

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
UHSAA Office
Wednesday, October 6, 2021
9:00 am

Members Present: Greg Wilkey, David Dunn, Todd Quarnberg, Darrell Jensen, Jason Smith, Tom Sherwood, Bill Sivert, Doug Webb, Ryan Bishop, Rusty Taylor, Mike Monson, Steve Gordon, Kade Morrell, Jim Langford, Nate Marshall, Jade Shepherd, Craig Morris, Ty Kennedy, Brady Fails, Jim Wood, Kayce May-Riches, Marc Hunter, Rob Cuff, Jeff Cluff, Brenan Jackson, and Jon Oglesby. Excused: Craig Hammer, Jodi Parker, Jackie Thompson, Clayton Carter and Darin Jenkins. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. **Welcome and Chair Business:** Mr. Cuff excused Chair Hammer who was unable to attend the meeting. He also excused Jodi Parker, Jackie Thompson, Clayton Carter and Darin Jenkins. He welcomed Bobby Porter who was filling in for Ms. Thompson and Sarah Swalberg for Mr. Carter. He excused Ms. Whittaker who was running the 4A State Golf Tournament, Mr. Cluff will be coming late after starting 3A State Golf in Tooele and Mr. Oglesby was with representatives of the NFHS. Salem Hills HS was named the Performing Arts School in the nation for the music, theatre, speech and debate. The NFHS representatives were presenting the award to Salem Hills at a school assembly. Mr. Oglesby would come around noon and then he needs to return to Salem Hills HS for a concert later this evening. Mr. Cuff congratulated Salem Hills HS and said it was a great honor for them and their community. Justin Bills is their music director and has served on the NFHS Music Committee and Douglas Welton is their debate coach and has served on the NFHS Debate Committee. Mr. Welton is also a state legislator.

A. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Smith said the beginning of the year has been filled with hostility, destruction and violent behavior both at school and in the community. He has problems with parents at sanctioned activities and he does not have an explanation for the behavior. Since becoming a principal he feels that kindness, respect and patience needs to be at the forefront in performing their job. He recognizes the difficulty of doing that in all situations. He encouraged members to take a deep breath and be proactive with kindness. He believes it is possible and they can still hold to policies and expectations. He then offered a prayer.

B. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Bishop said that Wasatch HS has had a traumatic beginning. He recognized that many members have dealt with hard things this year. He used a visual aid to demonstrate stake holders and how crazy they can become. Opinions, divisiveness and polarization happens. He agreed that kindness, patience and respect are powerful and we need to remember to be student-centered. He thinks people can be brought together and be united based on high school activities and athletics. He appreciates Mr. Cuff's thoughts of promoting what we are doing and not defend what we are doing. He then led members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Chairman's General Observations (Including Section 7/8 Meeting): Mr. Cuff said Section 7/8 holds meetings during the month of September. This year's meeting was held in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Mr. Cuff said Utah was lucky to have had the support of the government and Health Department to keep activities open. Some states were not so lucky. Hawaii held their first game between two competitors last week since 2020. They were the last state to get off the ground and they are requiring vaccination of players, coaches and officials. Discussion also included transgender and NIL (name, image and likeness) trickling down from the college

scene. In the November EC meeting, there will be discussions on the amateur rule and undue influence with regards to NIL. Mr. Cuff said realignment and transfer rules were discussed and there are many different ideas how best to handle those items.

D. Minutes of August 5, 2021 (summary on UHSAA website):

MOTION: Mr. Wood made the motion to approve the minutes of August 5, 2021. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Ready Reference Calendar Guides (refer to UHSAA website): Extremely important for AD's.

F. Member School Dues, Catastrophic Insurance, By-Laws Confirmation: Mr. Cuff pointed out the deadline had passed for all of these items. Regions were provided a list of schools in their region with outstanding fees. Members were asked to give schools a gentle reminder. Schools had received a second notice September 21.

G. Fall Sport Assignment Sheets: Members were asked to sign up to help at fall tournaments.

2. **BOT Meeting Report:** Mr. Dunn reported the meeting.

