

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
UHSAA Office
Wednesday, November 10, 2021
9:00 am

Members Present: Greg Wilkey, David Dunn, Todd Quarnberg, Darrell Jensen, Jason Smith, 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, Craig Hammer, Marc Hunter, Jackie Thompson, Rob Cuff, Jeff Cluff, Brennan Jackson, and Jon Oglesby. Excused: Tom Sherwood, Darin Jenkins, Kayce May-Riches, Clayton Carter and Jodi Parker. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. **Welcome and Chair Business:** Chair Hammer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He apologized for missing the prior meeting. He excused Tom Sherwood, Darin Jenkins, Kayce May-Riches and Clayton Carter. Ms. Thompson would be attending later in the meeting. He thanked Jamie Sheetz, Ben Felder, Roberta Hardy and Sarah Swalberg for representing their region today. Mr. Bobby Porter was also in attendance from the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

A. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Wood discussed perspective. There are many challenges at many different angles. He said we need to be careful when we react to the challenge. His 88-year-old father had recently passed away and he was a gardener. His father planted a variety of seeds and what we say and do plant seeds of many varieties. Are we planting a seed of kindness or contention? Do we look for the good? We have an opportunity to have an impact on people and hopefully that will be a positive impact. We need to celebrate what is right in the world today. Plant seeds of goodness and be mindful of what we say and do. He then offered a prayer.

B. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Felder, Altamont principal, reflected on Veteran's Day. His grandfather, Harry Douglas Felder, was a tail gunner in World War II. He was shot down twice. He suffered physically from those events. That generation had the willingness to sacrifice themselves for the United States. His father and uncle both served in Viet Nam and his father suffered from symptoms of agent orange. He asked members who were veterans to stand. Mr. Sivert stood and was recognized. He led members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Chairman's General Observations: Chair Hammer said members are challenged with tough decisions, but there has never been contention among the committee members. He appreciated the good people that serve. Members don't always agree, but everyone moves on and it doesn't become personal. The UHSAA staff works hard, too. He thanked members and staff for the work that is done for the students of Utah under very difficult circumstances.

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting – October 6, 2021:

MOTION: Mr. Wood made the motion to approve the minutes of October 6, 2021. Mr. Fails seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Deadlines for Dues, Catastrophic Insurance, Arbiting, By-Laws: Ms. Widerburg reported her gratitude for members' help in encouraging schools to make payments. She read out the names of schools still owing.

F. Academic All-State Deadlines, UHSAA Moratoriums, etc.: Mr. Hammer reminded members of the deadlines and moratorium. He referred them to the ready reference calendar on the UHSAA website.

2. **Football Endowment Games Report:** Mr. Cuff reported that the endowment games produced \$120,000 that will go to the Foundation. There was great weather for the games and revenue is back to the pre-Covid revenue. The BOT will approve through a motion to transfer the funds to the Foundation.

3. **Region Visits by Staff (p. 65):** Mr. Cuff said the staff assignments are on page 65. The staff would like to visit a region meeting at least once. Please communicate meeting dates with the assigned director.

4. **Calendar:**

A. 2021-22 Calendar (pp. 66-68): The website is the best source for the most up to date calendar. Please notify Mr. Oglesby if there are any issues that need to be addressed. Mr. Taylor pointed out that May 7 will be the Ironman Championships in St. George. There may need to be a change on the quarterfinals for 4A soccer.

B. 2022-23 Tentative Calendar: Tentative calendar will be coming soon.

5. **Fall Activities Report:**

A. Volleyball: Ms. Whittaker said there were seven great days of volleyball. She congratulated the winners. She reminded schools to select their moratorium dates on the UHSAA website.

Ms. Whittaker discussed the number of matches allowed in a tournament and reported the current matches. She said the proposed change is to allow 8 total matches in a tournament, but no more than four in a day.

MOTION: Mr. Taylor made the motion to allow eight matches in a tournament with no more than four matches in a day. Mr. Monson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

1A/2A and 3A/4A tournaments alternating sites to allow weekend dates for volleyball was discussed. Mr. Wood said 1A would like to stay on the weekend and would be willing to go to another site every other year. 3A/4A also wants the weekends. Please discuss in regions for next meeting.

