

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
UHSAA Office
Wednesday, June 2, 2021
9:00 am

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

1. Welcome and Chairperson Business: Mr. Cuff welcomed members to the meeting and excused Mr. Hammer who was vacationing with his family. Mr. Cuff said members should be proud because we are one of the very few states that sanctioned championships for every sport and activity. Many states skipped a season and some held no championships. We are grateful we were able to crown 116 state champions. With lacrosse, there were 44 champions in the spring. Congratulations and thank you for your support to make this possible. He thanked Mr. Quarnberg for hosting the first football game in the nation last fall.

Mr. Cuff excused Craig Hammer, Jodi Parker, Carolyn Gough, Joel Perkins, Tom Sherwood, Ryan Bishop, Rusty Taylor and Wade Murdock.

He welcomed Todd Quarnberg who will now represent Region 3, Chip Koop representing Region 4, Jamie Sheetz representing Region 6, Everett Kelepolo representing Region 8, and Jade Shepherd who will now represent Region 16. He also welcomed Kade Morrell attending with Luke Thomas. Kade will be the new representative for Region 13.

A. Reverence/Thought: Ms. Fluckey referenced a song that was sung at their graduation, "Barely Getting By." The lyrics state that, "It is easy to be blind to good things when times are rough." It was a perfect song for the year we have experienced. Students were grateful to be in school and participate in activities. "Everyday focus on your purpose. Remember why you do what you do. We don't get burned out because of what we do, we get burned out because we forget why we do it." She encouraged everyone to remember the "why."

B. Patriotic Thought/Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Langford thanked Mr. Cuff for the assignment because it opened a discussion with his 14-year-old son. Our sporting events often start with the national anthem. As a high school student, he was manipulated into joining the choir, because of that, he went on a tour with the choir to Washington, D.C. He had just filled out the paperwork for Selective Service prior to flying to the capital and it was also during the time of *Desert Storm*. The choir sung the national anthem at Arlington Cemetery and he was brought to tears. We sing the national anthem at our events to give our students the opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices that have been made for us to enjoy the life we have today. He then led members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Acknowledge Outgoing Committee Members: Mr. Cuff acknowledged the outgoing members of the EC. He thanked them for their service on the Committee.

- Carolyn Gough Region 3
- Joel Perkins Region 4

- Luke Thomas Region 13
- Wade Murdock Region 16

2. **BOT Report:** Mr. Gordon reported on the May 4, 2021, BOT meeting.

- Chair Holmes acknowledged the outgoing members of the BOT
- USBE Report by Mr. Strate
- Winter Financial Report
- Activities Report
- Unified Sports – addition of Unified Basketball next year
- Coaches Certification
- Calendar was reviewed
- Officials update
- Insurance Package was reviewed
- Sportsmanship Initiative
- Dare2Lead Student Conference
- Constitution By-Law Committee report
- Activity Fees were raised from \$40 to \$60 per sanctioned activity
- BOT determined that catastrophic insurance premiums will not be reimbursed for 2021-2022
- Mr. Van Wagoner provided a legal report
- Mr. Cuff provided Education-Based articles from the NFHS
- Mr. Holmes was reelected as BOT chair and Ms. Richards as vice chair

3. **2021-22 Meeting Schedule for Boards (p. 114):** Mr. Cuff presented the proposed calendar dates for the meeting schedule. A representative can be sent if member is unable to attend. The BOT has already approved their schedule.

MOTION: Mr. Dunn made the motion to approve the proposed meeting schedule for the EC. Mr. Fails seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. **Executive Committee Terms 2021-22 (p. 115-116):** Mr. Cuff reviewed the representatives for each region. The term date stays with the region, so terms do not expire at the same time. There is a new region for next year and Nate Marshall will represent Region 15. With the new alignment, there are now 23 regions.

