

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

UHSAA Office

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

9:00 am

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

1. **Welcome and Chairperson Business:** Mr. Hammer welcomed members to the meeting.

A. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Murdock offered a prayer.

B. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Sivert shared Teddy Roosevelt's, "The Man in the Arena." This is a time of criticism and many pointing out faults. He reminded members that those who serve in public office do so at great risk to themselves. Every mistake and decision they make is scrutinized. He applauds those who are willing to serve and asked member to be mindful of them. He then led members in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Farmer's Union Insurance: Members were given a Bluetooth speaker compliments of Farmer's Union Insurance. They thanked members for their service and all that is done for the students of Utah.

D. Chairman's General Observations (including Section 7/8 Meeting): Mr. Hammer reported on the virtual Section 7/8 meeting held in September. He hosted a round table with board members from the 11 western states. Many differences between states handling Covid-19. Mr. Cluff said the section meeting was held for two days 3 hours each day. Utah hosted the section meeting two years ago in St. George. This year, Hawaii was hosting the section meeting, but it was held virtually. There were breakouts with executive directors, assistant directors, marketing and finance and board members. Covid-19 was a major topic in most breakouts. Only Arizona and Utah in Section 7 are playing sports. California, Nevada and Hawaii will not be playing until at least January 1. Montana, Idaho and Wyoming from Section 8 are playing sports. Many are looking to Utah as a leader in handling Covid-19. Utah hosted the very first high school football game in the nation. Mr. Cuff feels fortunate we have made it to week 8 of football, but there have been some bumps along the way.

E. Minutes of August 6, 2020 (summary on UHSAA website):

**MOTION:** Mr. Taylor made the motion to approve the August 6, 2020 minutes. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

F. Ready Reference Calendar Guides (refer to UHSAA website): Mr. Hammer reminded members of academic all-state and eligibility lists deadlines. A reminder about the moratorium dates.

G. Member School Dues, Catastrophic Insurance, By-Laws Confirmation: Ms. Widerburg reported members schools still owing fees. Board credentials will be coming.

H. Fall Sports Assignment Sheets: Mr. Oglesby distributed the assignment sheets asking members to sign up to help at the state tournaments.

2. **USBE Report:** Ms. Parker and Corby Eason presented a USBE Report. Mr. Eason is a prevention specialist and discussed LEA policies and training regarding bullying, cyber bullying, hazing, retaliation and abusive conduct. Mr. Eason will share the power point and it will be sent to members.

3. **BOT Meeting Report:** Mr. Gordon reported the BOT Meeting of August 20, 2020.

- New board members – Larry Bergeson and Jim Wood were new members
- DaVinci Academy is the newest member to the Association
- USBE Report
- Staff provided orientation for members
- Calendar
- Election process and terms of office
- Catastrophic Insurance
- Sportsmanship Initiative in 11<sup>th</sup> year, Sportsmanship Handbook on UHSAA website
- Student Leadership Conference was postponed to the fall of 2021
- Articles provided to support promotion of high school activities
- Social media tools are available to schools – Mask Up Utah
- RegisterMyCoach – coach certification
- Guidelines for Fall Sports
- Corporate Sponsors
- Media Rights
- Ejection procedures
- Background checks and supervision of officials
- Compliance training
- Legal report
- Summer Moratorium – July 4-10, 2021
- Emerging Sports survey will be sent in September
- RSL Academy was approved for basketball independent status
- Public Hearing was held for realignment format and procedures

4. **Region Visits (p. 50):** Mr Cuff said a staff member has been assigned to each region and they would like to visit one of the first region meetings. Please calendar with staff member.

Mr. Cuff reminded members that the region agendas and minutes need to be posted on the UHSAA website. Sanctions are also filled out online and Mr. Cuff sends the reports to all members for review. If there is an issue with the sanction, members have 10-days to notify Mr. Cuff. Region handbooks can be posted on the UHSAA website.

