

The following are the preliminary minutes from the January 11, 2007, OHSAA Board of Control meeting. The minutes will not become official until they are adopted by the Board at their February 15, 2007, meeting.

OHSAA BOARD OF CONTROL MINUTES (January 11, 2007)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Control held a regularly scheduled meeting in the Board Room of the OHSAA office building on January 11, 2007.

President Jerry Snodgrass called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Jeff Jordan and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Bill Schumacher.

Board Members Present: Jerry Snodgrass, president, presiding; George Rise, vice president; Phil Ackerman; Dan Bise; Karen O'Hare; Beth Hill; Bill Schumacher; Phil Stevens, and Dan Adams and Jeff Jordan (ex-officios).

Administrative Staff Present: Dan Ross, commissioner; John Dickerson, Bob Goldring, Deborah B. Moore, Steve Neil, Duane Warns and Henry Zaborniak Jr., assistant commissioners, and Roxanne Price, director of membership services.

Others Attending: Rick Edwards, OHSAA Southeast District Athletic Board; Todd Boehm, OHSAA staff; Greg Reamsnider and Eric Silverman, OHSAA interns; Ron Knight, former OHSAA Board of Control member; Frank Gamble, Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association; Steve Channell, Bob Brigati, Mike Mauk and Wally Hood, Ohio High School Football Coaches Association; Casey Milligan, Ohio High School Golf Coaches Association; Rob Salisbury, Ohio High School Swimming Coaches Association; Vern Kiehl, Ohio Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches; Carol Russo, Tracey Kornan and Kaye Keller, Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association; Gary Wise, Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association; James Harbuck, Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators; Christopher Pettit, John and Barbara Dodd; Paul and Paula Kobelt and Tom Oliver; Victor Hunter, Shelia Hunter and their son; Larry Hupertz and Charles Imler; Sherman Micsak; and Jim Davis and a student he mentors.

I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Dan Bise, second by Beth Hill to **adopt** the agenda as amended for the January 11, 2007, Board of Control meeting.

Motion passed 8-0.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by George Rise to **approve** the minutes from the December 7, 2006, Board of Control meeting.

Motion passed 8-0.

III. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A. Financial Reports

Comptroller Todd Boehm provided the financial report for December. The report is summarized as follows:

Balance — November 30, 2006	\$345,092.20
Receipts — December 2006	<u>937,633.53</u>
	\$1,282,725.73
Disbursements — December 2006	<u>444,856.53</u>
	\$837,869.20
Accounted for as follows:	
Checking Account Balance per 5/3 Bank (12/31/06)	<u>\$906,302.99</u>
	\$906,302.99
Less Outstanding Checks	<u>68,433.79</u>
Balance — December 31, 2006	\$837,869.20
Available Funds — December 31, 2006	
Bank Balance	\$837,869.20
Minus Reserve for Building Fund	(95,075.10)
Minus Reserve Fund	<u>(742,794.10)</u>
Working Capital	\$0
Reserve fund (\$7,617.67 in savings + \$742,794.10 in bank balance)	\$750,411.77
Building fund (\$95,075.10 in bank balance + \$412,270.47 in investments)	\$507,345.57

Motion by Karen O'Hare, second by Phil Stevens to **accept** the financial report as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Board of Control and District Athletic Board Elections in April 2007
Commissioner Ross reviewed the positions that will be up for election on the OHSAA Board of Control and District Athletic Boards. Board of Control (two-year terms, August 1, 2007-July 31, 2009) positions vacant will be: **Central District**, Class AA (Bob Britton or Phil Harris); **Northwest District**, Class A (Geoff Palmer or Mike Richards), and **Southwest District**, Class AAA (Ray Spicher or Gene Klaus). District Athletic Board (six-year terms, August 1, 2007-July 31, 2013) positions vacant will be: **Central**, Class AAA (Dave Siess, incumbent); **East**, Class AAA (Tom Farbizo, incumbent); **Northeast**, Class AA (Larry Acker, incumbent); **Northwest**, Class A (Bill Clifton, incumbent); **Southeast**, Class A (Rick Edwards, incumbent), and **Southwest**, Class A (Andy Bixler, incumbent). In addition, each district athletic board will be adding a 7th-8th grade representative, an ethnic minority representative and a female representative. Individuals interested in the District Board positions should write Molly Downard at the OHSAA Office for a nomination petition, which must be returned by April 1. Ballots will be mailed in late April.
- B. Minutes of the Soccer Advisory Committee Meeting of December 4, 2006
The Board of Control was provided with the minutes of the Soccer Advisory Committee meeting of December 4, 2006, and Assistant Commissioner Dickerson reviewed the highlights. He said the committee discussed the notion of head coaches being required to attend state rules interpretation meetings as opposed to the current regulation, which allows an assistant coach or school representative to attend. He said the committee was informed that the District Boards Review Committee is working to develop consistent procedures throughout each district which could have an impact in soccer. In addition, Mr. Dickerson said sportsmanship was again a major topic of discussion.
- C. OHSAA Web Site Visits and Page Views
The Board of Control was provided with a handout that showed the visits and page views on the OHSAA web site that have occurred in the last year, and Assistant Commissioner Bob Goldring reviewed the highlights. He said usage peaked in March when there were approximately 780,000 visits (each time someone logs onto the web site) and 2,800,000 pages views (each individual page clicked within a session), which indicates that web users were likely going to the site to obtain state wrestling tournament pairings and results and OHSAA girls and boys basketball tournament results. The visits and page views also peaked in October and November when the OHSAA fall sports tournaments occurred.
- D. Minutes of the OHSAA Foundation Board Meeting of December 5, 2006
The Board of Control was provided with the minutes from the OHSAA Foundation Board of Trustees meeting of January 25, 2006, and received an update on the December 5, 2006, meeting at the Board of Control Work Session the previous day from Foundation Executive Director Bill Hosket. Mr. Hosket reviewed with the Board a potential fundraising and marketing effort the Foundation would like to initiate.
- E. Updates on OHSAA Legal Issues/Infractions
The Board was presented a list of schools that have recently violated OHSAA bylaws or sports regulations along with the penalties that were imposed by the OHSAA staff: **Louisville St. Thomas Aquinas High School's** boys varsity bowling team used an ineligible student-athlete in a contest, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures ("All athletic contests in which ineligible players have participated shall be forfeited."), the school forfeited that contest. The student was academically ineligible; **Beavercreek High School's** varsity ice hockey team used an ineligible student-athlete in a contest, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures ("All athletic contests in which ineligible players have participated shall be forfeited."), the school forfeited that contest. The hearing for the student's guardianship had not yet occurred and been approved through the OHSAA office; **Cuyahoga Falls Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy's** girls varsity golf team used an ineligible student-athlete in four contests, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures ("All athletic contests in which ineligible players have participated shall be forfeited."), the school forfeited all four contests. The student was academically ineligible; **Springboro High School's** varsity ice hockey team used an ineligible student-athlete in three contests, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures ("All athletic contests in which ineligible players have participated shall be forfeited."), the school forfeited all three contests. The student was in violation of Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship ("During the preceding grading period, the student must have received passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent which count toward graduation."); **Columbus East High School's** girls and boys varsity basketball teams both used an ineligible student-athlete in three contests, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures ("All athletic contests in which ineligible players have participated shall be forfeited."), the school forfeited six contests (three girls and three boys). The students were academically ineligible; **Mt. Blanchard Riverdale High School** was officially reprimanded for violating Bylaw 3-4-1, Student Participation and Physical Examination Forms ("Athletic participation forms for participants in any of the grades 7-12 shall be signed by a medical examiner, the participant, and by a parent or guardian. These forms must be on file with the principal before any candidate may participate in a practice. These forms shall require the medical examiner to certify the individual's physical fitness no less than once each calendar year."). Riverdale's girls varsity basketball coach was reminded to adhere to Sports Regulation 40.4, Grades 7 & 8 ("Students below the 7th grade may not practice with 7th through 12th grade students."). In addition, the OHSAA approved the school's self-imposed penalty of reducing the number of allowable coaching and instruction days in girls basketball from 10 to seven between June 1 and July 31, 2007.

Board of Control Minutes (1/11/07) —3

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. 2007 Track and Field Regional Sites

Assistant Commissioner Neil reviewed the sites and dates for the 2007 regional track and field tournaments. Division I sites are Youngstown Austintown-Fitch, Amherst, Hilliard Davidson and Dayton Welcome Stadium in Division I; Ravenna, Lexington, Byesville and Dayton Welcome Stadium in Division II, and Navarre, Fostoria, Pickerington North and Piqua in Division III. Divisions I and III will hold regionals on Wednesday and Friday, May 23 and 25, at 4:00 p.m. each day, and Division II regionals will be on Thursday and Saturday, May 24 and 26, at 4:00 and 11:30, respectively.

Motion by George Rise, second by Beth Hill to **approve** the sites and dates for the regional track and field tournaments as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

B. Site/Dates for the 2007 State Baseball Tournaments

Assistant Commissioner Dickerson reviewed the site and dates for the 2007 state baseball tournaments.

Semifinals in Divisions I and IV will be held on Thursday, May 31 (Division I at 10:00 and 1:00 and Division IV at 4:00 and 7:00); semifinals in Divisions II and III will be held on Friday, June 1 (Division II at 10:00 and 1:00 and Division III at 4:00 and 7:00), and the finals will be held Saturday, June 2 (Division I at 10:00, Division IV at 1:00, Division II at 4:00 and Division III at 7:00). All games will be played at Cooper Stadium in Columbus.

Motion by Dan Bise, second by Phil Ackerman to **approve** the site and dates as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fall Sports Proposals (Board Action on April 5, 2007)

No proposals were presented. The Board was provided with a copy of a proposal from the state tennis coaches association, and that proposal will be reviewed at the February meeting.

B. Contribution to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame for Meritorious Service (Central and East Districts)

The OHSAA makes two annual \$300 contributions to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in the names of the nominees for their contributions to athletics in Ohio. Two of the six OHSAA District Athletic Boards make nominations to the Board of Control on a rotating basis. Beth Hill said the nomination from the Central District is Dave Siess, and Phil Ackerman said the nomination from the East District is Gene Ford.

C. Approval of 2007 Winter Sports Tournaments Media and Credential Policies

The Board was presented 2007 winter sports tournament media and credential policies by Assistant Commissioner Goldring. Some of the information is the same that has been approved in the sports regulations that appear in the OHSAA Handbook, but additional policies have been developed to provide specifics for media members on how to request state tournament credentials, what criteria will be used to approve or deny requests for credentials and what procedures shall be followed when approval is granted for covering the specific state tournaments.

D. District Athletic Board Review Committee Recommendations

Rick Edwards, chair of the District Athletic Board Review Committee, said his committee did not have any recommendations but may have some in upcoming Board meetings.

E. Rescinding of Proposal to Change How Schools are Assigned to Divisions for OHSAA Tournaments

Board President Snodgrass and Commissioner Ross reviewed a proposal that the Board approved in June which attempted to reduce the disparity in enrollments between schools that compete in Division I in OHSAA tournaments. The plan would have placed a smaller number of schools in Division I tournaments and distributed the other schools among the remaining divisions, with the result being that schools with more similar enrollments would have been assigned to the various divisions. That proposal was made by an OHSAA subcommittee that was comprised of OHSAA staff and district athletic board members along with superintendents, principals and athletic administrators from across the state.