B. Boys Golf: Ms. Whittaker congratulated winners. There was a discussion in the previous meeting regarding seeding for 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A. It was suggested top team from each region and then the next at large teams to make up 16 teams or all at large. It was asked if divisionals would be possible? Ms. Whittaker said she could ask the PGA. 3A will remain the same for seeding.

C. Football: Mr. Jackson congratulated the winning teams to this point. Mr. Jackson will be meeting with 4A for suggestions for next year. He reminded members that the staff credential will admit members to the games. He invited them to attend.

D. Girls Soccer: Mr. Jackson congratulated the winners and thanked Juan Diego and Jordan HS for hosting the semifinals.

E. Cross Country: Mr. Oglesby was pleased with the event. He recognized change is difficult and there was apprehension moving to the Regional Athletic Complex. He received many positive comments regarding the parking. Mr. Quarnberg said the event was great and felt the podium looked beautiful. He thinks it was a good move. Mr. Monson said the only negative feedback he received was from coaches that the course is too flat. He was asked if there was a university course that could be used to give the athletes a university experience. Mr. Marshall liked that the boys' and girls' teams were together and the teams could celebrate together. Mr. Wood said the only negative for them was the later date. Mr. Oglesby said the Coaches' Association leadership wanted the event later to align with most of the other states' competitions. It was asked if Tuesday could be an option to minimize the conflict with volleyball.

F. Girls' Tennis: Mr. Oglesby appreciated the administrators' help. Moving indoors was challenging due to weather. Coaches' Association wants to be involved with making decisions. He is making sure the classification representative is representing everyone as they move forward with format, etc.

G. 1A/2A Fall Baseball: Mr. Cluff reported the tournament was held in St. George and it was a difficult experience. He congratulated the winners. Mr. Cluff asked, having received feedback, if it is time to rotate the championship. Mr. Cluff said Snow Canyon is a great venue. Mr. Wood's region likes the current format.

6. Current Items:

A. Spirit of Sports Award (January 15): Mr. Cuff needs to submit the state winner to the NFHS. The deadline is January 15. There will be a state winner and a section winner. The nominee needs to be involved in at least one sport. The individual can be a student athlete or coach that has overcome a great deal of adversity. Please email the name and Mr. Cuff will send an application. Mr. Wilkey reported on the Davis HS School recipient who received this award last year. The student has downs syndrome and participated on the swim team and was team captain. The student and family really appreciated the recognition. He graduated last spring and is now an assistant coach for the swim team. It made a huge difference in his life. Mr. Cuff again encouraged members to nominate someone for the award.

B. Heart of the Arts Award (January 15): Similar to the Spirit of Sports Award, but is awarded to a student or coach/advisor involved in arts. Both the Spirit of Sports recipient and Heart of the Arts recipient will be honored at a state basketball tournament and the BOT lunch at Sleepy Ridge in March.

C. Summer Moratorium (June 29-July 5): Mr. Jackson reminded schools the summer moratorium is June 29-July 5. The moratorium can be adjusted, but the adjustment must be for the entire school.

D. Weight Management Update: Mr. Jackson said weight management was coming up and the assessors will be coming to the schools once again. Information is posted on the UHSAA website under the weight management calendar on the wrestling page.

E. Wrestling: Mr. Jackson said the NFHS changed the rule so there can be six matches in a day. All the state tournaments and divisional tournaments could be held in one day. Schools could schedule a longer day one day and then a shorter day or vice versa.

Secondly, by rule, the first weigh in of each week must be recorded in Track Wrestling. This is important.

F. Limited Team Membership Rule: Mr. Jackson asked members to review in their region meetings the limited team membership for boys' soccer. The club and tournament must be approved (Desert Cup, National League Player Showcase, Dallas Cup). Forms are on the soccer page. Students are allowed to participate in two approved tournaments and they must fill out an application for each tournament. The principal, coach, student, parent and club must sign the form. The club fills out another form listing students who will participate and schools they attend. Their club team must be invited to attend the tournament. Please discuss in each region and how it applies to soccer programs.