- Five new members on the BOT
- One new member school – total of 156 schools and 109 football schools
- Mr. Strate presented information from USBE
- Orientation of roles and responsibilities of members
- Calendar
- BOT elections – terms expiring in June
- Catastrophic Insurance – no premium reimbursement this year – will be revisited in May 2022 for following year
- Student Leadership Conferences held on a region level. Training of sportsmanship specialist was held in August.
- Sportsmanship Initiative – Raise the Bar, Gold Star banners, handbook on website
- Promotion of high school activities
- RegisterMyCoach – coaches certification district responsibility
- SMAC (Sports Medicine Advisory Committee) made recommendations for upcoming school year
- Corporate Sponsors
- Media Rights
- Ejection procedure for coach and student athletes
- Officials required to have a background check prior to officiating
- Summer Moratorium is June 29 – July 5, 2022
- BOT approved changes to Private/Charter school boundaries
- Juan Diego presented and was approved for their proposed boundary
- Emerging Sports questionnaire will be sent out to all schools
- The Audit and Budget were reviewed and approved
- Compliance Training
- Articles provided found in “NFHS HS Today”

Mr. Cuff said the boundary change takes place in the August meeting prior to the new alignment year and be in effect for the entire alignment. Juan Diego's was approved. The BOT did approve a one-time exception to allow private and charter schools to present in the November meeting. The proposed boundary change will be for the 2021-2023 alignment. A memo will be sent from the UHSAA to the private and charter schools communicating the extension.

3. Region Visits (p. 48): Mr. Cuff reminded members that the staff has been assigned to individual regions. Please let the staff know when meetings are being held. Staff members would like to attend at least one meeting.

A. Region Reports, Agendas, Minutes: Mr. Cuff reminded members that the agendas and minutes need to be posted on the UHSAA Website. Any questions, please contact Mr. Oglesby. If there is a violation discussion in a region, the region report must be filled out to be distributed to all regions for approval.

4. Committee Assignments (pp. 49-50): Mr. Cuff said these pages 49-50 was an update to committee assignments. Everyone belongs to a classification committee and the chair of those committees will be reporting, if there are items to cover, to the EC at the end of each meeting. The Awards Selection Committee will be meeting on November 10 at 7:30 am to determine DSA Award winners.

5. Football Endowment Games Report: Mr. Cuff reported there were 51 football endowment games – two games were cancelled. Financial report will be given next month. He thanked schools for hosting endowment games. The Foundation continues to grow because of the endowment games.

6. Calendar (refer to UHSAA website for updates):

A. 2021-2022 Calendar (pp. 51-54):

(1) Basketball:

1A	Mar 2-5	SVC
2A	Feb 24-26	SVC
3A	Feb 24-26	Weber State
4A	Feb 21-23	Dixie State
5A	Mar 1, 3, 5	University of Utah
6A	Mar 2, 4, 5	University of Utah

MOTION: Mr. Fails made the motion to approve the basketball sites. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

(2) Football: Mr. Jackson reviewed the dates and sites for semifinals and finals for all classifications. He also said the brackets with times have been posted. He discussed with the 5A classification if they were good with the 24-team bracket. Mr. Smith said he was concerned if it had been communicated with the schools. Nine 5A schools will not qualify for state. Mr. Dunn said 6A had the same issue when they changed to 24-teams. It seems the concern rises to the top when the reveal gets posted. Mr. Jackson asked for help in pushing out the information to 5A schools.

1A SF	Nov 5	SUU
2A, 3A SF	Nov 6	SUU

4A SF	Nov 5 or 6	Home Site
5A SF	Nov 11	University of Utah
6A SF	Nov 12	University of Utah
4A F	Nov 12	University of Utah
1A, 2A, 3A F	Nov 13	Weber State
5A, 6A F	Nov 19	University of Utah

a. Water Canyon will be petitioning to play 1A football next year. Mr. Cuff said there are current 1A football schools considering appealing to have independent status.

(3) Soccer: Mr. Jackson said the brackets have been posted.