5. **Committee Assignments (pp. 51-52):** Mr. Cuff reviewed the committee assignments for the year.

6. **Football Endowment Games Report:** Mr. Cuff reported 51 football endowment games were held. The games between Weber and Bingham had to be cancelled. A financial report

will be reviewed next meeting. The Foundation/UHSAA will be reimbursing schools' catastrophic premiums at 100%.

**7. Calendar (refer to UHSAA website for updates):** Mr. Oglesby encouraged members to consistently check the website calendar for the most updated information. The tentative calendar will be coming soon.

**8. Follow-Up Items from Previous Meetings and Other Items:**

A. Sportsmanship Items: Ms. Whittaker reported the Sportsmanship Committee had met and reviewed changes to the sportsmanship initiative. The Dare2Lead Conference has been postponed to the fall of 2021. They will continue the three tiers of the sportsmanship award (bronze, silver and gold star). The committee wants to add a code of ethics for coaches to encourage responsibility for instructing appropriate player conduct and respect to other athletes. Mr. Sherwood, Committee Chair, feels it important to hold the coach accountable for player sportsmanship. A region sportsmanship award has been discussed to award a coach demonstrating good sportsmanship. The nominees from the regions would then be considered for a state award for each classification.

Mr. Cluff discussed the 22 ejections (21 in football and 1 in soccer) that have occurred for racial slurs. Taunting/racial slurs have an eight-quarter suspension and is taken very seriously. Officials can stop the game to have a conversation with the two coaches. This is a non-negotiable suspension.

Details will be sent about the sportsmanship video contest. There will be a \$1000 scholarship awarded to each classification winner.

B. Emerging Sports: Ms. Whittaker said the emerging sports link was sent out to schools and needs to be returned by October 15. The sports/activities should be sports/activities not currently sanctioned by the UHSAA.

C. Golf Items: Ms. Whittaker said there was at least one non-certified coach at the state golf tournament.

D. Volleyball Items (p. 56): Ms. Whittaker said UVU is not available for volleyball. Sites and brackets need to be determined for all classifications. She said many schools are not willing to host and spectators would be limited. Union High School has four courts in two large gyms with 1,500 seating capacity in each gym. SLCC has only one court so the number of participating teams would need to be decreased. They could host 4-5 matches in one day due to their restrictions. SVCC has four courts available and could accommodate all classifications. Dixie State is also available with two courts. The traditional bracket with sixteen teams and consolation games will be difficult with limited space. Another option would be eight teams with consolation.

The staff recommendation would be for 1A-4A to have pods on Saturday, October 24, and highest seed would host. Eight teams would move to venue with consolation with a two-day tournament. This would provide due diligence with fewer teams at one venue. The staff would not recommend pods for 5A and 6A. 6A is only taking 24 teams. Consolation games would be at a high school.

1A – 16 teams first round 8 teams with consolation at Union HS on Friday, Saturday, October 30, 31

2A – 16 teams with pods, 8 teams with consolation at SVC on Thursday, Friday, October 29, 30.

3A and 4A – 16 team pods, 8 team with consolation at SVC on October 27, 28.

5A – Higher seed to host until semifinals. Semifinals and finals with no consolation except for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place games at SLCC on November 7.

6A – Higher seed to host until semifinals. Semifinals and finals with no consolation except for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place games at SLCC on November 6.

**MOTION:** Mr. Gordon made the motion to approve the volleyball sites, format and dates as discussed. Mr. Monson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Drill Team: Ms. Whittaker requested region information from Regions 3, 10, 12, 13, and 2A North. She needs the region rep to fill out information on the drill team page and request a date. There can only be three competitions on one date because of available judges.