G. Rich High School Football Request (p. 69): Principal Rick Larsen said he was presenting what he presented in 2008 with a different dilemma. Enrollment numbers are the same as in 2008. Smaller schools rely on underclassmen playing both ways to fill positions. Safety factors become an issue. He would propose Rich HS play an independent schedule, but be allowed to have a play in game for post season. He said he would also like the Association to consider an 8-player football league.

H. Monticello High School Football Request (p.70): Principal KC Olson said they have the same issues as Rich HS. Monticello had 24 participants in football and football is on the brink of disappearing. He would like to propose Monticello to go independent. He would like consideration of an 8-player football league.

MOTION: Mr. Fails made the motion to recommend to the BOT to allow independent status for Rich HS and Monticello HS for football. Post-season play in for Rich HS was denied. Mr. Langford seconded the motion. Mr. Cluff said we need to focus on football programs that are struggling and discuss 8-player football to help them. Mr. Carter pointed out that schools might need to determine if they would do fall baseball or football. It was determined a survey would be appropriate to measure the level of interest. Motion carried.

I. Lacrosse: Mr. Oglesby said he would propose an amendment the exceptions for lacrosse tournaments. Currently it is 2 for 1 for full length games and 6 for 2 for shortened length games. The Coaches' Association is proposing the exception be 3 for 1 for full length games. Mr. Morris said it was a typical format for tournaments.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to approve the tournament change to accept 6 for 2 for shortened length games and 3 for 1 for full length games. Mr. Sheetz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Oglesby reported proposed date changes for lacrosse:

Season End Date	May 13
RPI Reveal	May 14
First Round Games	May 17 for 5A, 6A
First/Second Round Games	May 19 for 4A, 5A, 6A
Quarterfinals	May 21

Semis
Finals

May 24, 25 at Westminster
May 26,27 at Zions Bank Stadium

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to accept the proposed date changes for lacrosse. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

J. Tennis: Mr. Oglesby said he would like to finalize the dates for boys' tennis. The final vote will need to happen in the January meeting. If the 5A/6A classifications are going to continue with an all-comers format, the divisionals need to go away. There are too many matches to get to 16 seeds. A possibility would be 24 seeds at divisionals. He reminded members that 5A/6A voted to use the RPI for spring tennis. Mr. Oglesby is hopeful the RPI will be used to seed the 4A tournament. 3A would need to decide to use RPI for top 16 seeds or play in first round. These decisions need to be made by January. Scheduling for divisionals needs to be earlier to allow for weather disruptions.

K. Basketball (pp. 71-73): Mr. Oglesby said the shot clock steering committee would be meeting the following week. There needs to be an ADEC recommendation prior to the January meeting. Ninety schools participated in the survey and it was split equally across all six classifications. Over 75% of schools are in support of implementing the shot clock. Of those that said no, 2/3 had cost concerns. 2/3 of the schools in favor want to implement shot clock for 2022-2023.

(1) 3A Basketball: The consolation games will not be played at Weber State due to scheduling conflicts. Looking at high schools to host.

L. Unified Sports (UHSAA/SOUT): Mr. Oglesby said the Unified Basketball will be held at Weber State on March 25. If schools are interested, they need to contact him.

M. Rosters on RegisterMyAthlete: Mr. Oglesby emphasized the importance of schools providing roster on RMA.

N. Academic All-State Windows (p. 74): Mr. Oglesby indicated page 74 was a list of the academic all-state windows. Please be aware of the dates.

O. Sportsmanship Items: Ms. Whittaker thanked schools that participated in the school sportsmanship video competition. The classification winners receive a \$1000 scholarship. The video is part of the requirements for a gold star. Ms. Whittaker announced the winners:

1A	Valley HS
2A	Merit Prep HS
3A	Grantsville HS
4A	Green Canyon HS
5A	Cedar Valley HS
6A	Roy HS

Ms. Whittaker said the link will be available soon to nominate a coach from each school for the Gold Star Coach Award. The award is to recognize the coach that leads by example by creating a positive environment and is a role model for students on and off the field. They should inspire students to succeed in all aspects of their lives. Each coach will receive a certificate from the UHSAA Office and a winner will be chosen in each classification. The classification winners will be honored and recognized by the UHSAA.

