

The following are the preliminary minutes from the April 3, 2008, OHSAA Board of Control meeting. The minutes will not become official until they are adopted by the Board at their May 8, 2008, meeting.

OHSAA BOARD OF CONTROL MINUTES (April 3, 2008)

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 3, 2008.

President Phil Ackerman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Tom Farbizo and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Bill Koppel.

Board Members Present: Phil Ackerman, president, presiding; Dan Bise, vice president; Teresa Alberts; Keith Bell; Bob Britton; Dale Gabor; Gene Klaus; Bill Koppel; Karen O'Hare; Mike Richards; and Phil Stevens, and Jeff Jordan (ex-officio) and Tom Farbizo (ex-officio).

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

Others Attending: Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel; Todd Boehm, OHSAA staff; Tony Cleveland and Frank Gamble, Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association; Dave Froelich, Tim Birle and Dean Clark, Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association; Dick Kerschbaum and Mike Mauk, Ohio High School Football Coaches Association; Casey Milligan, Ohio High School Golf Coaches Association; John Johnson and Brian Stevens, Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association; Russ King, Ohio Tennis Coaches Association; Carol Russo, Tracey Kornau and Kaye Keller, Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association; Troy Roth, Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association, and Ron Knight, Former Board of Control Member.

I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Bill Koppel, second by Gene Klaus to **adopt** the agenda as amended for the April 3, 2008, Board of Control meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Dale Gabor, second by Mike Richards to **approve** the minutes from the February 14, 2008, Board of Control meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

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	\$770,548.32
Receipts — February 2008	<u>168,820.70</u>
	\$939,369.02
Disbursements — February 2008	<u>552,639.57</u>
	\$386,729.45
Accounted for as follows:	
Checking Account Balance per 5/3 Bank (2/29/08)	\$494,584.56
Less Outstanding Checks	\$494,584.56
Balance — February 29, 2008	<u>107,855.11</u>
Available Funds — February 29, 2008	\$386,729.45
Bank Balance	\$386,729.45
Minus Reserve for Building Fund	0
Minus Reserve Fund	<u>(386,729.45)</u>
Working Capital	0
Reserve fund (\$7,722.34 in savings + \$386,729.45 in bank balance)	\$394,729.45
Building fund	\$245,236.10
Balance — February 29, 2008	\$386,729.45
Receipts — March 2008	<u>1,278,474.36</u>
	\$1,665,203.81
Disbursements — March 2008	<u>509,822.21</u>
	\$1,155,381.60
Accounted for as follows:	
Checking Account Balance per 5/3 Bank (3/31/08)	\$1,339,285.39
Less Outstanding Checks	\$1,339,285.39
Balance — March 31, 2008	<u>183,903.79</u>
	\$1,155,381.60

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Available Funds – March 31, 2008	
Bank Balance	\$1,155,381.60
Minus Reserve for Building Fund	0
Minus Reserve Fund	(792,377.49)
Working Capital	363,004.11
Reserve fund (\$7,622.51 in savings + \$792,377.49 in bank balance)	\$800,000.00
Building fund	\$245,236.10

Motion by Dan Bise, second by Bob Britton to **accept** the financial report as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

B. Audit Report

The Board of Control was provided copies of the 2006-07 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, 2006, to July 31, 2007. 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 said many of the items listed in management letters from the past few years had been acted upon. In addition, Mr. Jordan thanked members of the Audit Committee for their work and said that, after the committee had reviewed the audit, it recommended that the audit be approved.

Motion by Teresa Alberts, second by Bill Koppel to **accept** the audit report as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

C. IRS Form 990

The Board was presented a copy of the OHSAA 2007 tax form (IRS Form 990), which the Association is required to file as a 501(c)(3) organization. It was noted that the OHSAA annually obtains an extension for filing its tax form. It was also noted that the Board began taking action annually on the form to continue toward the compliance process with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

Motion by Gene Klaus, second by Keith Bell to **accept** the IRS Form 990 as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

D. 2007 Fall Sports Financial Reports

Comptroller Boehm reviewed the regional and state tournament financial reports for the 2007 fall sports of cross country, field hockey, football, golf, soccer, girls tennis and volleyball. The regional and state cross country tournaments had a deficit of \$71,596.30 after losing \$57,957.56 in 2006. The state qualifying and state field hockey tournaments had a profit of \$805.20 after losing \$1,237.32 in 2006. The regional and state football tournaments had a profit of \$1,648,547.59 after earning \$1,511,320.26 in 2006. The state golf tournaments had a deficit of \$28,640.83 after losing \$27,351.66 in 2006. The regional and state soccer tournaments had a profit of \$41,695.46 after earning \$45,138.38 in 2006. The girls state tennis tournaments had a deficit of \$10,959.94 after showing a loss of \$9,155.46 in 2006. And the regional and state volleyball tournaments had a profit of \$57,774.68 after earning \$79,342.32 in 2006.

