

CIAC BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING MINUTES
April 23, 2020

Present: Joel Cookson, Robert Lehr, Mary Lee Weber, Chris Cipriano, Matt Perachi, Robert Cecchini, Debra Petruzzello, Joe Canzanella, Anthony Azzara, Matt Fischer, Joseph Corso, Stacy Butkus, Sheila Riffle, Nadine Gannon, Joe Velardi, Dave Tanner, Gregg Simon, Daniel Moleti, Karen Packtor, Fred Balsamo, David Eustis, Glenn Lungarini, Damian Frassinelli, Dan Scavone, Vincent DeNuzzo, Matt Ryan, Anna Mahon, Henry Rondon, Linda Iacobellis, Dan Zittoun.

1.0 ACTION ITEMS

1.1 Review and approval of the Board of Control Minutes for April 2, 2020 – The minutes from the prior meeting had not been distributed so a vote for their approval will take place at the next Board meeting.

1.2 Treasurer's Report – Glenn Lungarini informed the group the CAS Board approved the proposed budget he had presented at the prior meeting which included a dues increase, registration fees for officials, an \$80,000 physical education contract from the state and suspension of mileage reimbursement for committee meetings.

1.3 By-Law Change – Disqualification Rule – The Board members considered the finalized language for the proposed change to the disqualification rule brought forward by CIAC staff. The Board members offered feedback on the changes at a previous meeting.

Motion: To approve the proposed changes to the language concerning disqualification penalties – V. DeNuzzo / second – D. Eustis – motion approved.

1.4 Football Proposal – Universal Start Date & OTAs – The Board members considered a proposal from the Connecticut High School Coaches Association to move to a universal start date in the fall for football while also adding three OTA days prior to the start of the season for administrative and organizational purposes.

Motion: To approve the proposal for a universal fall start date for football with the addition of three OTA days – A. Mahon / second – D. Moleti – motion approved.

1.5 Spring Sports Decision – The Board members considered options on what do to with the spring sports season considering the continuing prohibition of in-school learning as directed by the state. Glenn Lungarini shared a variety of pieces of information, including survey results of school and district administrators covering opinions on what should be considered in resuming competition. The consensus was that any spring experience should not include CIAC tournaments as those would inherently limit competition and would be logistically impossible. The Board members also agreed with the CIAC staff assessment that extending the season past June was not feasible.

Motion: To cancel the CIAC spring championship tournaments and delay a final decision on any spring sport participation to a later time – S. Riffle / second – M. Ryan – motion approved (unanimous).

2.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

2.1 Fall Eligibility Issues – Gregg Simon and Glenn Lungarini presented a number of items regarding challenging decisions on eligibility rules that are being impacted by the necessity of remote learning and the cancellation and suspension of athletics seasons. These included the rule regarding making up academic incompletes, that many schools did not create official eligibility lists for spring sports, and the application of the transfer

rule for the fall season. The consensus among the Board members was that when possible exceptions or changes should err on the side of eligibility considering the missed opportunities this season. Given the breadth and complexity of the issues, the Board members requested CIAC staff meet to consider the issues, and then return with proposals or recommendations for the members to consider at the next meeting.

- 2.2 Health Issues – Glenn Lungarini shared updates on two items from discussions with the Sports Medicine Committee. He explained that athlete physicals are still good for 13 months from the date completed so inability to get physicals should not be a deterrent for spring athletes. He shared the recommendation that the 10-day practice requirement prior to competition should not be reduced but that five of the days could be conducted individually at home.

3.0 CONSULTANT REPORTS

- 3.1 CAS – Karen Packtor shared that members should look for voting for the Annual Meeting in the coming weeks.
- 3.2 CAPSS – No report
- 3.3 CABE – No report
- 3.4 Sports Medicine – No report
- 3.5 CATA –
- 3.6 Unified Sports –
- 3.7 CAAD – Matt Perachi informed the Board that CAAD would hold its Board of Control meeting virtually on April 29, and at this time the group was still hoping to hold a one-day professional development event in the spring but that was looking unlikely.
- 3.8 CHSCA – Joe Canzanella reported that at this point all planning and meetings for the organization were on hold.
- 3.9 Officials – Dan Scavone reported that despite the lack of competition the NFHS rules process was still going forward and he hoped members would encourage their appropriate school members to take part in the rules surveys.

4.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 4.1 Eligibility – Did not meet
- 4.2 Eligibility Review Board – Did not meet.
- 4.3 Cooperative Team – Did not meet.

5.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 5.1 In-season competition exceptions

6.0 STAFF REPORTS

- 6.1 Mary Lee Weber shared that CIAC had reached an agreement with Fox61 to hold a Virtual Scholar Athlete Banquet on Sunday, May 3 (the same date as the original Scholar Athlete Banquet).

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 7 (9 a.m.)