

**MINUTES OF JULY 24, 2019 MEETING  
@ WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

Meeting was convened at 4:15 p.m. by Chairman Majikes

ITEM 1 Chairman Majikes called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.  
Absent but accounted for: John Coyle, Joseph Farrell, Bill King, Bill Schoen and Mary Ruth Tanner

Visitor Present: Don Rogers, District II Solicitor

ITEM 2 Chairman Majikes began the meeting by welcoming the newest member of the PIAA District II Committee, James Costello, the new PSBA School Boards' Representative selected to serve on the Committee. Jim is a member of the Crestwood School Board.

ITEM 3 Chairman Majikes offered congratulations to Maureen Willams. Maureen was the recipient of the annual Neil Corbett Award presented by the Citizens Voice.

Committee members also congratulated Chairman Majikes on his selection to the Luzerne County Sports' Hall of Fame.

ITEM 4 A motion was made by Fred Barletta, seconded by Tim Hopkins, congratulating Chris Gegaris on his faithful years of service to the District II Committee. **All Ayes**

ITEM 5 Pat Patte, District II treasurer presented the treasurer's report for May 2019 and June 2019. The May report showed a total fund balance of \$268,220.36 while the June report showed a total fund balance of \$227,427.71. Pat explained that in the month of June all of the expense checks for the 2019 District II Spring Championships in all sports were issued resulting in the decrease in the total fund balance. A motion was made by Ben Tolerico, seconded by Maureen Williams, to approve both the May 2019 and June 2019 Treasurer's Reports as submitted. **All Ayes**

ITEM 6 A motion was made by Tim Hopkins, seconded by Hal Gabriel, to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2019 monthly meeting. **All Ayes**

ITEM 7 SPORTS REPORTS:

- **Baseball (Frank Majikes)** – We have been notified by the SWB Railriders that the 2020 International League schedule has them hosting games on both Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> and Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

(Memorial Day) next year at 1 p.m. Frank reviewed the various scenarios for scheduling the 2020 District II Baseball Championships at PNC Field. Following discussion, a motion was made by Jay Starnes, seconded by Fred Barletta, to schedule the championships as follows:

Sunday, May 24 <sup>th</sup>	6 p.m.	5A Championship
Monday, May 25 <sup>th</sup>	6 p.m.	6A Championship
Tuesday, May 26 <sup>th</sup>	5 p.m.	1A Championship
Tuesday, May 26 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	3A Championship
Wednesday, May 27 <sup>th</sup>	5 p.m.	2A Championship
Wednesday, May 27 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	4A Championship

### **All Ayes**

- **Basketball (Frank Majikes)** – We have received a request from the Arena Authority to assist the Arena with recovering lost revenue due to the elimination of the parking fee for the District II Basketball Championships. The Arena receives parking revenue from all of its events, but has waived that fee for our championships in the past. After discussion, a motion was made by Pat Patte, seconded by Hal Gabriel, to raise the admission price for students for the 2020 Basketball Championships from \$4 to \$5 while leaving the adult admission price at \$8. **All Ayes**
- **Football (Mike Ognosky)** – Mike presented the 2020 Football Procedures and the 2020 District Football Playoff Schedule and Format to the committee for their review. A motion was made by Brian Durkin, seconded by Dave Novrocki, to approve the format as submitted. **All Ayes**
- **Soccer (Brian Durkin)** – Brian brought to the attention of the Committee that many of the Athletic Directors’ favor a return to neutral sites for the District Soccer Championship games. Due to the lack of availability of neutral sites the District moved to higher seeds hosting the championship games in the past two cycles. The request to move back to neutral sites will be reviewed for consideration for the next two year cycle beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.
- **Track and Field (John Coyle)** – In John’s absence, Chairman Majikes led a discussion on the Athletic Director’s request to change the Track Championships from the current format to a two day event involving AA and AAA on both days and spreading out the event schedule in order to provide additional rest time between events for athletes and, hopefully, better opportunity at the state championships. After discussion, a motion was made by Fred Barletta, seconded by John Haas, that consideration be given to this suggested change in format for the next two year cycle. **All**

**Ayes.** Chairman Majikes appointed a five man committee – to be led by Fred Barletta, John Coyle Bill King, John Haas and Brian Durkin – to review the request and come back to the Committee with a recommendation to be implemented in the next two year cycle.

