

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING
Tuesday, April 28, 2020**

The spring meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Brad Craddock at 8:04 a.m. virtually through Zoom. Members in attendance included Brad Craddock, Jerry Simmons, Sandy George, Ronnie Beverly, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Mark Byrd, Brian Edkins, Tim Foster, Michael Gainey, Stephen Gainey, Rob Jackson, John Luciano, Troy Lindsey, Fred Lynch, Cathy Moore, Masanori Toguchi, Joy Warner, and Bobby Wilkins.

Affiliate members included Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, David Brown of Piedmont Baseball Umpires Association representing Officials and Regional Supervisors, Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association, and Wendell Hall who represents the North Carolina School Boards Association.

NCHSAA staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Mark Dreibelbis, Tra Waters, James Alverson, Brad Alford, Chiquana Dancy, Juli Kidd, Ken Brown and Pepper Hines.

President Craddock noted that everything is uncertain and the way that schools across the state responded to COVID-19 makes him extremely proud. Changing educational delivery systems in just a little over a week has been a challenge, but they've risen to the occasion. Noted he enjoys the time that he gets to spend with the Board each year and the virtual platform will be more difficult, but the Board will make the best of the resources and time we do have. Highlighted that we lost the Basketball Championships and Spring Sports seasons and challenged the Board to remember the athletes throughout their discussion over the coming days. Reminded them that the lifelong friendships and lessons learned are the most important thing.

The Board handled the following items via electronic correspondence and vote between the Winter 2019 meeting and the Spring 2020 meeting:

The minutes from the Winter 2019 Board meeting were submitted for approval; motion by Jackson to accept as presented, second by Lindsey. Approved 18-0, with one abstention.

<p>CONSENT AGENDA NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING (Cases handled since November 9, 2019 and before April 15, 2020)</p>
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NCHSAA MEMBERSHIP

1. **CORVIAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL:** Accepted NCHSAA membership application from Corvian Community School, effective 2020-21 school year.

CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP

1. **COLUMBIA AND MATTAMUSKEET:** Accepted Columbia and Mattamuskeet High School's requests to withdraw their football memberships from the Atlantic 5 Conference for the 2020-21 school year.

HARDSHIPS

1. **HENDERSON COLLEGIATE:** Denied waiver of Eight Semester Rule and Maximum Seasons Rule for Kameron Brooks. Documentation provided indicates that the student entered into 9th grade in the Fall of 2015 and participated in four basketball seasons.
2. **APEX FRIENDSHIP:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Jacob Hale. The student failed to meet local promotion standards at the beginning of the semester. Apex Friendship appealed the staff decision and the Hardship Committee overturned the decision.
3. **HICKORY:** Approved waiver of Eight Semester Rule for Harper Hancock.
4. **STATESVILLE:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Tyler Fortson. There was insufficient documentation that supported the student could not attend school due to homelessness or medical conditions.
5. **HERITAGE:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Amanda Connelly.
6. **BEN L. SMITH:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Ma'Chete Damon. There was no supporting documentation that indicated the student could not perform academically during the transition to the foster care system.
7. **NORTH SURRY:** Denied waiver of Eight Semester Rule for Isabella Weinberger. Documentation provided indicated that the student has completed grades 9-12
8. **TRIANGLE MATH AND SCIENCE:** Denied waiver of Eight Semester Rule for Ryan Smith. Documentation provided established that the student's date of birth is 07/12/2000. State Board of Education polices and the NCHSAA Handbook mandate that the age requirement may not be set aside for any reason. Student has exhausted eligibility.
9. **ASHEVILLE:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Nicolas Horschman. Documentation provided indicated the student took 2 classes in the fall semester. Asheville appealed the staff decision and the Hardship Committee upheld the decision.
10. **NORTHEASTERN:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Joseph Small. The student was unable to enroll in the New York Public System and the ineligibility exists due to failing to meet the minimum load.
11. **UNION PINES:** Approved waiver of Eight Semester Rule for Jackson Thomas Croser.

