

# THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS

## *The Fifty-Seventh Annual Meeting*

*May 22, 2009*

### 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT

## CONNECTICUT INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE BOARD OF CONTROL

*Submitted by George Synnott, Chair*

### **CIAC BOARD ACTIVITY 2008-2009**

- The CIAC board approved a \$1.00 increase in ticket prices for the 2009-2010 school year. The increase will help to offset an anticipated shortfall resulting from lost sponsorships and reduced grant subsidies.
- The CIAC staff surveyed principals, athletic directors, and superintendents to determine interest in expanding the football playoff structure. The board decided to take no action on proposals for a revised format for the 2009 football season.
- The CIAC board voted to revise the transfer rule for those student athletes transferring to a school of choice. The proposed change in the CIAC bylaws will be brought before the membership at our annual meeting.
- The CIAC board added a representative from the Connecticut Athletic Trainers Association (CATA) to serve on the board of control as a consultant.
- A physician affiliated with the UCONN women's program and UCONN Medical Center has been made available to provide advice and assistance to the CIAC and act as a liaison with the Connecticut State Medical Society Committee on Sports Medicine.
- In September 2008, the CIAC received a proposal from the Mohegan Sun to host the CIAC High School Basketball Championships at its arena. After negotiations with CIAC staff, the board of control approved a contract with Mohegan Sun and both the boys' and girls' championship games were held at the Mohegan Sun Arena. The entire event was an overwhelming success.
- In September, the CIAC entered into an agreement with the Michaels Jewelers Foundation to own and manage the Michaels Jewelers Recognition programs for high school and Unified Sports®.
- In response to a request to amend our policy on home-schooled students, the CIAC board continued to maintain its long-established policy which prohibits home-schooled students from participating in CIAC sports.
- The CIAC board endorsed a letter requesting school principals and athletic directors to educate their coaches on the ethics of criticizing officials in the press.
- The CIAC Fall Sports Tournament Income Report showed positive results, even in light of the current economic climate. The net result was a \$32,000 gain for CIAC.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- The board needs to continue to address the goals which were put forward at the beginning of the 2008-2009 year. They are:
  1. To educate all stakeholders involved with CIAC on the mission, expectations and purpose of CIAC and all rules and regulations.
  2. To design and implement a program to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to CIAC and high school athletics.
  3. To design and implement a marketing and public relations program designed to enhance the public image and influence of CIAC.
- To discuss implementation of eligibility rules quiz for student athletes.
- To continue discussion of possible changes in the football playoff format to expand greater participation in post season tournaments.

### **APPRECIATION**

Thanks to the CIAC staff for the leadership, guidance and support they provide to all of the student athletes of Connecticut.