After consulting with the OHSAA Board and staff members along with hearing feedback from the OHSAA membership, the Board has decided to rescind that decision immediately, with the result being that the OHSAA will retain its longstanding tournament regulation which says that as equal number of schools as possible will be assigned to each division of OHSAA tournaments that have multiple divisions.

F. Ball Contract Recommendation - Volleyball and Basketball

Commissioner Ross, Assistant Commissioner Neil and OHSAA legal counsel Steve Craig reviewed the process that was used to select official OHSAA tournament balls in the sports of volleyball and boys and girls basketball. After receiving five proposals, a committee comprised of OHSAA staff members and officers with the state volleyball coaches association recommends that, pending completion of the final contract, Molten be selected to serve as the official volleyball for the OHSAA Tournaments in 2007 and 2008, with an option for 2009. After receiving four proposals, a committee comprised of OHSAA staff members and officers with

Board of Control Minutes (1/11/07) – 4

the state basketball coaches association recommends that, pending completion of the final contract, Rawlings be selected to serve as the official basketball for the OHSAA Girls and Boys Tournaments in 2008, 2009 and 2010, with an option for 2011.

Motion by Dan Bise, second by Beth Hill to **table** New Business item VI A.

Motion passed 8-0.

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by Phil Stevens to **approve** New Business items VI B., VI C., VI D., VI E. and VI F. as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

G. Recommendation From OHSAA Technology Subcommittee

Rick Edwards, chair of the OHSAA Technology Subcommittee, reviewed the charge and process his subcommittee used to select a company that would oversee a comprehensive, integrated web-based data storage and access system for the OHSAA. He said the system will positively impact everyone who gathers, records, manages, communicates and consumes data related to the OHSAA and Ohio's interscholastic athletics. Mr. Edwards said that when the vendor is selected, the OHSAA will move forward with implementation of this state-of-the-art system with the goal of using technology to the best possible advantage of member schools, the OHSAA and everyone with whom the Association interacts. This team effort, supported by the new technology partner, will enable the OHSAA to achieve much higher levels of efficiency, accuracy, cost-effectiveness and communications as it continues into the future.

Mr. Edwards said the vendor the technology subcommittee recommends to oversee this project is Index Blue/Digital Scout, a subsidiary of the Digital School Network, which is located in Columbus.

Motion by Phil Ackerman, second by Karen O'Hare to **approve** the recommendation pending the completion of a final three-year contract.

Motion passed 8-0.

It was noted that the OHSAA will immediately e-mail, mail and post on its web site information for the OHSAA member schools and contest officials that thoroughly explains the benefits of the new system; the implementation timeline for the project; the training timeline for the project; information on our new technology partner, Index Blue/Digital Scout; a review of the selection process, and frequently asked questions.

Board President Snodgrass thanked Mr. Edwards and the OHSAA staff members present for all their work and effort in serving on the subcommittee.

H. Proposal from the Ohio High School Football Coaches Association

The Board of Control was provided with a proposal from the Ohio High School Football Coaches Association that would give an exemption from the OHSAA non-interscholastic participation regulation (seven days of coaching permitted between June 1 and July 31) to those schools who compete in a 7-on-7 passing tournament that is associated with the North-South All-Star Football Game. Steve Channell, president of the state coaches association, was present to answer questions from the Board.

Motion by George Rise to **approve** the proposal.

Motion died for a lack of a second.

I. Deadline for Appeals to be Heard by the Board of Control

Commissioner Ross reported to the Board that the OHSAA staff recommends that the Association's appeals process be modified which would place a deadline for the office to receive appeals that the Board of Control is to hear at its next meeting. The deadline would be 4:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the upcoming Board of Control meeting. Appeals not received by that time would be heard at the next scheduled meeting.

Motion by Phil Ackerman, second by Bill Schumacher to **approve** the recommendation.

Motion passed 8-0.