12. **MARVIN RIDGE:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Trey Michael Monticello. Documentation provided indicated the student only passed 2 courses in the fall semester.
13. **HIGH POINT CENTRAL:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Margaret Gwyn Erikson.
14. **GRIMSLEY:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for John Friend. Documentation provided indicated the student only passed 3 courses and the ineligibility exists due to failing to meet the minimum load of 5.
15. **EASTERN GUILFORD:** Denied waiver of Residence Requirements for Alexia Jones. There was insufficient documentation supporting the assertion that the mother is no longer able to care and provide for the student due to mental incapacitation.
16. **PINECREST:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Justin Michael Torres. Documentation provided indicated the student was only enrolled in 2 courses in the fall semester.
17. **SUN VALLEY:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Claire Jones. Documentation provided indicated the school counselor guided the student to only taking 2 courses for the fall semester.
18. **CUTHBERTSON:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Alexander Hernandez.
19. **ASHEVILLE:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Olivia Lowman. Documentation provided indicated the school counselor guided the student to only taking 2 courses for the fall semester.
20. **MARVIN RIDGE:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Ryan Taylor Downes.
21. **COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF DAVIDSON:** No action taken relative to the Age Requirement for Alexander Bottone State Board of Education polices and the NCHSAA Handbook mandate that the age requirement may not be set aside for any reason.
22. **APEX FRIENDSHIP:** Approved waiver of Eight Semester Rule for Madelyn Emma Wilson.
23. **PANTHER CREEK:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Morgan Dodson.
24. **SEVENTY-FIRST:** Denied waiver of Residence Requirements for Miriam Bowers. Documentation provided indicated the student's mother has been deployed by the military; however, the student's father still resides in Idaho.
25. **FIKE:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Spencer Holyoak.

TRANSFERS

1. **FIRST TIME TRANSFER:**
 - a. Approved 55/57 requests based on mutual agreement and not for athletic purposes.
 - b. Denied 2/57 requests due to boundary criteria and same sport in the same sport season rule.
 - i. 1 was appealed to the Transfer Committee, and it was overturned.
2. **NOT THE FIRST TRANSFER:**
 - a. Approved 2/3 requests due to extenuating circumstance hardship.
 - b. Denied 1/3 requests as it did not rise to level of a hardship.
 - i. 0 were appealed to the Transfer Committee.

Toguchi made a motion to approve the consent agenda as submitted; second by George. Approved 19-0.

COMMISSIONER REPORT: Commissioner Tucker welcomed the Board and then walked the Board through the day of March 12th when the Staff had to go through the process of suspending and eventually cancelling the State Basketball Championships and spring sports season. Described that day as the worst day of her professional career at the NCHSAA. Highlighted the efforts of the staff since the office has been closed since March 18, including the response to questions and the way award winners were being recognized. Noted the unknown that we are dealing with and that there would be some meaty items to deal with, thanking the Board for their support during unprecedented times.

The Board then went into committee work:

REVIEW/OFFICIATING: chairperson Tim Foster, vice-chair Ronnie Beverly, Vernon Aldridge, David Brown, Brian Edkins, and Joy Warner. Staff advisor Mark Dreibelbis.

SPORTS: chairperson Masanori Toguchi, vice-chair Michael Gainey, Mark Byrd, Joe Franks, John Luciano, and Fred Lynch. Staff advisors Tra Waters and Chiquana Dancy.

POLICY: chairperson Bobby Wilkins, vice-chair Rob Jackson, Sandy George, Burt Jenkins, Troy Lindsey, and Cathy Moore. Staff advisor Brad Alford.

FINANCE/PERSONNEL: chairperson Jerry Simmons, vice-chair Brad Craddock, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Stephen Gainey and Wendell Hall (absent). Staff advisors Que Tucker and Karen DeHart.

INVESTMENT REPORT: Geoff Hudson from Morgan Stanly provided the Board with an update relative to the status of NCHSAA investment accounts held by Morgan Stanley. Noted the extraordinary times that we are all dealing with and the uncertainty of the impact all of the uncertainty is having on international and U.S. economies. The market saw an approximate 30% drop for all sectors combined in the equity market, and the bond market had issues outside of treasuries. Discussed how the NCHSAA was positioned coming into the current financial status and how the Association's position was adjusted to deal with the current market climate. Noted the long-term trend of the account is headed in a positive direction still, despite the economic downturn. Drew some parallels to historical corrections and downturns in the market, noting particularly the similarities to the August of 1987 drop of 33.5 percent. Expects that there will be some period of time where the economy is stagnant or flat while clarity is gained on which sectors will perform normally and start providing growth again. Believes that second quarter economic numbers will probably be "pretty ugly," but that markets generally expect that and tend to be forward-looking in nature. Believes that most cyclical bear markets, like we are seeing, typically end in a recession, but they also present great opportunities to "buy low and sell high." Noted that the consumer was in good shape, historically, coming into this market situation and banks likewise were very

conservatively positioned. Highlighted unprecedented government stimulus and being unsure how governmental actions of unprecedented levels would impact the market long term.