Qualifying competitions have been assigned and posted on the drill team page. The UVU competition was cancelled and will be moved to another site, same day. If a team is not able to compete due to Covid-19, it needs to be determined if their entry fee will be refunded, partial refund, etc. The schools that are hosting the competitions use the entry fee to pay officials and awards. It would be difficult to refund. They will also have lower revenue because of fewer spectators. The entry fee is \$12 per girl. Ms. Whittaker suggested half their entry fee would be refunded. Members accepted the recommendation.

F. 1A Baseball: Mr. Cluff reported the baseball tournament begins Friday at Spanish Fork (regions). Online ticketing will be available. Quarter finals will be held Tuesday at Spanish Fork and Friday and Saturday at Dixie State. There is a possibility the site will change to a high school.

G. 2A Fall Baseball: Mr. Cluff said this was the second year of 2A baseball. Currently there are thirteen teams participating. He would like to propose sanctioning the 2A fall baseball and UHSAA take ownership. It has become complex with training, securing venues, etc. He feels the timing is good with the upcoming alignment. This would be the 1<sup>st</sup> time offering two championships in one classification. The decision/recommendation will need to be made by November if members want it to be considered for the next alignment. Schools cannot participate in both spring and fall baseball. Mr. Morris would support fall baseball for those schools not participating in football.

H. Officials Update: Mr. Cluff is pleased with the cooperation and flexibility of officials experiencing cancelled games with Covid-19. He feels good about the number of officials registered for winter sports. He reminded members that swim meets need to be added to ArbiterGame. By winter sports, there will not be access to ArbiterOne. Please remind schools to use ArbiterGame. There are webinars to provide training.

I. Coaches' Credentials: Mr. Cluff said there have been issues with the vendor manufacturing the credentials. The credentials have now been ordered from another vendor.

He reminded members only certified coaches will be allowed at the tournament. He asked the question what are the consequences for a coach that coaches at a state tournament who is not certified? What is the penalty? Mr. Sherwood felt a fine would be appropriate. Mr. Smith feels the fine does not work, but suspension does.

**MOTION:** Mr. Sherwood made the motion to fine the head coach \$500 and the assistant coach \$250 if not certified at the state tournament (one fine per tournament). Ms. Gough seconded the motion. It was discussed that notification is sent to the school prior to tournament. Motion carried.

#### J. Winter Schedule Deadline (October 15)

K. Football Items (p.57): Mr. Jackson said the University of Utah will not be available for football. For 2A, 3A, 4A there are some option for semifinals. Union and Uintah High Schools are available with about 4000 spectators. SUU and Dixie State said they would be able to host. For 5A, 6A semifinals could be held at a neutral site at a high school, high seed host or SUU and Dixie State is also available. Mr. Perkins said Region 4 does not want to travel south. They would prefer to remain at high school sites with higher seed hosting until the finals. Mr. Bishop said 5A wants to travel south. Mr. Smith said overnight travel is not an option. It was discussed to schedule games at 11 and 3. Mr. Webb said his region would like to not travel because of the community and increase of Covid-19 cases. Mr. Cuff said 5A and 6A could discuss options and then meet to finalize. Another factor is the KJZZ contract and it would be helpful to keep the same dates

#### **MOTIONS:**

6A – Mr. Perkins motioned for neutral sites TBD for both semifinals and finals. Preferably one site for both weeks

5A – Mr. Bishop motioned for Dixie State, but game time is critical, same dates. SUU second choice.

4A – Mr Monson motioned semifinals at home with highest RPI, finals at Dixie preferably, same dates

3A – Mr. Thomas motioned semifinals at SUU and finals at Dixie, same dates

2A - Mr. Fails motioned to have semifinals/finals at Dixie or SUU, same dates

Motions were seconded by Mr. Morris. Motion carried.

