

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, March 17, 2021
9:00 am

Members Present: Greg Wilkey, Carolyn Gough, Jason Smith, Tom Sherwood, Doug Webb, Rusty Taylor, Bill Sivert, Mike Monson, Steven Gordon, Luke Thomas, Jim Langford, Ty Kennedy, Wade Murdock, Craig Morris, Brady Fails, Jim Wood, Clayton Carter, Darin Jenkins, Craig Hammer, Marc Hunter, Jodi Parker, Rob Cuff, Jeff Cluff, Brenan Jackson, Jon Oglesby and Jan Whittaker. Excused: David Dunn, Joel Perkins, Ryan Bishop, and Kayce Fluckey.
Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. Welcome and Chairperson Business: Mr. Hammer welcomed members to the meeting. He excused Mr. Dunn, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Bishop and Ms. Fluckey. He welcomed Mr. Jim Birch who was representing Mr. Dunn, Mr. Bart Peery representing Mr. Bishop and Mr. Joe Atwood representing Mr. Perkins. Ms. Fluckey was excused.

A. Reverence/Thought: Ms. Gough offered a prayer.

B. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Morris quoted President John F Kennedy, "Ask not what your country can do for you..." He then shared some thoughts and led the members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Minutes of January 13 meeting (summary on UHSAA website):

MOTION: Mr. Langford made the motion to approve the minutes of January 13. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

D. Academic All-State Deadlines, UHSAA Moratoriums, Eligibility Lists Deadlines: Mr. Hammer asked members to refer to the Ready Reference Calendar and UHSAA Website.

2. BOT Meeting Report: Mr. Wood reported the meeting.

- Mr. Brent Strate was introduced as the USBE representative, replacing Laura Belnap.
- BOT Elections and terms were discussed
- Calendar
- Website
- State Championships and Festivals
- Sportsmanship – Dare to Lead Conference to resume in the fall
- Coaches' certification
- Mr. Spatafore reported on legislative items
- Mr. Van Wagoner gave a legal report
- Summer Moratorium is July 4 - July 10. Any adjustments must be for the entire school.
- The Super Fan and Circle of Fame Awards were postponed for one year
- Education-Based Articles were provided

3. Winter Activities Report:

A. Winter Results (pp. 94-94): Winter championship results were provided in the meeting packet and Mr. Cuff thanked everyone who helped at the tournaments. The staff appreciated the support.

B. Basketball Endowment Game Report: Mr. Cuff reported not many endowment games were held due to the cancellation of many games. The revenue generated is approximately \$1800.

C. Wrestling: Mr. Jackson said it was an exciting wrestling year with the addition of girls' wrestling. This year presented challenges, but he appreciated Wasatch, Corner Canyon, Westlake, Mt. View High Schools and the Sevier Valley Center for hosting the tournaments. He felt the athletes had a great experience.

D. Basketball: Mr. Oglesby said basketball tournaments last year were the last "normal" event and he felt basketball for 2021 was the first "normal" feeling since the pandemic began. He thanked Sevier Valley Center and SLCC for hosting the games.

E. Drill Team: Ms. Whittaker said drill team held an all-comers competition in 3A-6A at UVU. There was limited seating, but it was great to have a live audience. 2A was held at Sevier Valley Center. She had received positive feedback regarding the SHOW category.

F. Swim: Ms. Whittaker reported BYU had been unable to host the event and she had to scramble to obtain venues. She was grateful to South Davis Recreation Center that hosted 3A and 4A, Wasatch Aquatic Center hosted 5A and Kearns Oquirrh Park hosted 6A. She stated there were no spectators because of the venue sizes, and she thanked everyone for their help.

G. Ejection Report: Mr. Cluff sent the ejection report to members for the winter season. He felt sportsmanship had improved, but started to decline as more spectators were reintroduced at the venues. He reminded schools if they had an ejection, an administrator had to acknowledge the notice and follow the policy for an ejection.