BYLAW AMENDMENT VOTE RESULTS & DISCUSSION – Commissioner Tucker shared that of 418 total ballots distributed, 343 ballots were returned (82.1% of the ballots distributed). The amendment needed 314 affirmative votes to pass (3/4 of total membership). There were two proposals. Proposal 1 was to amend Bylaw VI so that the Board of Directors would select the number of classifications for each alignment period. There were 283 Yes votes on Proposal 1, 59 no votes, 1 skipped the question for a de facto total of 283 yes (68%) and 135 no (32%). Proposal 2 was to amend Bylaw VI so that effective with the 2021-2022 school year, schools would be classified annually. Proposal 2 received 157 yes votes, and 261 no votes. (Note: Commissioner Tucker indicated that details would be shared with the membership during the annual meeting.)

REALIGNMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – Rodney Shotwell, chairperson of the Realignment Committee, spoke to the Board and summarized the work-to-date of the committee. Noted that committee members had heard “something different needs to be done”. With the results of the amendment meaning no change to having four classifications, the committee overwhelmingly thought that factors other than ADM numbers should be considered as schools are classified. They felt that factors such as success, i.e. such as Wells Fargo Cup points and community resources available, etc. should be considered. In its last meeting, the committee gave strong consideration to using the ISP number, which is the identified student population, for students who automatically qualify for assistance. Using such factors would allow establishing a % for each factor and plugging those into a formula for a final “realignment number”. Chairman Shotwell also spoke about the committee’s consideration of an east/west dividing line that could be used for determining classification, with no schools crossing the dividing line for conference alignment. After the chairs discussed the draft models that the staff had developed, it was determined a proposal could not be given to the board since the committee had not settled on factors for aligning schools and without the membership being given an opportunity to discuss and share opinions about the process. Thus, the committee indicated the process was on hold until the realignment committee could have another meeting to look at models in-person and make decisions on sharing information with the membership. It is hoped that can occur in late summer.

SPORTSMANSHIP ISSUES: Commissioner Tucker noted that there were several ugly instances of fan behavior at the end of fourth round basketball playoff games. Noted there is still a lot of work to do in the area of sportsmanship, and it has to include the local level. Without buy-in from coaches, student athletes and especially parents, sportsmanship issues are going to continue to crop up.

Commissioner broached the subject of how to handle and close out the Basketball State Championships. She also mentioned about issues relative to how and when to open schools to workouts and practices, etc. Also mentioned the issue with shutdowns of facilities that recondition helmets. How do we go back to sports in the fall, particularly with students wanting to play after eight-semester due to COVID-19 and the subsequent economic downturn?

After a short break, the Board then heard lengthy reports and discussion relative to “in-committee” work on all agenda items. Based on the committee work, recommendations were scheduled for Wednesday, April 29.

Tuesday meeting adjourned at 4:58 PM.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING
Wednesday, April 29, 2020**

The second day of the spring meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Brad Craddock at 8:30 a.m., virtually through Zoom. Members in attendance included Brad Craddock, Jerry Simmons, Sandy George, Ronnie Beverly, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Mark Byrd, Brian Edkins, Tim Foster, Michael Gainey, Stephen Gainey, Rob Jackson, John Luciano, Troy Lindsey, Fred Lynch, Cathy Moore, Masanori Toguchi, Joy Warner, and Bobby Wilkins.

Affiliate members included Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, David Brown of Piedmont Baseball Umpires Association representing Officials and Regional Supervisors, Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association, and Wendell Hall who represents the North Carolina School Boards Association.

NCHSAA staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Mark Dreibelbis, Tra Waters, James Alverson, Brad Alford, Chiquana Dancy, Melissa Knight, Ken Brown, Kayla Dempsey, Juli Kidd, and Pepper Hines.

SAAC REPORT: ShiLi Quade, a junior at Cedar Ridge, presented on behalf of the Student Athlete Advisory Council. She shared information about SAAC activities: several SAAC members' community service programs were cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19 but had found other ways to do some community service, despite their initial programs being cancelled. The SAAC members put together a PSA for Student-Athletes, encouraging them to serve their communities and keep working and being leaders in their community and schools. 124 student-athletes and coaches had registered to attend the Student Leadership Conference prior to its cancellation due to COVID-19.

NOTE President Craddock informed the Board that he will not be able to fulfill the duties of the Past President role due to his impending retirement from Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools on June 30, 2020.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Jimmy Tillman, system athletic director for Wilson County Schools, presented on behalf of the committee. He thanked the Board members for the time that they commit to serving the Association while they continue to do their jobs at home. He thanked the members of his committee for their dedication to putting students first. In accordance with the NCHSAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the committee put forward the nominations for officers and new board members, noting that the committee is recommending the usual ascension of officers for 2020-2021,

REGIONAL SUPERVISORS AND OFFICIALS REPORT: David Brown highlighted the challenge of recruitment and retention of new officials. He talked about current training and recruitment models that are being offered. He noted that schools in Iredell and Burke County both have some officiating curriculum, training for officials in recreation leagues, with the school and regional supervisor working more closely to reach out straight to students graduating with this type of certification. Noted that he feels that he has to advocate for regional supervisors for this Board because life happens. Feels that it is his role to help the Board grasp how important it is to recruit and retain officials.