5. **Board of Trustees Terms 2021 (p. 117):** The Board has now been finalized. New and reelected Board members include:

- Jeffrey Nielsen 4A School Board Member, Cache School District
- Gary Olson 3A School Board Member, South Sanpete School District
- Paul Sweat 5A/6A Superintendent, Wasatch School District
- Jerre Holmes 1A/2A Superintendent (also chair)
- David Dunn 5A/6A Principal, Granger High School
- Greg Miller Private School Representative, Layton Christian Academy

6. **UHSAA Calendar (pp. 118-121):** Mr. Oglesby reviewed the calendar for 2021-22. A discussion was held about college venues vs high schools for state championships. The Association tries to provide the absolute best opportunities for the student athletes.

A. Golf clinics: Ms. Whittaker reminded members that golf coaches do not take the rules clinic, but they present the etiquette and rules clinic to their players and then declare on the UHSAA website that the clinic has been completed. Utah Section PGA will provide someone to help with the clinic, local golf professional or there is a power point on the UHSAA Website.

(1) 2A-6A Boys – September 15 deadline

(2) 1A Boys and 1A-6A Girls – April 15 deadline

B. Baseball:

1A-2A Fall Baseball: Dixie State University

2A Baseball: Kearns High School

3A Baseball: Utah Valley University

4A Baseball: Dixie State University

5A Baseball: Utah Valley University

6A Baseball: Brigham Young University

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to approve the 2021-22 Calendar. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. Activities Report:

A. Baseball: Mr. Cluff reported that Spanish Fork Recreation stepped up and helped with baseball and softball and UVU eventually opened up and helped with 2A and 6A. 3A, 4A and 5A were held at SLCC. He reported this was the first year of the new bracket format and he has received positive feedback. He said there will be future discussion for changing format for 1A and 2A.

B. Boys Soccer: Mr. Jackson thanked Jordan HS, Juan Diego HS, and Herriman HS for hosting the semifinal matches. The finals were held at Rio Tinto and it was a great experience for the athletes. Rio Tinto is a great venue and very enthusiastic to host.

C. Unified Soccer: Mr. Jackson reported they held regional tournaments. He thanked Murray HS, Northridge HS, Skyridge HS and Mountain Crest HS for hosting those tournaments. It was a great opportunity for those students. They are looking to move unified soccer to the fall with a culminating experience at Rio Tinto.

D. Unified Track and Field: Mr. Oglesby thanked Copper Hills HS for hosting the event. He is excited to grow Unified Sports.

E. Track and Field: Mr. Oglesby said this state championship is an immense undertaking with every school in the state participating. He thanked Davis HS and Principal Wilkey for their efforts and countless hours of service. It was a great experience for the athletes.

F. Boys' Tennis: Mr. Oglesby reported that Liberty Park continues to take good care of the UHSAA and he is extremely appreciative of their efforts. Only one day had to move indoors.

G. Lacrosse: Mr. Oglesby said this was the first post season for lacrosse. He thanked Bingham HS and West Jordan HS for hosting the semi finals and Layton HS hosted the finals. He said it is a fun sport and he feels it will continue to grow.

H. Softball: Ms. Whittaker thanked Spanish Fork Recreation for hosting all the softball tournaments. 5A and 6A had to switch last minute. There was no rain. The new format with 4A, 5A, 6A was successful. This was the first time using RPI for softball and it went well. There was a great play by a Bear River athlete that made national news.

I. Girls' Golf: Ms. Whittaker said the participation numbers are growing in girls' golf. The numbers increased so much in 2A that it required a shotgun start the first day. Next year, 2A will need to be separate from 1A play.

J. 1A Boys' Golf: Ms. Whittaker said the tournament went well.

The question was asked why they reseed in baseball and softball. Mr. Cluff said it is done to protect the integrity of the tournament. The coaches' association made the determination to reseed. A discussion was held about cross bracketing. It will be discussed with the coaches.

Ms. Whittaker said in softball she would like to see a change in the best of 3 series to give schools the option of 2 games on day one. Mr. Monson felt that would be good for travel.

