

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



Executive Meeting January 20 & 21, 2008 Regina Ramada Inn/SHSAA Boardroom



Call to Order

President Angela Tillier called the meeting to order at 6:45pm. In attendance were Kelsey Panko, Lyle McKellar, Jim Lissinna, Larry Segall, Amanda Miazga, Wendy Benson, Brian Gislason, Roger Morgan, Mark Edmonds, Larry Lafrentz, Kevin Vollet and Kim Platt. Missing with regrets Barb Riley.

1. Adoption of Agenda and November 29th & 30th Minutes

The agenda and the November 29th and 30th minutes were circulated and reviewed.

MOTION by Lissinna/Panko to adopt the January 20th & 21st, 2008 Agenda. CARRIED

MOTION by Miazga/Segall to adopt the minutes from the November 20th and 21st, 2007 executive meeting. CARRIED

2. Reports

2.1 Hiring Committee

The Hiring Committee held interviews for the Assistant Executive Director position on January 14, 2008. The hiring committee recommended the position be offered to Lyle McKellar. Lyle has accepted the offer.

MOTION by Benson/Segall to accept the recommendation from the hiring committee to hire Lyle McKellar as Assistant Executive Director, effective August 2008. CARRIED

MOTION by Segall/Lissinna that Lyle McKellar remain in his position as Section IV representative until the June annual meeting. CARRIED

2.2 Financial Report

The December 2007 Financial Report was circulated and reviewed. An updated Fall Activity Report was circulated and reviewed. There are still a few outstanding gates. The host schools have been contacted by phone and letter. The school principal will now be contacted and informed that if a gate is not received that the hosting policy regarding collection and submission of gate receipts will be applied.

MOTION by Gislason/McKellar to approve the December 2007 financial report. CARRIED

2.3 President's Meeting

The minutes of the December 1, 2007 District President's Meeting were circulated and reviewed. An executive committee was formed to review the hosting policy.

2.4 Officials Commissioners Meeting

The minutes of the December 1, 2007 Officials Commissioners Meeting were circulated and reviewed.

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



Executive Meeting January 20 & 21, 2008 Regina Ramada Inn/SHSAA Boardroom



2.5 CSSF Winter Meeting

2.5.1 Canada Basketball Scholarship

Canada Basketball will be providing a scholarship again. More will be heard at the January 23-25, 2008 meeting.

2.6 Office Report

A letter was received from Borden School with regards a fundraising effort in support of the Borden Basketball Accident. They were holding to a steak night and silent auction on January 27, 2008.

MOTION by Edmonds/Morgan to donate an SHSAA duffle bag and four rounds of golf at Dakota Dunes. CARRIED

2.6.1 Board of Review Decision - LCBI

A board of review was held for a student from Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute. The student entered grade 10 in September of 2004. An exception to the eligibility bylaws was requested due to family issues that required a number of changes in residence and changes in schools attended during the student's three-year eligibility period. Due to these factors the student was unable to complete the adequate credits required to graduate. The board of review upheld the decision made by the office and then by the SHSAA Executive Council. The appeal was denied.

2.6.2 Probation Order – Riffel High School Football

A report alleging misconduct by players from the Riffel football team was received following the 4A provincial final. The report alleged players had verbally attacked the officials following the completion of the game. It further alleged the players resumed the inappropriate comments to the officials during the awards ceremony and then attempted to leave the field prior to the culmination of the award ceremony. Riffel acknowledged the allegations; as a result, six individual players and the team were placed on probation for a period of one year.

2.6.3 Letter of Concern – Aberdeen Football

A special report was received about the conduct of an Aberdeen Football Coach. The coach was not ejected from the game. A letter of concern was written to the coach regarding his lack of cooperation with an officiating crew, which sought his support from all coaches prior to the game by notifying the coaching staff that they had two first time officials participating in the league game. The letter of concern also noted the inappropriate behaviour of the coach towards the head official.