H. Officiating Update: Mr. Cluff said the number of spring sport officials is down even with adding lacrosse. It is difficult to schedule lacrosse officials on Tuesday or Thursday. He suggested schools talk to assigner prior to changing schedule.

4. Calendar:

A. 2020-2021 (pp. 96-97): Mr. Oglesby encouraged everyone to use the website calendar because many events are in flux. He stated the lacrosse tournament will not be held at Zions' Bank Stadium and the staff is looking to hold the games at high school venues.

1. Spring Soccer: Mr. Jackson reported that the 2A, 3A and 4A soccer semis and finals dates may need to move depending on Rio Tinto's schedule. He asked EC members for the approval to change dates if needed. The 2A/3A Semifinals will be held at Juan Diego and 4A at Jordan HS. Brenan will send notification once dates have been confirmed. The Committee gave him the green light for date changes needed.

B. 2021-22 (UHSAA website): Mr. Oglesby asked members to review the calendar and notify directors of any concerns. The staff is beginning negotiations with venues.

5. **UIAAA:** Mr. Hunter reported the AD Conference is scheduled to be in-person in St. George on April 14-17, 2021. He said many classes and the golf tournament will be held. Masks will be required. He said the deadline for Team GPA's is April 7 and the engraved academic plates will be presented at the Conference.

Mr. Hunter requested the basketball games they host be allowed to be held on the Monday prior to Thanksgiving instead of Tuesday. Mr. Hammer asked members to discuss in regions for discussion at the April meeting.

6. **Staff Items:**

A. **Sportsmanship Items:** Ms. Whittaker said the Sportsmanship Award criteria can be found online and the application will be available May 1.

1. **Student Leadership Conference:** The Student Leadership Conference will be held on a region or multi region level. Training will take place during the summer. Regions are asked to pick a Sportsmanship Specialist for each region.

B. **Drill Team:** Mr. Whittaker said the SHOW category was approved on a trial basis for this year. She reported overwhelmingly the coaches liked the category and would like to keep SHOW as the third category. Coaches will vote on three genres for the upcoming year. Mr. Smith voiced concern for the lack of consistency of judges on the SHOW category. Ms. Whittaker acknowledged there were some issues with a new category and the score sheets will be tweaked as well as more training. The EC members unanimously supported SHOW as the third category along with military and dance for the 2022 State Drill Team Competition.

1. **Spring Tryouts:** Ms. Whittaker reminded members that drill team tryouts are not to be held prior to the third Monday in March. If a student is enrolled in another school, they cannot tryout until the school year is over. The coach would need to have a special tryout for them. Please remind coaches of this rule. This year, the tryout date cannot be prior to March 15.

C. **Golf:** Ms. Whittaker reminded members that the golf clinic is for coaches to hold for the athletes and the clinic is due by April 15. There is a power point on the UHSAA Website that can be used, or the local golf pro can help. Coaches must declare online that the clinic was completed by April 15. She reminded members that no coach should be playing during matches. They should be coaching and watching the pace of play and rules. Any exception needs to be cleared by UHSAA Staff.

D. **Emerging Sports Discussion:** Ms. Whittaker reported the three sub-committees of the UHSAA Board of Trustees had met to discuss possible sanctioning for boys' volleyball, competitive cheer, and Esports. A final decision will be made at the BOT meeting on March 25. Sanctioning could be approved for the school year 2021-2022 or 2022-2023 or no sanction at this time. The emerging sports list is evaluated every year. She said a survey was sent to district superintendents, private and charter schools for feedback for the BOT. A brief report was given from each sub-committee.

1. **Boys' Volleyball:** Mr. Cluff reported Greg Miller is the chair for the sub-committee. Mr. Cluff said the sub-committee held a lengthy discussion and the recommendation to the BOT was to sanction for 2022-2023. He mentioned the sub-committee had concerns on how it would affect schools adding another sport to spring and the concern of Title IX issues.