P. Emerging Sports Report: Ms. Whittaker reviewed UHSAA Emerging Sports Summary for 2021-2022, which included the emerging sports criteria and the threshold for sanctioning consideration. Ten activities made the emerging sports list and five met the criteria for sanctioning consideration. Only boys' volleyball requested to present at the meeting.

(1) Boys' Volleyball: Jill Davis emailed an information packet to members and distributed a smaller version for the meeting. Duke Mossman said boys' volleyball had their first run at sanctioning in 1998. The Emerging Sports Policy was created in 2018 and boys' volleyball has requested sanctioning each year qualifying as an emerging sport and consideration. The numbers continue to grow in participation. He reviewed the packet.

Mr. Quarnberg asked about Title IX. It was his impression that it is not the number of sports, but the number of participants. Would adding boys' volleyball be an issue with Title IX? Mr. Mossman said Title IX has three components. One component is proportionality. He felt, with the addition of girls' wrestling and competitive cheer, that the percentage would be still below the national average. Mr. Quarnberg asked about the season. Mr. Mossman said they are requesting spring, but smaller classifications would like fall. Mr. Hammer said transportation is a big issue. It is nothing against boys' volleyball, but it is difficult for schools to add another activity on top of what is already offered. Mr. Quarnberg said spring would be difficult for trainer coverage for student safety.

Mr. Hammer opened it to member discussion. Mr. Smith felt the superintendents need to voice support because the number one issue will be transportation with the saturation of sports in the spring. He stated that he is still having difficulty finding lacrosse coaches. He thinks that will be an issue with volleyball, too. Ms. Whittaker said there is a list of items to consider for sanctioning an emerging sport. It is not just meeting the numbers and the presenters were made aware. Mr. Hammer said it is not a volleyball issue, it is any activity at this time. The administrators are overloaded with responsibility. Mr. Van Wagoner said it would not help Title IX as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Quarnberg made the motion to NOT recommend boys' volleyball sanctioning to the BOT. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Mr. Morrell reminded members if it is approved the district/school can choose not to participate. Motion carried. In Favor: 11 Opposed: 7 Abstain: 2

(2) Esports: Ms. Whittaker said the Esports groups are split. Some have it under CTE and others want it sanctioned by UHSAA. No recommendation given.

Q. Competitive Cheer: Ms. Whittaker reported the first cheer committee meeting was held. The first competition will be held in 2022-2023 and it is suggested that it be a winter sport: November 1 to the third week in January. There will be regional/divisional qualifiers for state. It has been recommended to separate sideline and competitive cheer. State Risk will continue to certify all cheerleaders. There was some discussion to have two state champions for girls and coed. The biggest push back is with limited team membership and the all-star club teams. Some coaches coach both. More discussion to follow.

R. Coaches Certification/Credentials: Mr. Cluff reminded members that credentials were due November 7. Anyone that was late (not new hires) will be fined \$100 for winter sports. Mr. Cluff emphasized the credentials should be worn in season as well as post season.

S. Boundary Considerations: Mr. Cuff reminded members the BOT approved a change for private and charter schools to shift boundaries at the beginning of an alignment. For this

year only, schools that were unaware of this opportunity are being allowed to present in the November meeting. There are four schools presenting today: American Leadership Academy, Judge Memorial, Layton Christian Academy and REAL Salt Lake. Each school presented their proposal for a boundary change for the current alignment. Maps were provided to the members.

MOTION: Mr. Marshall made the motion to recommend the boundary changes for American Leadership Academy, Judge Memorial, Layton Christian Academy and REAL Salt Lake to the BOT for the current alignment. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. **Officiating:**

A. Fall Update: Mr. Cluff reported UHSAA was in great shape with the fall officials. Winter is a different story. Today, there are 508 registered officials and there is a need for 700 officials. Poor sportsmanship is the number one reason for officials not returning. The fans should be dealt with by the school administration and not the officials. Sub-varsity level games seem to have the most problems. Mr. Cluff asked for support to bring back officials.