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



Executive Meeting January 20 & 21, 2008 Regina Ramada Inn/SHSAA Boardroom



2.6.4 Coach Suspension – Hague Basketball

A letter was received from Hague School regarding verbal abuse of an official at a December 19th game. The coach indicated that they had displayed poor judgement and poor sportsmanship when verbally chastising one of the referees. The coach, on their own volition, has chosen to impose a three game suspension from coaching.

2.7 Executive Reports

2.7.1 District Meetings

North East

- 7 v 7 – lots of people loved the idea especially if it was a spring program
- classification - the majority was in favour of what was happening
- equitable seeding – lots of people were in favour
- paid athletic commissioner will be hired again next year for a 1 year contract but not sure if the position will be extended beyond the 2008-2009 school year.

Regina

- venues for soccer – costing more money is there another solution
- they are setting up officials clinics for volleyball and wrestling
- media release form being added to the registration form
- principal's meeting – raised the issue of students missing too much school for extracurricular activities.

2.7.2 NFHS

The Executive Members that attended the National Federation of State High School Associations Winter conference gave a verbal report. All the conference session notes are available at www.nfhs.org. Some of the comments were:

- the sessions attended were not as good as past conferences
- Canada is light years ahead in coaches development
- drinking and drugs - morality clauses in their high schools – can be kicked off a team for having a drink
- networking with people is one of the most positive experiences
- benefits of multi-sport athletes – great session
- student leadership session – train team captains
- the trades show was focused on turf and major equipment
- Executive Director meeting with Executive Directors from all states is very insightful.

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



Executive Meeting
January 20 & 21, 2008
Regina Ramada Inn/SHSAA Boardroom



3. Decisions

3.1 Eligibility Requests

3.1.1 Sandy Bay

A request for exception to the eligibility bylaws was received from Hector Thiboutot Community School, Sandy Bay on behalf of a student whose eligibility period has expired because of his age. The request is made because he is a good student and sports will be beneficial for this student.

MOTION by Segall/Edmonds to grant an exception to the eligibility bylaws for the Sandy Bay student. DEFEATED

3.2 Transfer Requests

3.2.1 St. Mary

The office received a copy of a newspaper article regarding the transfer of a Duck Lake basketball player to St. Mary High School. In the article the player was quoted as saying he had been approached by a coach from St. Mary to consider playing at St. Mary. The student started the school year at St. Mary, has participated on the St. Mary basketball team but is not on the eligibility roster. The student transfer form was received December 13 and has not been processed pending an inquiry. The student has not participated since December 12. The office presented its findings to the executive indicating the allegation of recruiting by St. Mary could not be supported based on the statement by Stobart School that members of their staff initiated the discussions with St. Mary regarding the student moving to St. Mary to attend school. During the investigation it became clear the prime motivation to attend St. Mary was to participate in basketball.

As a result of not listing the student on the eligibility roster and not forwarding a transfer form St. Mary was in violation of SHSAA bylaws, specifically using an ineligible player from the beginning of the basketball season until December 12, 2007 when the allegations came forward. As a result of the inquiry, St. Mary was notified that the boys basketball team must forfeit all games played during this period of time, including the return of any awards won by the team while the ineligible player was participating.

MOTION by Lissinna/Benson that the St. Mary student be suspended from participation in interschool sport for a period of 30 days. CARRIED

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



**Executive Meeting
January 20 & 21, 2008
Regina Ramada Inn/SHSAA Boardroom**



3.2.2 St. Louis

St. Louis School alleged that a student from St. Louis School attended try-outs for the St. Mary High School Football team. Once the student made the team he informed the principal at St. Louis school that he was transferring to St. Mary High School to play football. The student attempted to return to St. Louis School following the football season, which raised concerns at St. Louis School for the primary motivation for the transfer. The office is investigating and is awaiting a response from St. Mary High School.

