

PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.



PIAA WRESTLING STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday,
December 8, 2020

10:00 am
via ZOOM MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

At 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 8, 2020, Mark E. Byers, PIAA Chief Executive Officer, called the Wrestling Steering Committee to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Denny Kellon District 1
Jay Starnes District 2
Mike Craig District 3
Hal Stockdill..... District 4
Thad Kiesnowski District 5
Phil Riccio..... District 6
Frank Vulcano District 7
Karen Arnold..... District 8
Randy Cathcart..... District 9
Steve Hoover..... District 10
Bob Hartman District 11
Barry Strube District 12
Jack Young..... PIAA Statewide Wrestling Rules Interpreter
John Reynolds..... PWCA Representative

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Robert A. Lombardi, Executive Director..... PIAA
Mark E. Byers, Chief Operating Officer PIAA
Patrick B. Gebhart, Assistant Executive Director..... PIAA

GUESTS PRESENT

Ron KanaskiePCA Representative to the Board of Directors
Sean Kelly District 1
Rod Stone..... District 1
Greg Goldthorp..... District 3

Amy ScheunemanDistrict 7
Vince SortinoDistrict 7

CERTIFICATION OF VOTING REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH DISTRICT COMMITTEE
AND REVIEW OF STEERING COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

The Chief Operating Officer certified the voting representatives from each District Committee and reviewed the procedure of advancing recommendations to the PIAA Board of Directors.

MINUTES FOR PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ACTION

1. On a motion by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Vulcano, it was unanimously voted to recommend to the PIAA Board of Directors, to award medals for each of the Regions and Super-Regions for each of the advancing athletes and well as athletes eliminated by involved in a consolation to advance. In addition, it is recommended to not present a team award at the Super-Region events.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

At its meeting of Monday, December 8, 2020, the following administrative and other items were discussed by the PIAA Wrestling Steering Committee. The Administrative Staff will give consideration to those items designated as administrative. The following items are shared with the Board of Directors for informational purposes:

1. Discussion was held regarding the team wrestling championships. Both proposals were shared with the Committee regarding the 16 team proposal and one that would include only District/Region Champions. Mr. Byers shared that the Strategic Planning Committee advanced both proposals to the Board of Directors for Team Wrestling. However, only District/Region Champions were recommended in the sport of basketball. Mr. Reynolds shared that in support of the 16 team bracket, there are only two classifications where in basketball there are six.
2. Discussion was held concerning the time schedule for the Championships and Super-Region events. At the center of discussion was whether to host the event in two sessions or four per classification. Under the two session proposal, half of the wrestlers would compete in all competitions in a single session (106lb-138lb). The remaining half (145lb-285lb) would compete in the later session. At odds is providing for the wait time between sessions or the competitive balance of wrestling 3 or 4 matches in a five hour period. By consensus, the group favored the four session format.
3. Discussion was held regarding seeding patterns for the 2A and 3A Super-Regions. Mr. Vulcano shared the development of the patterns for each event. It was discussed and determined that events with an uneven number of qualifiers or uneven number of Regions advancing into the Super-Region would require bracket patterns. The East AAA would not require the patterns since each region advanced an identical number of entries.

4. Discussion was held regarding potential locations for the Super-Regions; the PIAA Staff will work with the District Wrestling Chairs to identify potential host sites both east and west.
5. Open discussion included the set-up each District was looking to utilize for the coming entry level postseason events and whether cutting down postseason qualifiers would be required. A summary of that planning is as follows:

District 1: Limit entry level events to no more than 8 qualifiers;
District 2: Can continue to offer open events;
District 3: Limit entry level events to no more than 8 qualifiers;
District 4: Limit entry level events to no more than 8 qualifiers; may require mid-week competitions;
District 5: Limit entry level events to no more than 8 qualifiers;
District 6: Can continue to offer open events;
District 7: Can continue to offer open events;
District 8: Can continue to offer open events;
District 9: Can continue to offer open events; may require mid-week competitions;
District 10: Limit entry level events to no more than 8 qualifiers;
District 11: Can continue to offer open events; may require mid-week competitions;
District 12: Can continue to offer open events;

6. Discussion was held regarding accommodating athletes that may have limited or no competitions in advance of the postseason. Mr. Kellon shared that District 1 utilizes previous year advancement/placement in the state tournament when handling those situations in their seeding process.
7. Discussion was held concerning the use of masks by participants in practice and competition. Mr. Byers shared the current masking requirements and shared the exceptions currently provided for in the order. Any determination on whether student meets one of the exceptions will be at the discretion of the local school policies. PIAA lacks the authority to grant such an exception. Mr. Young provided that officials have been trained to treat masks similar to special equipment. The procedure for stopping and starting of the match will be as follows for masks that become displaced:

If the mask is misplaced, the referee is authorized to stop the match as follows:

- a. in the neutral position, when no takedown is in progress, the match may be stopped as soon as the mask is displaced;
- b. if the wrestler is being placed at a disadvantage because the misplaced mask is covering the eyes, nose, mouth or is causing choking, the match shall be stopped so that the proper adjustment may be made; or

- c. in all other situations, the referee shall stop the match only when there is no significant action taking place. It shall be restarted as following an out of bounds.
8. Preliminary discussion was held concerning prestige points and how the Super-Region will be affected for the 2022 tournament. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Byers adjourned the meeting of the Wrestling Steering Committee at 11:22 a.m., Tuesday, December 8, 2020.

PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ACTION

The following are the actions taken by the PIAA Board of Directors on Wednesday, December 9, 2020, in regard to the PIAA Wrestling Steering Committee recommendations: