

**PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
DISTRICT II**

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**AUGUST 19, 2026 MEETING
@ WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

Meeting was convened at 4 p.m. by Chairman Frank Majikes.

- ITEM 1 Chairman Majikes called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.
- ITEM 2 Absent but accounted for: Rodman Azar, Fred Barletta, John Coyle, Brian Durkin, Peter Jordan, and Matt Nonnenberg.
- ITEM 3 A motion was made by Tim Hopkins, seconded by John Pollard, to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2026, monthly meeting. Those minutes will now be posted to the District II website. **All Ayes**
- ITEM 4 Pat Patte, District II Treasurer, reviewed both the June 2026 and July 2026 Monthly Treasurer Reports. The June 2026 report showed a total fund balance of \$519,125.11 with \$53,824.76 in the checking account and the remainder in various Money Market and Certificate of Deposits. The July 2026 report reflected a total fund balance of \$514,844.59 with \$49,316.98 and the remainder in various Money Market and Certificate of Deposits. A motion was made by Chad Vinansky, seconded by Ron Collins, to approve the Treasurer's Report. **All Ayes**

A discussion was led by Pat Patte regarding our current ticket prices for District contests. Recent developments require that the ticket prices for both presale tickets and gate tickets be the same. Given that development, a motion was made by Jon Pollard, seconded by Ben Tolerico, to set the ticket price for admission to District Championships at \$10 (including all fees) for presale tickets purchased through Hometown Ticketing and \$10 for cash ticket purchases at the event. Spectators are reminded that no change is allowed to be given at the gate so please have exact amount for the tickets available at the time of purchase. **All Ayes**

A discussion was led by Pat Patte regarding the current fee for individual participation in District Championship events in Tennis, Cross Country, Track and Field, Swimming and Diving, and Wrestling. Currently, schools are assessed \$8 per athlete for such participation. A motion was made by Tim Hopkins, seconded by John Haas, to assess \$9 per athlete for

District participation commencing with the Fall 2026 Championships. **12 Ayes, 1 Nay, Motion Carried**

A discussion was led by Pat Patte regarding the failure of a small number of District II schools to meet their financial obligations in those sports that require school payment for individual participation in Tennis, Cross Country, Track and Field, Swimming and Diving, and Wrestling. Pat explained that there are schools that have not met that payment obligation for the past few years in some sports. Numerous communications to those schools has failed to produce results. Chairman Majikes directed Pat Patte to provide him with a list of schools that are in arrears and he will communicate directly with the school administration. A motion was made by Jon Pollard, seconded by Hal Gabriel, that those schools be required to make payments due by October 1st or they will be excluded from competition in those sports at the district level for this coming year. **All Ayes**

ITEM 5 Congratulations to our District Chairman, Frank Majikes, who was the recipient of the PIAA Award of Merit at the recently conducted Annual PIAA Officials' Convention. The award is presented by the PIAA Board of Directors to individuals who have provided many years of devoted and exemplary service to PIAA member schools, student-athletes, and registered sports' officials. For more than 60 years, his leadership, dedication, and commitment have positively impacted student-athletes, schools, and officials throughout Pennsylvania.

Chairman Majikes also recognized three District II officials who were recognized at the Convention for 30 years of service. Those officials included Bryan Finegan, Robert S. Jones, and John D. Loomis.

ITEM 6 SPORTS REPORTS:

- **Cross Country (Chad Vinansky):** Chad Vinansky announced that the Cross Country championships will continue at the Wyoming County Fair Grounds and the proposed date is Wednesday, October 28th. The last competition date in the Lackawanna League schedule is Tuesday, October 20th. The PIAA State Cross Country Championships are scheduled for Saturday, November 7th.
- **Field Hockey (Hal Gabriel):** Hal Gabriel presented the Field Hockey Championship format for review. Following discussion, a motion was made by Ben Tolerico, seconded by Maureen Williams, to approve the format as presented. **All Ayes**
- **Tennis (Mike Ognosky):** Mike Ognosky presented the Girls Tennis Championship format for review. Following discussion, a

motion was made by Eric Emmerich, seconded by Ron Collins, to approve the format as presented. **All Ayes**

- **Competitive Spirit (Hal Gabriel):** Hal Gabriel presented the format for the Competitive Spirit Championships to be held at Wilkes-Barre Area High School on Sunday, December 13th with an inclement weather date of Sunday, December 20th. This is a change from the original date due to a conflict in scheduling. A motion was made by Jay Starnes, seconded by Mary Ruth Tanner to approve the format. **All Ayes**.
- **Golf (Ben Tolerico):** Ben Tolerico presented the Golf Championship format for review. Following discussion, a motion was made by Jay Starnes, seconded by Chris Thomas, to approve the format as presented. **All Ayes**
- **Football (Mike Ognosky):** Mike Ognosky presented the Football Championship format for review. Following discussion, a motion was made by Tim Hopkins, seconded by Mary Ruth Tanner, to approve the motion as presented. **All Ayes**
- **Soccer (Brian Durkin):** Chairman Majikes informed the committee the PIAA has conducted a number of informational sessions regarding the change in the officiating system that will be utilized this year. That change has also been a point of emphasis by the PIAA at the various rules interpretation meetings that are required across the Districts in preparation for the upcoming season.
- **Track and Field (John Coyle):** Chairman Majikes provided a copy of the updated change in qualifying standards that have been established for the 2027 Track and Field Championships. He also provided the revised standards for the receiving of medals for Para Ambulatory Athletes and Wheelchair Athletes at the PIAA Championship Meet. Those standards are available on the PIAA state webpage.

