

PRINCIPALS: Please Share These Minutes with Your Athletic Director
Regular Meeting of PIAA District VI – November 18, 2024

Call to Order of the November 18, 2024 meeting, Chairman Marshall called the meeting of the District VI Committee to order at 3:30 p.m. at Hollidaysburg Area High School.

Present - Michael Cacciotti, Ralph Cecere, Charles Glasser, Chuck Gojmerac, Deanna Jubeck, Tish Maclay, William Marshall, Jacquelyn Mento, Chad Packer, Molly Pomeroy-Hoover, Jody Rainey, Brian Randall, Timothy Regan, Phil Riccio, Chris Rickens, Richard Schreier, Cullen Stokes, and Curtis Whitesel.

Absent - Elizabeth Campbell, Tina Greene, Stacy Kuster, and Jack Tobias.

Public Comments - There were no public comments.

Discussion - The Committee held a supplemental disqualification hearing with a softball coach.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Phil Riccio and Richard Schreier, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes from the October 21, 2024 meeting.

Financial Reports

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

Old Business

William Marshall provided P.I.A.A. updates that included an upcoming hearing with District Chairs regarding competition formula, a lawsuit, changes to reclassification, and new house leadership.

Ralph Cecere informed the Committee of the Football Steering Committee's discussion on homesites in quarter rounds causing significant travel last year. Therefore, the steering committee changed this year to neutral sites for quarter finals, with preference going to top brackets. However, there have been obstacles in finding mid points that are willing to host. Mr. Cecere also thanked Armstrong School District for hosting two quarter final games.

The Committee reviewed handbook updates, District VI passes, and Inter-District passes that were emailed to District VI Committee members from the state office.

On a motion by Michael Cacciotti and Chuck Gojmerac, the Committee unanimously approved Curtis Whitesel and Chris Rickens as Golf Chairs, effective immediately.

New Business

Chris Rickens spoke of the two players' non-supplemental disqualifications that took place since the October meeting, totaling thirty-four for the year. Thirty being player disqualifications, nineteen of those thirty were supplemental, and two of the four coach disqualifications were also supplemental.

Eligibility Transfers

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

Name	Gr.	Transfer	Sport(s)	Motion
Gavin Smith	9	Altoona to Bellwood	None	Riccio, Stokes
Jacob Johnson	9	Westmont to Bishop McCort	None	Riccio, Stokes
Joshua Myrick	9	Abraxus to Ferndale	None	Riccio, Stokes
Noah Mills	9	Hollidaysburg to Cambria Heights	None	Riccio, Stokes
Leah Reed	10	Belleville Mennonite to Mifflin County	Basketball	Riccio, Stokes
Estoria Hill	8	Johnstown to Bishop McCort	Volleyball, Basketball	Riccio, Stoke
Aubrey Walylko	9	Richland to Bishop McCort	None	Riccio, Stokes
Stefan Noronha	9	Indiana HS to Bishop McCort	None	Riccio, Stokes
John Toriello	8	Lyme Old Lyme to Bishop McCort	None	Riccio, Stokes
Noah Hipple	9	Plum to Marion Center	Track	Riccio, Stokes

Travis Smith	9	Altoona to Bellwood	Soccer/Basketball	Riccio, Stokes
Post Season Waiver Granted				
Alana Lightner	11	Hollidaysburg		Riccio, Rickens
Ineligible for Post Season				
Meda Valaityte	11	Richland to Westmont	Basketball	Randall, Rickens
Issac Selders	12	Dubois to Greater Johnstown	Wrestling	Randall, Rickens
International Students				
Suthita Mekpatana		Thailand to Bishop Carroll		Schreier, Packer
Pimparee Chama Khamsawat		Thailand to Bishop Carroll		Schreier, Packer
Supreeyanan Tanakantapat		Thailand to Bishop Carroll		Schreier, Packer

On a motion by Richard Schreier and Chris Rickens, the Committee unanimously approved Nittany Christian Middle School of State College as a new member school.

On a motion by Chuck Gojmerac and Charles Glasser, the Committee unanimously approved the Co-op between Bishop Guilfoyle and Saint Joseph’s Catholic Academy in softball.

Jody Rainey informed the Committee that Laser Creations announced that they will be closing after finishing out the calendar year and possibly basketball championships. However, Catania Medallic Specialty, Inc. from Avon Lake, OH, who currently supplies Laser Creations, has agreed to supply District VI with traditional championship trophies and medals to finish out the year. Catania Medallic Specialty, Inc. also discussed different options for plaques and medals for the 2025-2026 school year, plates on medals for quick production, and keeping the cost around the same as Laser Creations.

On a motion by Phil Riccio and Jody Rainey, the Committee unanimously approved the donation of t-shirts for the 2025 Bocce Ball Invitational to be held at Saint Francis University on January 4th.

William Marshall thanked the Committee for being a sponsor for the tournament. Adding that there is no cost for participants; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be awarded with a medal that has been donated by the Peppetti Law Office; and pizza and drinks, donated by Bill and Amber Marshall, will also be available for participants.

Individual Sports Report

Ralph Cecere provided a handout to the Committee on the 2024 football championships, which showed an increase in profit for the year. Mr. Cecere also stated how live streaming is affecting championship attendance and how the state office charges live streaming by competition level. Live streaming and fees will be further discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Communication

William Marshall requested officials that were at the September meeting and chapter officials to share input on regular and post season security and have more officials to attend the January meeting. Ralph Cecere informed the Committee on a form that he composed on what is expected of game management, security, and administration and is willing to share with the Committee. Mr. Cecere also discussed the Google sheet that he has been working with Chris Rickens and Beth Campbell on that will give officials the opportunity to share the positives and negatives of each event. The Committee shared situations that are affecting game management, such as game managers also being clock operators, changing in venues, turnovers in athletic directors and administrators, and playing at different districts also adding challenges.

Molly Pomeroy-Hoover informed the Committee that Bellefonte Area School District Bot Ball Program is seeking more school districts to participate in the program. Any district that is interested should contact Bellefonte.

The Next Meeting

The District VI Committee will meet on December 19, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., at Marzoni’s in Greenwood. An extended invitation will be sent to Michael Hudak, Sue Kovensky, Robert Sauerwein, Todd Roth, Wes Elder, Tom Elling, and Barry Kline.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, Phil Riccio moved, and Curtis Whitesel seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:27 p.m.