

**PRINCIPALS: Please Share These Minutes with Your Athletic Director
Regular Meeting of PIAA District VI – December 12, 2019**

Call to Order of the December 12, 2019, Meeting Chairman Marshall called the meeting of the District VI Committee to order at 3:30 p.m. at Ebensburg Country Club.

Present were Brandon Bailey, Michael Cacciotti, Ralph Cecere, Joe Girona, Charles Glasser, Michael Hudak, Matthew Jioio, Ken Kerchenske, Susan Kovensky, Jarrod Lewis, William Marshall, Rudy McCarthy, Jacquelyn Mento (Recording Secretary), Sherry Montgomery, Molly Pomeroy-Hoover, Jody Rainey, Phil Riccio, Curt Vasas, and Curt Whitesel. Lorie Ratchford was not present.

Others present were Melissa Haselrig and Kierra Haselrig.

Public Comments - There were no comments.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Curt Vasas and Curt Whitesel, the minutes from the November 6, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.

Financial Reports

On a motion by Sue Kovensky and Mike Hudak, the Committee unanimously approved the District VI Monthly Financial Report.

Old Business

Ralph Cecere informed the Committee on the positive feedback and how simple it was to use Hometown Tickets for the football games.

The Committee discussed that the change of price for basketball and football ticket prices to a flat rate seven dollars for all gate tickets and five dollars all presale tickets, and that all other sports' gate and presale ticket prices to be a flat rate of five dollars has had a great feedback thus far.

New Business

Review of Disqualifications – Mike Hudak informed the Committee of recent basketball disqualifications. He also discussed with the Committee the concerns with technical fouls and suggested to require schools to self-report via email every time there is a technical foul.

Eligibility Transfers

Eligibility was granted to the following students. Due to scheduled hearings and the existence of principal signoffs avowing that no athletic intent existed by both sending and receiving schools:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gr.</i>	<i>Transfer</i>	<i>Sport(s)</i>	<i>Motion</i>
Calvin Lafferty	10	Altoona to Bishop Guilfoyle	Basketball	Cecere, Kovensky
Nathan Smith	11	Bald Eagle to Bellefonte	Wrestling	Cecere, Kovensky
Nicholas Smith	11	Bald Eagle to Bellefonte	Wrestling	Cecere, Kovensky
Braeden Lavanish	10	Lewistown to St. College	Basketball	Cecere, Kovensky
Amanda Ayers	12	Coudersport to Central Mtn	No Sports	Cecere, Kovensky
Jackson Butler	7	Georgia to Forest Hills	No Sports	Cecere, Kovensky
Jordan Butler	8	Georgia to Forest Hills	No Sports	Cecere, Kovensky
Phillip Cosby	8	Con. Valley to Northern Cambria	Football, Basketball	Cecere, Kovensky
Brailynn Ferrone	10	Altoona to Hollidaysburg	Gymnastics	Cecere, Kovensky
Zach Lindemann	10	Bedford to Hollidaysburg	Wrestling	Cecere, Kovensky
Hannah Plummer	12	Latrobe to Hollidaysburg	Lacrosse	Cecere, Kovensky
Chase Dunlap	10	Kempville HS to Central Mtn	No Sports	Cecere, Kovensky
Harrison Hoopes	10	Wyoming to St. College	Football, Wrestling	Cecere, Kovensky
Isaiah Burket	9	Hollidaysburg to Bishop Guilfoyle	Football	Cecere, Kovensky

Deemed ineligible for post season play:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gr.</i>	<i>Transfer</i>	<i>Sport(s)</i>	<i>Motion</i>
Kyle Silk	12	Kiski Prep to Ligonier Valley	Basketball and any other sports	Vasas, Whitesel

On a motion by Phil Riccio and Matt Jioio, the Committee unanimously deemed Kierra Haselrig ineligible for post season play in Cheerleading and any other sports, due to the lack of formal documentation.

On a motion by Brandon Bailey and Sue Kovensky, the Committee approved Saint Joseph's adding varsity softball in the Spring of 2020.

On a motion by Jarrod Lewis and Charles Glasser, the Committee approved Mount Union adding boys' soccer for the 2020-2021 school year on a vote of 13-yes, 2-no, and 1-abstention from Curt Whitesel. (*Vasas was not present for vote*).

The Committee discussed the PIAA Board's approval of Ligonier Valley's request to withdraw from District VI to join WPIAL.

