



Section IX Athletics

Gregory Ransom, Executive Director

Section IX Athletic Council Meeting Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 14, 2024

1. Call to Order - Greg Ransom
All members present except: Ray Castellani, Dr. Joe Morgan, Roberta Greene, Derek Adams, and Greg Warren. Dennis Burkett is proxy for Greg Warren.
2. Review of Meeting Materials
Section IX information was distributed online and given to the Athletic Council.
3. Approval of April 9, 2024, Minutes
Motion to approve made by Brian Monahan, seconded by David Coates. All in favor. Motion carried.
4. Financial Report – Linda Trapani
Motion to approve the Financial Report made by Dr. Ivan Katz, seconded by Brian Monahan. All in favor. Motion carried.
The Section IX Sports Dues form for 2024-2025 was distributed to the Athletic Directors. Due date for the form to be submitted is Friday, June 3, 2024.
5. Section IX NYSPHSAA Representatives- Roberta Greene and David Coates
 - a. Greg Ransom reported that Robbie Greene will not seek another term as Female Representative effective September 1, 2024. Greg thanked Robbie for her 25 years of service. Thank you, Robbie.
 - b. David discussed the Action Items that were approved by NYSPHSAA. All Items to be discussed by the Leagues have been sent to the Leagues for discussion.
6. NYSPHSAA Office Report – Joe Altieri
 - a. Joe congratulated Robbie on her upcoming induction into the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame.
 - b. Athletic Directors should review the *Anyone Can Save a Life* program.
 - c. Joe discussed the Proposed Amendment relating to Mixed Competition and Extra Class Athletic Activities. Greg Ransom reviewed his Executive Directors meeting. There are many changes that could be happening. NYSPHSAA is putting together comments and items for the Sections to review. Athletic Directors need to have a conversation with the School District Administration on the affect this Proposed Amendment will have on Girls Sports. Greg Ransom will set up a Section IX Committee to review the Proposed Amendment. Greg would also be available to attend and discussed the Proposed Amendment with the District Superintendents at their meeting.
7. Combining of Teams - Tim Bult and Frank Alfonso
Baseball – JV – Host Liberty – Combined Homestead School. Approved by the COT Committee.
8. Spring Chair Reports
 - a. Girls Golf – Championships are on Tuesday, May 21, and Wednesday, May 22, at Apple Greens Golf Course. Tee times start at 11 am with all Coaches requested to attend to help with management and safety of the athletes.

9. Official Coordinator – Dennis Burkett
Motion to approve Section IX Contract Extension until June 30, 2028, was made by Brian Monahan, seconded by Dr. Ivan Katz. All in favor. Motion carried.
Greg thanked Dennis for his hard work.

10. Old Business

- a. Roscoe/Livingston Manor request for a Permanent Athletic Merger
Motion to approve made by Jason Semo, seconded by Dr. Ivan Katz. 3 – Yes votes; 10 No votes. Motion defeated.
- b. NYSPHSAA Female Representative
Motion by John Giametta, seconded by Jason Semo, to appoint Suzanne Lendzian as Section IX Female Representative to NYSPHAA. All in favor. Motion carried.

11. New Business

- a. Jury of Appeals Information
Greg met with the Chairperson from Cross Country, Winter Track, and Spring Track to review the process. The following outline is what was discussed and reviewed.
- i. Jury of Appeals must be set up for all Sectional and State Qualifiers.
 - ii. Those on the Jury of Appeals must remain at the competition until the last event has been completed.
 - iii. Decisions must be made on site and are final. Getting a ruling from the State Interpreter is required.
 - iv. When a decision is reached, the Athletic Directors of schools involved must be contacted.
 - v. Anyone involved in the dispute must recuse themselves.
 - vi. Sport Chairperson must notify the State Rules Interpreter of the dates of the Championships.
- Information should be stated in the Sports Handbooks.
- b. Classification Committee – JJ Gass
Motion to approve the Committee's recommendation was made by Brian Monahan, seconded by Dr. Ivan Katz. All in favor. Motion carried.
- c. Cheerleading Proposal sent to the Leagues for discussion. Sue Lendzian will contact the Cheerleading Chairpersons to review and discuss the proposal as presented.
- d. Mike White – Ocean Breeze
Mike is requesting permission to set up dates with Ocean Breeze to conduct Indoor Track meets. The Leagues will review and discuss.
- e. Section IX Golf Outing
The form needs to be completed and returned by Friday, June 7, 2024.
- f. Chris Mayo reported on the Inaugural NYSPHSAA Foundation Golf Tournament scheduled on Monday, July 29, 2024.

12. Adjournment of Section IX Meeting

Motion to adjourn by Tim Bult, seconded by Brian Monahan. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next Section IX Meeting Date:
Tuesday, June 11, 2024
Apple Greens Golf Course at 8 am

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Osborne
Section IX Secretary



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NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting

Highlights

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

1. Dr. Robert Zayas – Executive Director
 - a. Transgender Student Participation
NYSPHSAA continues to advise its member schools to place students on teams that most appropriately align with students' gender identity.
 - b. NYSPHSAA Amateur Rule
It is imperative student-athletes and their parents/guardians are aware of the NYSPHSAA Amateur Rule, which prohibits accepting money or other compensation when competing in non-NYSPHSAA sponsored events.
 - c. NYSED – Mixed Competition
The New York State Education Department (NYSED) is currently in the process of reviewing regulations and guidance related to mixed gender competition in athletics teams; it is anticipated regulatory revisions will be presented at an upcoming Board of Regents meeting.
 - d. Anyone Can Save a Life – starts this Fall 2024
All interscholastic teams complete the program within the first two weeks of the season starting with the Fall 2024 season. A copy of the Emergency Action Plan for the team will be submitted to the Athletic Director office by the coach after the completion of the program. Teams would also be required to conduct one (1) emergency drill prior to 50% of the games being played for that team.
 - e. Future Official Start Dates
 - 2024-2025**
 - i. FALL
 1. Monday, August 19, 2024 (Week #7 – Football)
 2. Monday, August 26, 2024 (Week #8)
 - ii. WINTER
 1. Monday, November 18, 2024 (Week #20)
 - iii. SPRING
 1. Monday, March 17, 2025 (Week #37)
 - 2025-2026**
 - i. FALL
 2. Saturday, August 23, 2025 (Week #7 – Football)
 3. Monday, August 25, 2025 (Week #8)
 - ii. WINTER
 4. Monday, November 17, 2025 (Week #20)
 - iii. SPRING
 5. Monday, March 16, 2026 (Week #37)
2. Joe Altieri – Assistant Director

Spring 2024

 - a. Boys Tennis Individual –
Reminder, the State Tournament is on Friday, May 31, through Sunday, June 2.



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- b. Softball
Games have been moved to Martha Avenue Recreational Park, and the event is a two-day event with games on Friday and Saturday; optional practices on Thursday.
 - c. Championship Dates and Sites
An updated copy of NYSPHSAA Championship dates and sites
 - d. Sports that have expanded days of State Tournament

Bowling	2 to 3 days	Girls Basketball	3 to 4 days
Baseball	1 to 2 days	Boys Basketball	3 to 4 days
Softball	1 to 2 days	Girls Volleyball	2 to 3 days
Boys Soccer	2 to 3 days	Boys Volleyball	1 to 2 days
3. Todd Nelson – Assistant Director
- a. Girls Wrestling
The Wrestling Committee will be evaluating where we are in preparation for the 2024-2025 season with coaches and officials. We may bring a recommendation in July to the Central Committee to postpone the implementation of freestyle Wrestling until the 2025-2026 season.
 - b. NFHS – Educational Courses
Schools are encouraged to be proactive and encourage their coaches, students, and parents to take advantage of the courses offered by the NFHS.
4. Kristen Jadin – Assistant Director
- a. NYSPHSAA Student Leadership Conference:
The Conference was held on Thursday, March 28, 2024, in Albany, NY, with 175 student-athletes and over 20 administrators attending.
 - b. Scholar-Athlete
The Spring program commenced on Monday, April 8, 2024. The deadline for submissions is Monday, May 20, 2024.
 - c. Participation Survey
The survey will be released for schools to compete at the end of April/early May with a mid-June deadline. Completion of the survey is required and essential.
 - d. Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)
The SAAC application is open with a deadline set for Monday, June 10, 2024. Open positions are listed on the NYSPHSAA website.
5. Sectional Concerns
- a. Section I – “Schools without boundaries” participating in the current post-season NYSPHSAA structure
 - b. Section I – Defining days of the week for NYSPHSAA Sub-Regionals and Regional Finals
6. Handbook Committee
- a. Discussion Item – Handbook: Forfeit Exception for Football