5A, 6A SF	Oct 19	Juan Diego
2A, 4A SF	Oct 21	Juan Diego
3A SF	Oct 21	Jordan HS
4A, 5A, 6A F	Oct 22	Rio Tinto
2A, 3A F	Oct 23	Rio Tinto

(4) Golf: Mr. Cluff read the proposed Spring golf Sites 2022:

1A	May 17-18	Glendale Golf Course in SLC
2A	May 17	Mountain View Golf Course in SLC
3A	May 11-12	Quirrh Hills Golf Course in Tooele
4A	May 11-12	Sunbrook Golf Course in St. George
5A	May 9-10	River Oaks Golf Course in Sandy
6A	May 9-10	Stonebridge Golf Course in West Valley

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to accept the proposed sites. Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

(5) Lacrosse: Mr. Oglesby said he hope they will have the final word from Westminster for semifinals and the finals are scheduled at Zions Bank Stadium.

7. Follow-Up Items from Previous Meetings and Other Items:

A. Sportsmanship Items: Mr. Cluff was reporting for Ms. Whittaker. The UHSAA Leadership Summit was held on August 31. Mr. Cluff said it was held at Rock Canyon in Provo and it was a great event. Attendees did repelling and rock climbing. He said it was a great experience. It was beneficial for the regions to take back the information to their students. Mr. Jackson said it was great to get a group of people together to get to know and support each other. Everyone had to conquer something inside to make the challenge. Good bonding experience. He said it was unfortunate for those regions with no representation. The Sportsmanship Specialists should hold a Student Leadership Conference on a region level or combined with other regions. Information packets were distributed to regions, but if more help is needed or there are questions, please contact Ms. Whittaker. Also, regions are asked to send an outline, video, or other materials that can be shared with everyone.

(1) Sportsmanship Video Competition: Schools are asked to create a sportsmanship video to show at their school throughout the year that defines clear expectations of conduct for your student bodies and fans. Videos can be submitted to enter the sportsmanship video competition. There will be a \$1000 scholarship awarded to a winner in each classification. The deadline for submissions is October 25. The videos will be shown at state events.

(2) Gold Star Coach Award: The Sportsmanship Committee would like to create a new recognition/award for outstanding coaches throughout the state. Each school

would choose an inspiring coach from their school to receive an award. It would go to a coach that exemplifies the ideals we are stressing through all our sportsmanship initiatives. The coach would be someone who is an impactful leader and a difference maker in teaching their athletes the ideals of respect, inclusivity, positivity, ethics and respect. The coach nomination would be included as criteria for the school sportsmanship award (top tier/gold).

B. Emerging Sports Update: The UHSAA is asking each school to complete the Emerging Sport/Activity Declaration Form. Please list any competitive sport or activity the students at your school participate outside of the formally sponsored UHSAA sports and activities. The form is due on October 15 and can be found on the UHSAA Website under the publication and forms tab.

C. 1A Baseball: Mr. Cluff said an exception was made for one team that only played 14 games instead of 15. The Classification committee made that exception.

D. 2A Fall Baseball: Mr. Cluff said an exception was made for 2A Baseball to change the minimum contest to 12 to allow them to play. An adjustment to the bracket was made to move from Tuesday to Saturday. The 1A/2A state championships take place October 9-10. The site is Snow Canyon HS.

E. Officials Update: Mr. Cluff reported that for the first time in eight years he is concerned about the number of officials for winter sports. Registration is down from 700 to 500. The basketball board is working to help recruit. Rural areas are hurting without local officials because of travel. Mr. Cluff thinks poor sportsmanship has influenced many officials to no longer work games. Officials are feeling abused in many instances. He asked schools to show appreciation to the officials and help retain them. School staff and coaches make great officials. Mr. Morrell said he had spoken with two younger officials and they felt it is hard to break into the “older/upper” officials. Mr. Cluff said they are working with that perception. Mr. Quarnberg asked about official pay and if that is a problem. Mr. Cluff discussed the official pay schedule and it was determined it would be 2023-24 before it was revisited. Mr. Quarnberg felt it should be revisited and is looking to submit a proposal. He also said he would like to see officiating courses offered in post-secondary schools, so coaches better understand the position of officials. Mr. Langford said his school has had a high school sport officiating class as an elective credit that was successful. Utah has been behind the curve on shortage of officials and it is now a problem. Mr. Sherwood said schools can’t get substitute teachers or bus drivers. The work force is gone and they are scrambling. Mr. Quarnberg said 70% of his coaches are para professionals and they don’t understand the education piece. He never thought he would see that high of a percentage.