8. Information and Follow Up Items:

A. Fall Eligibility (p. 122): Mr. Cluff reported the BOT held a lengthy discussion on eligibility. They discussed when the right time was to return to the scholastic rule as printed in the UHSAA Handbook. For 2020-21, the 1's, NC's, NG's became passing grades rather than failing grades because of Covid-19 and remote learning. Because of the many grading systems (quarters, trimester, etc.), the BOT determined to reinstate the eligibility rule at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year. Students can make up grades in the summer. Beginning in the fall, we are back to the original scholastic eligibility rule. Please get the word out.

B. RPI Review (pp. 123-125): Mr. Cluff said as a staff they are constantly evaluating the RPI the leads into post season play. The following items were considered.

(1) Out-of-State Exceptions: One of the considerations was out-of-state additions. Currently, there is one exception in the out-of-state model. The staff feels the out-of-state exceptions are where they need to be. Mr. Monson said because of proximity, it is easy for them to play out-of-state teams. It is hard to be penalized in the RPI for playing out-of-state. Mr. Cluff said MaxPreps cannot take out-of-state enrollment number and mirror into the USHAA model. Mr. Webb pointed out that with a five-team region, it is difficult to find games and some must schedule out-of-state. Coaches are focused on the RPI and the first round with home team advantage. Coaches are focusing on manipulating the RPI with scheduling. The staff is aware of the concerns. The staff would like to eventually go away from regions and assist with scheduling. Mr. Smith said his region liked the format for lacrosse. It maintained region play but then moved into divisions for post season. Could we consider this format for other sports? Mr. Smith does not want to see region play and championships to go away. He felt there were benefits with divisions. This could be the compromise. Mr. Cluff said lacrosse introduced the Association to a different model. Mr. Cluff said a committee will be established in the fall to look at options for the next alignment.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to adjust the out-of-state exceptions to RPI, based on contest limitations, to 2 exceptions for 15 games or less and 3 exceptions for 16 or more. Mr. Monson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Langford made the request for Region 14 that the RPI reveal time be outside of class time, possibly 3:00 pm. The RPI is shut down one week prior to create energy and correct any problems.

(2) Region Champions: Staff had feedback to give an RPI bump for region champs. The staff considered it, but feels it not fair compared to different scenarios. It would take away from the RPI.

(3) Manual Manipulation: Mr. Cluff discussed manual manipulation to create better matchups. The staff is not comfortable with manual manipulation and would want to stick to the RPI formula.

(4) RPI Formula: Mr. Morris asked if there was data to support the 45/45/10 formula this year was better than the previous year 40/40/20. Mr. Cluff said the classification adjustment (from six to two) had more impact than the formula change. Mr. Cluff said with the new formula he has received positive feedback from coaches because they control 90% rather than 80%. Mr. Oglesby said that validation of RPI is seeing so many of 1 to 8 teams in the tourney. No change recommended to current formula of 45/45/10.

(5) Brackets: Mr. Cluff reminded members that 6A has 26 teams, 5A has 33, 4A has 14, 3A has 22, 2A has 24 and 1A has 30. The staff would propose 24 teams in a bracket. Could have a 32-team bracket with 8 byes or change to 16-team bracket with 8 teams playing in. It would need to be determined by sport. Mr. Webb is concerned that all teams be able to complete their schedules. Members were asked to discuss in region.

(6) Softball and Volleyball: Coaches wanted to exempt their pre-season tournaments from the RPI. Ms. Whittaker said the proposal was because they could not play all players and could not develop their teams. No change was recommended.

C. Summer Moratorium (July 4- July 10, 2021): Mr. Jackson asked members to remind schools if they were going to do a padded camp for football it requires eight days. Football page has a day-by-day calendar. If doing a padded camp, schools might need a summer moratorium adjustment and it would be for the entire school.

D. Coaches Certification: Mr. Jackson reminded members that NFHSlearn.com has many videos to cover the certification. The district must approve the courses for certification.

