

League Commissioners / Presidents Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2016

Some commissioners arrived earlier to schedule some “inter-league” contests. This was agreed to last year.

Present: Jay Egan, Joe Madaffari, John Niski, Dave Schulz, Dave Johnson, Jim Day, Damian Frassinelli, Al Carbone, Craig Semple, Karissa Niehoff, Joe Tonelli, Steve Wysowski, Gary Makowicki, Barbara Startup, George Synnott, Fred Williams. Guest – Chris Johnson

1. Welcome – Approve Minutes – September 26 – Joe Madaffari motion, John Niski – second, Unanimous.
2. Financial Report – Update – Steve reported that officials fees have not increased this year, last year, CIAC did well, CAS had major cuts, the organization was helped by the “sport side” since athletics saw a profit over the year before. Karissa spoke to the state budget, the tech. school need to reduce their current budget 10%. These tech. schools may have to cut athletics entirely which creates a ripple effect problem for their league. The tech. schools have a study group of principals. Chris Johnson spoke of the budget cuts in Bridgeport and what he is facing regards to scheduling. He must schedule outside the league now for next year. Looking to create a “lesser impact” scenario. NFHS supports the need to prevent “overuse injuries”. RIO data has returned and is promising and very favorable. Still needs to be deciphered into a translatable format before being published. CIAC has sent out a booklet on “Anyone Can Save a Life” a program that trains teams in how to function in an emergency. Joe Tonelli spoke about the need to be aware that we have a shortage of officials and to speak positively and supportively of them whenever we can. He asked to communicate the need with the leagues.
3. Representative – Patrick Euarte from the Broadcast Network spoke about how the network will be free, a set-up meeting can take place to have schools get interested students/staff on board. Joe Zone could help. Joe spoke about the possibility of his involvement and how the media can help. The network would use students and school equipment to broadcast games and events (even non-sporting ones).
4. Unified Sports – George Synnott spoke about the schools sponsoring “Unified Sports” (95%) of high schools have teams. Leagues are scheduling their own contests (inter and intra-league). George wants to expand to middle and elementary even more.
5. CAAD – No report
6. Review of “by-law and policy changes” (By-law changes required and received a vote by full membership, policy changes are voted in by the CIAC Board of Control.) Vetting MUST take place before the Board of Control hears a change that it will vote on. Steve highlighted the procedure to be sure that everyone is aware of the “process”.
 - a. Upcoming proposals – Steve mentioned the boys basketball proposal
7. Sportsmanship – “CIAC Class Act Schools” – November 17 – Roll-out – Steve spoke how this new program will be introduced at the Sportsmanship Conference on November 17. All schools are invited and there is no limit to the number that will be allowed. Some schools will be “pilot” schools talking about their roll-out, how they started and other relevant points to help other schools get going. This will replace “ratings week” and is more empowering for students in high school. Speakers will address ways to safeguard good sportsmanship (social media, game and event behavior, involvement at the school, etc.

8. Soccer – Entries – Red/Yellow Cards – Steve announced that there is a concerted effort by soccer officials to “cut down” on the chatter when cards are issued. They also report that they are the primary reporters for cards in tournament (league and state) play but that AD’s are still asked to input even during the tournaments.
- Continue to invite us to meetings – Steve announced that he and Karissa have attended a few league meetings and want to continue to attend.
 - League topics to discuss for exchange of ideas
 - Next meeting – May 16 (10:30 a.m.)
 - Around the leagues – Chance for each league to report
- a. SCC – Sub-varsity Programs – What is the status of sub-varsity in leagues, is that level competitive within its level at schools?
 - b. ECC Struggling with Alignment – Size and competitiveness of schools is an issue
 - c. CREL – Hartford Trinity has moved to NCCC
 - d. CCC – Rockville has left the conference, Weaver presents some concern to the league. Re-designing the regional divisions.
 - e. SWC – Golf is problematic to schedule for boys and girls together, wants to know if that is the case with any other leagues. Consideration should again be given to moving girls to the spring for scheduling reasons. Pay to play, anyone do it for golf? Questions:
 - i. How many schools have boys and girls golf?
 - ii. How many have student-athletes pay?
 - iii. Do the schools that have two programs have one or two coaches?
 - iv. Numbers participating for each program?

Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.