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7. Safety Committee
 - a. NYSPHSAA Boys Wrestling Committee proposes an early weight certification date in October and November
8. Transfer Committee
 - a. NYSPHSAA Transfer Form for waivers and exemptions
9. Discussion Items
 - a. Discussion Items for the Leagues and Section IX Athletic Council

Respectfully submitted,

James Osborne
Section IX Secretary



NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting Recap

As of May 1, 2024

Last NYSPHSAA Meeting: May 1, 2024 (Executive Committee)

Next NYSPHSAA Meeting: July 30-31, 2024 (Central Committee)

May 1, 2024 Executive Committee Approved Items:

(Passed) (A) Consider approval of Debra Ferry as the next NYSPHSAA Officer (September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2032).

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to waive the NYSPHSAA 7-Day rule for the remainder of the 2024 Spring sports season for all sports.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to cancel the 2025 and 2026 Central Committee meeting hotel contracts and secure hotel contracts in Lake Placid (2025) and Buffalo area (2026).

(Passed) (A) Consider approval of the 2024-2025 NYSPHSAA Budget.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to permanently use the standby official (6th Official) at the semifinal and final games as an on-field working official in the sport of Football.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to revise the NYSPHSAA Drone Policy to address law enforcement.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to revise the NYSPHSAA Appeal procedures to address when the committee meets and to clarify the use of video is not permissible.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to revise the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Rule to read, *"Spectators and/or anyone involved in interscholastic athletics shall not be permitted to use vulgar/offensive or racially/culturally insensitive language or engage in any racially/culturally insensitive action. NYSPHSAA Sections may sanction, censure or place schools on probation that fail to address derogatory or inappropriate behavior deemed harmful to physical or mental well-being for those involved in interscholastic activities."*

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to add a NYSPHSAA SAAC student to all select NYSPHSAA Standing Committees as determined by the NYSPHSAA Executive Director. (Amended motion)

(Passed) (A) Consider approval of revisions to the Hall of Fame Policies and Operating Procedures.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval of waivers of the Representation Rule for various sections.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval of Friend & Neighbor and new member schools.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval of sections intent to participate in the 2024-2025 NYSPHSAA State Championships.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to allow NYSPHSAA member Football programs to start practice on the ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week #7 for Fall 2024. *(Amended motion)*

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to modify combined practice requirement in the sport of Football - "F. 11-man football may conduct 11-on-11 drills for a maximum of 10 offensive and 10 defensive plays and 8-man football may conduct 8-on-8 drills for a maximum of 10 offensive plays and 10 defensive plays."

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to adopt a three-day, bracketed tournament, starting with the 2024 season in Girls Volleyball.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval of Middletown High School as the host of the NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer Championships (2025-2027).

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to permit the use of rotating at-large berths when a Division (1, 2 or Composite) has an odd number of teams competing in the NYSPHSAA Bowling Championships. *(Amended motion to remove: "The schedule will consist of sections who have ten (10) or more competing schools for each of the respective divisions.")*

(Passed) (A) Consider approval to allow bowlers to compete in both the team and composite state tournament events at section discretion.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval for a permanent waiver of the Representation Rule reducing the minimum number of races from six (6) to three (3) in the sport of Skiing.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval of Clarence High School (2025) and Whitesboro High School (2026) as the hosts of the NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Championships.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval for Softball to adopt NFHS Rules with waivers beginning in the 2025 season.

(Passed) (A) Consider approval of Boys Lacrosse Classification Cut-off numbers for 2025.