- **Volleyball (Maureen Williams)** – Maureen presented the financial report for the 2019 District II Boys Volleyball Championships. A motion was made by Pat Patte, seconded by Tim Hopkins, to approve the report as submitted. **All Ayes** In addition, a discussion was held regarding the scheduling of the Volleyball championship sites. Following that discussion, a motion was made by Pat Patte, seconded by Hal Gabriel, that with the beginning of the next two year cycle in 2020-2021, all Volleyball Championship Playoff matches through the quarterfinals will be held as single matches at the site of the higher seed. **All Ayes.** This will eliminate the current double header format in the quarterfinals in those classifications that are pure District II tournaments.
- **Wrestling (Jay Starnes)** – Jay explained that the Wrestling Committee will be meeting to discuss the qualification process for the AA team championships. With the loss of Meyers and GAR in AA Wrestling, there are now 4 WVC AA schools and 7 AA Lackawanna League Schools.
- **Officials (Maureen Williams & Bill Schoen)** – Maureen reminded everyone of the upcoming Officials Convention on August 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Center in Harrisburg. Also, she asked all officials to go to the PIAA State Website, [www.piaa.org](http://www.piaa.org), and review the latest volume of the “PIAA News”. It contains a number of articles pertinent to officials regarding the new rules changes in the various Fall Sports.

ITEM 8

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 Dave Novrocki, seconded by Hal Gabriel, to approve the immediate eligibility of Giancarlo Escobar, Dunmore to Holy Cross, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Jay Starnes, seconded by Maureen Williams, to approve the immediate eligibility of Gavin Grems, Dunmore to Holy Cross, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers,

Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**

- A motion was made by James Costello, seconded by Chad Vinansky, to approve the immediate eligibility of Cole Jackson, Howard Gardner Charter to Valley View, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by John Haas, seconded by Fred Barletta, to approve the immediate eligibility of Evan Jenner, Holy Cross to Valley View, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Ben Tolerico, seconded by Eric Emmerich, to approve the immediate eligibility of Claudio Jimenez, Scranton/Agora Cyber to Riverside, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Chad Vinansky, seconded by Hal Gabriel, to approve the immediate eligibility of Olivia Lord, Keller Central (Texas) to Honesdale, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Fred Barletta, seconded by Ron Collins, to approve the immediate eligibility of Braxton Lowe, Valley Forge Military Academy to Scranton Prep, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Jay Starnes, seconded by Pat Patte, to approve the immediate eligibility of Jeremy Rocha, Holy Cross to Valley View, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Eric Emmerich, seconded by Jim Costello, to approve the immediate eligibility of Matthew Show, Mekeel Christian Academy (NY) to Abington Heights, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Dave Novrocki, seconded by Chad Vinansky, to approve the immediate eligibility of Michael Show, Mekeel Christian Academy (NY) to Abington Heights, in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section 4, Principal to Principal sign off, of the PIAA by-laws. **All Ayes**

ITEM 9

The following motions were made granting the following students  
**ELIGIBLE IN THE REGULAR SEASON BUT NOT IN THE POST-**

**SEASON** in accordance with Article VI, Transfers, Residence, and Recruiting, Section VI, Subsection C, In Season Transfers, Section 2, Eligibility for Post Season Championship Tournaments, of the PIAA By-Laws, Principal to Principal Sign off:

- A motion was made by Maureen Williams, seconded by Eric Emmerich, to approve the in season eligibility of Jack Allardyce, Scranton Prep to Holy Cross, effective immediately. Jack will not be eligible for post season competition in the sports of Basketball, Cross Country, and Track and Field. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Tim Hopkins, seconded by Ben Tolerico, to approve the in season eligibility of Angel Campos, Delaware Valley to Wallenpaupack, effective immediately. Angel will not be eligible for post season competition in the sports of Football and Track and Field. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Hal Gabriel, seconded by Pat Patte, to approve the in season eligibility of Camus Howie, Scranton to Holy Cross, effective immediately. Camus will not be eligible for post season competition in the sport of Tennis. **All Ayes**

- ITEM 10 A motion was made by Chad Vinansky, seconded by Brian Durkin, to instruct the Chairman to schedule an eligibility hearing regarding the transfer of Robert Grzybowski, Holy Cross to Riverside. Robert will be ineligible to participate in athletics pending the outcome of that hearing. **All Ayes**
- ITEM 11 Chairman Majikes informed the committee that there is currently a vacancy on the District II Committee. That position must be filled by a High School Principal from one of the Wyoming Valley Conference schools. Mike Ognosky will inform the WVC Athletic Directors of the opening as well as placing an announcement on the webpage. Applications of interest will be due no later than Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.
- ITEM 12 Chairman Majikes provided the committee members with the tentative schedule for monthly committee meetings for the 2019-2020 school year. Meetings will be held monthly on the third Wednesday of the month at locations to be determined.
- ITEM 13 Chairman Majikes distributed the PIAA August Calendar of Events. Highlighted the dates for the first official practice date on Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, first scrimmage date of Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> (for all sports with the exception of Golf (which is Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>); first regular season contest date for Golf (Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>); first regular season date for Girls Tennis (Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>); and, first regular season date for all of the remaining sports (Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup>).

- ITEM 14 Chairman Majikes reviewed the summary of the last PIAA Board of Directors' Meeting held on Wednesday, July 17, 2019. A summary of the minutes is available on the District II Website under the "District News Tab" at the top and then the "PIAA State Office Information" story.
- ITEM 15 Chairman Majikes informed the committee that Dallas and River of Life Academy have been approved to have swimming as a cooperative sport for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year.
- ITEM 16 Chairman Majikes informed the committee that Mike Namey will be the Athletic Director of the Wilkes-Barre Area High School. Simon Peters and Cliff Jones will assist Mike in various assigned sports' responsibilities. Dr. Brian Costello will serve as the Acting Principal in matters relating to athletics.
- ITEM 17 A discussion was held regarding a request by Royal Publishing to offer free tournament programs for selected District II Championship tournaments. After discussion, the committee recommended that Chairman Majikes arrange a presentation from Royal at a future District II Committee Meeting.
- ITEM 18 Chairman Majikes distributed the PIAA District II Committee Members 2019-2020 Directory for review. All members are requested to review their information and provide Chairman Majikes with any necessary changes or adjustments.
- ITEM 19 Chairman Majikes distributed a handout to committee members reviewing the rules changes in the various fall sports.
- ITEM 20 The Committee discussed the current method of determining District II Champions in those sports and classifications were we are in a subregional with another district. There is a concern that with the increase in classifications that has resulted in more involvement in subregionals that the district should review its current procedures in determining the District II Champion. Chairman Majikes will establish a Committee to review this concern and come back with a recommendation prior to the next two year cycle.
- ITEM 21 Discussion was held regarding the current District II policy and procedures in distributing school shares in Basketball and Football. Following that discussion, it was decided that the matter will continue under review with a decision to be made prior to the beginning of the Football playoffs.
- ITEM 22 A motion was made by Tim Hopkins, seconded by Ron Collins, to adjourn the meeting. **All Ayes**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mike Ognosky*

Mike Ognosky  
District II Secretary

**THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE PIAA DISTRICT II  
COMMITTEE IS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2019 – SITE AND TIME TO BE  
ANNOUNCED**