



Fencing Post Season Meeting Agenda April 9, 2025 @ 6:00pm

1. Welcome and introductions
 - Present- George Janto, Micheal Melicki, Mike Griffin, Ted Li, Rich Molina, Stephan Olson, Lisa Campi-Sapery

2. Review of 2023 Post Season Minutes
 - **No Questions after review of minutes.**

3. Review of the regular season (Positive / Negative)
 - Reporting of Match results in a timely manner. – ***Much better this year, when NJSIAA was notified – schools were contacted and given warnings. Most schools complied after warning. Committee requested that NJHighSchool sports be contacted and request that a more comprehensive match reporting be put into place- for example each fencers bouts and results not just team results.***
 - Review of 50% rule. ***There was some reported abuse of this due to the wording – NJSIAA will insert the word “fenced” next to the word participate meaning that the fencer needs to fence at least 1 bout per match to count it towards the 50% rule. Extenuating circumstances will be reviewed by the NJSIAA, any medical exemption must be accompanied by a doctors note listing the days that the fencer was unable to compete due to medical reasons. Must be a valid medical condition that prevents the fencer from competing. Excuses like stomach ache and sniffles will not be accepted.***
 - Availability of officials. Use of non -approved officials.- ***use of college students with fencing experience worked well this year. Will continue next year – NJSIAA Request that these officials be vetted early in the season and not a few days before a major meet. Lisa Campi- Sapery and Jeff Bukantz will co-ordinate contacting the college students.***

4. Review of the post-season (Positive / Negative)
 - Use of Centrullo/Santelli Tournament for seeding for Sweet 16.- ***Discussed this issue, teams can still qualify w/o taking part but need to win their district event. Discussed the use of Power Points as another means to help qualify teams. Fencing Committee was initially against it but after the PP calculation was clarified, the Committee asked if NJ.Com could calculate PP next season to give them some data to look at for future discussion and possible adoption of PP into the seeding system.***

- No fencing on Presidents Weekend- did it help?- **Committee felt it was helpful and worked this season, eliminated many school use and Junior Olympic issues. NJSIAA will continue with it next year.**
 - Play by dates.- Did it help or go back to PLAY ON Dates?- **Committee recommends that the NJSIAA continue to use play by dates for Sweet 16 on the play in and first rounds only.**
 - Possible loss of District 5/6 site- **Montgomery does not want to host on the day it is scheduled for, Mike Griffin will look to see if Hunterdon central would be interested in hosting. If there are any other District 5/6 schools interested in hosting, they will also be considered.**
 - Hunterdon Central – Individuals – **First time hosts – The consensus was that the event ran very well. One Issue was the Commons Area could not be used this year as it was booked for another event. Mike Griffin will make sure with the school's Ad that it will be available to fencing- this will alleviate a slight overcrowding issue with some of the fencing strips.**
 - **The NJSIAA wants to thank all of our host schools for their support this year.**
5. Review of dates for next season (See Handout)
Committee reviewed the dates and understood that they are tentative dates until approved by the Executive Committee.
 6. Review of current regulations and any proposed changes for next season.
 - See attached draft of next year's regulations.- **discussed some minor word changes and supported by Committee.**
 7. New Business
 - New teams- Immaculata- Boys and Girls Sparta – Co-ed (boys) – **these schools are confirmed for next year. Committee is concerned if there are more teams that have not notified the NJSIAA – existing District Sites are becoming crowded.**
 - What constitutes an “official” dual meet? – **NJSIAA uses NCAA rules – All 27 bouts must be contested to be considered an official match.**
 - Who can “forfeit” a bout/meet?- **A coach can forfeit individual bouts within the 27 official bouts but only the Conference or the NJSIAA can authorize the forfeit of a match. Coach does not have the authority to pull the team before the bout is completed. There are severe penalties for pulling a team from competition.**
 - NJSIAA Tournament Host School- list of responsibilities and expectations.- **Will be developed and shared with all District host sites.**
 - Power points- in addition to C/S for Tournament seeding.-**Discusses in # 4**
 8. Old Business
 - Credentials for coaches on the floor.-**Request for schools that have both a boys and girls coach that they be given additional coaches passes to allow coaches on the floor. The Committee agreed to this, but coaches may only be on the floor when their athletes are competing.**
 9. Correspondence (See Attached)- **very little received this year – all was included in the discussion points listed earlier.**
 10. Good of the order. – **Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 pm**