William Marshall informed the Committee on the by-law changes that were made and the possible future changes, at the PIAA Board of Director's meeting held on December 4th:

Article X – District Committees Section 1., G. Any district committee member may be removed by a vote of two-thirds of the committee at any meeting of the district committee whenever in the judgement of the committee the best interest of the district or PIAA would be served thereby.

Article XVI – Season and Out of Season Rules and Regulations Section 2., A. Number 1. PIAA member schools may not sponsor teams in that sport. However, Schools Participating in sanctioned NCAA/NFHS scheduled events may sponsor a team. Number 4. Now only the school's interscholastic athletic uniform may not be used by community organizations, groups or students. The school's name and nickname may be used.

Article XVI – Season and Out of Season Rules and Regulations Section 4., D. Rules applicable to mixed gender teams, because PIAA does not have a mixed gender classification, the following provisions govern participation by mixed gender teams: 1. For postseason purposes, mixed gender teams (other than in the sport of spirit) shall compete only in the sport classifications designated for boys. 2. For enrollment classification purposes, a mixed gender team shall be classified by using the school's enrollment number for whichever gender constitutes a majority of the team members. 3. In the sports of tennis and volleyball, a mixed gender team shall play during the boys' regular season and postseason.

Article XIX – Junior High/Middle Schools (7th, 8th, and 9th grade competition), as follows; Section 3. A. no student is eligible for practice for or participation in interscholastic athletics prior to entry into 7th grade. B. No junior high/middle school student may participate in any sport for more than three seasons in grades 7-9, inclusive.

Interpretation – Section 3.B., February 4, 1984 – Grades included in the school does not include any grades below the 7th grade. Section 3.C. A student may practice for and participate in only one season in each sport during each school year.

First reading of proposed changes to Article VI – Transfers, Residence and Recruiting Section 2.C. Waiver provision of A and/or B – District Committee may grant eligibility if certain situations are met: *Note: 21-day rule is not subject to a waiver.* A District Committee may waive this period of ineligibility upon demonstration by the student that the transfer was necessitated by exceptional and unusual circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the student's family. For purposes of this provision, the following reasons WILL be deemed sufficient to meet this standards: A change of residence necessitated by a change of employment; A school initiated administrative transfer within the school; A court order transfer; a change of schools caused by a military reassignment of a parent; A change of schools caused by release from a

juvenile facility; and A demonstrable and substantial change in financial condition and resources that compels withdrawal from a private school.

For purposes of this provision, the following reasons will NOT be deemed to meet this standard: A transfer for academic, developmental, spiritual and/or social reasons; and a change of residence resulting from a family separation, unless court approved. All other tendered reasons will be considered by the District Committee on a case-by case basis.

First reading of proposed changes to Article I – Age Section I. A Student shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition upon attaining the age of nineteen years, with the following exception: If the age of 19 is attained on or after July 1st, the student shall be eligible, age-wise, to compete through that school year. A student who is ineligible under this provision shall not participate in any practice in ant contact or collision sport (this change will add Article I. to the INTERPRETATIONS, page 11 of PIAA By-Laws).

Also discussed at the Board of Directors meeting was the statewide concern of the number of ejections and the District Committee’s role in those ejections. Highlighting that this past year was the highest number of ejections that football has had over the past five years and that out of the 37 varsity boys’ soccer coaches ejected throughout the state, 4 of them were District VI coaches.

The District VI Committee discussed that new standards and expectations of ejections will need to be made and that the new requirements will be announced at the April meeting for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

The Committee also discussed the National Student Leadership Summit that two students attended in the summer of 2019.

Individual Sports Reports

On a motion by Sue Kovensky and Ken Kerchenske, the Committee unanimously approved the financial report for soccer presented by Mike Cacciotti.

On a motion by Ralph Cecere and Mike Cacciotti, the Committee unanimously approved the financial report for girls’ tennis presented by Phil Riccio.

On a motion by Curt Whitesel and Joe Gironda, the Committee unanimously approved the wrestling team fee restructure presented by Phil Riccio.

Communication

Jody Rainey discussed the token gifts for officials and displayed some samples of medals with and without the raised imprints.

For the Common Good

The next meeting of the PIAA District VI Committee will be held on Wednesday, January 8th at Penn Cambria HS, 3:30 PM

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, Curt Whitesel and Sue Kovensky seconded, the motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:03 p.m.