B. Ejections: Mr. Cluff reported racial slurs continue to be an issue. After the emergency meeting with football coaches, there was an instant change. Unfortunately, post-season has produced increased ejections. Preventative measures can have a tremendous effect. He would encourage members to continue the discussion even if it is uncomfortable. Mr. Hammer said it needs to be a point of emphasis at every region meeting.

8. **UIAAA:** Mr. Hunter said the NIAAA Conference will be held in December in Denver.

A. UIAAA Conference: The AD conference will be held April 6-9, 2022, in St. George. Karissa Neihoff, NFHS Executive Director, will be the speaker Friday night. She will be addressing the 50-year celebration of Title IX. He then reviewed the courses that will be offered at the conference. Registration will be available soon.

(1) Reveal: There was discussion about the time the reveal opens. AD's would like availability to the information prior to the public. Mr. Oglesby said it also goes out on all social media platforms.

9. **New Member Schools:** Mr Cuff said there are two new school membership applications to be considered for recommendation to the BOT.

A. New School Applications for 2022-2023

- Vista School (pp. 75-76): Mr. Chris Barnum, principal, was joined with others on a conference call with the members. Mr. Barnum said the charter school specializes in academics, arts and technology. This is the second year of 9th grade. Recently, they have performed in the Shakespeare Festival and ACDA Conference. They feel they can contribute to the Association. The theatre teacher feels participation in the Association would benefit their students. Mr. Morris asked if they plan to grow into 10-12. Mr. Barnum said there are plans for growth in the future. They are building a new building for more space to expand. They offer choral and instrumental classes.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to recommend to the BOT UHSAA membership for Vista School and assign them to 4A, Region 10. They only have 9th grade enrollment. Mr. Langford seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Belmont Classical Academy (pp. 77-78): Denise Karman, Curriculum Director and Director of Instruction at Belmont, presented. She and her husband founded the Belmont Academy in 2019. They are a private classical, Christian school located in American Fork. The school was started with the intent to teach students regarding the history and languages of Western Civilization. Latin is a core subject. They attract many students with musical ability. They have interest in participating in theatre and forensics in the future and possibly participate in cross country and track. They would ask to be placed in 2A, Region 18. They have great relationships with 2A schools in the area. Belmont Classical is accredited through the Classical Latin School Association.

MOTION: Mr. Kennedy made the motion to recommend to the BOT UHSAA membership for Belmont Classical Academy and they be assigned to 2A, Region 18. Mr. Langford seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. Status of 2021-22 New Schools:

(1) St. George Academy (2A Region 19): Mr. Falls reported that they are participating in speech and debate. He will know later how well they participate in the region. They have paid UHSAA fees and dues.

(2) West Ridge Academy: Mr. Cuff said West Ridge Academy has put their membership on hold until they resume activities. Mr. Carter reported he has been unable to communicate with them.

10. **Realignment 2023-25:** Mr. Cuff reported the Realignment Committee was meeting following the EC meeting. Update will follow in the January meeting.

11. **Legal Report:** Mr. Van Wagoner reported there was a temporary restraining order requested by a student who did not get a 5th year of participation. It was filed in federal court and UHSAA opposed it and had a hearing. Case was dismissed.

The girls' football case has been appealed to the 10th Circuit Court. There is no new argument. He will be responding to the brief in January.