Motion by Bob Britton, second by Teresa Alberts to **approve** the reports as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. NFHS Coaches Association State Award Recipients for 2007

Assistant Commissioner Moore informed the Board that seven head coaches from around the state have been selected as NFHS Coaches Association Coaches of the Year recipients for Ohio. Selected were: baseball - Ed Yates, Arlington High School; boys basketball - Paul Wayne, Holgate High School; girls basketball - Tom Rettig, Greenville High School; gymnastics - Ron Ganim, Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School; girls swimming & diving - Daniel Peterkowski, Upper Arlington High School; boys tennis - Ryan Shaffer, North Canton Hoover High School, and wrestling - Steve Goudy, Troy Christian High School. Mr. Ganim was also a national coach of the year award recipient.

B. 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. **Columbia Station Columbia High School's** girls freshman basketball team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 10-3-1, Playing on Non-Interscholastic Teams, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school forfeited the victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Ashland High School's** boys varsity swimming and diving team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-8-1, Students from Foreign Countries and Exchange Students. In accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school forfeited the contests in which the ineligible student participated. **Brooklyn High School's** boys junior varsity basketball team used two ineligible student-athletes in a victorious contest, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school forfeited that contest. **St. Clairsville Junior High School's** girls eighth grade basketball team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-4-5, Scholarship, and, in accordance with Bylaw

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11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school forfeited the victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Leavittsburg LaBrae High School's** girls varsity bowling team had two student-athletes violate bowling sports regulation 1.52, Participation Limits when they competed simultaneously on varsity and non-varsity teams in a contest. In accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school was required to forfeit the victorious varsity and junior varsity matches in which the ineligible students participated. **Circleville Everts Middle School's** wrestling team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-4-2, Age, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school forfeited the contests in which the ineligible student participated. **Canton Heritage Christian High School's** boys varsity and junior varsity basketball teams had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school forfeited the victorious contests in which the ineligible student participated. **Pataskala Licking Heights High School's** track and field coaches violated Bylaw 10-3-6, Playing on Non-Interscholastic Teams, when they coached interscholastic squad members out of season in practices and contests. In accordance with Bylaw 10-4-2, Penalty, each coach involved was suspended from coaching in two regular season contests during the 2008 season and the school was fined \$500. **Grove City Central Crossing High School's** softball coach violated Sports Regulation 6, Open Gymnasium or Facility, when he hit ground balls and provided instruction to student-athletes. In accordance with Bylaw 10-4-2, Penalty, the school will not be permitted to conduct open gyms in softball in January 2009 and will lose a scrimmage from the 2008 season.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Winter Sports Proposals

Proposals were presented in the winter sports of soccer, tennis and volleyball.

1. Soccer

a. The Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association proposed that participants be permitted to play 38 halves during the regular season (as opposed to the current regulation which allows 32). The current regulation permitting participants to play three halves in one day would be maintained.

Motion by Mike Richards, second by Gene Klaus to **approve** the proposal.

Motion passed 9-0.

b. The soccer coaches association also proposed that an overtime format be in place for regular season varsity contests (two 5-minute periods of sudden victory would be conducted).

Motion by Dale Gabor, second by Bill Koppel to **deny** the proposal.

Motion passed 9-0.

2. Tennis

The Ohio Tennis Coaches Association proposed that participants be permitted to play in up to four eight-game pro sets per day for invitational and/or conference tournaments. The current regulation of playing three best-of-three sets would be maintained for matches with that format (including dual matches and OHSAA tournaments).

Motion by Dan Bise, second by Gene Klaus to **approve** the proposal.

Motion passed 9-0.

3. Volleyball

The Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association proposed that the OHSAA state volleyball tournament format be changed. The proposal is that two divisions play their semifinal matches on Thursday, the other two divisions play their semifinal matches on Friday and that all four final matches continue to be played on Saturday. Starting times on Thursday and Friday would be noon, 2:00, 4:00 and 6:00, while starting times for the finals would be 11:00, 1:00, 3:00 and 5:00.

