

**PRINCIPALS: Please Share These Minutes with Your Athletic Director**  
**Regular Meeting of PIAA District VI – October 21, 2024**

**Call to Order** of the October 21, 2024 meeting, Chairman Marshall called the meeting of the District VI Committee to order at 3:35 p.m. at Hollidaysburg Area High School.

*Present* - Michael Cacciotti, Elizabeth Campbell, Ralph Cecere, Charles Glasser, Chuck Gojmerac, Tina Greene, Deanna Jubeck, Stacy Kuster, Tish Maclay, William Marshall, Jacquelyn Mento, Molly Pomeroy-Hoover, Jody Rainey, Brian Randall, Phil Riccio, Chris Rickens, Richard Schreier, Cullen Stokes, Jack Tobias, and Curtis Whitesel.

*Absent* - Chad Packer and Timothy Regan.

**Public Comments** – There were no public comments.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Chris Rickens and Richard Schreier, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes from the September 24, 2024 meeting.

**Financial Reports**

On a motion by Michael Cacciotti and Curtis Whitesel, the Committee unanimously approved the District VI monthly financial report for September.

**Old Business**

The Committee discussed the following P.I.A.A. updates:

Phil Riccio notified the Committee of the elimination of wrestling's Northwest Regionals in Class 3A, adding District VI to PIAA Class 3A Southwest Region Individual Championships in Western Pennsylvania's Interscholastic League (WPIAL).

William Marshall indicated that there may be changes made to the competition formula that may result in schools having to stay in their class next year. Mr. Marshall also informed the Committee of legislation that the State Senate passed, requiring schools to accept cash as an optional means of buying tickets to any school-sponsored activities including PIAA sporting events.

The Committee also reviewed handbook updates, member schools that are still in need of District VI passes should email the Committee, and Inter-District passes will be coming to Committee members through email from the state office.

**New Business**

Chris Rickens provided an overview of disqualifications that included that there have been seventeen disqualifications since the September meeting, totaling thirty-one for the year. In the 2023-2024 school year there were a total of forty-six. Out of the seventeen disqualifications, fourteen of them were players, eleven of which were supplemental and three coach disqualifications, one of those also being supplemental. Mr. Rickens also discussed fan ejections, stating that notifications of fan ejections should be sent to member schools.

Ralph Cecere emphasized positive interactions between officials and players. Also suggesting that a Google form be made available to officials to comment on event/game management. This would allow officials the opportunity to offer positive/negative experiences they have had at D6 school venues.

Jody Rainey recommended that a clinic be provided to junior officials and that officials that are requesting an increase in their stipends from school districts make the proposals in time for school district budgets.

The Committee discussed meeting with conferences on game managers duties and responsibilities that include providing security for officials. William Marshall noted that the Committee does not have control on out of district games.

Chris Rickens conversed on mentors for officials, stating that, in his experience, often officials of all age groups decline the offer of having a mentor.

Mr. Rickens announced that Fall Officials Appreciation Week, which was held October 6<sup>th</sup> through October 12<sup>th</sup>, was a tremendous success. Chris also thanked everyone that participated in the recognition.

### **Eligibility Transfers**

**Eligibility was granted** to the following students, with principal signoffs avowing that no athletic intent existed by both sending and receiving schools:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Gr.</b>	<b>Transfer</b>	<b>Sport(s)</b>	<b>Motion</b>
Logan Horvath	12	Northern Cambria to Penns Manor	None	Gojmerac, Randall
Bailey Cunningham	10	Commonwealth Charter to Ferndale	None	Gojmerac, Randall
Grady Rabenstein	10	Hollidaysburg to Bellwood	Wrestling	Gojmerac, Randall
Stephen Wood	7	Greater Johnstown to Bishop McCort	Football	Gojmerac, Randall
Kenna Smith	10	Bald Eagle Area to Bellwood	Cheer	Gojmerac, Randall
Angel Torres	8	Florida to River Valley	Basketball	Gojmerac, Randall

#### **Ineligible for Post Season**

Gabrielle Bambarger	11	Curwensville to West Branch	Wrestling	Randall, Rickens
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#### **Post Season Waiver Granted**

Gabrielle Bambarger	11	West Branch		Randall, Rickens
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On a motion by Ralph Cecere and Richard Schreier, the Committee unanimously approved the financial report for golf as presented by Michael Hudak.

On a motion by Michael Cacciotti and Charles Glasser, the Committee unanimously approved the financial report for track and field as presented by Phil Riccio.

William Marshall announced that a co-chair replacement will be needed for Michael Hudak's golf chair position, noting that it is a five-tournament position, and will need to be decided at November's meeting, due to scheduling tournaments with championship sites in December.

On a motion by Molly Pomeroy-Hoover and Deanna Jubeck, the Committee unanimously approved the following:

Huntingdon School District addition of girls' wrestling.

Co-op between Harmony and Northern Cambria in girls' basketball.

Termination of the co-op between Huntingdon and Philipsburg Osceola in girls wrestling.

Co-op between West Shamokin and Grace Christian in girls' lacrosse.

### **Individual Sports Report**

Ralph Cecere provided football championship information that includes the football playoff meeting scheduled for Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Cecere also mentioned that the number of games is down this year and the championships will take place at Altoona's Mansion Park on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup>.

Chuck Gojmerac informed the Committee that there will be thirty-one volleyball teams participating in this year's championships. The first-round matches will begin on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and finals take place on October 30<sup>th</sup> through November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Michael Cacciotti announced that the soccer playoffs begin this evening with two games. Finals will take place October 24<sup>th</sup> through November 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Cacciotti also stated that there are the same number of schools participating this year as last year, and that all championship games will take place on turf fields.

### **For the Common Good**

Jody Rainey discussed merchandise with the Committee that included the distribution of apparel to member schools.

**The Next Meeting**

The District VI Committee will meet on November 18, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., at Hollidaysburg Area High School Library.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Committee, Stacy Kuster moved, and Phil Riccio seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:33 p.m.