

**DISTRICT 9
COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2020**

The District 9 Committee held the January 14, 2020 meeting at Aiello's Café in Ridgway, PA. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Aaron Straub. The following members were present: Kristie Bennardi, Bud Brennen, Melissa DeMatteis, Kevin Doverspike, Mike Erickson, Bob Gearhart, Pete Grecco, Bill Howard, Bill Jordan, Tom Lesniewski, Dave Osborne, Randy Reitz, John Sherry, John Stoughton, Terry Straub, Aaron Straub, Bob Tonkin, and Bonnie Wolbert. Not attending the meeting was Randy Cathcart.

A motion was made by Bill Howard and seconded by Bonnie Wolbert to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2019 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE:

A motion was made by Pete Grecco and seconded by John Sherry to approve the December 2019 and January 2020 treasurer's reports. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's reports are available upon written requests.

A motion was made by Mike Erickson and seconded by Bill Jordan to accept the accounts receivable and payable report. The motion carried unanimously.

The financial reports for District 9 Competitive Spirit Championship Competition was presented.

Hometown Tickets program will not be used for the 2020 winter sports season.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Dan Hoffman, Principal at West Forest High School, withdrew a request for a hearing concerning granting post-season eligibility for a student athlete.

Requests were made from the Allegany Mountain Basketball League, Keystone Shortway Athletic Conference, and the North Tier League to extend the basketball season to play championship contests. A motion was made by Terry Straub and seconded by Dave Osborne to grant the request. The motion carried unanimously.

A letter was received by DuBois Area High School informing the school that Erie High School forfeited a varsity football game to DuBois Area High School for using an ineligible player.

There was an eligibility question about a Bradford Area High School athlete not residing in the Bradford Area School District. After an investigation, the student's family resides in the Bradford Area School District.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Straub presented a review of the December 4, 2019 Board of Directors meeting.

The two District 9 cooperative sports agreements were passed by the Board of Directors. The PIAA Board of Directors will meet on January 22, 2020.

At the January Board of Directors meeting, the championship brackets for the next two years cycle will be presented on a first reading basis.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Bill Howard updated the committee on identifying officials who have 50 years of officiating service.

The District 9 Athletic Directors Association will meet January 22, 2020 at Hoss’s in St. Marys. The Annual Athletic Directors Conference will be March 24 through 27 at the Hershey Motor Lodge.

Copies of the recommendations for officials to officiate PIAA inter-district contests will be sent to the various District 9 sports chairpersons.

The seeding committee will meet after the new championship brackets are presented.

The District 9 Website and the District 9 Handbook are being updated. The motion carried unanimously.

The committee reviewed the monthly “transfer” report from DuBois Catholic High School. A motion was made by Terry Straub and seconded by Bill Jordan to accept the report.

This sports year, District 9 has 17 disqualifications for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Consideration will be given by the Board of Directors to change the disqualification policy. Any coach or player ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct before, during, or after a contest will sit out two games and must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship Module. The school principal will report to the district sport chairman the corrective action if any further incident occurs.

The terms for female and male parents’ representatives on the District 9 Committee will expire on June 30, 2020. Any person interested in being considered for one of the positions may submit a letter of interest to Aaron Straub or Bob Tonkin by August 1, 2020. Representatives who presently serve in this position are welcome to re-apply.

TRANSFER REQUESTS:

Student #	From:	To:	Motion/Second:	Vote:
#44	League City Int.	DuBois	B. Howard/T. Straub	Unanimous
#46	Warren	Cranberry	B. Howard/T. Straub	Unanimous
#47	St. Marys	Elk C. C.	B. Howard/T. Straub	Unanimous
#48	Ewing	St. Marys	B. Howard/T. Straub	1 Abstention

REQUEST FOR POST SEASON PARTICIPATION: None

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS APPROVED:

Student #	From:	To:	Motion/Second:	Vote:
#12	Thailand	Clarion-Limestone	J. Sherry/J. Stoughton	Unanimous

HEARINGS: None

SPORTS COMMITTEES:

Please check your copy of Quick Facts for the tournament dates and information.

Basketball - Clarion University will be used for District 9 playoff games this year. Quarter-final, semi-final, and final games will be played at neutral sites.

Golf - The 2020 boys' tournament will be held at Bavarian Hill Country Club and the girls' tournament at the Punxsutawney County Club. The golf committee will be sending out request for potential sites for the next cycle tournaments.

Football - The seeding committee will continue to evaluate the seeding power point system currently used. The number of bye dates in the district and inter-district playoff games is a concern. Eight-man football is being investigated.

Swimming and Diving – Swimming and diving championships will be held at St. Marys Area High School on February 28 and 29, 2020. The committee discussed having a USA Swimming Official observe the district meet. Soon information for the district meet will be sent to schools.

Baseball and Softball – The last day to count games for seeding consideration will be Wednesday, May 13, 2020.

Wrestling - The individual tournament will be held at Clearfield Area High School. The team wrestling tournament will be held at DuBois Area High School. There was a concern Brookville Area High School violated the three tournaments rule in wrestling. The rule was not violated.

Track and Field – A motion was made by Mike Erickson and seconded by Pete Grecco to hold the 2021 district meet at Brookville Area High School on Friday, May 21, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Steering Committee Meetings – Summaries of the Coaches, Soccer, Volleyball, Golf, Cross Country, and Football were presented.

The meeting adjourned at 12:40.

The next District 9 Committee Meeting will be February 12, 2020 at Aiello's Café starting at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Tonkin,
District 9 Secretary