F. Coaches Credentials: Mr. Cluff said most fall coaches should have their credentials. A few are still on there way. There were 211 coaches that ordered past the deadline. The EC has already approved a \$100 fine per credential. The fine does not apply to a new coach. If you feel there is an error due to the system, please talk with Mr. Cluff or Mr. Oglesby. The deadline for winter sports coaches is November 1.

G. Winter Schedule Deadline (Oct. 15): Mr. Cluff said the schedules should be submitted by October 14 in Arbiter. If a school is hosting a basketball tournament, those tournaments need to be sent to Mr. Cluff or communicate with him how to enter the information on Arbiter. If a school is having a wrestling dual or tournament, the information must be sent to Don Christensen in an email requesting the number of officials.

H. Limited Team Membership: Mr. Jackson reminded members in boys' and girls' soccer they are allowed to practice with club teams, but they are not allowed to compete with their club team. The only exception is the next level opportunity. The club must go through a vetting process to be approved by the committee. Athletes can then request to attend the next level opportunity. Information and forms are online at the UHSAA Website.

If a player tries out for a high school soccer team and makes the team, then quits the team to play club, the athlete is not allowed to come back to the high school team. They have used their sport season.

I. Wrestling Items: Mr. Jackson reminded members if a girls' wrestling team has fewer than 15 wrestlers, they can practice with other girl teams if approved by school administrations again this year. Girls' wrestling teams can attend eight tournaments instead of the six allowed again this year. This will hopefully give girls more opportunity to wrestle in tournaments. They still cannot exceed their number of credits. Girls cannot compete against boys. If the administration allows it, they could practice.

(1) Weight classes: The new weight classes for boys and girls have been adopted in Utah for the 2021-2022.

(2) Hydration Testing: Schedule is posted online. The assessors will be coming to the individual schools.

J. Cross Country Items: Mr. Oglesby reported the event will be on Wednesday, October 27, at the Regional Athletic Complex. A request for volunteers has been emailed to schools. The meet information can be found on the UHSAA Website. The event will be ticketed this year. The charge will be by the car - \$10 for 1-2 passengers and \$20 for 3 or more passengers.

K. Tennis Items: Mr. Oglesby thanked the 5A Classification for helping facilitate changes to the 5A bracket. He thanked Brighton HS and Natalie Meyer for hosting the 5A State Tennis play in round.

L. Unified Sports: Mr. Jackson said Unified Soccer is holding their championship tournament at Rio Tinto. There will be other festivities as well at no cost. Everyone is encouraged to attend. First Lady Cox is enthusiastically endorsing Unified Sports. She would like to see 50% of schools participating in Unified Sports. Mr. Cuff reminded members that basketball has now been added so there is a Unified Sport in each season. Copper Hills has been a tremendous support for Unified Track, but BYU has offered to host the event the day before the UHSAA State Track Tournament. Unified Basketball will be hosted on the Weber State campus. Tentative date is Saturday, March 26, in the Swenson Gym and Stromberg Complex.

M. Shot Clock Update – Basketball (pp. 55-57): Mr. Oglesby reported the Shot Clock Steering Committee met about a month ago. He appreciates the members serving on the Committee. Every principal in the Association has received a survey that the Committee will discuss to move forward with a recommendation to the EC Committee in January.

N. Academic All-State (p. 58): Mr. Oglesby announced the window for Academic All-State closed the previous day. The staff will post the winners as soon as possible then the late submissions will open.

O. Ticketing: Mr. Cuff reported that digital ticketing will continue this year. All state associations are using digital ticketing. There will not be a cash option at the UHSAA events.

However, there will be an option to use a card. We encourage fans to purchase their tickets ahead of time through Go Fan. Mr. Wood reminded schools to make sure they figure out student tickets. Two busses pulled up at 1A baseball with no tickets and only had cash.