ITEM 7

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 Ron Collins, seconded by Maureen Williams, to approve the immediate eligibility of Dayvian Joseph, Scranton to Riverside. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Eric Emmerich, seconded by Chad Vinansky, to approve the immediate eligibility of Logan Seigel, Dunmore to Lackawanna Trail. **All Ayes**

- A motion was made by Hal Gabriel, seconded by Ben Tolerico, to approve the immediate eligibility of Ava Sanders, Dunmore to Wyoming Seminary. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by John Haas, seconded by Chris Thomas, to approve the immediate eligibility of Skyler Rae Knox, Wyoming Valley West to Wyoming Area. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Tim Hopkins, seconded by Mary Ruth Tanner, to approve the immediate eligibility of Dante Taylor, Abington Heights to Wyoming Area. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Dave Novrocki, seconded by Jon Pollard, to approve the immediate eligibility of Erin Nicole Cavanaugh, Crestwood to Wyoming Seminary. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Pat Patte, seconded by Ron Collins, to approve the immediate eligibility of Aiden Krall, Susquehanna to Dunmore. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Chad Vinansky, seconded by Chris Thomas, to approve the immediate eligibility of Faylinn Jane Fernandes, Wilkes-Barre Area to Wyoming Seminary. **All Ayes**

ITEM 8

The following motions were made granting the following students **IMMEDIATE ELIGIBILITY IN THE REGULAR SEASON BUT NOT IN THE 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 Jon Pollard, seconded by Eric Emmerich, to approve the immediate eligibility of Clarie Goldstein, Shipley to Honesdale. Claire will not be eligible for the post season in the sports of Field Hockey and Track and Field for the 2026-2027 school year. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Jay Starnes, seconded by Hal Gabriel, to approve the immediate eligibility of Cole Jordan, Marian Catholic to Hazleton Area. Cole will not be eligible for the post season in the sport of Baseball for the 2026-2027 school year. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Ben Tolerico, seconded by John Haas, to approve the immediate eligibility of Kevin Batzel, Dunmore to Mid Valley. Kevin will not be eligible for the post season in the sport of Basketball for the 2026-2027 school year. **All Ayes**
- A motion was made by Mary Ruth Tanner, seconded by Tim Hopkins, to approve the immediate eligibility of Samuel Decker, Riverside to Scranton Prep. Samuel will not be eligible for the post season in the sport of Baseball for the 2026-2027 school year.

- ITEM 9 A motion was made by Eric Emmerich, seconded by Ron Collins, to approve the immediate eligibility of Gabriel De Llano Duran, Spain to Montrose, in accordance with Article VII, Foreign Exchange Students, of the PIAA By-Laws. **All Ayes**
- ITEM 10 A motion was made by John Haas, seconded by Hal Gabriel, to approve the immediate eligibility of Guilherme Alves, Brazil to Montrose, in accordance with Article VII, Foreign Exchange Students, of the PIAA By-Laws. **All Ayes**
- ITEM 11 A motion was made by Dave Novrocki, seconded by Tim Hopkins, to approve the immediate eligibility of Skaken Shardarbek, Kazakhstan to Berwick, in accordance with Article VII, Foreign Exchange Students, of the PIAA By-Laws. **All Ayes**
- ITEM 12 A motion was made by Jon Pollard, seconded by Pat Patte, to approve the immediate eligibility of Lily Marie Franke, Germany to Berwick, in accordance with Article VII, Foreign Exchange Students, of the PIAA By-Laws. **All Ayes**
- ITEM 13 Chairman Majikes reviewed the summary of the PIAA State Board of Directors' actions from the Wednesday, July 15, 2026 meeting. The summary is available for review on the PIAA State website at www.piaa.org. Among the actions taken of interest were the following:
- The Board approved to reduce the number of 4 X 800 M Relay Heats in the state meet by capping the final section of the 4 X 800 M Relay to 12 qualifiers and that the rest of the qualifiers would be placed in a single heat as the first heat, limiting the event to no more than 2 heats of 4 X 800 M Relay per gender.
 - The Board approved the 2027 Track and Field Standards.
 - The Board approved to modify Rule 3-1-3 to establish flexible lineups for any sub-varsity softball contest. The Board also approved to establish flexible lineups for all sub-varsity baseball contests.
 - The Board approved on a third and final reading, the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 Fall Sports Maximum number of qualifiers and brackets. The Board also approved a first reading of the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 Winter Sports Maximum number of qualifiers and brackets.
 - The Board denied permitting basketball officials to wear the Smitty NCAA Body Flex Basketball Shirt or a similar version shirt to be worn.
 - The Board approved the termination of the existing cooperative agreement in the sport of Girls Volleyball between Wyoming Seminary and Dallas.

- The Board approved the Spring Championship sites through the 2029-2030 school year. To view the list of championship sites and a full press release visit the state website.

ITEM 14 Chairman Majikes distributed a copy of our existing sub-regional formats for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years. A copy of those formats is available on our webpage.

ITEM 15 Chairman Majikes distributed NFHS guidance in the sport of football regarding health precautionary techniques and recommendations for lineman in attempt to head off head exhaustion concerns. Those informational items have been previously distributed to the District II schools.

ITEM 16 A motion was made by Hal Gabriel, seconded by Tim Hopkins, to adjourn the meeting. **All Ayes**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Ognosky

Mike Ognosky

District II Secretary