

THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS
The 63rd Annual Meeting

2014-2015 Annual Report
CIAC BOARD OF CONTROL
Submitted by Paul Newton, Chair

- Out of season coaching was a topic of focus this year. The board discussed changing the penalties for “out-of-season coaching” and has devised a survey to become better informed about the specific concerns and wishes of coaches, athletic directors and principals. The survey will be distributed in the fall of 2015. This summer, staff and volunteers from the CIAC Board of Control will visit various sites that host out-of-season athletic activities to monitor compliance.

- The board approved a proposal that goes before the full membership that sanctions coaches who are in violation of the out-of-season coaching rule. This new policy will still see fines levied, with probationary periods extending to up to two years and the disqualification of a coach who disregards the rule being imposed at incremental levels. Coaches who are found to willfully disregard the rule can be disqualified from coaching 20% of the regular season contests for the first offense. A second offense finds that disqualification increasing to 50% of the scheduled contests with prohibition of that sport from tournament play for one year. The penalty follows the coach. A sport program on “prohibition” will be reinstated to a probationary period for tournament play if the coach leaves the program where the second offense occurred.

- As an extension of board activity and meetings and in an effort to keep membership apprised of issues, staff went out to league meetings to listen to concerns, clarify rules, and hear “local needs.” Information was then brought back to present or discuss at board of control meetings.

- This was the year of “adjustment” for football. Legislation last year forced some last minute adjustments to address medical and legal concerns. The board voted in the fall to establish a new schedule for seasons limitations. That new schedule shortened the longest season, winter, and slightly lengthened the fall and spring seasons.

- The board also approved some changes in contact limitations for football based on medical recommendations. The new seasons’ limitations schedule allows for a “rest week” of no contact at all, but allows for the football playoffs to return to a three-game tournament which will crown 4 divisional champions.

- The board voted to allow full brackets to be allowed for the hockey tournament. Allowing teams in based on the win/lose record and not limiting teams to 40% minimum win/loss percentage saw a decrease in the numbers of injuries and penalties. This change goes to membership for final approval.

- Concerns over limits on college auditions and certain types of clinics were addressed and the board voted to eliminate the limits that were formerly imposed. Now, high school athletes can attend an unlimited number of college auditions with administrative and coaching approval.

- The board discussed and has approved a proposal that allows it to demand greater transparency from all schools related to the admission of students. Additional language, as a condition of membership, will allow the board to request a school to disclose admission/acceptance or enrollment policies and procedures when allegations of recruitment are leveled against a high school.