P. Golf: Mr. Cluff discussed options for scoring and qualifying for golf tournaments. There was a discussion at 5A because teams were left out. Currently, the top two teams make it and then the slope and rating determine the next six teams in 5A. The other classifications get 8 teams. Does there need to be change? Mr. Cluff said there are three options:

- Complete RPI base – no region champ is guaranteed a slot. We are currently at a max of players at the courses
- Limit to one champion and everyone else RPI
- Status quo

Members were asked to take back to the region and discuss again in November. Mr. Webb said when discussing items in region, they want to know what the future holds for everything. Will alignment be sport specific, etc. Mr. Cluff said he hopes they have those answers in January from the realignment committee. Mr. Sherwood asked if there was discussion of divisionals for golf. Mr. Cluff said that would be new to golf.

Q. Football: Mr. Cluff said there were 18 ejections in the first two weeks of football for racial slurs and homophobic comments. The staff determined to hold a zoom emergency meeting with all the football coaches to enlist their help in handling the problem. Since that occurred, there have been six ejections. There is zero tolerance for this behavior. This is uncomfortable for the officials, but we all need to work together to make it right and better. Mr. Jackson said it was a great meeting. Dr. Jackie Thompson also attended the meeting. She said there is no culture approval of inappropriate language. Mr. Sivert appreciated the meeting. Those things needed to be said and Dr. Thompson's remarks were powerful. He encourages good communication between coaches and officials at the time of the occurrence. There needs to be an AD/Administrator on the sideline because that is where it is prevalent. If a game is stopped, an administrator should insert themselves into the situation. Mr. Cluff said this is not just a football issue, but other sports as well. Mr. Taylor said he had been on the field and heard the officials at the beginning of the game talking to the athletes. He was impressed with the sincerity and directness they were talking to the players. Mr. Cluff said the officials leadership is on board in trying to educate and train the officials of zero tolerance.

R. Lacrosse Regions: Mr. Oglesby distributed a list of the lacrosse regions. This will formalize the region classifications for 4A, 5A and 6A classes. No team is out of classification, but they may be out of their region. Mr. Morris is concerned with scheduling for 4A teams. Mr. Oglesby had discussion with the 4A coaches and he believes they are working to play a region schedule and crossover games. Mr. Sherwood said his region voted to only play one region game to open playing other teams.

MOTION: Mr. Monson made the motion to approve the Lacrosse alignment. Mr. Morris seconded. Motion carried.

8. **UIAAA Report:** Mr. Hunter reported the AD Conference will be held in St. George April 6-9. They will begin meetings at 7:45 on Saturday to enable an additional workshop on that day.

9. **Diversity and Inclusion Committee Update:** Mr. Cuff invited Bobby Porter to report to the members. Mr. Porter said it was great to be in attendance and not be in any trouble. He reported the Diversity and Inclusion Committee are doing many things. The members have

been apart of the UHSAA Summit in Richfield and at the Jordan Auxiliary Building in Jordan School District. The presentation highlighted inclusion rather than exclusion. Mr. Miller, BOT and Committee member, has written a song with a video presentation. It is very touching. The three main goals of the Committee are: Professional Development, support a media campaign for sportsmanship and Raise the Bar campaign, and focus to prepare students to be college and career ready. He discussed a book called, Lead...for God's Sake! by Todd Gongwer. The book has blessed his life and answers the question, "Why are we doing what we are doing?" He encouraged everyone to read the book because it shows the importance of influencing lives not just wins and losses. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee is reading the book. Mr. Cuff said he has read the book and would also endorse it. The coach confides in the school custodian. Mr. Morris asked if the books mentioned at the Summit could be listed as resources on the UHSAA Website. Mr. Cuff said the Committee also read, Who's Afraid of a Large Black Man? by Charles Barkley. The next book is, What If I Say the Wrong Thing? by Verna A. Myers. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee will be meeting again November 16. Mr. Cuff is appreciative of the members serving on the Committee. It is great to have Dr. Jackie Thompson as part of the UHSAA team.

10. **Realignment 2023-25:** Mr. Cluff reported the Realignment Committee had met previously and were meeting again today. Discussions are centered around format and procedures. A final recommendation should be ready for the EC and BOT for January meetings. There is a representative from each classification, private and charter school. A survey was sent to the BOT asking for format and procedure preferences and other option preferences such as free and reduced lunch, geography, participation numbers, success factor. The format and procedures need to be finalized at least by August of 2022 prior to October 1 count reporting.

11. **Legal Report:** Mr. Van Wagoner reported there is not much movement in the girls' football lawsuit. They have appealed and filed an extension that is due soon.

He reported on the lawsuit for Temporary Restraining Order in which a student is requesting to play five years. The rule is four consecutive years of eligibility.

12. **Reports:**

A. 1A Athletics: Ms. May-Riches reported the 1st and 2nd round of 1A baseball went well. The gate receipts were given to Ms. Widerburg to cover expenses. She is concerned about raising official pay. Rural schools have a difficult time raising the game fee because of the mileage they pay. They don't have local officials. She also commented again about golf being in Salt Lake again. They understand the difficulties in scheduling because of available courses. Mr. Cluff said it is an ongoing issue with the golf courses. The PGA is having a difficult time providing courses because golf is at an all-time high in popularity. They lose money to host our tournaments. It is an ongoing discussion with the PGA.

B. 2A Athletics: Nothing to report

C. 3A Athletics: Nothing to report

D. 4A Athletics: Nothing to report

E. 5A Athletics: Nothing to report

F. 6A Athletics: Nothing to report.

Mr. Cuff reported they have received calls regarding powder substances (chalk) at events. He asked if it is becoming a problem and needs to be added to the chart of UHSAA State Event Guidelines in the Handbook. Mr. Smith reported they now have powder cans. He thinks it is helpful if it is on the state chart from the State Association. The district has asked them to stop it because of respiratory issues. Mr. Taylor said they had powder at their homecoming and it was fun. Their region endorses the state chart so it would then not be allowed. Mr. Cuff said we do not want that at the State Venues.

MOTION: Mr. Monson made the motion to add confetti cannons and/or powdery substance on the State Event Guidelines. Mr. Morrell seconded the motion. Motion carried, but not unanimously.

13. For the Good of the Order:

A. Distinguished Service Award (region due November 1) (p. 59): Mr. Cuff reminded members of the deadline for Distinguished Service Award nomination. A bio and one letter of recommendation for the nominee is required. One nomination per region.

B. Super Fan Award (due November 1) (p. 60): Any school can nominate a Super Fan. The electronic form will be sent with the EC Summary.

C. Yearlong Celebration...Title IX (p. 61): Mr. Cuff reported the NFHS is celebrating 50 years with Title IX this coming June. The NFHS Executive Director, Karissa Niehoff, will be the keynote speaker at the AD Conference on Friday night. Mr. Cuff encouraged member schools to consider doing something to celebrate Title IX. He suggested highlighting or honoring a former great female athlete or administrator. The UHSAA is partnering with UIAAA, but Mr. Oglesby sends out items on a weekly basis coming from the NFHS. During National Women's Appreciation Week – the UHSAA will do highlights of UHSAA Women who have made a difference (AD, principal, staff members, etc.) in March or April. As an example, he mentioned Becky Anderson was the first female administrator for the UHSAA. The year-long celebration was kicked off at the Summer Conference last June and will end at the June 2022 Summer Conference. The conference will be in San Antonio June 28 – July 3. In January, they will be asking to see who is interested in attending (there is a limit of twelve members). Mr. Cuff encouraged members to attend at least once during their term on the EC.

Mr. Cuff said now we are trying balance transgender with Title IX. How to protect women's sports is a concern. He feels we have an adequate policy for transgender. Transgender group representation have liked our policy to this point.

Looking at closing the gap between boys' and girls' sports participation. It has narrowed with the addition of girls' wrestling, girls' lacrosse and competitive cheer. Discussion on the sanction for cheer. There will not be a state tournament for cheer this year. Ms. Whittaker will be meeting with a committee and details for cheerleading will be coming. Is there a difference between spirit and competitive? Does the coach need to be credentialed? Student eligibility? Will discuss in November after the committee has met.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 10, 2021.