

Board of Control Minutes – 8/25/16

Present: Karissa Niehoff, Anthony Azzarra, Steve Wysowski, Joe Monroe, Matt Ryan, Beth Smith, Sheila Riffle, Linda Iacobellis, Trish Witkin, Damian Frassinelli, Fred Balsamo, Matt Fischer, Joe Tonelli, George Synnott, Dan Sullivan, Stephanie Ford, Robert Lehr, Robert Cecchini, Joe Canzanella, John Fontana, Francis Kennedy, Daniel Moleti, Ted Kelleher, Glen Lungarini.

1.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 1.1 Review and Approval – CIAC Board of Control Minutes – April 7, 2016 – The Board reviewed the minutes from the April, 2016 Board of Control meeting.
- 1.2 Treasurer's Report – Board reviewed the Treasurer's report.
- 1.3 Meeting Calendar for 2016-17 Year – Steve Wysowski asked the Board members to look at the scheduled meeting dates for the CIAC Board of Control, CIAC Eligibility Committee, and CIAC Eligibility Review Board for the 2016-17 school year. Dates for the Board of Control and Eligibility Committee are (Eligibility Committee meets at 1:15 followed by Board of Control at 2 p.m.): Thursday, September 22; Thursday, October 27; Thursday, November 17 (special meeting if needed); Thursday, December 1; Thursday, January 12; Thursday, February 16; Thursday, April 6; Thursday, May 4 (if needed). The scheduled meetings for CIAC Eligibility Review Board are: Thursday, September 1; Thursday, October 13; Thursday, November 10; Thursday, December 15; Thursday, January 26; Thursday, March 9; Thursday, April 20; Thursday, May 11 (if needed). Motion to approve the 4/7/16 minutes, the treasurer's report, and the 2016-17 meeting calendar as part of consent agenda – J. Monroe / D. Sullivan – Approved.
- 1.4 Letter of Self-Report – Out of Season Coaching – [] – The Board considered a self-report from [] for a violation of the out-of-season coaching rules by its girls tennis program. The coach collected money from some team members during the offseason to rent a practice facility for a voluntary workout by the members. The coach was unaware this was a violation, but there was no interaction or instruction with the athletes and coach after the facility was secured. Motion to fine the school \$250 and require the coach to take the appropriate Coaching Education Module – B. Smith / M. Ryan – Approved.
- 1.5 Formal Endorsement of “Class Act Schools” Sportsmanship Initiative – Fred Balsamo presented to the Board the new “Class Act Schools” joint initiative between CAAD and the CIAC for their formal endorsement before it is released to the membership this fall. The program asks schools to willingly adhere to a unified set of sportsmanship standards and asks the schools and particularly the students to be the leaders of the program at their institutions. Motion to formally endorse the “Class Act Schools” Program – F. Kennedy / B. Smith – Approved.

2.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2.1 Basketball proposal – Robert Cecchini updated the group of the status of the proposal to create a new system to create the divisions for the boys basketball tournament on a one-year trial. The proposal has been vetted and approved by the boys basketball committee

and high school coaches association leadership, and is waiting for vetting from the athletic directors and final approval from the Board of Control. The hope of those who created the proposal is to have it approved for the 2016-17 season. Trish Witkin raised the question of whether or not the proposal had been vetted and approved by all coaches or just the leadership of the Coaches Association, and there were also questions on whether this would only apply to the boys tournament (the girls basketball committee has expressed a desire to wait and see how the process works with the boys tournament before committing). The Board will consider this issue again if/when it has been vetted and approved by other constituency groups.

- 2.2 Sanctions in recruiting – Karissa Niehoff asked the Board to consider and offer feedback on initial language concerning new penalties that might be put in place regarding violations of CIAC recruiting policies. The language would create new policies that would impose penalties on the coaches responsible for recruiting violations, not just the schools. The Board members offered some revisions on the language and were asked to give thought to this proposal for potential action at a future meeting.
- 2.3 No proposal from football committee – Steve Wysowski updated the Board members on a potential proposal discussed at a previous Board meeting concerning spring football. He informed the Board that in working with the football committee the group had decided not to bring forward a proposal, but would continue to consider the issue in subsequent meetings.
- 2.4 NFHS news – Karissa Niehoff presented the Board members with updates from the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS). These included information on work being done on overuse injuries, a new marketing initiative that will be passed on to schools, and information on potential changes with the NFHS Network – and on broadcast affiliates in Connecticut. She also provided an update on the overall budgetary picture for CAS-CIAC for the coming year given the financial challenges at the State level, but said that recent developments has the CAS-CIAC budget in reasonably good shape.

3.0 CONSULTANT REPORT

- 3.1 Unified Sports – George Synnott informed the Board that five additional schools contacted the Unified Sports offices over the summer indicating a desire to start programs. With those additions 90% of public high schools in Connecticut will now have Unified Sports programs.
- 3.2 CAS –
- 3.3 CAPSS –
- 3.4 CABE –
- 3.5 Sports Medicine –
- 3.6 CATA –
- 3.7 CAAD – Damian Frassinelli informed the Board that 24 ADs had taken part in the new AD workshop the previous week at the CIAC offices. CAAD board members had also held several informal meetings throughout the summer and the first meeting of the full Board will be Sept. 7.

- 3.8 CHSCA – Joe Canzanella informed the Board the Coaches Association had held a summer meet and greet to discuss goals and objectives and would hold its first full meeting on Sept. 21. The Coaches Association Hall of Fame Dinner will be November 17 and the 10 honorees will be recognized on September, 17 at the UConn football game. He added that there will be banquets honoring the various All-State teams throughout the year and the Coach of the Year Banquet will be May 11. John Fontana shared the story very moving story of one of the honorees who was a successful high school athlete who was killed in military service in Afghanistan.
- 3.9 Officials – Joe Tonelli informed the Board that fall rule interpretation sessions taking place around the state for all coaches.

4.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 4.1 Eligibility Committee – Beth Smith reported the Eligibility Committee heard three cases, denied two, and tabled one.
- 4.2 Eligibility Review Board – Did not meet, meeting in September.

5.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS –

5.1

6.0 STAFF REPORTS

- 6.1 Matt Fischer / Joel Cookson – Joel Cookson noted his hopes to travel to schools more frequently this year to share worthwhile stories and asked the Board members to help spread the word to send information on interesting stories to him.
- 6.2 Robert Lehr – Informed the Board about a program with champion skier Lindsey Vonn at Southington High School on October 3. All CIAC schools have been invited to send representatives to the program.
- 6.3 Joe Tonelli – No report.
- 6.4 Stephanie Ford – Informed the Board that there were no sponsorship losses from last year and she is working on some potential additions. She also reported on the very successful Girls Sports Symposium sponsored by Anthem which brought 130 girls and coaches to the Connecticut Open the previous week.
- 6.5 Steve Wysowski – Informed the Board CIAC had a very successful partnership with the CSGA in helping to run the golf championships this past spring. He also noted that thanks in part to great work from Joe Tonelli, Connecticut officials had agreed to not have an increase in fees this year in an effort to assist schools. He pointed out several stories in High School Today magazine that featured the CIAC. He also informed the Board that seven honorees would be inducted into the CAS-CIAC Hall of Honor on October 29, including Board consultant Robert Cecchini and longtime Board consultant Charlie Sharos.
- 6.6 Karissa Niehoff – Updates were covered in the NFHS news report.

7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

NOTE: Next Meeting of the Board – September 22, 2016 – 2 p.m.