#### L. Soccer Items:

2A	Semifinals, October 22, Juan Diego	Finals, October 26, Rio Tinto
3A	Semifinals, October 21, Juan Diego	Finals, October 26, Rio Tinto
4A	Semifinals, October 22, Rio Tinto	Finals, October 23, Rio Tinto
5A	Semifinals, October 20, Rio Tinto	Finals, October 23, Tio Tinto
6A	Semifinals, October 20, Rio Tinto	Finals, October 23, Rio Tinto

Mr. Cuff appreciates Rio Tinto stepping up to host 11 games this year.

**MOTION:** Mr. Langford motioned to adopt the soccer championship schedule and sites for semifinals and finals. Mr. Murdock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

M. SMAC Items: Mr. Jackson thanked the SMAC Committee for the extra time and effort they have provided due to Covid-19 and developing guidelines. Winter sport guidelines were discussed.

**MOTION:** Mr. Smith made the motion to approve the winter sport guidelines. Mr. Fails seconded the motion. Motion carried.

N. Wrestling Items: Mr. Jackson introduced Ross Taylor, president of the wrestling coaches' association. The members of the SMAC met with coaches' association and classification representatives in three different meetings. He reviewed the 2020-2021 Wrestling Protocols that had been sent previously and distributed to members.

- (1) day tournaments only (only exception is divisional if needed)
- 14-day window between divisionals and State
- Tournament can only have a maximum of 224 participants. No more than (8) teams or 112 participants for regular season events working with county health departments for those wanting the 224-participant max.
- No cross bracket for losers into the consolation side. Wrestlers who lost in the semifinal will automatically wrestle for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place.
- Dual tournament increased to three for this year only and three regular tournaments or six dual tournament or six tournaments, but they cannot do more than six for 16 credits.
- Suggesting 25% gym capacity for spectators, but lower if more wrestlers are participating
- Suggest no divisionals at the same site
- No out of state travel
- No sanctions for anything bigger than a 224 bracket
- Each classification will have a one-day state tournament
- Hydration testing – Assessors will come to the school over a three-day period.

There will be no travel for schools. Last fall, an increase in the hydration fee was approved to raise from \$5 to \$8. They would like to request a \$10 fee for this season to cover the cost of travel and additional scales to test at the school site.

Divisionals:

1A	January 28	Division A: Panguitch	Division B: Tintic
2A	January 28	Division A: Beaver	Division B: North Sevier
3A	February 5	TBD at two sites	
4A	February 5 6	TBD	
5A	February 2, 3	TBD	
6A	February 2, 3	Division A: Westlake	Division B: Syracuse

**MOTION:** Mr. Perkins made the motion to approve sanctioning for no more than 224 participants, hydration fee of \$10 for one-year, one-day tournaments using the bracket as proposed. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Jackson said the USA Wrestling is sponsoring a large tournament, but it is not sanctioned by the UHSAA. Teams cannot participate, but an individual wrestler can compete. A wrestler cannot score for a club team or compete on a club team.

O. Cross Country Items: Mr. Oglesby reminded members that they approved 5A and 6A qualifying divisional. The coaches' association is running that event and information can be found on the UHSAA website. He asked for volunteers and will send a link for them to sign up. The 3A, 5A and 6A participants are required to fill out an online waiver to participate at Soldier Hollow. Coaches will be responsible to have the waivers completed. He thanked Wasatch High School and Cedar City High School for their support and help with the cross country meets.

Mr. Monson said the current rule states that no one is allowed on the state course two-weeks before the event. He would propose the rule be amended for this year to allow the students to jog the course the day before the meet because it is a new course. Mr. Oglesby stated the rule has been in place for many years. He is concerned if they will be allowed on the course particularly at Cedar City HS because school will be in session. It could also encourage schools to travel a day earlier. No motion was made.

P. Tennis Items: Mr. Oglesby reminded members there will only be online ticketing at tennis. Annual and silver passes will be honored. Liberty Park is a mandatory mask site.

Q. Lacrosse Proposal: Mr. Oglesby reported the lacrosse coaches' association is interested in using RPI to seed the tournament and creation of divisions A, B and C. There is a strong support because of the many new programs.