E. RegisterMyCoach: Mr. Jackson said that RegisterMyCoach tracks the certification. Please remember that coaches' certification is different than requesting the coaches' credential.

F. Soccer Items: Mr. Jackson said they are working on verbiage regarding limited team membership for clarification.

G. Wrestling Items: Mr. Jackson said the weight classes were changing for the boys and added weight classes for girls for 2023. The coaches' association has proposed to start using the weight classification for boys and girls for 2021-2022. The NFHS has approved the early start.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to adopt the NFHS boys and girls weight classes for 2023 and begin using those weight classes for 2021-2022. Mr. Fails seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Jackson said the NFHS has changed their rule and will now allow six matches in a day for divisional and state tournaments. He asked members to discuss in regions if they would like a one-day tournament for divisionals and state. Both 1A and 2A will need to have the same format.

SVC: Wednesday, Thursday	1A, 2A 3A boys and 1A, 2A, 3A girls
Friday, Saturday	4A boys and girls
UUV: Wednesday, Thursday	6A boys and girls
Friday, Saturday	5A boys and girls

H. Football Reminders (refer to football page on Website)

I. Music – Auditionware for Region Music Festivals has been paid.

J. Speech/Debate: UDCA will be discussing sites for next spring.

K. RegisterMyAthlete: No major changes.

L. Tennis Items: Mr. Oglesby provided the preliminary 3A pairings that included 1A and 2A regions. Mr. Gordon asked if there were enough 2A schools for their own tournament. Mr. Oglesby said they may have enough schools but not enough participants to make a viable tournament.

MOTION: Mr. Gordon made the motion to accept the 1A, 2A school being assigned to 3A region for tennis. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Oglesby stated that Canyon School District was developing a seeding system for tennis and it should be completed by the end of summer. There would be divisionals in 5A, 6A and 16-entry bracket for state. 4A might choose to go to the seeding system. It was asked if 3A would want to go to the seeding system. It was reported 3A prefers a bracket based on region qualifying tournaments. Mr. Oglesby said they would work on the 3A bracket over the summer and ask for approval at the August meeting.

M. Lacrosse Items/Alignment: Mr. Oglesby reported there are enough teams in lacrosse to return to classification tourneys (4A, 5A, 6A) instead of divisions. Coaches were meeting over the summer for discussion.

(1) Viewmont Ineligible Players: Mr. Smith reported that Viewmont had played ineligible players in lacrosse. Viewmont proposed an eleven-game suspension, \$700 fine to the region. Viewmont is prepared to take on any sanction the EC imposes. It was discussed if the 2nd place trophy should be vacated. The region gave a six-game suspension and the \$700 fine. It was not done maliciously but it was an oversight by secretary, AD and coach. He knows the coach is held responsible for athlete eligibility. Mr. Morris feels we need to implement exchanging rosters prior to the games. Mr. Oglesby said this is a continuing problem as many rosters are incomplete. Mr. Smith wants to send a message with the sanction. Discussion on athletes registering on RMA prior to tryouts.

MOTION: Mr. Webb made the motion to not have Viewmont vacate the 2nd place trophy. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Quarnberg made the motion to accept Region 5 sanction of 6 games and \$700 fine. Mr. Web seconded the motion. Motion failed.

MOTION: Mr. Kelepolo made the motion to give an eleven-game suspension beginning with the first game through game 11, including meetings and practices. Mr. Webb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

N. Golf: Ms. Whittaker said the PGA is requesting an increase in green fees for the coming year. Entry fee will increase from \$40 to \$50 for two-day tournament and \$5 per participant. PGA is currently picking up additional costs for our event. Mr. Cuff reported that the UHSAA gives the PGA \$2500 for both boys and girls golf to help offset their costs.