VII. APPEALS

A. Probation, Mr. John Dodd, Former High School Tennis Coach, New Albany High School (Central District)

John Dodd, a former boys tennis coach at New Albany High School, was placed on probation for the 2006-07 school year by the OHSAA for displaying unsporting behavior at the 2006 OHSAA Boys State Tennis Tournaments while coaching for New Albany. Attorney Christopher Pettit, Mr. Dodd and his wife, Barbara; Paul and Paula Kobelt, and Tom Oliver, New Albany's assistant coach during the tournaments, appealed the decision by the OHSAA so that the probation will be overturned.

Motion by Dan Bise, second by Phil Ackerman to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 8-0.

B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Victor Hunter, re: His Son, Grade 12, Cincinnati Taft High School (Southwest District)

A 12th-grade student started the 2006-07 school year at Cincinnati Western Hills High School before transferring to Cincinnati Princeton and then to Cincinnati Taft. He has been ruled ineligible for interscholastic

Board of Control Minutes (1/11/07) – 5

athletics by the OHSAA in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because he does not meet any of the exceptions to the Bylaw. The student and his parents, Victor Hunter and Sheila Hunter, appealed the ineligibility so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Taft .

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by Phil Ackerman to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 8-0.

C. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Attorney Lawrence Hupertz, re: A 10th-Grade Student, Mentor Lake Catholic High School (Northeast District)

A 10th-grade student transferred from Painesville Riverside High School to Mentor Lake Catholic High School prior to this school year and has been ruled ineligible for interscholastic athletics by the OHSAA for one year from the date of enrollment at the new school in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because he does not meet any of the exceptions to the Bylaw. The student's father, Tim Imler, and attorney Lawrence Hupertz appealed the ineligibility based on Exception 6 to the Bylaw so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Lake Catholic immediately without having to sit out the 2006-07 school year.

Motion by George Rise, second by Phil Stevens to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 8-0.

D. Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, Mr. Sherman C. Micsak, Assistant Superintendent, re: Three 12th-Grade Students, Bedford High School (Northeast District)

Three 12th-grade students at Bedford High School have been ruled ineligible for interscholastic athletics for the current grading period of the 2006-07 school year by the OHSAA in accordance with Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, because they did not receive passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent which count toward graduation during the immediately preceding grading period. The school's assistant superintendent, Sherman Micsak, appealed the ineligibility so that the students will be eligible for interscholastic athletics immediately without having to sit out the rest of the current grading period.

Motion by Phil Ackerman, second by Karen O'Hare to **deny** the appeal on two of the three students.

Motion passed 8-0.

It was noted that no action was taken on the third student since an appeal on his behalf was previously denied by the Board of Control.

E. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, A 12th-Grade Student, Elyria First Baptist Christian School (Northeast District)

A 12th-grade student transferred from LaGrange Keystone High School to Elyria First Baptist Christian School prior to this school year and has been ruled ineligible for interscholastic athletics by the OHSAA in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because he does not meet any of the exceptions to the Bylaw. The student and a mentor, Jim Davis, appealed the ineligibility based on Exception 6 to the Bylaw so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at First Baptist.

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by George Rise to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 8-0.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Carol Russo of the Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association thanked the Board for approving the new ball contract with Molten. She said preliminary discussions have taken place with the company to sponsor a Breast Cancer Awareness Day in the fall.
- B. Bob Brigati of the Ohio High School Football Coaches Association asked whether a committee would be reorganized to review the boundaried schools vs. non-boundaried schools issue. Commissioner Ross said a committee would reconvene to review the division alignment issues.

Motion by Karen O'Hare, second by Dan Bise to adjourn the meeting at 1:18 p.m.

Motion passed 8-0.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

FUTURE MEETINGS

(All meetings on Thursdays in the OHSAA Board Room at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise stated.)

February 15, 2007; April 5, 2007; May 10, 2007; June 7, 2007; August 9, 2007; September 13, 2007; October 11 2007, and December 6, 2007.