NC SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION: Wendell Hall presented on behalf of the organization. He congratulated President Craddock on his retirement. He reminded everyone the school boards association represents more than 600 school board members across the state. They do not make policy, but rather help provide information and education for school boards making decisions in the best interests of students. Highlighted that we have never seen anything like this COVID-19 virus. Highlighted their meeting last month to try and continue to educate each and every child in North Carolina in the face of health difficulties. Alerted the Board that the General Assembly came into Raleigh yesterday, and they believe that they will begin voting on some issues relative to education. They have been in touch with every school board chair in the state, asking them eight questions to assess where the boards are. They all unanimously said that they need flexibility and funding as well as connectivity to help educate students. Concerns exist about childhood nutrition, and how that will be funded, to make sure children are fed. Said they are thinking about graduation, not sure how those things will be handled across the state. Noted some issues with teacher pay, evaluation and principal pay scale due to COVID-19.

NC COACHES ASSOCIATION: Joe Franks made the presentation on behalf of the NCCA. Noted that the Coaches Association appreciates being included and having a seat at the table. Joe indicated that he had given information from NOCAD to the Football Coaches Association and the NCHSAA SMAC to work together on their contact limit proposal. The NCCA is continuing to provide "From the Gym to the Jury." Noted that the Coaches Clinic is still on, and the materials for registration were on schedule for mailing. There are contingencies in place if they are not able to hold an on-site clinic. Asking schools to wait to register until after June 1 when they will make a decision about hosting an in-person clinic. There will be some type of clinic with videos, if in-person is not possible. The NCCA Board will be meeting about contingencies and planning. There is a plan for distribution of membership cards and affiliate member cards to be distributed through athletic directors when school gets back in session if in-person clinics are not possible.

NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION: Burt Jenkins presented on behalf of the organization. Thanked President Craddock for his service. Thanked each staff person by name. He said he is confident in the long-term future of education because of the people in this room. Noted that the middle school manual will use State Board policy for eligibility in the fall. Noted that Gfeller-Waller paperwork would not be grandfathered and will have to be filled out next year; noted the challenges of communicating that. Also noted the challenges relative to communicating issues around the return to normal eligibility in the spring of next year.

NC ATHLETIC DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION: Vernon Aldridge made the presentation on behalf of the group. Noted the organization's commitment to supporting Athletic Directors during this uncertain time. Noted continuing education for Athletic Directors during this crisis, including webinars to help them think about how to help students and parents process this time, uniform and equipment collection, and recognizing

senior athletes. The Athletic Directors conference was cancelled but plans underway for next year. The organization will continue to provide LTI classes this summer, either in-person or virtually, to help athletic directors continue to work towards certification.

FINANCE/PERSONNEL: Jerry Simmons made the report on behalf of the committee:

1. Reviewed and discussed the 2019-2020 budget versus actual revenues and expenses through March 31, 2020.
2. Reviewed and discussed the 2019-2020 sports comparison financial report relative to previous year(s).
3. Reviewed and discussed investment accounts based on market report perspectives from management groups and quarterly statements ending March 31, 2020.
4. Reviewed and discussed a report regarding the newly launched NCHSAA Grant Program including applications, awards, and projects funded. There were 27 applications and a committee reviewed each application to make the selections. Recommending that \$170,595.00 of the previously approved \$150K of funds to be distributed to schools selected for grant awards. Motion by Blankenship, seconded by Toguchi, approved 17-0.
5. Reviewed and discussed status report regarding use of fine monies (collected from coaches' failure to take required courses through NFHS Learn). Coaches who have completed AIC, CIC or both will be eligible to receive partial reimbursement for courses accepted for accreditation.
6. Reviewed and discussed NFHS Network streaming data for 2019-2020 events versus 2018-2019 events and School Broadcast Programs (SBP) in place-to-date. Review of Sinclair Broadcast Group data for 2019-2020 compared to 2018-2019.
7. Recommended approval of championship and playoff ticket pricing plan as follows:
 - a. Increase State Cross Country admission ticket price from \$6.00 to \$8.00 (plus \$2.00 parking fee per ticket). Effective 2020-2021. Motion to approve by George, seconded by Lynch, approved 16-0.
 - b. Increase Dual Team Wrestling admission ticket prices by two dollars per round. Effective 2020-2021. Motion to approve by Toguchi, seconded by Gainey, approved 18-0.
 - c. Discussion regarding regional and/or State Basketball Championship ticketing. Recommending a \$5 per session cost for Regionals, with a session break between sessions to clear venue. Effective 2020-2021. Motion to approve by Michael Gainey, seconded by Edkins, approved 18-0.
 - d. Implement admission ticket sales for Dual Team Men's and Women's Tennis State Championships for 2021-2022; \$5.00 charge for each person over the age of five. Motion to approve by Wilkins, seconded by Blankenship, approved 18-0.
 - e. Adjust admission prices for Individual State Wrestling playoff events as indicated on supplemental table. Effective 2021-2022. Motion to approve by Blanton, seconded by Foster, approved 18-0.
8. Recommend approval of a revision to the calculation method for distribution of funds back to schools, moving to a better multiplier variable, ISP. Motion to approve by Jackson, seconded by Foster, approved 19-0.
9. Recommended approval for \$150,000 in interest earning to be available to use to offset regional and/or championship event expenses for events hosted in Wake County in 2020-2021 to augment funding received by City of Raleigh and/or Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance with unused funds to be reinvested. Motion to approve by Steven Gainey, seconded by Lindsey, approved 19-0.
10. Reviewed and discussed miscellaneous personnel-related items and updates.

REVIEW/OFFICIATING: Tim Foster made the report on behalf of the committee:

1. Reviewed and discussed the comprehensive listing of incidents per school including fine(s) assessment. Motion to approve by Foster, seconded by George, approved 19-0.
2. Reviewed and discussed the ejection report by school and by sport.
3. Recommend approving Johnny Guterwill as regional supervisor for WNC Volleyball Officials Association. Motion to approve by Foster, seconded by George, approved 19-0.
4. Reviewed and discussed the Student Services program, including funding approval for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 academic years.
5. Reviewed and discussed implications of Columbia and Mattamuskeet High Schools moving to 8-man Football beginning in 2020 season.
6. Discussed possibility of spring sport Regional Supervisors returning collected "Change Fees" back to member schools due to shortened 2020 season(s) but no recommendation emerged from committee.

SPORTS: Masanori Toguchi presented on behalf of the committee:

1. Recommended adjusting the soccer playoff calendar for seeding and playing days. Motion to approve by Toguchi, seconded by Wilkins, approved 19-0.
2. Recommend adjusting the current tie-games procedure for varsity conference games, changing policy to "If a tie score exists at the end of regulation play during each conference varsity game, there will be two, complete 10-minute periods (not sudden victory). If the score is still tied at the conclusion of the two 10-minute overtime periods, the game will result in a tie." Motion to approve by Toguchi, seconded by Edkins, approved 19-0.
3. Proposal from the NC Soccer Coaches Association allowing one (1) scrimmage during the regular season that would not count towards the team's record but would still count in the season limitation of games did not emerge from committee.
4. Recommended requiring coaches to enter all yellow and red cards received by players and/or coaches, into MaxPreps, within 24 hours following the conclusion of the contest. Effective 2021-2022, Motion to approve by Toguchi, seconded by Blankenship, approved 19-0.
Note: Commissioner Tucker noted that she would reach out to Association legal counsel to check student privacy concerns surrounding discipline records of yellow and red cards listed on MaxPreps.
5. Recommended adjusting and clarifying the current contact definitions and limitations in football skill development, pre-season practice, scrimmages, and regular season practice, with a review by the Board in one year to ensure compliance with new regulations. Motion to approve by Toguchi, seconded by Jackson, approved 19-0.

6. Recommended a motion by NC Basketball Coaches Association requesting Fifth Quarter participation rule for 9th and 10th grade players only to participate in five (5) quarters of basketball games on the same day. Motion to approve by Foster, seconded by Blanton. Discussion ensued:
 - a. Blankenship noted that participation at the JV level is particularly problematic and will need to be addressed by the Board in some form or fashion for all sports
 - b. Others noted issues of inequity around conferences that do not hold quads or varsity teams at opposite sites. Could lead to an increase in the number of quads scheduled in basketball.
 - c. Issue of compliance monitoring. Especially when it is not done properly. Very difficult to penalize teams for ineligibility, a very harsh penalty, for failure to comply or document correctly.
 Motion failed 16-3.
7. Recommended a motion to increase the weekly limitation of contests in the sport of Indoor Track to three (3) meets per week. Motion to approve by Toguchi, seconded by Wilkins, approved 19-0.
8. Recommended motion from NC Wrestling Coaches Association to allow teams not qualifying in the Dual Team Playoffs to compete in one (1) multi-team event on the Friday or Saturday immediately following playoff bracketing. Motion to approve by Toguchi, seconded by Lynch, approved 19-0.
9. Recommended update to amend language in the NCHSAA Handbook relative to the policy 4.14.6(d)(1-3) relative to how sites are selected for Dual Team Wrestling Championships. Motion to approve by Toguchi, seconded by Wilkins, approved 19-0.
10. Recommended adjusting the first practice and first competition date for winter sports in the 2020-2021 NCHSAA Sports Calendar to November 2, 2020 and November 21, 2020, respectively. Motion to approve by Toguchi, seconded by Foster, approved 19-0.
11. Reviewed and discussed future football calendars.

POLICY: Bobby Wilkins made the presentation on behalf of the committee:

1. Proposal by the NC Basketball Coaches Association to lift the 2020 Summer Dead Periods. Motion by Wilkins, but motion failed as there was no second
NOTE: Moore requested clarification about provisions for athletic training coverage. Also highlighted that state is not on vacation, those times are already protected for family vacation, etc. Blankenship noted a need to likely get back together over the summer to decide how to reopen for summer workouts, fall sports, etc.
2. Proposal by the NC Track and Cross-Country Coaches Association to allow workouts during the NCCA Clinic week with the exception of the day in which a specific sport clinic is held did not emerge from committee.
3. Recommended proposal by the Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee to change the number of qualifiers from each region from the top 8 to the top 6. To maintain the total of 24 state qualifiers, the remaining six (6) qualifiers will be the top 6 times from any region. Motion to approve by Wilkins, seconded by Toguchi, approved 18-0.
4. Recommended proposal by the Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee to adopt meet format in accordance with NFHS Rule 5.1.1
NOTE: These events may be modified for non-championship multi-team competition.
Motion to approve by Wilkins, seconded by George, approved 19-0.
5. Recommended proposal by the Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee to adopt meet format in accordance with NFHS Rule 5.1.1
NOTE 3: Pentathlon meets may be conducted with unlimited entries. Motion to approve by Wilkins, seconded by Lindsey, approved 19-0.
6. Recommended requiring member schools to complete a "System Operation and Maintenance Checklist" form on an annual basis to ensure that electrical and structural components of facility lighting systems are up to code with NEC (National Electric Code) and IBC (International Building Code) standards. Deadline to complete will be prior to participation in the playoffs with an initial focus on electrical and structural components. Failure to complete the required checklist form will mean school cannot host a playoff event due to failure to comply with minimum electrical and structural requirements deemed safe for operation. Recommended for 2020-2021. Mandated for 2021-2022. Motion to approve by Wilkins, seconded by George, approved 18-1.
7. Recommended adding Indoor Track and Cross Country to the required sports for head coaches to attend one of the NCHSAA clinics in accordance to rule 2.1.7(g). Recommended for 2020-2021. Required for 2021-2022. Motion to approve by Wilkins, seconded by Foster, approved 19-0.
8. Recommended adding language to handbook as adopted by State Board of Education (supported by Sports Medicine Advisory Committee) to extend the validity of any Pre-Participation Examination (PPE) dated on or after April 1, 2019. Motion to approve by Wilkins, seconded by Toguchi, approved 19-0.
9. Reviewed and discussed the possibility of new PPE Form being discussed by the SMAC.
10. Reviewed and discussed the 2020-2021 Non-Athletic Calendar.
11. Reviewed and discussed an update from NC Department of Public Instruction (NC DPI) relative to tabled item from Spring 2019 and Winter 2019 meetings relative to scholastic requirements. No changes recommended by State Board of Education
12. Reviewed and discussed updates on current policies and procedures relative to Gender of a Player.
13. Reviewed and discussed updates on current policies and procedures relative to Homeschool Participation.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS: President Craddock entertained discussion about the closing of the Basketball Championships. The Board unanimously decided to crown co-champions for the 2019-2020 men's and women's basketball season, awarding co-championship state titles to the 2020 regional champions.

The Board acknowledged that the NCHSAA will follow the academic requirements set forth by the State Board of Education for the Fall semester of the 2020-2021 academic year. As long as a student meets the local promotion standards for the fall semester, they will be academically eligible for the fall semester. There will be no appeals to the NCHSAA on the basis of promotion standards as those are maintained by each LEA.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Thanked the members of the Board for their work over the past several days, as well as new members for their input and embracing their roles in the organization; She noted how difficult that it is to conduct a meeting like this virtually, but commended the Board for their attention and participation. Honored Tim Foster for his service to the Board and members of the Association. Thanked the staff for their diligence during the COVID-19 closure and remote work. Noted that the remote functions will not prevent the staff from accomplishing the work of the NCHSAA. Highlighted that the awards portion of the Annual Meeting will not be happening, but we will still be recognizing award winners in special ways during May. Noted that Juli Kidd has been with the Association for five years and has completed her bachelor's degree at East Carolina University, offering congratulations on the accomplishment. Recognized several Board members receiving state awards this year; Superintendent of the Year, Rob Jackson; Athletic Director of the Year, Masanori Toguchi. Commended Gray's Creek High School and Troy Lindsey as the first high school in the nation to reach Level 1 Status in the NFHS Learn Program, for promoting professional development, noting Vernon Aldridge's involvement in that feat.

GRADUATING BOARD MEMBERS REMARKS: Tim Foster shared his thoughts with Board Members on his time with the Association. Noted getting the call from Fred Lynch about four years ago about possibility of becoming a member of the Board of Directors. It has been a phenomenal experience! Talked about some of the difficulties with so much time out of school and without a gym due to hurricanes. Noted that titles disappear in the Board room and it is not about personal gain, but rather the kids and teaching life lessons.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS: Walked through his journey to get on the Board and the time he spent with the Association. Feels like he has truly increased the number of personal relationships with colleagues across the state. Highlighted the difficulty of working in isolation, even more pronounced during this COVID-19 crisis. Highlighted how important it is for people to drop titles in this situation to help make people feel comfortable enough to speak their mind. Challenged the remaining Board members to maintain opportunities to cultivate the relationships that are built during in-person meetings. Noted the eye-opening experience of attending the NFHS National Meeting with the Staff, particularly related to the challenges facing other state associations across the country. He is still concerned with sportsmanship and wanted to encourage people to continue looking for ways to boost student morale. Concerned about parents shopping around their student athletes around, trying to get the most playing time. Highlighted concerns with the behavior of fans in the stands and there is not a magic bullet for this issue. Noted concerns about fewer students and parents attending games, particularly in the metro areas, and how that impacts the ability to provide opportunities in athletics for students. Challenged the Board to continue to be a national leader in education and athletics, specifically by doing what is best for the whole state and not necessarily with what is best for their school or district. Must remember that athletics is a large part of the high school experience, and it must be protected.

Craddock adjourned the Spring meeting at 12:35 p.m. President Craddock and Commissioner Tucker conducted the Annual Meeting at 3:00 p.m. virtually through Zoom and met with media members via video conference at 4:30 to discuss Board actions.

NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, April 29, 2020

In accordance with Bylaw IV of the NCHSAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Annual Meeting of the Association was held via the Zoom virtual platform due to COVID-19 and restrictions put in place by the governor of North Carolina. The meeting was brought to order by President Brad Craddock who gave a word of welcome at 3:05 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Craddock provided information about his time as Board President, encouraging them to recognize the hard work of the staff and those that conduct the championships. He noted that he believes North Carolina is very fortunate due to the outstanding relationships between the affiliate groups and members of the Association. He encouraged all in attendance to visit as many NCHSAA State Championships to celebrate the athletes and their achievements. He highlighted the difficulty brought by COVID-19, noting that the Board took unanimous action to name each of the Regional Final Champions as Co-Champions for the 2019-2020 Basketball Season. He also noted that the spring season cancellation was most disappointing; but he appreciated the schools that had lit up their stadiums and honored the spring athletes, particularly the seniors who were unable to participate for their final season.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Jimmy Tillman, System Athletic Director for Wilson County Schools, made the report to present the officers and new candidates for the 2020-2021 Board of Directors. Tillman noted that based on Bylaw IV of the NCHSAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Nominating Committee shall submit to the membership at the Annual Meeting the following recommendations for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Elect as president, Jerry Simmons, Principal, New Bern High School.
- Elect as vice president, Bobby Wilkins, Principal, Hendersonville High School
- Re-elect as past president, Sandy George, Assistant Superintendent, Mount Airy City Schools.
- Elect Steven Clarke, Principal, Dixon High School as a representative for Region 2.
- Elect Mark Garrett, Superintendent, McDowell County Schools as a representative for Region 8.

Tillman made the report from the Nominating Committee in the form of a motion. The motion was seconded by Ed Weiss, Principal of Mount Tabor High School. Tillman yielded the floor to Commissioner Tucker to conduct the vote. The motion was approved by a vote through the Zoom Virtual Platform polling mechanism with 139 yes votes, zero nay votes, and four abstentions.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Tucker gave her report, thanking the nominating committee for their work. She noted that the Board dealt with many weighty topics during its Spring meeting. She also thanked each member for their participation in this meeting, given the difficult and unique circumstances that we are facing. Commissioner Tucker shared the results of the vote on proposed amendments to the NCHSAA's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The proposal for allowing the NCHSAA Board of Directors to establish the number of classifications for a given alignment period failed with 283 yes votes (68%). The second proposal for reclassifying every year failed with just 157 yes votes, only 38% of the total membership voting in favor of the proposal. Tucker noted that visual details would be provided in a memo to the membership.