2. **Competitive Cheer:** Mr. Sherwood said the sub-committee had a good discussion. He stated the cheer community is hesitant because they feel they will be losing

control. He stated that was not the intent and they plan to involve them in the transition as they move from non-sanction to a sanctioned competitive season. The sub-committee was in favor of sanctioning. Mr. Sherwood said they would recommend sanctioning for 2021-2022 and hold the first UHSAA sanctioned state championships in 2022-2023. The first year can be used as a planning period giving the coaches an opportunity to work with the UHSAA to develop how the competition will look.

3. Esports: Mr. Oglesby reported the committee chair was Superintendent Bergeson and they had discussed the growth of the activity. The committee had concerns with the uncertainty of the new school fee structure and impact on school fees. The sub-committee would recommend not sanctioning at this time.

Mr. Hammer asked for each member to vote on the recommendations of the sub-committees: whether to recommend to the BOT sanctioning for boys' volleyball in 2022-2023, competitive cheer in 2021 with no UHSAA sanctioned state competitions until 2022-23 and to not sanction Esports at this time.

Vote:

Boys' Volleyball: NO: 7, YES: 8, Abstain: 7
Competitive Cheer: YES: Unanimously in favor of sanctioning
Esports: No sanction: YES: 21, Abstain: 1

Members discussed concerns of transportation, limited facilities, Title IX, administration supervision, etc.

E. State Solo and Ensemble Festivals: Mr. Jackson reported that the Music Committee met with all region chairs to prepare for the region and state virtual Solo and Ensemble Festival. The student/ensemble will submit music to the adjudicator and then they will have the opportunity to redo the piece and submit to state adjudicator. He thanked Justin Bills at Salem HS for all the work he is doing to organize the event. The decision to go virtual had to be decided early to guarantee moving forward. In-person competitions take months to prepare.

F. Soccer: Mr. Jackson said the committee previously approved two next level competition for soccer players if those events were approved as a "next level" opportunity. A club must submit a form to be considered by the UISAA/UHSAA committee for a "next level" opportunity. Mr. Jackson said the Desert League Premier was being held in Salt Lake City and he was asking members to make an exception for one-year only to allow soccer athletes three "next level" opportunities.

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood made the motion, because of Covid-19, to allow three competition "next level" opportunities for soccer players for one year only. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

G. Softball: Ms. Whittaker said a request had been made to allow an exception to the limited team rule for softball for one year because of Covid-19. A player at Cyprus plays with a team in California and the fall showcase was pushed back to spring in California because of Covid-19. Mr. Brown, Cyprus Assistant Principal, was making the request for one of his athletes. He was only aware of two tournaments but said that could change. Ms. Whittaker said she had not received any other requests. It was felt the soccer request form could be modified for softball for national level events.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to allow a softball player a one-year exemption of the limited team rule to attend a national level competition. A form would be developed. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

H. Wrestling: Mr. Jackson said host divisional requests would be coming out for next year for boys and girls divisionals. He said there was a proposed rule change for NFHS to allow six matches in one day. A possible one-day state tournament could then be held without changing the bracket. He stated most coaches want a two-day tournament. He said currently the 1A/2A boys is scheduled at SVC on February 11-12, 1A, 2A, 3A girls and 3A boys at SVC for February 16-17, 4A boys and girls at SVC February 18-19, 5A boys and girls at UVU February 18-19 and 6A boys and girls February 16-17. The only other option would be to move 3A and 4A to a different week. Members were asked to discuss the dates with their regions.

I. Special Olympics: Mr. Oglesby said staff is planning to hold track and soccer. Soccer might have a different format this year. Specific tournament information will be sent out by the staff.

J. Tennis Items: Mr. Oglesby said the coaches' association is working on a proposal. They are looking at seeding for the upcoming alignment.

K. Track and Field Items: Mr. Oglesby informed members that BYU was not sure if they would be able to allow spectators and at best it would be limited. He presented three options with Davis HS being the preference for this year. He felt it important that a decision be made today so schools can plan transportation and hotels if necessary. 1A-4A would be held on May 21-22 and 5A-6A on May 18-19.

MOTION: Ms. Gough made the motion to approve Davis HS for the spring 2021 track meet site with dates as discussed. Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Oglesby said the coaches' association is exploring seeding for 2021-2023. They would like to move toward qualifying based on times and marks and less based on region finishes. Mr. Langford expressed concern because of the inequity of track meets because of wind, etc. Mr. Oglesby said times would be based on entire season. He pointed out that outstanding athletes do not make state because of guaranteed region qualifiers. The discussion is for 2021-2023. Members were asked to discuss information with their regions and be prepared to discuss in April.

L. Lacrosse: Mr. Oglesby said State Lacrosse Tournament will not be held at Zion's Bank Stadium. He is currently looking for alternate sites such as Juan Diego and Judge Memorial HS. They need to plan for several sites because of post season divisions and they do not want someone to have home site advantage. This is the first season of play since being sanctioned and the officiating has gone very well. He thanked Mr. Cluff for his efforts. Mr. Morris reminded schools to reserve all three dates in lacrosse for playoffs for division A, B or C.

M. Academic All-State: Mr. Oglesby reported many schools had posted late submissions. Schools will receive a letter of reprimand from Chair Hammer and repeat offenders will be looking at fines. Mr. Wood asked if the names of recipients could be read at the state events to give the students more recognition. Mr. Oglesby said that could be discussed.

N. Basketball: Mr. Oglesby reported that three schools did not report their schedules so the 5A RPI Reveal did not go well. Notifications were sent to schools to check their schedules and games for accuracy. The 5A RPI was posted and had to be rerun because the results were not entered. Woods Cross did not report two games and it was proposed to fine the school \$1500 (repeat offender) and Highland and Box Elder fined \$500 each. Mr. Smith said it is an embarrassment for everyone. Some held release parties and then there was a change. It is the school responsibility to check for accuracy.

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to accept the proposed fines. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

O. Speech and Debate: Mr. Oglesby reported one tournament was completed. 1A was doing their tournament in-person. He hoped members would be willing to transport trophies and awards to respective regions.

7. **Legal Report:** Mr. Van Wagoner said he was happy with the outcome of the girls' football case. He said he could send a copy of the decision to anyone who is interested.

8. **Follow-Up Items:**

A. Executive Committee Terms (pp. 98-99): Mr. Cuff asked each region if they had determined the region chair for next year. He asked them to report the name by the next meeting in April.

B. Board of Trustees Terms (p. 100): Mr. Cuff said elections for 3A and 4A School Board Members would be held on April 27. Mr. Whitlock and Mr. Pulsipher's terms were ending June 30. The Private Schools will also have an election on April 27 as Mr. Miller's term in ending June 30. Mr. Jarman was retiring this year and represents the 5A/6A superintendents. Mr. Holmes' term was ending as the 1A/2A superintendent. The superintendents will be determining the representatives at their next meeting.

C. 6A Principal to BOT: Mr. Sherwood's term is ending as 5A principal on BOT, so by Constitution, a 6A representative will fill that position for three years. The Executive Committee will need to determine the representative at the April meeting.

D. Cross Country Proposal: Mr. Oglesby said cross country had outgrown Sugar House Park and it is felt this is a good time to find a new venue that could provide potential revenue. The coaches' association and Mr. Oglesby would like to propose cross country be held later than in the past on October 27. They felt this date change would have minimal impact on other state tourneys. They would also propose the site be moved to the Regional Athletic Complex in northwest Salt Lake City. The coaches would like a faster venue and the Regional Athletic Complex is primarily flat. Mr. Oglesby felt we would have more control of the infrastructure of the event. The site provides lots of parking and hopefully will become a permanent site.

MOTION: Mr. Langford made the motion to accept the proposal to move the cross county date to October 27 and move the site to the Regional Athletic Complex. Mr. Wilkey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Moratorium Adjustments (p. 101): Mr. Jackson reminded members that any adjustment to the moratorium must be for the entire school. Forms are online and need to be sent to Mr. Jackson for approval.