12. **NIL (Name, Image, Likeness):** Mr. Van Wagoner said the UHSAA rules do not preclude a student from receiving money for advertising for NIL. Can it be regulated and fair? He has researched proposals in other Associations. They will permit a student to use NIL for profit unless there is some identification with the school (logo, uniform, etc.). Members discussed NIL mentioning concerns of a fair playing field and recruiting issues. Mr. Hammer called on Nick Popich, public guest. He felt not letting NIL for students would hinder Utah sports in the future. He felt there would need to be some policies to protect coaches, schools and districts. Mr. Cuff said some states have already had legislation and others have it pending. It has been helpful on other issues when the Association has had a policy in place and the legislators left it to the UHSAA. Mr. Van Wagoner said there are two inherent problems in paying an athlete. (1) It promotes inequality on any team and creates potential tension and (2) a student may focus on making the NIL his business to the detriment of the student's participation. He thinks it is a downside, but not sure UHSAA wants to be guardian of the "stars." Mr. Hammer asked members to discuss NIL in their regions. Mr. Cuff will send some examples to the region chairs for discussion. Mr. Van Wagoner would need to have a template ready in January so it can be discussed in two meetings (January and March).

13. Reports:

A. Diversity and Inclusion Report: Ms. Thompson reported she has attended the two UHSAA Leadership Summits and currently has been attending some of the student leadership meetings in regions. The message has been powerful and students are looking to “Raise the Bar.” There is a rich diversity. She has been energized working with the students. She will be attending the Secondary School Principals meeting to talk about diversity and inclusion. The Committee will be meeting the following week for discussion and professional development. They will also be talking about Career and College Readiness. Children’s lives are important to all of us.

Mr. Porter said he is pleased with the ‘talk’ that is going on in the community. The students are talking about diversity and inclusion with their parents and that opens the door for dialogue. Communicating is so very important. We can disagree without being disagreeable. He thanked the EC Committee for having the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Mr. Cuff appreciated Dr. Thompson as chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. He appreciated the EC allowing her a seat with the EC. Mr. Cuff has received positive feedback from the presentations to this point. The Committee and staff are willing to what they can to help bridge gaps and build relationships. Mr. Monson reported he had received great feedback about Dr. Thompson’s message. Mr. Cuff thanked both Coach Porter and Dr. Thompson.

- B. Music Report: Nothing to report
- C. Theatre/Drama Report: Nothing to report
- D. 6A Athletics: Nothing to report
- E. 5A Athletics: Nothing to report
- F. 4A Athletics: Nothing to report
- G. 3A Athletics: Nothing to report
- H. 2A Athletics: Nothing report
- I. 1A Athletics: Nothing to report

14. **For the Good of the Order:** Mr. Cuff provided an article supporting education-based activities. He provided a news release (p. 89-90) highlighting Salem Hills HS being recognized as 2021 NFHS Performing Arts School of Excellence. Mr. Cuff congratulated Salem Hills HS.

A. UHSAA Distinguished Service Nominees:

6A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Brock Moore, Pleasant Grove
5A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Sami Graham – Wasatch Unified Sports
4A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Vanessa Hall, Sky View
3A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Lynn Tuttle, Emery
2A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Joseph Loffredo, St. Joseph Catholic
1A Coach/Advisor of the Year	Kyle Murphy, Wendover
Athletic Director of the Year	Sharon Mardesich, Cedar Valley

Female Official of the Year	Tammy Spencer
Male Official of the Year	Layne Nielson
Music Educator of the Year <small>(Small School)</small>	David Jordan, Canyon View
Music Educator of the Year <small>(Large School)</small>	Wade Walton, Bear River
Speech Educator of the Year	Ryan Unsworth, Logan
Theatre Educator of the Year	Will Saxton, Murray
Distinguished Contributor	Chris Long, UHSAA Tournament Host Dan Miller, UHSAA Swim Tournament Director
Media	Dusty Litster, Game Night Live Rewind Dane Stewart, Game Night Live Rewind

MOTION: Mr. Langford made the motion to accept the proposed Distinguished Service Award recipients. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. UHSAA Super Fans: Mr. Cuff said the Super Fans will be announced in January. They will be honored at a state basketball tournament. Mr. Cuff needs more nominations from 2A Classification.

C. Circle of Fame Nominations: Mr. Cuff said the Circle of Fame Nominees will be determined in January.

Next Meeting: Sleepy Ridge in Orem on January 12 at 8:00 am. Business Attire.

MOTION: Mr. Langford made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried.