

1 IN RE: :
2 :
3 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING :
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5

Monday, May 6, 2024
Edison, New Jersey

11 A P P E A R A N C E S:

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1 MS. MAGUIRE: It is twelve o'two P.M. We
2 have 286 schools in attendance. So, we have a
3 quorum.

4 I first would just like to introduce
5 everyone here on the dais, Steve Goodell, NJSIAA
6 General Counsel; Dave Frazier, our Advisory
7 Committee Chair, also Athletic Director at
8 Rutherford High School; and Jen Fleury, the
9 Advisory Committee Secretary, the Athletic
10 Director at Villa Walsh Academy.

11 Since attendance is based on the delegate
12 cards submitted at registration, I have a motion
13 from Rob Haraka at Morrisville High School and a
14 second from Tom Mullahey at Clifton High School
15 to omit the roll call. Is anyone opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 MS. MAGUIRE: Does anyone abstain?

18 (No response.)

19 MS. MAGUIRE: All are in favor. Thank
20 you.

21 Okay. For your information, the 2023
22 Annual Meeting transcript is available on the
23 NJSIAA website under Inside NJSIAA Constitution
24 and Legislation. We will notify all schools via
25 an alert email when today's transcript is posted

1 to that same location on our website. We will
2 will post a final voting summary by school via
3 an alert email by the end of this week. So,
4 NJSIAA Assistant Director, Al Stumpf and Derryk
5 Sellers in the back of the room, they will be
6 collecting the ballot. Paul Popadiuk, Chief
7 Compliance Officer and Tony Maselli, Chief
8 Operating Officer will be counting the ballots
9 off in a separate room.

10 Lastly please take your time to ensure
11 your ballot is complete and accurate. Okay.
12 Make sure your school name, make sure you cast a
13 vote, and make sure it is signed to ensure that
14 the ballot is counted.

15 So, now I'm going to turn the meeting over
16 to our Parliamentarian, Steve Goodell. Thank
17 you.

18 MR. GOODELL: Okay. Thank you, Colleen.
19 Welcome, everybody.

20 So I'm the Parliamentarian. What that
21 means is I'm the referee for today's meeting. I
22 think it's going to be a quick and efficient
23 meeting. I think it will be that.

24 We've got two ballots for you to vote on.
25 So I'm going to tell you the procedures and then

1 Dave Frazier will conduct the meeting. The
2 procedures are as follows. First, Colleen --
3 Dave Frazier will introduce each ballot. Each
4 of these has been proposed by NJSIAA staff. So,
5 it is Colleen Maguire who will explain what the
6 legislation is. At that point, if anybody has a
7 question about the legislation, they raise their
8 hand, come to the microphone and ask a question
9 to explain the legislation. After that anybody
10 who wants to speak against the legislation,
11 raise your hand, come to the microphone. You
12 can speak against the legislation. Three
13 minutes is the maximum you can speak. Anybody
14 wishes to speak in favor of the legislation,
15 they can do that following.

16 Once everybody has spoken we will call the
17 question and you will vote. Votes will be
18 collected and counted and you will hear the
19 results before the end of the meeting. As soon
20 as the votes have been collected, we will move
21 on to the second ballot. Same procedures apply.
22 Again, I think this will be quick and efficient.
23 Any questions?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. GOODELL: Dave Frazier's next up and

1 he can get the meeting going.

2 MR. FRAZIER: Thanks, Steve. Good morning
3 or afternoon to my distinguished colleagues.

4 Today we have two pieces of legislation
5 that will be be voting on. I'm going to jump
6 the gun and say please do not fold your ballots
7 now. So do not fold your ballots. Keep those
8 flat, easier to count.

9 All right. Ballot number 1 in the gray
10 color, Ballot number 1 this is sponsored by the
11 NJSIAA, this proposal to adopt the girls ice
12 hockey as a state sanctioned sport. The
13 Advisory Committee met in December 2023 to hear
14 both of these proposals, unanimously agreed.
15 They went to the Executive Committee January
16 10th. They were voted on there and approved.

17 We, as Athletic Directors, got to hear
18 more about the proposals at our DAANJ conference
19 in March. Those that were not able to hear that
20 information were able to speak to Mr. Popadiuk
21 and also participate in a web based meeting in
22 order to get additional information, and today
23 we are here to actually vote on the proposals.

24 So, Ballot number 1 as I said is the gray
25 ballot proposed by the NJSIAA staff. Colleen

1 will speak about it, but before that I will ask
2 for a motion and a second for this proposal, and
3 I know I have a motion to accept Ballot number
4 1, Josh Aronowitz, the Athletic Director at
5 Matawan High School and the second from Chris
6 Brown, Athletic Director of Park Ridge High
7 School.

8 Now I'd like to call back up to the dais
9 Miss Colleen Maguire to speak on the
10 legislation.

11 MS. MAGUIRE: Thank you. As Dave
12 mentioned, this proposal is to formally
13 recognize girls hockey as the 34th sanctioned
14 sport of the State Association. The one
15 important point to note is that upon your
16 approval of this starting with the '24-'25
17 school year, our boy/girl competition policy
18 will be in place. That means if you are a
19 member school and you have a girls ice hockey
20 team whether it your own standalone team or as a
21 cooperative program, girls will be required to
22 play on the girls ice hockey team.

23 That is the only real change to what has
24 been under the pilot program as per the girls
25 hockey pilot program that was approved in

1 October 2021.

2 Are there any questions?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. FRAZIER: Okay. Being that there are
5 no questions, does anyone wish to speak against
6 the motion? If you wish to speak against it,
7 please come up to the microphone. State your
8 name, your school and please try to keep it
9 under three minutes and redundant speeches are
10 not welcome. Are there any?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. FRAZIER: Anyone wish to speak for the
13 proposal? Same procedure. If you wish to speak
14 for the proposal, please step up to the mike,
15 state your name and school.

16 (No response.)

17 MR. FRAZIER: Okay. Being that there are
18 no speakers against or for, I'll call the
19 question. This is to adopt the proposal for
20 girls ice hockey. Note that this requires a
21 majority vote. We have 286 voting members
22 today. So that's 143 plus one, a hundred and
23 forty-four needed for this to pass.

24 At this time, NJSIAA staff is around the
25 room, and they will assist in collecting the

1 ballots. Please let's have a table mate collect
2 them off your table and then hand them to NJSIAA
3 as they come around. Any table that has not had
4 it collected, raise up high. I think we almost
5 have them all. Any other ballots out there?
6 Going once -- we got one, this table here. Any
7 others? Going once, going twice, sold. Okay.

8 And while we're waiting, I'd like to take
9 this moment to thank the Advisory Committee. I
10 know I'm the Chair, and Jen here is our
11 Secretary, but the committee has done a
12 wonderful job. So, all my committee members
13 just put your hands up. Let's give a quick
14 wave. Let's give them a round of applause,
15 thank our committee members.

16 All right. On to Ballot number 2. That
17 is the white ballot. This ballot is the
18 proposal to amend the classification rule for
19 charter schools and cooperative sports programs.
20 Once again we follow the same voting procedure
21 that I went through in Ballot number 1.

22 This piece of legislation is proposed by
23 the NJSIAA. It's been endorsed by the Advisory
24 and the Executive Committee. Welcome back up
25 Colleen Maguire to speak on the proposal.

1 MS. MAGUIRE: Thank you.

2 So this proposal I'm going to try to go
3 slow, but please encourage questions. This
4 proposal is going to -- when we run our
5 classifications, we are going to exclude the
6 charter schools and exclude the cooperative
7 sports programs. For each sport, we're going to
8 run the classifications. We're going to
9 establish our groups, establish our sections.
10 This gives us flexibility before the start of
11 each season to insert the charter schools,
12 insert the cooperative sports programs where
13 they belong naturally based on their enrollment
14 and based on their northing numbers.

15 This -- what it does really it provides
16 flexibility to accommodate the changing status
17 of charter schools with their varsity programs.
18 We have some charter schools that come into our
19 membership. They may have varsity for a year,
20 they may no longer. Sometimes they come into
21 our membership for a year or two and the charter
22 school closes. Sometimes they run JV and they
23 come back to varsity.

24 Our classifications are on two years.
25 Right. So, when you have this kind of changing

1 status, it can start to cause disruptions to the
2 rest of the schools.

3 Same goes for cooperative sports program.
4 We've taken giant steps towards providing an
5 inordinate amount of flexibility to our schools
6 that need cooperative sports programs to keep
7 their program going. Paul Popadiuk and the
8 Cooperative Committee does a great job meeting
9 seasonally to vet all the co-ops, but sometimes
10 in that two-year period emergent ones arise.
11 Sometimes partners need to change. So, this now
12 really outside of ice hockey, who has its own
13 separate classification, all of the other
14 sports, those schools that have their own
15 standalone consistent varsity programs aren't
16 going to be impacted by the comings and goings
17 of charter schools and cooperative sports
18 programs.

19 Are there any questions?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. FRAZIER: Okay. I apologize in
22 advance. My eyes jumped. We do have a motion
23 to accept this proposal by Mr. Art Mazzacca,
24 Hawthorne High School and second by Mr. Dave
25 Ryden of Marlboro High School. My apologies for

1 having that out of sequence.

2 Hopping back in are there any questions
3 for Colleen?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. FRAZIER: Seeing that there are no
6 questions, does anyone want to speak -- week? Wish to
7 speak against the proposal? If there's anyone,
8 please step up to the microphone, less than
9 three minutes, name, school, position.

10 (No response.)

11 MR. FRAZIER: Okay. Seeing that there are
12 none, is there anyone that wishes to speak for
13 the motion? Same procedure, step up to the
14 microphone.

15 (No response.)

16 MR. FRAZIER: All right. Seeing that
17 there are none, I will now call the question to
18 this proposal to amend the classification rules.
19 Note that a majority of votes are needed. We
20 have 286 voting. One hundred forty-three plus
21 one will equal 144 for this to pass. Please
22 make sure your ballots are not folded. Make
23 sure that you written the information in so that
24 your vote counts, name, school, et cetera, all
25 information that is requested on said ballot.

1 Once again please have a table mate collect them
2 all. NJSIAA staff will be around. Once again
3 we'll continue to collect those votes.

4 Just a point of information, Gents and
5 Ladies. Call to order for a moment. Gents and
6 Ladies, we have the results for Ballot number 1.
7 Okay, Gents and Ladies, Ballot number 1 with an
8 overwhelming vote yes, 275 yes, 11 abstentions,
9 and, Karen, you can write in I think this is the
10 first zero no vote that we've had. So, 275 to
11 zero with 11 abstentions. Girls ice hockey will
12 be recognized as a state sanctioned sport.

13 Also, Gents and Ladies, please stick
14 around. The next set of ballots are quickly
15 being tallied. I know you're in a rush to get
16 back to your offices. I can see that. So
17 please sit tight for two seconds as we get the
18 final vote in.

19 All right, Gentlemen and Ladies. Okay.
20 Ladies and Gentlemen, sorry the PA system is not
21 as loud as I'd like it to be. Okay. Before I
22 read the tally -- before I read the tally, there
23 are a few people that I'd like to also thank.
24 This is about to conclude our Annual Business
25 Meeting, and each of us plays an integral part

1 of this process. So, although both pieces of
2 legislation did pass overwhelmingly, the work
3 that you done and following the process is
4 extermely important. I'd like to thank Steve
5 Shohfi for being here today, Executive Committee
6 member. Is Kurt Karcich still here?

7 MR. SHOHFI: He left just a few minutes
8 ago.

9 MR. FRAZIER: Okay. Another Executive
10 Committee member. So thank both of you for
11 being here today.

12 Ballot number 2, the Co-op Classification
13 Rule for Charter and Cooperative Sports Programs
14 passes 271 yes, 14 no, one abstention. That's
15 271 yes, 14 no, one abstention.

16 The business of the meeting is essentially
17 over. Prior to that and the adjournment, I need
18 a motion to adjourn and I'll use my trusted
19 Secretary, Jen Fleury, Villa Walsh High School.
20 Villa Walsh Academy, and Verona High School AD,
21 laura Palmerezzi to motion and second the
22 adjournment. Gentlemen and Ladies, this
23 concludes the Annual Business Meeting. Thank
24 you for your help in this. Please have a safe
25 and happy rest of the school year. Good luck to

1 all.

2 (Whereupon the meeting was
3 concluded.)

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IN RE: :
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ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING :
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I, KAREN M. AHERN, the officer before whom the foregoing meeting was taken, do hereby certify that the witnesses whose testimony appears in the foregoing meeting was duly sworn by me, and that said meeting is a true record of the testimony given by said witnesses; that I am neither attorney nor counsel for nor related to or employed by any of the parties to the action in which the meeting was taken; and further that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto or financially interested in the action.

Karen M. Ahern

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