3.3 Team Withdrawals

3.3.1 Waldheim

Waldheim School sent a letter appealing the \$200.00 withdrawal fee assessed to their school for withdrawing from 3A Girls Regional Volleyball competition. The coach knew in the spring of 2007 that he would be losing a few girls from his Provincial Bronze medalist team. The team started the year with six girls. As the season progressed the team dropped to four players. One girl quit and one was out with an injury. The coach kept going for the remaining four girls. He was able to bring up a few grades nines from the junior team for a few games but the junior team was busy with their own schedule. The coach was unable to field a team for the Regional competition.

MOTION by Lissinna/Edmonds to accept the appeal to waive the \$200.00 volleyball withdrawal fee. DEFEATED

3.4 SABO Agreement

This item was dealt with at the last meeting. A signed agreement has been received from SABO.

3.5 Wrestling Request

Carlton Comprehensive and St. Mary High School are co-hosting a wrestling tournament on February 2, 2008. The schools are requesting a one-time grant of up to \$300.00 to help with the start up costs of this meet. The Association is trying to encourage rural schools to host wrestling meets.

MOTION by Benson/Miazga to provide a one-time grant for a new rural wrestling tournament co-hosted by Prince Albert Carlton & St. Mary. The grant may be up to \$300.00 pending a financial report following the event. CARRIED

3.6 University of Saskatchewan Book Prize

A request was received from the University of Saskatchewan to support the annual Academic Awards Day. Wendy Benson, Saskatoon Representative, will represent the association and present the First Year Book Prize.

MOTION by McKellar/Edmonds to donate \$150.00 to the College of Kinesiology, University of Saskatchewan, for the Book Prize. CARRIED

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



Executive Meeting
January 20 & 21, 2008
Regina Ramada Inn/SHSAA Boardroom



3.7 Conference Basketball

3.7.1 Vanier – 3A Girls

A request was received from Vanier Collegiate to change the makeup of 3A girls' basketball conferences in an attempt to improve the competitive balance at the conference level.

3.7.2 Shaunavon – 3A Girls

A request was received from Shaunavon High School to change the 3A girls' basketball conference in which they are to participate. In their opinion the conference they have been placed in is a competitive conference with 2 or 3 of the top 10 teams and should be split up. At least one of the teams should be moved and their team is willing to move. Shaunavon indicated they do not want to compete in the West Central conference and would be willing to drive to other, further away, conferences in order to move out of their current conference.

Each of these two letters request that the conference tournaments be made up based on a provincial wide seeding of the particular classification. The criteria identified by the membership for conference play in all team sports is to make up conference level playoffs based on geography and when possible keeping leagues intact as a playoff unit. The makeup of the regional level of playoffs in basketball is based on seeding of the sixteen teams that advance to the regional level. This is different than other team sports as only one team advances from regional basketball play to provincial play, whereas, in all other activities including conference basketball two teams advance to the next level.

3.8 Executive Assignments Provincial Championships

The Executive assignments for the winter and spring provincial championships were assigned.

3.9 Budget Proposal 2008-2009

The proposed 2008-2009 was circulated and reviewed.

MOTION by Morgan/Lissinna to accept the 2008-2009 budget as presented. The budget approved forecasts a surplus budget of \$3,000.00 CARRIED

4. Discussion

4.1 Recommendations / Resolutions from Fall Activities

The Executive Liaisons reviewed the coach's evaluation forms and brought forward recommendations and possible resolutions.

4.1.1 Golf

- earlier start times if possible,
- expectation for facilitators to be on the course for 5-6 hours is too much
- use of spotters is a great idea
- provide local rules ahead of time
- in favour of keeping the mixed team format

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



Executive Meeting January 20 & 21, 2008 Regina Ramada Inn/SHSAA Boardroom



4.1.2 Cross Country

- There was nothing to comment.

4.1.3 Soccer

- First time of year that fans have to pay, teams need to educate their fans
- Fields are not properly prepared for the tournament
- playing at 12:00 and 3:00 - not enough time in between
- don't like Team Skyline ball
- plaque for the consolation final
- selling SHSAA clothing and getting 10% isn't worth it, lot of work
- 1A and 2A like the 8 team format

4.1.4 Football

- venue costs

4.1.5 Volleyball

- only 20 – 25% of the evaluation forms received back
- conference playoffs to have a playoff not just a round robin
- change the draw – #1 seed – possibility of having to play 4 consecutive matches; one team plays last game Friday and first game Saturday

4.2 Executive Initiatives

4.2.1 Women In Sport Committee

The Women in Sport Conference will be held June 13 & 14, 2008 at University of Saskatchewan. There will be a maximum of 100 participants (4 students and 1 adult per school). More details will be provided at the April meeting.

4.2.2 Officials Committee

The Officials Committee is working on the following initiatives:

- coaches education package – foundation for an officials initiative
- letter campaign to graduating athletes
- poster campaign – recruiting
- each school – try to get a new official for each basketball and volleyball
- development tournament to help develop officials – exhibition games
- keep in contact with PSGB's
- reviewing officials fees
- hiring of a person to administer an officials campaign

4.2.3 Management / Finance Committee

The hiring committee is going to document the process used for hiring the Assistant Executive Director for future reference.

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



Executive Meeting January 20 & 21, 2008 Regina Ramada Inn/SHSAA Boardroom



4.2.4 Classification Update

An updated classification document was circulated and reviewed. The document will be revised further before circulating.

4.3 Soccer Host Location Rotation

A soccer host location rotation was created for each classification. Revisions will be made before circulating.

4.4 3A Football – Swift Current

Swift Current Comprehensive sent a letter to the Moose Jaw High School Athletic Directorate and copied to the SHSAA regarding football. The Swift Current team is considering other league options for the 2008 school year. There is the potential of leaving the Moose Jaw League and rejoining the Rangeland League (Alberta).

4.5 Grounds Committee Request

Swift Current Comprehensive is forming a Grounds Committee with the goal of developing a plan to upgrade the north grounds area and track and field area. As a user group the SHSAA has been invited to have a representative on the committee. Roger Morgan, Section I Representative, will represent the SHSAA, when appropriate.

4.6 Transportation – 15 Passenger Vans

The New Brunswick Department of Education has suspended the use of 15-passenger vans that transport students to and from school until the end of the 2007-2008 school year. This topic will be discussed at the Canadian School Sport Federation meetings being held January 24 & 25, 2008.

4.7 Conference Football Medals

A request was received to give out conference football medals. Some leagues already give out medals to the league champions.

4.8 Digital Logo Depository

A request was made to put school logos and corporate sponsor logos in a digital logo depository on the website.

4.9 Hy Tek Sample Files On-Line

A request was made to provide sample HyTek files on the website. Specifically the descriptors in our Track & Field files so that districts can sink with the SHSAA provincial meet.

4.10 Provincial AGM Date

A concern was brought forward with regards to the dates of the Annual General Meeting. This topic will be brought up at the AGM LEADS session for discussion. Are there any concerns over sub costs? Would it be any better to be on exam week?

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



Executive Meeting January 20 & 21, 2008 Regina Ramada Inn/SHSAA Boardroom



5. Information

5.1 Correspondence

5.1.1 Sask Sport

5.1.1.1 Funding Update

A letter was received from Sask Sport indicating a 3% increase in annual funding. The Association will increase a total of 5% for 2008-2009.

5.1.1.2 Video Conferencing

Sask Sport has purchased videoconferencing equipment for the boardrooms in Regina and Saskatoon. This service has been offered to all members of Sask Sport.

5.1.2 Dairy Farmers – Youth Ambassador

A letter was received from the Dairy Farmers of Saskatchewan thanking the Association for the sponsorship of their annual Dairy Youth Ambassador Competition.

5.1.3 Special Olympics Saskatchewan

Special Olympics Saskatchewan has purchased an ad on the back cover of the SHSAA handbook, requested display space at the AGM, and would like 5 – 10 minutes on the AGM agenda to present the SO Active Project. The SO-Active Project will be discussed at the April meeting.

5.2 Correspondence from previous meeting

Correspondence that was written following the November meeting was circulated.

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Kelsey at 4:55pm.