

OHSAA BOARD OF CONTROL MINUTES

(April 5, 2007)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Control held a regularly scheduled meeting in the Board Room of the OHSAA office building on April 5, 2007. President Jerry Snodgrass called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Phil Stevens and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Beth Hill.

Board Members Present: Jerry Snodgrass, president, presiding; George Rise, vice president; Phil Ackerman; Dan Bise; Karen O'Hare; Beth Hill; Bill Schumacher; Phil Stevens, and Dan Adams and Jeff Jordan (ex-officios).

Administrative Staff Present: Dan Ross, commissioner; John Dickerson, Bob Goldring, Deborah B. Moore, Steve Neil, Duane Warns and Henry Zaborniak Jr., assistant commissioners, and Roxanne Price, director of membership services.

Others Attending: Steve Craig, OHSAA Legal Counsel; Todd Boehm, OHSAA staff; Greg Reamsnider and Eric Silverman, OHSAA interns; Ron Knight, former OHSAA Board of Control member; Frank Gamble, Ken Carpenter and Mike Yinger Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association; Ken Burgei, Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association; Mike Mauk, Ohio High School Football Coaches Association; John Johnson, Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association; Rob Salisbury, Steve Cremean and Kevin Chapman, Ohio High School Swimming & Diving Coaches Association; Russ King, Ohio Tennis Coaches Association; Vern Kiehl, Ohio Association of Track & Cross Country Coaches; Tracey Kornau and Kaye Keller, Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association; Gary Wise, Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association; Jerry Fick and Dan Steiner, OHSAA Officials Advisory Committee; and Robert and Melissa Bateson and their daughter.

I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by Beth Hill to **adopt** the agenda for the April 5, 2007, Board of Control meeting.

Motion passed 8-0.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by George Rise, second by Karen O'Hare to **approve** the minutes from the February 21, 2007, Board of Control meeting.

Motion passed 8-0.

III. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A. Financial Reports

Comptroller Todd Boehm provided the financial reports for February and March. The reports are summarized as follows:

Balance — January 31, 2007	\$855,535.24
Receipts — February 2007	<u>391,613.92</u>
	\$1,247,149.16
Disbursements — February 2007	<u>294,822.27</u>
	\$952,326.89
Accounted for as follows:	
Checking Account Balance per 5/3 Bank (2/28/07)	\$978,952.21
	\$978,952.21
Less Outstanding Checks	<u>26,625.32</u>
Balance — February 28, 2007	\$952,326.89
Available Funds — February 28, 2007	
Bank Balance	\$952,326.89
Minus Reserve for Building Fund	(95,075.10)
Minus Reserve Fund	<u>(792,380.26)</u>
Working Capital	\$64,871.53
Reserve fund (\$7,619.74 in savings + \$792,380.26 in bank balance)	\$800,000.00
Building fund (\$95,075.10 in bank balance + \$416,005.56 in investments)	\$511,080.66
Balance — February 28, 2007	\$952,326.89
Receipts — March 2007	<u>976,764.38</u>
	\$1,929,091.27
Disbursements — March 2007	<u>567,216.93</u>
	\$1,361,874.34
Accounted for as follows:	
Checking Account Balance per 5/3 Bank (3/31/07)	<u>\$1,466,443.49</u>

Board of Control Minutes (4/5/07) – 2

	\$1,466,443.49
Less Outstanding Checks	<u>104,569.16</u>
Balance – February 28, 2007	\$1,361,874.33
Available Funds – February 28, 2007	
Bank Balance	\$1,361,874.34
Minus Reserve for Building Fund	(95,075.10)
Minus Reserve Fund	<u>(792,378.95)</u>
Working Capital	\$474,420.29
Reserve fund (\$7,621.05 in savings + \$792,378.95 in bank balance)	\$800,000.00
Building fund (\$95,075.10 in bank balance + \$416,005.56 in investments)	\$511,080.66

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by Dan Bise to **accept** the financial report as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

B. Audit Report – 2005-06, Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

The Board of Control was provided copies of the 2005-06 OHSAA audit, as prepared by representatives of Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc., of Piketon. The audit included the OHSAA office and the six District Athletic Boards from August 1, 2005, to July 31, 2006. Jeff Jordan, Board of Control ex-officio and a member of the OHSAA Audit Committee, noted that the audit included a clean, unqualified opinion, that the Association appears to be in stable financial condition and that the audit will be posted on the OHSAA web site. He also noted that many of the items listed in last year's management letter had been acted upon. In addition, Mr. Jordan thanked members of the Audit Committee for their work.

Motion by Karen O'Hare, second by Phil Stevens to **accept** the audit report as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. NFHS Coaches Association State Award Recipients for 2006

Assistant Commissioner Moore informed the Board that two Ohio head coaches have been selected as NFHS Coaches Association Coaches of the Year recipients for both Ohio and Section 2. Selected were Joan Ganim, Brecksville-Broadview Heights High Schools, in gymnastics, and Carol Russo, Elyria High School, in volleyball.

Board President Snodgrass congratulated the coaches on behalf of the entire Board of Control.

B. Minutes of the Track and Field Advisory Committee Meeting of January 18, 2007

The Board of Control was presented the minutes of the Track and Field Advisory Committee Meeting of January 18, 2007, and Assistant Commissioner Neil reviewed the highlights. He thanked Assistant Commissioner Moore for her assistance in transitioning the main track and field administrative duties in the office to himself. He said the committee reviewed recent action by the Board of Control on track and field and cross country proposals. Mr. Neil also said a proposal will be reintroduced to the Board in September in which a six-pound shot put will be used for 7th and 8th grade girls and a four-kilogram shot put will be used for 7th and 8th grade boys.

C. Update of OHSAA Legal Issues/Infractions

The Board of Control was provided with a list of schools that recently violated OHSAA bylaws or sports regulations. **Youngstown Austintown-Fitch High School's** softball program was placed on probation for one calendar year (March 1, 2007, through February 29, 2008) and had its number of allowable scrimmages for 2007 reduced from four to three for violating Sports Regulation 5.2, Physical Fitness Programs ("Physical fitness programs may be conducted at any time . . . as long as there is no coaching and instruction of sports techniques and skills."). **Port Clinton High School's** girls varsity bowling team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 10-3-1, Playing on Non-Interscholastic Teams ("A member of an interscholastic squad . . . shall not participate in a contest, tryouts or any type of training or practices on a non-interscholastic squad or as an individual in a team sport in the same sport during the school's interscholastic sports season."), and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, forfeited all victorious contests in which the student participated ("All athletic contests in which ineligible players have participated shall be forfeited."). During the 2007-08 season, the student-athlete is also ineligible for two contests for every non-interscholastic match in which she bowled during the 2006-07 season. **Canfield High School's** boys varsity bowling team used an ineligible student-athlete and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures ("All athletic contests in which ineligible players have participated shall be forfeited."), the school forfeited all victorious contests in which the student participated. **Groveport-Madison High School's** boys junior varsity basketball team used an ineligible student-athlete and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures ("All athletic contests in which ineligible players have participated shall be forfeited."), the school forfeited a victorious contest in which the student participated. **Latham Western High School's** varsity baseball team had a student-athlete violate Sports Regulation 4.2, Instructional Programs ("Instructional programs out of season of the sport involving team play {any activity of individuals with more than one player opposing one player} may be attended only from June 1-July 31. There may be no instructional programs involving team play from August 1 through May 31 except during the season of the sport."). The student was suspended from participating in the first six regular season contests of the 2007 season.

Board of Control Minutes (4/5/07) –3

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recommendations from the Officials Advisory Committee (Originally Presented at the February 16, 2006, Board of Control Meeting)

The Officials Advisory Committee recommended that 1.) D&O insurance be purchased by the OHSAA for secretaries of local officials associations and 2.) officials be required to become members of local officials associations. Commissioner Ross said there has been good dialogue on the issues, including meetings with the District Boards Committee. He said the staff recommendation on the first proposal is not to purchase the insurance since it was determined that the District Officials Committee secretaries are already covered, although it has not been determined if there is coverage for appeals committee members. Dr. Ross also said the staff recommended that the second proposal not be approved since no protocol has been established for officials who do not join a local association and the issue of what legally can be regulated has not been answered. Jerry Fick of the Officials Advisory Committee said the issues need to be addressed further to ensure that proper coverage is provided along with training for local officials associations.

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by George Rise to **deny** the proposals as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

B. Foundation Board of Trustees Recommendation (Tabled from the February 21 Board of Control Meeting)

The Board was previously presented with a proposal from Bill Hosket, executive director of the OHSAA Foundation, in which schools would be permitted to add an exhibition game in both girls and boys basketball during the week of Thanksgiving. Schools would be permitted to charge admission with half of the proceeds from the contest going to the OHSAA Foundation to help support the OHSAA Annual Leadership Conferences, scholarships for outstanding student-athletes and other foundation initiatives. Schools would be permitted to conduct the exhibition game any day of that week, although they would be discouraged to play on Thanksgiving day and on Sunday, would be encouraged to perform a community service activity during that week and would give up at least one of their scrimmages in exchange for the exhibition game.

Motion by George Rise, second by Bill Schumacher to approve OHSAA Foundation Week with two provisions: 1.) There will be no funding collected from the schools for the Foundation and 2.) Foundation Week will occur during the regular season with no additional contests permitted. In addition, a template will be forwarded to the Board of Control for approval, which will include recommendations for community service activities for schools during Foundation Week.

Motion passed 7-1 (Jerry Snodgrass dissented).

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Winter Sports Proposals

Proposals were presented in the winter sports of swimming & diving and wrestling. Proposals from the basketball coaches association will be presented at the May Board of Control meeting. No proposals were presented in the sports of gymnastics or ice hockey. The Board will act on the winter sports proposals at their June meeting.

1. Swimming & Diving

The Ohio High School Swimming and Diving Coaches Association proposed that boys swimming & diving be divided into two divisions since there are already enough, or close to enough, schools that would qualify the sport for having two divisions.

2. Wrestling

The Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association proposed that the growth allowance be increased by one pound for all wrestlers in February. In addition, the coaches proposed that two-day regular season tournaments follow OHSAA tournament procedures in that weigh-outs would occur at the end of the first day of the tournament, thus eliminating weigh-ins the morning of the second day of the tournament.

B. Proposed 2008 Board of Control Meeting Dates

Dates for future Board of Control meetings had been set through December 2007. Proposed dates for 2008 are: January 17, February 14, April 3, May 8, June 12, August 7, September 11, October 9 and December 4. All are Thursdays, and all would begin at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by Dan Bise second by Beth Hill to **approve** the future meeting dates as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

C. Ball Contract Adoption Procedures

Assistant Commissioner Neil provided the Board with procedures that have been prepared for the OHSAA to utilize for selecting exclusive official OHSAA tournament balls. OHSAA legal counsel Steve Craig helped Mr. Neil establish the procedures. The procedures are as follows: 1.) Assemble a committee that will develop a list of quality manufacturers, guidelines and timelines. The committee will include the OHSAA Commissioner; the OHSAA assistant commissioner who is the particular sport's liaison; a staff chair/OHSAA sponsorship contact; the OHSAA's attorney; a Board of Control member; a representative from that particular sport's state coaches association, and an OIAAA representative; 2.) Submit formal letters to manufacturers assessing their interest and obtaining their background and history; 3.) Develop an evaluation system; 4.) Schedule individual meetings with a maximum of four companies; 5.) Reduce the number of finalists to

Board of Control Minutes (4/5/07) – 4

two; 6.) Make a formal recommendation to the OHSAA Board of Control; 7.) Circulate a contract from the OHSAA for review by both parties and their legal counsels, and 8.) Execute and activate contract.

Motion by Phil Stevens, second by Dan Bise to **approve** the procedures as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

- D. Approval of Self-Supporting Requirements for 2007-08 School Year (Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 8)
OHSAA Bylaws require that the Commissioner annually establish requirements for transfer students who do not live in the same school district as their parents or legal guardians but are financially self-supporting (Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 8). Assistant Commissioner Moore reviewed the requirements and said the staff recommended that the only change be that the minimum earned by a student be increased from \$250 per month to \$350 per month.

Motion by George Rise, second by Beth Hill to **approve** the requirements as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

E. Guidelines for Superintendent Appeals Panel

Commissioner Ross reviewed with the Board the referendum issue regarding Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 6, which was passed by the membership last October. An appeal option to the superintendent's agreement to protect the student's physical or mental well-being is now being provided, and appeals will be heard by a Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) board of appeals. The Board was provided with a copy of the appeal guidelines, which were approved by both association's legal counsels.

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by Karen O'Hare to **approve** the guidelines as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

F. Officials Fees for the 2007-08 School Year

The OHSAA District Boards Committee and an officials subcommittee have been working on a new fee structure to compensate officials who work OHSAA tournament contests. The new structure will include consistent fees for all officials throughout each OHSAA athletic district and a payment of a travel allowance rather than a mileage reimbursement. Former Board of Control member Ron Knight, who has worked closely with the subcommittee, reported that he believes the fee structure proposal is nearly finished and that it hopefully will be completed by the May Board of Control meeting.

Motion by Dan Bise, second by Beth Hill to **table** the proposal.

Motion passed 8-0.

G. Renewal of OHSAA Auditing Agreement

Board of Control Ex-Officio and member of the OHSAA Auditing Committee Jeff Jordan said the auditing committee recommended that the option to retain the services of Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc., of Piketon as the OHSAA's auditor be picked up for five additional years. He noted that the original contract approved in 2002 was for five years with an option for five years, that the agreement says that Balestra, Harr & Scherer will not be permitted to rebid on the contract when it expires in 2012 and that the company's bid called for no increase in fees for their services should the five-year option be picked up.

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by George Rise to **approve** the recommendation.

Motion passed 8-0.