F. Coaches' Certification: Mr. Jackson said he continues to receive questions as to what courses count for certification. The district makes the determination as to what is acceptable. He emphasized that if the district approves courses on the NFHSlearn.com, those courses will count. He reported that all wrestling coaches were credentialed. Mr. Cluff reminded members that spring credentials must be requested by April 1. Fines are being issued for deadlines being missed.

G. Theatre Format: Ms. Whittaker said when they last met, they were planning virtual or a hybrid for the theatre format. They were planning virtual for individual events and in-person for the One Acts. She asked classifications if that was still their preference with the improvement of Covid-19 cases. All regions determined to do all competition in-person.

H. 2A Fall Baseball: Mr. Cluff said he would like to revisit sanctioning a 7th baseball state championship. He reported almost half of participating 2A baseball schools participate in the fall. He said the fall championship could be added to the 1A baseball site. He feels it is a good move to add 2A Fall Baseball and bring it under the UHSAA umbrella. Mr. Morris asked if soccer is moved to spring, could this be revisited. Mr. Cluff said it could be flexible if approved because it might impact the viability for fall baseball. Mr. Morris said there are some schools that will consider adding 2A fall baseball championship if approved. Mr. Fails said his region was against the proposal. Mr. Cluff said 3A schools would not be allowed to play down.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to add a 7th championship for 2A Fall Baseball. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. Mr. Fails opposed. Motion carried.

9. Reports:

A. 6A Athletics: Nothing to report.

B. 5A Athletics: Nothing to report.

C. 4A Athletics: Nothing to report.

D. 3A Athletics: Nothing to report.

E. 2A Athletics: It was asked, with the new alignment, if the swim and tennis tournaments for 2A and 3A could be separate. It was reported that 2A is approaching eight schools. Ms. Whittaker said they had 8-10 teams, but only 1-2 swimmers on those teams. Mr. Oglesby said the same was true for tennis. Some schools are strong, but others have few participants. The staff will look at it again for swim and tennis.

F. 1A Athletics: 1A regions have concern about the RPI and would like to have a discussion in the near future. 1A was asked to bring specifics to the meeting in April. They were reminded that the spring RPI would be complete for discussion at the June meeting.

10. For the Good of the Order:

A. High School Activities ... (p. 102): Mr. Cuff provided articles regarding education-based activities.

B. UHSAA Distinguished Service Nominees:

6A Coach/Advisor of the Year:	Eric Kjar - Corner Canyon
5A Coach/Advisor of the Year:	Jason Workman - Murray
4A Coach/Advisor of the Year:	Mary Kirby - Ridgeline
3A Coach/Advisor of the Year:	Joel Holman - Juab
2A Coach/Advisor of the Year:	Cindy White - St. Joseph Catholic
1A Coach/Advisor of the Year:	Thomas Hughes - Green River
Athletic Director of the Year:	Brett Andrus – Dugway
Female Official of the Year:	Katie Hreinson
Male Official of the Year:	Tom Green
Music Educator of the Year (Small School):	Brian Thompson – Richfield
Music Educator of the Year (Large School):	Nina Doxey – Roy
Speech Educator of the Year:	Carrie Strecker – Grand County
Theatre Educator of the Year:	Glen Carpenter – Stansbury
Distinguished Contributor:	George Henrie
Media:	Kurt Johnson – SeaCloud Publishing

A luncheon will be held at Sleepy Ridge on April 28 at noon following the Executive Committee meeting that begins at 8:00 am. Mr. Cuff will be sending letters to recipients.

MOTION: Mr. Monson made the motion to approve the Distinguished Service Award recipients. Mr. Fails seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. Spirit of Sport Award: Lance Gillespie – Swim Captain at Davis HS. Lance is also the NFHS Section 7 winner.

D. Heart of the Arts: Mr. Joshua Long works with student coach mentors at Hillcrest HS. Mr. Long is also the NFHS Section 7 winner.

Meeting adjourned at 12:06.