**MOTION:** Mr. Bishop made the motion to accept the proposal to use the RPI to determine divisions and seeding for lacrosse. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

R. Academic All-State (p. 58): Mr. Oglesby reminded members the Academic-All State deadline for fall sports was that day, September 30. The winners will be posted on the website and then schools will have two weeks to notify the staff and submit late applications. If the student is qualified, they will be added to the list and then certificates will be sent. Schools in violation of the original deadline will be read at the next EC meeting. The new policy will be added into the Administrative Guidelines of the UHSAA Handbook.

S. Fall Post-Season Protocol and Summary: Mr. Cuff wanted to discuss what protocol would be used for teams in quarantine, teams that start tourney and then quarantine. Guidelines need to be in place before it affects any team. Individuals sports such as golf and tennis were able to replace quarantined athletes with other individuals. With a team quarantine, it is more complicated and difficult. It would be impossible to hold up the tournament waiting for a team to un-quarantine. Would the team advance, recall a team that was beaten by the quarantined team, byes, etc.? It was discussed there are no black and white answers and not many options. There is a procedure in place for teams to withdraw prior to the reveal and that would not affect the bracket. Many issues would be solved prior to the reveal if those teams will notify the office. Discussion continued about options.

**MOTION:** Mr. Smith made the motion that after the reveal, a quarantined team would forfeit or bye until the semi-finals. Once at the semi-finals, if a team is quarantined, the team that they beat will be invited to replace the team. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9. **Legal Report:** Mr. Van Wagoner presented a legal report.

**MOTION:** Mr. Bishop made the motion to go into executive session to discuss legal issues. Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Mr. Wood made the motion to leave executive session. Mr. Langford seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10. **Realignment 2021-23:** Mr. Cuff said the BOT meeting is scheduled for November 19. If October 1 counts are not finalized, the meeting would be delayed. There will be two other

meetings and a public hearing between Thanksgiving and Christmas. He discussed the Final Format, Item 6 and 7:

**6. Prior to the first consideration of assigned regions in all sports except football, any school with at least 50% free and reduced lunch per state office of education 2019 Child Nutrition Program (CNP) survey may appeal to move down one classification. Schools will be considered secondary bubble school following the consideration of the original bubble schools as determined by the Board of Trustees. A school may not apply both an original bubble status and a secondary bubble status in the general alignment.**

**7. For the football alignment only, any school with at least 50.5% free and reduced lunch per state office of education 2019 Child Nutrition program (CNP) survey may appeal to move down one classification after consideration of original bubble schools and prior to the first consideration of assigned regions. A school may apply both an original bubble status and a secondary bubble status (double bubble) in the football alignment only.**

This change allows one more factor to address demographics for football. The change was made in place of participation numbers or success factors. These are the major changes for the realignment process. Someday, the realignment might be made based on sport by sport and success factor. It was discussed earlier to move away from regions and it was not received well.

**11. UIAAA Report:** Mr. Hunter said they were able to hold the State AD Conference in August this year. The new AD workshop was held in mid-September. He thanked members for approving the early start time for the endowment cross country meet they host that helps to fund scholarships awarded from the UIAAA. Forty schools participated. The Academic State Champions will be announced soon. Eighty-eight schools provided GPA's to qualify for the award.

**12. For the Good of Order:**

A. Distinguished Service Award (region due November 1) (p. 62): Mr. Cuff reminded members the nominations for the Distinguished Service Award is due on November 1. He will send electronic copy of the application. Regions must submit the nominations – one per category.

B. Super Fan Award (due November 1) (p. 63): Any school can nominate a Super Fan recipient. Mr. Cuff will send an electronic copy of the application for the Super Fans Award.

C. Mr. Cuff provided two articles dealing with high school coaches and Covid-19 (pp. 64-66).

Meeting adjourned at 2:15. Next meeting: Wednesday, November 11