Motion by Gene Klaus, second by Mike Richards to **approve** the proposal.

Motion passed 9-0.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Winter Sports Proposals

Proposals were presented in the winter sport of 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 bowling, gymnastics, ice hockey and swimming & diving. The Board will act on the winter sports proposals at their June meeting.

1. Wrestling

The Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association proposed that weigh-outs at two-day tournaments during the regular season be permitted. This would make weigh-in and weigh-out procedures for the regular season and OHSAA tournaments consistent.

B. Proposed 2009 Board of Control Meeting Dates

Dates for future Board of Control meetings had been set through December 2008. Proposed dates for 2009 are: January 15, February 12, April 2, May 7, June 11, August 6, September 10, October 8 and December 10. All are Thursdays, and all would begin at 9:00 a.m.

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Motion by Bob Britton, second by Dan Bise to **approve** the future meeting dates as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

- C. Approval of Self-Supporting Requirements for 2008-09 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). Commissioner Ross reviewed the requirements and said the staff recommended that the requirements remain the same as those approved for the 2007-08 school year.

Motion by Keith Bell, second by Gene Klaus to **approve** the requirements as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

- D. Trophies/Awards Contract

Assistant Commissioner Neal reviewed with the Board the process that was used to select a company to provide trophies and awards for OHSAA tournaments. He said approximately 50 companies initially showed interest in the contract and six companies were identified as ones that could handle the project and were invited to make presentations to a subcommittee. He said the subcommittee recommends that Croton Craft be awarded a three-year contract extension to provide trophies and awards for OHSAA tournaments beginning with the 2008-09 school year.

Motion by Bill Koppel, second by Mike Richards to **approve** the recommendation.

Motion passed 9-0.

- E. Additional Referendum Issues for 2008

The Board was provided with a draft of additional proposed referendum issues that reflect changes to the OHSAA Constitution and Bylaws. Assistant Commissioner Moore reviewed the proposals.

- 1.) **Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers** – Remove the provision from Exception 7 (adopted in 2007) and create a new, stand-alone exception revised as follows:
New Exception 8

If a student transfers from a non-public high school to the public high school in which the student's parents' residence is situated pursuant to Exception 7 above, the student may transfer back to the same non-public high school and have her/his eligibility restored at the discretion of the Commissioner's office provided the following conditions have been met:

1. That the transfer from the non-public high school to the public high school was not done for athletic reasons but for purely academic reasons or family circumstances beyond the control of the student and/or his/her parents; and
2. The student had been continuously enrolled in the same system of non-public education (e.g., Catholic Conference of Ohio, Ohio Association of Independent Schools, Association of Christian School International or other category as denoted by the State Department of Education) beginning in the 6th grade and continuing thereafter through and including the eighth grade as the high school in which the student enrolled as a ninth grader.
3. The student has been ruled eligible by the Commissioner's office.

If passed, this issue becomes effective on August 1, 2008.

Notes on proposed change – 1.) The change in language places the issue which was passed by the membership in October, 2006 into a separate exception. 2.) The exception, as before, allows a transfer back to the non-public high school when, through no fault of the student, he or she has used Exception 7 to transfer into the public high school in the parents' district of residence. 3.) The restrictions are narrow in that the student must demonstrate a clear commitment to the type of non-public education selected in grade nine by showing continuous enrollment in a school belonging to the same school system as defined by the State Department of Education (e.g., Catholic Conference of Ohio, Ohio Association of Independent Schools, Association of Christian Schools International, etc.) from the beginning of grade six through the end of grade eight. 4.) The only transfer option under this exception is a return to the same non-public high school where the student started in grade 9. 5.) This change represents a "safety net" for those parents and students whose circumstances change after having used Exception 7.

- 2.) **Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfers** - new, renumber accordingly.

If a student transfers to a high school located within the jurisdiction of a non-public multiple high school system (e.g., Catholic Conference of Ohio, Ohio Association of Independent Schools, Association of Christian Schools International or other category as denoted by the State Department of Education) from another high school within that same system, the student may have his/her eligibility restored by the Commissioner's office provided the following conditions have been met:

1. The student has been reassigned to the high school **by the superintendent or other administrative authority of that school system** as a result of a specific change of academic program; or a material change in economic circumstances so as to create a hardship; or a material change in transportation circumstances so as to create a hardship; and
2. The transfer takes place prior to the beginning of the school year; and
3. The Superintendent or other administration authority of the system petitions the Commissioner's office for the restoration of eligibility for the student verifying in detail the specific reason for the transfer in accordance with item #1 and certifying that the transfer is not for athletic reasons; and
4. The student is ruled eligible by the Commissioner's office.

