



Vermont State Athletic Directors' Association

Notice of Meeting -- Sent January 6th, 2022, Second Notice Sent January 17th

Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 18th, 2022

Executive Committee Meeting: 9:00AM | VSADA Meeting: 10:00 AM

[Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 915 1266 7377

Passcode: bB16aW

AGENDA:

9:00 AM Executive Committee Meeting

10:00 AM Call to Order - Kim Maniery

10:05 AM Attendance, AD Introduction

In Attendance: Ben Diller, John Lenzini, Peter Maneen, Natalie Soffen, Todd Powers, Blendon Salls, Heidi Wright, Eric Berry, Chris Wentworth, Derek Cipriano, Dan Shepardson, Anthony Sorrentino, Dan Marlow, Ashley Hoyt, T.J. Powers, Phil Joyal, Mike Jabour, Chris Langevin, Marcel Choquette, Pat Merriam, Quaron Pinckney, Jim Hubbard, Hank Van Orman, Neil Brodeur, Mark Ellingson, Rich Saypack, Todd Parah, Matt Link, Jeff Moreno, Stacy Stokes, Jere Brophy, Kim Maniery, Matt Ehrenreich, Dan Elliott, Carley Elkin, Ian Fraunfelder, Randy Rathburn, Kim Alexander, Sean Farrell, Gabriela Silva, Mike Norman, John Lumsden, David Marlow, Bob Johnson, Tim Albertson, Joe Harrington, Tim Messier, Geri Witalec-Krupa, Tom Conte, Buddy Hayford, Jake Eaton, Andrew Conforti, Tammy Claussen, Jack Boymer, Devin Wendel, Tom Conte, Geri Witalec-Krupa, Quaron Pinckney.

10:10 AM:

Secretary's Report

Devin Wendel

- Marcel Choquette, 1st, Tom Conte 2nd Approved Unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Sean Farrell

- Total balance \$11690, we do have some expenses coming up.
- Kim - Have you gotten all dues from schools?
- Sean - No, waiting on 3 schools.
- Motion to approve - Hank, 2nd Dan Marlow - Approved unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

Tom Conte

- 12 of us ended up going to the National Conference. Well attended by Vermont.
- Want to thank everyone for nominating me for that award. It was accepted on behalf of the whole state. Our door prize was won by a gentleman from North Carolina. Sent him a large gift basket from Vermont, with Ham, Cheese, Maple Syrup, pancakes and butter.
- I got a note that Lee Green is stepping down as the coordinator for the Legal Courses. They are looking for a replacement for him at the National level.

- At the state conference, please bring a gift worth up to \$50 as a door prize. Please bring something that anyone can use.
- I will be in charge of the vendors and will coordinate with them at the state conference.

NIAAA Liaison/Section 1 Report

Geri Witalec-Krupa

- Thank you to those who submitted applications on behalf of your student-athletes. Our selection process was a bit delayed due to everything we have been working through over the past few weeks due to Omicron.
- The Section One Summer Institute will be held at the Oceans Edge Resort again this summer. Put it on your calendars for June 26th-End of June. This may be the last year that the conference will be held at the Oceans Edge so I strongly encourage you to attend.

NFHS Coaching ED Report

Dave Miceli (Devin Wendel)

- The winter coaches education report will be pulled on Friday, January 21st in the morning. Please update your coaches on the site if you have not done so already.

NSLS Information

Dave Miceli (Devin Wendel)

- Devin outlined the NSLS opportunity and encouraged ADs to consider nominating students and attending this event.
- Kim - I was able to attend that summit with students three years ago. It was well worth the attendance at this summit.
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Activity Standards Report

Heidi Wright & Sean Farrell

(Scheduled for 1/21 - No Report)

NADC Scholarship Presentation

Derek Cipriano

- I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to attend this conference as the scholarship winner. A very beneficial and meaningful experience. Took 2 LTC classes and various workshops. I started off by attending the first-time attendees session. Took LTC 709 Focusing on Communication, took a workshop on Mental Health & Anxiety, also took a workshop on building an appropriate culture within the athletic department. LTC 722 - C took a Canadian LTC class, Using your Athletic Program to help Develop Culture. I was able to enjoy the city of Denver, attended an Avalanche game, and networked with both Vermont ADs as well as those from other states.

State Conference Information

David Marlow

- March 27th - 29th, will be in-person. I will also send it out again and probably every other week from here on out until March. Please get your registration in as soon as possible. You can also register for the classes that you want to take. All of our presenters at this year's conference are from Vermont. Our keynote speaker is a man named Anthony Thomas, National Organization of Minority ADs. Will also be several workshops (3-4) presented by ADs. If you have vendors that haven't attended in the past,

please have them reach out to me. We usually get around 30 vendors. Thank you to the 25 ADs who have already registered.

- Please use this [link](#) to register for the conference.

DEI Committee Update

Quaron Pinckney & Mike Jabour

- Mike Jabour - Our committee meets the first Tuesday of every month. We took the policy on HHB, adding an additional piece around hate speech. We added steps for officials, schools, and administrators. We have now settled on the document and have sent it onto the ASC. It is going to be a helpful tool to help us handle hate speech at athletic events.
- The other piece we are going to continue to work on is to do our own audit within VPA member schools.
- At our next meeting, we have invited students. We have a total of 4-6 students to join our committee as they are the ones competing every day. They can help us grow within our organization. We are also going to talk about the recruitment of female coaches, ADs, the BIPOC community, and more.

VPA Report

Bob Johnson

- Bob Johnson - The Medical return to play has been confusing regarding the 5 day return. Although there are CDC guidelines and DoH guidelines, local pediatricians may utilize their own recommendations and add on additional days to the return to play.
- I have received the question of - What is the spectator policy going to be as we enter the tournament? We will fall back to the host schools policy for games up to the quarterfinals. We as the VPA are asking schools to be equitable for spectators come the playoffs.
- Sean - If a school doesn't allow spectators is the host school now picking up the bill for officials etc?
- Bob Johnson - If a school has to call 'time-out' due to COVID, the school has up until a certain threshold to make the game up prior to the next round. You will get something more in writing from the ASC/VPA.
- For Track Schools - Indoor track championships will be one division only, not two divisions. This decision was made by the indoor track committee. We had to find a way to make it a smaller meet therefore will be moving to one division.

11:30 AM: New Business/Announcements

Ticket Prices - Heidi Wright

- I have struggled all season in regard to ticket prices across the board. I was wondering if it was something ADs should set a standard price across the state.
- Sean - Where is the conflict, what are you charging?
- Heidi - In the past the boosters club had let all sorts of people in for free. We currently charge \$5 adults, \$3 students/seniors.
- Sean - We talked about this a while back, ticket prices are generally \$4 adults, \$2.00 students, some schools will charge \$5.00 and \$2.00.

Non-Binary Student-Athletes - Matt Link

- We have a couple of students who are non-binary in our MS. We want to open a conversation about how best to support them. Can we offer a non-binary system to help them feel more comfortable as they're competing. We would possibly be the first state to offer this.
- Bob Johnson - We knew this issue was coming down the road even when we updated our transgender policy back in 2017. We currently don't have a system that has an answer. We have a binary system. As far as generating a non-binary system, I don't know. We may need to put together a committee to review this further.
- Sean Farrell - Do you have any suggestions on how to proceed?
- Matt Link - Especially for sports where there is just a clock, could kids compete within their own seed time? Could organize boys, girls, non-binary categories.
- Blendon Salls - Matt is this more about them competing in the boys or girls race at the beginning of the meet. If they're non-binary they don't participate in either so it is more about the mislabeling of this.
- David Marlow - I look at the Tour De-Chittenden it was just a varsity race/JV race. That could be something that we talk about seeding etc. At least at the start it is just a varsity race, boys and girls. At least in that sense a non-binary student wouldn't be made to feel their gender.
- Hank Van Orman - Might be good for individual sports committees to look through that lens to come up with recommendations as to how to best support these student-athletes.
- Blendon Salls - When was the last time the committee on gender got together? Bob - a couple of years ago.

Masks & Enforcement - Hank Van Orman

- Dan Marlow - Its not like we are going to throw a player out for not wearing their mask. We are now at a point where we
- [Article](#) - Balance & Efficiency - Kim Maniery
- [Digital Ticketing Survey](#) - Dave Miceli (Devin Wendel)
- Phil - It has been very smooth, haven't had any issues but we are now trying to figure it out with the playoffs

T-Shirt & 50/50 Sales @ Semifinals/Championships - Sean Farrell

- Sean - Be on the outlook for these events even if your school is not participating. This is a great revenue generator for our organization. We are going to use our money up fairly quickly this spring.
- Pat - Happy to hand this off to someone, I have spreadsheets and surveys available to help the next organizer of this event.

Dan Shepardson - Announcing his retirement at the end of this school year. Congratulations to Dan on his retirement!

Motion to Adjourn - Dan Marlow, Matt Link 2nd - Motion passed, the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am.

Future Meeting Dates:

March 29th, 2022 - Doubletree by Hilton - South Burlington

May 10th, 2022 - Chandler Art Center - Randolph