MOTION: Mr. Langford made the motion to approve the increase in green fees to \$50. Mr. Wilkey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

O. Drill Team Items: Ms. Whittaker said the coaches' association is proposing some changes because of interpretations in the show category. The rule was that props cannot be put together to make a larger prop. Many teams were penalized. They would propose to change the rule to, "No scenery or back drops may be used in the show category (eliminate the rule of no combining of props) and allow props to be combined. One girl must be able to carry prop on and off, but once on the floor, the props could be combined. Changing this rule will eliminate confusion and will allow for more creativity.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to accept the proposal to allow combining props on the floor. Mr. Sivert seconded the motion. Motion carried.

P. Participation Survey: Mr. Oglesby reported schools that have not completed the survey. It is important that the survey be completed because the participation numbers determine the catastrophic premium.

9. **UIAAA Business:** Mr. Hunter stated the UIAAA will be holding their golf tournament to raise funds for scholarships at Cedar Hills Golf Course. Next year's AD Conference will be held on April 6-9, 2022, in St. George. If members have breakout topic suggestions, please send those to Mr. Hunter. He said the Directors' Cup has changed from previous quarter GPA to cumulative GPA for the varsity athletes. Mr. Everett Kelepolo is the new president elect for UIAAA. Mr. Cuff appreciates the UIAAA and AD's for the great relationship with UHSAA and all their support.

10. **Constitution/By-Laws Review:**

A. Private Schools Boundary Adjustment: The BOT is allowing, on a case-by-case basis, for a private school to make a presentation to the EC on adjusting their boundary. The boundary cannot be larger (geographic) than current boundary, but can be shifted. The EC would then recommend to the BOT and the BOT would make final approval. The adjustment would be made prior to a new realignment and would be for the entire realignment. Presentations would need to be made by the August EC meeting.

B. Diversity Representation on the EC: The BOT sent the concern to the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for discussion. The Committee selected Chair Dr. Jackie Thompson to serve on the EC as a non-voting member.

MOTION: Mr. Kelepolo made the motion to add Dr. Jackie Thompson as a non-voting member to the EC. Mr. Webb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

11. **Legal Report:** Mr. Van Wagoner was excused. There were no legal issues to report.

12. Election for Executive Committee Chair 2021-2023:

MOTION: Mr. Fails nominated Mr. Hammer as the EC Chair for 2021-2023. Mr. Gordon seconded the nomination. Nominations were closed by acclamation.

13. Reports:

A. Sportsmanship Committee:

(1) 2021 School Sportsmanship Award Recipients: Members received a list of the recipients. Ms. Whittaker reminded members there was a three-tier (silver, bronze and gold) award. Zero ejections were not ready.

(2) Criteria Award is online and was sent with the application.

(3) Student Leadership Conference: Conferences will be held in the fall by region or multi-regions. Sportsmanship Specialists trainings for the conference will be held in August. Please submit individual's name to Ms. Whittaker.

B. 1A Athletics: Mr. Wood wanted to discuss schools filling enough games for RPI. Mr. Cluff suggested 60% of contest limitations to be post-season eligible. Mr. Jenkins felt a decision needed to be made today for fall baseball and volleyball.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion that schools must meet 60% contest limitation for RPI sports to be post-season eligible. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. 2A Athletics: Nothing to Report

D. 3A Athletics: Nothing to Report

E. 4A Athletics: Nothing to Report

F. 5A Athletics: Nothing to Report

G. 6A Athletics: Nothing to Report

H. Track Uniforms: Mr Hunter reported a concern regarding officials' enforcement of uniform rules at the State Track Meet. He felt there were some inappropriate actions from the officials. Mr. Oglesby said it had been addressed and he appreciated Mr. Hunter bringing up the concern. It is the judgement of the official and hopefully they are consistent. Mr. Cluff said the best officials are at State events and they are not afraid to enforce the uniform violation. Mr. Sheetz said the uniform color is important for track and cross country because of number of participants and the need for school identification.

14. For the Good of the Order: Mr. Cuff provided articles supporting Education-Based Activities.

Mr. Cuff thanked members for their help and support during a challenging school year. The staff appreciated their assistance at tournaments and providing facilities to host those tournaments.

Meeting adjourned at 1:21.

Next meeting: August 5.