If passed, this issue becomes effective on August 1, 2008.

Notes on proposed change – 1.) This new bylaw is presented to provide a transfer option for students in

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a non-public multiple high school system under the following conditions: a. Superintendent shall be able to petition for the transfer due to one of only three conditions: 1. change in a student's academic program, 2. economic hardship or 3. transportation issues. b. Superintendent shall petition for the eligibility and specify the reason for the request as well as the fact that the transfer is not for athletic reasons. c. Shall require an official ruling of eligibility prior to the student's participation in athletics. d. Shall require that the transfer take place at the beginning of the school year and prior to the student's participation in sports at any other high school in that school system. 2.) Nothing in this bylaw shall be construed as requiring a school system to request athletic eligibility for students who transfer high schools prior to the beginning of a school year. Such a decision to request a ruling on the student's athletic eligibility is strictly at the discretion of that system's superintendent or other administrative authority based on one of the three criteria in item 1. 3.) Note that his bylaw refers only to multi-high school non-public school systems which have no specific, geographic boundaries and often do not accede to the superintendent of the system except for moral and/or spiritual guidance. 4.) The State Department of Education groups non-public schools into the following categories. Each category has one superintendent listed which also includes one for each of the six Diocesan systems within the Catholic Conference of Ohio. The number in parenthesis is the total number of member high schools in each category for the 2007-08 school year: Association of Christian Schools International (18); Catholic Conference of Ohio by Diocese (73); Cleveland Lutheran High School Association (2); Ohio Association of Independent Schools (18); Independent Schools (2), and Dayton Christian Schools (2). If this bylaw is adopted, the OHSAA shall use the Department of Education's structure to determine into what system the non-public school shall be categorized. 5.) There are three other categories that currently have either one or no member high schools within the system: Jewish Education Center of Cleveland (1), 7th Day Adventist Ohio Conference (1), and Worthington Christian Schools (1). These shall be considered as single school systems, and thus this bylaw would not be applicable to students in those schools relative to transfer.

Motion by Dale Gabor, second by Teresa Alberts to place the two Bylaw issues up for referendum vote of the OHSAA membership.

Motion passed 9-0.

It was noted that there will be five Constitution issues and 12 Bylaw issues up for referendum vote of the OHSAA membership when voting takes place between May 1 and 15. The two additional Constitution issues and two additional Bylaw issues placed up for referendum vote of the OHSAA membership at a special March 14, 2008, Board of Control Meeting were as follows:

1.) **Constitution 7-2, - Qualification for Election and Retention of a Position on a District Athletic Board** - Amend 7-2-1 as follows:

Members of the district athletic boards shall be members of the teaching profession and employed full time (minimum of 180 days) with high school responsibilities in a member school or schools, within the respective athletic district they represent. A member of the teaching profession is defined as an individual who holds a professional license as a teacher or administrator or serves as an athletic administrator approved by the Board of Education or other governing board in a non-public school. The 7th-8th grade representative on each district athletic board shall be a member of the teaching profession and employed fulltime with more than sixty percent of his or her duties in that 7th-8th grade school.

If passed, this issue effective retroactive to January 1, 2008.

Notes on proposed change — 1.) Schools are not required to hire persons who are licensed members of the teaching profession or who hold an administrative license to perform the duties of an athletic administrator. 2.) The OHSAA believes that any individual who is hired by a Board of Education or governing board in a non-public school as the school's athletic administrator should be able to stand for election to a District Athletic Board due to the nature of that individual's responsibilities and duties pertaining to interscholastic athletics.

2.) **Constitution 7-2 - Qualification for Election and Retention of a Position on a District Athletic Board** - New Article 7-2-2; renumber accordingly.

An individual who is a member of the teaching profession as defined in 7-2-1 and employed full time in an Educational Service Center (E.S.C.) may be eligible for election to only that District Athletic Board in which the principal place of business of the E.S.C., as defined by the Ohio Department of Education, is located, provided that another employee of a school district within the geographical jurisdiction of the E.S.C. is not currently serving on a District Athletic Board. The classification of an eligible employee of an E.S.C. shall be determined by the individual's gender, race or in the case of school size, by the majority of member high school classifications within the E.S.C.'s geographic jurisdiction. If no majority of the member high school classifications exists, then the classification position shall be determined by totaling the enrollment numbers for both the girls and the boys in all high schools within the E.S.C.'s athletic district and dividing by the number of member high schools in that athletic district within the E.S.C.'s jurisdiction. An E.S.C. employee may stand for election for either the boys or the girls classification as determined by the enrollment numbers derived using the method described in this article.

