a request from Torrington High School to allow a student-athlete to compete in both boys basketball and indoor track & field during the winter season, in violation of CIAC rules prohibiting competition in multiple sports in the same season. The school requested an exception be granted for this specific case.

Motion: Deny the request to allow for participation in multiple sports in the same season – D. Tanner / second – M. Ryan / motion approved.

## 2.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2.1 Golf Committee Updates – Gregg Simon provided updates on some recent voting actions from the CIAC Golf Committee. The Committee approved the formation of a State Golf Open Championship to take place in spring 2017 which will include both boys and girls competitors. Golf was previously the only individual CIAC sport that did not have an Open Championship. The Committee also voted to allow competitors to compete in eight outside competitions instead of the currently allowed four – in an effort to encourage the top competitors to participate in high school golf. This proposal is being sent out for vetting. Finally the Committee was informed that the New England Golf Championships will be moving to the fall season in 2019 which will prompt additional discussion about how Connecticut students will be able to participate.
- 2.2 School Start Time Discussion – Dr. Niehoff led a discussion with the group regarding the existing CIAC statement on school start times. Some member schools have moved to later start times for their schools which has led to some challenges in regard to athletic competition. The CIAC statement currently in the Handbook was crafted many years ago, and so she asked the Board to consider whether to leave the statement as it is, modify it, or simply remove it from the Handbook. Dr. Niehoff asked the members to consider the language and be prepared to offer feedback at the next Board meeting.
- 2.3 Creation of CIAC Athletic Needs Grant Program – Dr. Niehoff informed the Board about a plan to create a new Athletic Needs Grant Program which would be designed to provide one-time funds to schools/programs to assist with adverse situations. The funds would be paid from the CAS Foundation Account which has been performing well, and a committee would consider the application requests. CAS-CIAC feels it could be a valuable asset for its membership. CIAC will be requesting the blessing of the CIAC Board of Control for the program and then will need final approval from the CAS Board of Directors since it will be a budget issue.

## 3.0 CONSULTANT REPORTS

- 3.1 CAS – No report
- 3.2 CAPSS – No report
- 3.3 CABE – No report
- 3.4 Sports Medicine – No report
- 3.5 CATA – No report
- 3.6 Unified Sports – No report
- 3.7 CAAD – Damian Frassinelli reported the annual conference for the NIAAA was coming up and 48 Connecticut representatives were scheduled to attend. In addition Connecticut leaders are representing the state well as Trish Witkin is being honored with a Distinguished Service Award and both Damian Frassinelli and Joe Canzanella are teaching national courses.
- 3.8 CHSCA – Joe Canzanella reported the Coaches Association Hall of Fame Dinner was recently completed and the All-State dinners for football and soccer would be held in January.
- 3.9 Officials – Joe Tonelli reported the officials are getting ready for the winter season.

## 4.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 4.1 Eligibility – L. Iacobellis, Chair of the Eligibility Committee reported on the Eligibility Committee. The Committee heard six cases and one was approved.
- 4.2 Eligibility Review Board –L. Iacobellis reported on the Eligibility Review Board’s most recent meeting. The Board heard two cases and denied both.

## 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 that for the first time some of the upcoming football championships would be streamed live on Facebook in addition to the NFHS Network.
- 6.2 Bob Lehry – Informed the Board members Marissa Walker from Waterford High School had been selected as this year's Michael H. Savage Spirit of Sport Award recipient.
- 6.3 Gregg Simon – Relayed to the Board members that fall championships had all gone well.
- 6.4 Karissa Niehoff – Informed the Board members that the school climate recognition that CAS has sponsored for the elementary/middle levels had been expanded to the high school level and that Naugatuck High School was the first school recognized. She also discussed a new partnership with the CIAC and the CT Bone & Joint Institute in Hartford which is creating great opportunities for schools and their athletes to make use of the resources. Provided free baseline testing for Enfield High School cross country teams and was hosting an open house on December 12. Organization is grant funded so free resources for schools to help with student-athlete well being.

## 7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 11, 2018