H. Agreement to Extend the Contract with the Jerome Schottenstein Center to Host the OHSAA State Wrestling, Girls Basketball and Boys Basketball Tournaments

Commissioner Ross said the OHSAA staff recommended that the OHSAA renew a contract with The Ohio State University's Jerome Schottenstein Center to host the OHSAA State Wrestling, Girls Basketball and Boys Basketball Tournaments for five years beginning in 2008, with an option for three additional years. He noted that a new clause has been added to boys basketball that would help the OHSAA realize additional revenues should certain attendance levels be met.

Motion by Dan Bise, second by George Rise to authorize the Commissioner's office to execute a new contract with the Jerome Schottenstein Center as outlined, pending the completion of a formal contract and approval by the two party's legal counsels.

Motion passed 8-0.

I. Approval of Classifications for the 2007-08 and 2008-09

Assistant Commissioner Warns reported that classifications are not ready to be approved by the Board since several schools are contesting their enrollment figures. Mr. Warns plans to work with the State Department of Education to clear up the discrepancies.

Once approved, classifications will remain the same for a two-year period. Schools will be divided as evenly as possible into classifications within each OHSAA athletic district. The OHSAA uses classifications for District Athletic Board elections. Once classifications are approved, which means that enrollment figures have been established, the OHSAA staff will determine tournament divisional assignments for the various sports. Enrollments are based on figures submitted by schools to the State Department of Education's

Board of Control Minutes (4/5/07) – 5

E.M.I.S. Report in October 2006. Boys enrollments in grades 9, 10 and 11 are used for boys sports and girls enrollments in grades 9, 10 and 11 are used for girls sports.

Motion by Beth Hill, second by Dan Bise to **table** action on school classifications until the May 10 Board of Control Meeting.

Motion passed 8-0.

It was noted that the Board will also be presented the fall sports tournament divisional assignments at the May 10 meeting.

J. Approval of Ashtabula Soccer Officials Association

Assistant Commissioner Zaborniak reviewed a recommendation from the Northeast District Officials Committee and Appeals and Review Board that the Ashtabula Soccer Officials Association be established. Mr. Zaborniak said the OHSAA officiating department has confirmed that the applicants have met all requirements.

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by Karen O'Hare to **approve** the recommendation.

Motion passed 8-0.

VII. APPEALS

A. Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, Robert and Melissa Bateson, re: their daughter, Grade 12, New Lexington High School (Southeast District)

A 12th-grade student has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA in accordance with Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, because she did not receive passing grades in five one credit courses or the equivalent during the preceding grading period. The student and her parents, Robert and Melissa Bateson, appealed the ruling so that their daughter can compete in interscholastic athletics immediately.

Motion by Phil Ackerman, second by George Rise to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 8-0.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Mr. Schumacher and Board President Snodgrass thanked the OHSAA staff for their work in organizing and planning the various winter sports tournaments. Noted were the special events that took place at the boys state basketball tournaments (honoring of former board and staff members; Circle of Champions; student sportsmanship pregame announcements; recognition for Assistant Commissioner Warns).
- B. Mr. Snodgrass also expressed sympathy to Director of Membership Services Price following the recent death of her father. He also thanked the officers of the various coaches associations that were present for their work and continued partnerships, which are vital to the operation of the OHSAA
- B. Mr. Rise congratulated Assistant Commissioner Warns for being selected as the recipient of the OHSAA Ethics and Integrity Award.

Motion by Dan Bise, second by George Rise to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Motion passed 8-0.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

FUTURE MEETINGS

(All meetings on Thursdays in the OHSAA Board Room at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise stated.)

May 10, 2007; June 7, 2007; August 9, 2007; September 13, 2007; October 11 2007; December 6, 2007; January 17, 2008; February 14, 2008; April 3, 2008; May 8, 2008; June 12, 2008; August 7, 2008; September 11, 2008; October 9, 2008, and December 4, 2008.

OHSAA BOARD OF CONTROL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

(April 17, 2007)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Control held a special meeting at the Holiday Inn on the Lane on April 17, 2007, for the purpose of discussing several issues. President Jerry Snodgrass called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Jerry Snodgrass, president, presiding; George Rise, vice president; Phil Ackerman; Dan Bise; Karen O'Hare; Beth Hill; Bill Schumacher; Phil Stevens, and Dan Adams and Jeff Jordan (ex-officios).

Administrative Staff Present: Dan Ross, commissioner.

Others Attending: Steve Craig, OHSAA Legal Counsel.

The Board of Control affirmed the following OHSAA Constitution Items:

Motion by Bill Schumacher, second by Beth Hill to affirm and support OHSAA Constitution Article 7, District Athletic Boards, as follows: "As in past years, in order to be eligible as a candidate on the ballot, the candidate must meet all of the criteria for the position as of the date of the election. Furthermore, in order to serve, the candidate must meet those criteria at the beginning of his/her term."

Motion passed 8-0.

Daniel B. Ross, Ph.D., Commissioner, recorder.