If passed, this issue becomes effective on August 1, 2008.

Notes on proposed change — 1.) It is believed that administrators serving member schools through employment in an E.S.C. should be afforded the opportunity to represent high schools within their jurisdiction on a district athletic board provided they can meet the full time employment criterion expressed in 7-2-1. 2.) Given the fact that many E.S.C.'s cover several counties and a few represent schools in different athletic

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districts, this article prescribes the determination of the district athletic board to which the E.S.C. employee may stand for election by where the E.S.C. is physically located as its principal place of business as determined by the Department of Education. This method should make the district determination more stable and easy to administer. 3.) The classification for which the individual may represent will be determined by using the majority classification of the member high schools within the E.S.C.'s jurisdiction (A, AA or AAA). An E.S.C. employee, just as for any other individual running for a district athletic board seat, may represent either the girls or the boys classification if the two are different. In addition a qualified E.S.C. employee could also run for the female or ethnic minority position on a District Athletic Board. 4.) If this issue does not pass, an E.S.C. employee who is a member of the teaching professional would be ineligible to serve on a district athletic board.

3.) **Bylaw 6, Transfer** - Delete Exception 6 of Bylaw 4-7-2, Renumber remainder accordingly.
~~EXCEPTION 6—Subject to the provisions of exception 7 below, a student may transfer to a different school and be eligible provided the superintendents of both districts enter into a written agreement that consents to the attendance and specifies that the purpose of such attendance is to protect the student's physical or mental well-being. Only one such exemption shall be permitted in any four school years. An individual may appeal the superintendent's decision to an Appeals Panel created by the Executive Director of the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (B.A.S.A.). This Appeals Panel shall consist of superintendents appointed from the B.A.S.A. membership in Ohio. The Appeals Procedures adopted by the Board of Control and set forth in the OHSAA Handbook shall be observed when conducting the appeals referenced herein. The student shall not be eligible until declared eligible by the Commissioner upon submission of the exemption form.~~

If passed, this issue becomes effective on June 1, 2008.

Notes on proposed change — 1.) This exception, which was originally included in the revisions to the transfer bylaw adopted in 2000, has been inconsistently applied by member school superintendents and has created considerable concern from the membership. 2.) The language of the current exception was modified to make it applicable to all school districts, both public and non-public, and the tuition waiver was never included. 3.) Currently, over 500 transfers have been approved during the 2007-08 school year through the winter sports season. 4.) If passed, no agreements dated after June 1, 2008, shall be recognized. Note that if this issue is approved, the OHSAA shall be authorized to remove all references to Exception 6 wherever they appear within the Bylaws.

4.) **Bylaw 10B, Transfer** - Rewrite 4-7-6 for clarification as follows:
~~Whenever a district reassigns the school to which its students shall be enrolled, the student shall be eligible at only that school in the school district to which they have been reassigned by the district. This rule applies only at the beginning of the school year when the reassignments are first made. After the first year of reassignments, the eligibility of any future transfers from one school to another will be determined in accordance with applicable paragraphs of this section.~~

New:

If a student transfers to a high school within the same public school district within which the school from where the student transferred is a part, the student may have his/her eligibility restored by the Commissioner's office provided the following conditions have been met:

1. The student has been reassigned to the high school **by the School District** as a result of redistricting or a specific change of program; and 2. The transfer takes place prior to the beginning of the school year; and 3. The District petitions the Commissioner's office for the restoration of eligibility for the student; and 4. The student is ruled eligible by the Commissioner's office.

If passed, this issue becomes effective on August 1, 2008.

Notes on proposed change — 1.) This bylaw requires clarification and is rewritten to explain the intent which is to: a. Provide a multi-high school public school district the opportunity to transfer a student due to reasons restricted to geographic redistricting or a change in academic program for a student; b. Permit athletic eligibility for those students who are approved by the district for transfer; c. Require an official ruling of eligibility prior to the student's participation in athletics; d. Require that the transfer take place at the beginning of the school year and prior to the student's participation in sports at any other high school in the public school district. 2.) Nothing in this bylaw shall be construed as requiring a district to request athletic eligibility for student's who transfer high schools prior to the beginning of a school year. Such a decision to request a ruling on the student's athletic eligibility is strictly at the discretion of that district's superintendent or other administrative authority based on the redistricting or change in the student's academic program. 3.) Note that this bylaw refers only to multi-high school public school districts which have specific, state-mandated geographic boundaries.

F. Sports Regulations Changes for 2008-09

The OHSAA administrative staff reviewed the proposed editorial changes in the general Sports Regulations that will appear in the 2008-09 OHSAA Handbook, and Assistant Commissioners Dickerson, Moore, Neil, Price and Zaborniak also reviewed the proposed editorial changes in Individual and Team Sports Regulations. The following changes in the general regulations were noted:

- 1.) The Open Gymnasium or Facilities Regulation was amended with the following additions:
 - a. A school may open its athletic facilities for unstructured free play provided the activity is supervised by a school employee who may remove participants **and spectators** for disciplinary reasons.

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- b. Individual member schools may restrict individuals from observing the open gym or facilities activity.
 - c. It is not a violation for the coach or supervisor to participate in unstructured free play in the open gym or facility.
 - d. Transporting athletes to a non-school open gym or facility is a violation for any member of the coaching staff, paid or unpaid.
- 2.) The Ejection Policy for Unsporting Conduct for Coaches was amended with the following additions:
- a. Any coach ejected or disqualified from an interscholastic contest for unsporting conduct shall be suspended from coaching in all contests for the remainder of that day. In addition, the coach shall be suspended from coaching for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests (one in football) are played at the same level as the ejection or disqualification **and shall be fined \$100. In addition, the coach shall take the National Federation of State High School Associations Fundamentals of Coaching Course, which must be completed within 30 days. (Note that the \$100 shall be used to support the OHSAA's Respect The Game program).**

In the Individual and Team Sports Regulations, it was noted that date for when students must cease non-interscholastic competition in order to be eligible for OHSAA tournament competition has been moved earlier and now is six weeks (42 days) prior to the Monday of the respective sports' state tournaments (students were previously permitted to participate in non-interscholastic competition four weeks {28 days} prior to the Monday of the respective sports' state tournaments). Most of the other updates in the Individual and Team Sports Regulations were related to date changes or items that were included or modified for clarity.

Motion by Dale Gabor, second by Keith Bell to **approve** the changes as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

It was noted that the 2008-09 OHSAA tournament entry/withdraw dates; the dates in which penalties will begin for Tournament entry/withdraw and the dates for tournament draw/seeding meetings are still being determined and will be forwarded to the Board for approval in May. In addition, it was noted that the Media Regulations will be pulled from the OHSAA Handbook and published separately. Those regulations will annually be approved by the Board.

G. Authorization for Resolutions of Commendation

Commissioner Ross asked the Board to authorize the staff to write resolutions of commendation for the various groups, organizations and individuals who assisted the Association when it became necessary to postpone and reschedule state girls basketball, state ice hockey and regional boys basketball tournament games due to the inclement weather that hit the state March 7 and 8. Included in the commendations will be the staffs at both Ohio State's Value City Arena at the Jerome Schottenstein Center and Nationwide Arena in Columbus; the numerous hoteliers that housed state tournament teams along with the Greater Columbus Sports Commission and their "team ambassadors," and the numerous tournament managers for the boys regional tournaments.

Motion by Bob Britton, second by Dan Bise to **approve** the request.

Motion passed 9-0.

Board President Ackerman publicly thanked Commissioner Ross and his staff for their efforts and time in managing the various winter sports state tournaments, particularly with the trying weather conditions.

H. Resignation/Retirement of Assistant Commissioner John Dickerson

Board President Ackerman informed the Board that Assistant Commissioner John Dickerson submitted his resignation, effective September 19, 2008. Mr. Dickerson plans to retire after beginning his duties as an assistant commissioner at the OHSAA on August 28, 1995.

Motion by Mike Richards, second by Bill Koppel to **accept** Mr. Dickerson's resignation.

Motion passed 9-0.

Congratulations, thanks yous and praise were extended to Mr. Dickerson by Board of Control members.

VII. APPEALS

None

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

Motion by Dale Gabor, second by Keith Bell to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Motion passed 9-0.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

FUTURE MEETINGS

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

2008: May 8; June 12; August 7; September 11; October 2, and December 4, and **2009:** January 15, February 12, April 2, May 7, June 11, August 6, September 10, October 8 and December 10.