

**PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
DISTRICT II**

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Bill King, Vice Chairman  
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Hazleton PA 18202  
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**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020 MEETING  
VIDEOCONFERENCING FORMAT**

Meeting was convened at 3 p.m. by Chairman Majikes

ITEM 1 Chairman Majikes called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

Absent, but accounted for: Jim Costello, Chad Vinansky, Ben Tolerico, and Mary Ruth Tanner

ITEM 2 A motion was made by Fred Barletta, seconded by Hal Gabriel, to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2020 meeting. **All Ayes**

ITEM 3 Pat Patte reviewed the Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2020. Currently, there is a checking account balance of \$164,042.24; a money market account balance of \$67,081.78; and, a Certificate of Deposit totaling \$12,866.81. The total fund balance as of October 31, 2020 is \$243,990.83. The balance does not include a final account from the 2020 District II Fall Championships.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Jay Starnes, seconded by Jon Pollard, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. **All Ayes**

ITEM 4 SPORTS REPORTS

- **Competitive Spirit (Hal Gabriel):** Hal Gabriel explained that due to the current pandemic circumstances, the 2020 District II Competitive Spirit Championships will be conducted in a virtual format. The format has been distributed to all athletic directors and is also available on the website. A question was brought up regarding the extension of the current deadline of December 8, 2020 as a number of schools are currently moving to a virtual format of instruction which has affected their winter sports' calendar. Hal will discuss this with the PIAA State Office and look to reschedule the deadline. Any extension of the deadline will immediately be communicated to member schools.

- **Cross Country (Bill King):** Bill King reviewed the 2020 Championships and offered a big thanks to the Wyoming Country Fairgrounds and Randy White for their assistance. Bill recommended to the committee that the 2021 site be established at the Wyoming County Fairgrounds as well. Following discussion, a motion was made by Bill King, seconded by Tim Hopkins, to establish the Wyoming Country Fairgrounds as the site for the 2021 Cross Country Championships. **All Ayes** Bill King will contact the Lakeland School District Administration and thank them for the opportunity they provided the District in hosting the Championships over the last few years.
- **Field Hockey (Hal Gabriel):** Hal Gabriel reviewed the recently completed 2020 District II Field Hockey Championships and offered special congratulations to the 2020 PIAA State Field Hockey A Champions Wyoming Seminary.
- **Football (Mike Ognosky):** Mike Ognosky reviewed the 2020 Championships and thanked committee members and host athletic directors for their assistance in conducting this year's championships.
- **Golf (Joe Farrell):** Joe Farrell reviewed the 2020 Championships and offered special congratulations to the 2020 PIAA State Golf AA Team Champions Scranton Prep.
- **Soccer (Brian Durkin):** Brian Durkin thanked all of the athletic directors that hosted games in this year's championships and to those committee members who served as game managers for the Championship games.
- **Tennis (John Coyle):** Mike Ognosky reviewed the 2020 Girls' Championships and offered special congratulations to the Riverside doubles team of Bella Aniska and Madeline DeFaber Schumaker on their third place finish in the 2020 PIAA State Tennis Girls Doubles Championships.
- **Volleyball (Maureen Williams):** Maureen Williams reviewed the 2020 Fall Girls' Championships and thanked all of the athletic directors who hosted matches throughout the tournament. This year's format had all matches at the site of the higher seed throughout all rounds of the championships.

**At 3:30 p.m. the meeting was halted as the Committee conducted a hearing at the request of a member school in order to consider granting eligibility for a student-athlete in accordance with Article VIII, Sections 1A and 1B of the PIAA By-Laws. The hearing was conducted as a closed hearing as requested by the member school. The hearing and deliberation was conducted and the regular meeting then resumed at 4:35 p.m.**

ITEM 5

The following motions were made granting the following students  
**IMMEDIATE ELIGIBILITY IN BOTH THE REGULAR SEASON**

**AND POST-SEASON** in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section VI of the PIAA By-Laws, Principal to Principal Sign off:

- A motion was made by Bill Schoen, seconded by Eric Emmerich, to approve the immediate eligibility of Trevor Balcerzak, Holy Cross to Riverside. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made Pat Patte, seconded by John Coyle, to approve the immediate eligibility of Michael Braswell, Shawnee School to Wallenpaupack. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Tim Hopkins, seconded by Dave Novrocki, to approve the immediate eligibility of Taheed Jewell, West Scranton to Valley View. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by John Haas, seconded by Bill King, to approve the immediate eligibility of Clark Mead, Nanticoke Area to Northwest Area. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Ron Collins, seconded by Jon Pollard, to approve the immediate eligibility of Patrick Remley, Jr., Lake-Lehman to Nanticoke Area. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Brian Durkin, seconded by Joe Farrell, to approve the immediate eligibility of Ryleigh Collins, Scranton Prep to Wyoming Seminary. **All Ayes**

- ITEM 6 Chairman Majikes provided the committee members with an update on a recently conducted subregional panel eligibility hearing involving District II and District XI. He thanked committee members Jim Costello, Tim Hopkins, and Eric Emmerich for participating with him in the hearing involving the transfer of a student-athlete from Hazleton Area (District II) to Marian Catholic (District XI).
- ITEM 7 Chairman Majikes provided the committee with a number of communications from the PIAA and State Senate to the Department of Health regarding clarification on the wearing of masks by student-athletes during competition. The communications from Dr. Lombardi and Senator Martin asked for clarification on the issue in time for the state championships in Soccer, Girls Volleyball, Field Hockey and Football. Currently, the wearing of masks during competition is left to individual schools to decide the issue. As of today's meeting date, the Department of Health has not responded to the communications.
- ITEM 8 Chairman Majikes reviewed the events of the last PIAA Board of Directors meeting held on November 18, 2020 and provided each committee member with a summary of actions taken during the meeting. Chairman Majikes highlighted the following items in his discussions –

- **Item #5 – “Approved on a second reading basis, a motion to amend language of ARTICLE VI, TRANSFERS, RESIDENCE, AND RECRUITING, Section 2, Eligibility of Transfers, A., In-Season Transfers, B., Out-of-Season Transfer, and C., Waiver provision of A and/or B relating to when a District Committee may grant eligibility if certain situations are met.”**
- **Item #10 – “Directed Executive Staff to develop proposed language to address temporary schools closures and the interruption of practice for consideration by the Board of Directors at their December 9, 2020 meeting.”** This was as a result of recent District hearings regarding temporary closures of schools due to pandemic situations as well as other factors such as inclement weather, etc.

- ITEM 9            A discussion was held regarding the ordering of plaques and medals for the Winter Championships. Following discussion, Bill Schoen was directed to contact Honor Awards to inform them to go ahead with their order.
- ITEM 10           A discussion was held regarding the starting dates for winter sports as they have been affected in many districts by the current pandemic situation. Mike Ognosky will send out an email to Athletic Directors asking them to load their 2020-2021 winter schedules in to the power rankings as they currently stand. Special emphasis will be placed on the Wrestling schedules as it will be the first use of the power rankings in Wrestling.
- ITEM 11           Fred Barletta informed the committee that he has met with the District II Swim Coaches regarding preliminary discussions regarding the District II Swimming Championships and potential issues that may arise due to the pandemic.
- ITEM 12           Congratulations to the following Football Officiating Crew that has been selected to work in the 2020 PIAA State Football AA Championship game between Southern Columbia (D4) and Wilmington (D7). Crew members include Greg Zumbach, Mike Hartzell, John Bayzick, Stan Zaneski, Chris Barnic, Chuck Hannon, and Dave Novrocki.
- ITEM 13           A motion was made by Bill Schoen, seconded by Pat Patte, to approve the cooperative sports’ agreement between Old Forge and Pittston in the sport of Wrestling. **All Ayes**
- ITEM 14           A motion was made by Bill King, seconded by Maureen Williams, to adjourn the meeting. **All Ayes**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING – TIME AND SITE TO BE DETERMINED**

**Submitted by**

*Mike Ognosky*

*District II Secretary*