Commissioner Tucker highlighted some of the actions taken by the Board during the winter meeting in December 2019, including the following: approval of a 2020-2021 sports calendar; clarifying the drone policy; implementation of a \$500 fine for schools failing to meet mandated medical coverage standards for athletic events; mandating the showing of "Crash Course" Concussion education video for all pre-season meetings.

The Board took the following actions during the just-concluded Spring meeting: approval of distribution of more than \$120,000 through the inaugural NCHSAA grant program; adjusted the formula used for annual membership distribution checks to use more equitable factors; approved a new regional supervisor for WNC Volleyball; approved a policy to allow ties in men's and women's soccer regular season play; in football, approved new contact definitions and limitations for skill development and pre-season scrimmages; increased the weekly limitation for indoor track meets to allow 3 meets in a week; approved the requirement of an annual Lighting System and Maintenance Checklist form, effective in 2021-2022--although strongly recommending completion of checklist starting in 2020-2021; approved inclusion of language in the handbook defining which team would host the first two rounds of the Dual Team Wrestling Tournament; adjusted the start date for winter sports' practice and first play day, among other items. Commissioner Tucker reminded the membership of the mission of the NCHSAA and stated that "together we will defeat COVID-19; after all, WE ARE THE NCHSAA"!

Once Commissioner Tucker concluded her remarks, President Craddock concluded the meeting with some final thoughts. He encouraged all to spend some time with their families and to spend time working to keep their students, faculty and families safe during the current health crisis.

NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Monday, May 25, 2020

A special called meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Brad Craddock at 7:30 p.m. via the virtual meeting platform, Zoom. Members in attendance included Brad Craddock, Jerry Simmons, Ronnie Beverly, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Mark Byrd, Brian Edkins, Tim Foster, Michael Gainey, Stephen Gainey, Rob Jackson, Troy Lindsey, Fred Lynch, Cathy Moore, Masanori Toguchi, and Bobby Wilkins.

Affiliate members Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association, and Wendell Hall who represents the North Carolina School Boards Association.

NCHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Members Dr. Josh Bloom, Dr. Tim Taft, Dr. Kevin Burroughs. Beverly Fowler from the Governor's Committee to reopen education joined. NCHSAA Staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart and James Alverson were also in the meeting.

Commissioner Tucker opened the meeting, laying out the need to have this meeting to discuss the NCHSAA plans to restart athletics following the COVID-19 shutdown. She highlighted the NFHS Guidelines for COVID-19, noting that these were just recommendations, not requirements. Then she highlighted the information in the Governor's guidelines for restarting athletics, which was released on Friday. Commissioner Tucker indicated that she has gotten many different recommendations from many different sources, anything from June 1 to June 6 and all the way to not holding any activities until June 30.

The Commissioner introduced Dr. Josh Bloom who provided his opinion and on behalf of the SMAC. Noted that doctors and the SMAC know much more about the virus now than they did in March. Notes that the guidelines that were released by the Governor on Friday were in line with what they were seeing from a medical perspective. Highlighted that student athletes themselves are not high risk. Outdoor activities with good spacing are also very low risk. From a medical viewpoint, the non-contact activities are very appropriate to begin at this time. Wants each school to have an individualized approach, based on the type of facility and the need to insure proper distancing and social restrictions. SMAC is confident in opening outdoor activities in mid-June, providing the Board to have an opportunity to make a decision on fall sports by mid-July. Burroughs highlighted that doctors will need to continue to monitor the conditions on the ground at schools across the state, giving the Board the appropriate information to make a knowledgeable and good decision to allow proper acclimatization of students and resumption of play. Dr. Taft noted that they believe the important thing about these recommendations was the three dates and staggered decision-making timing.

Toguchi asked if the group believed that they would be able to put together a document by June 15 to give guidance and teeth to these recommendations. Burroughs noted that the SMAC is working on that document already and they believe it can be ready for the next step of the plan to restart. Burroughs noted that they believe the benefits outweigh the risks at this point, and there just needs to be a check-in, check-out process, and processes to trace contacts if an outbreak were to occur. Moore said that the schools will need some time to make sure that whatever protocols are put in place are communicated and verified by the schools. Noted that she is concerned about framing this discussion with August 1 as the start date and worries about AAU and Legion and other programs taking over being the driving force behind the conversation. Burroughs and Bloom noted that based on the current data, with the restrictions that are in place in the SMAC plan, from a medical perspective, SMAC is comfortable with allowing some return to activities. Dr. Taft noted that the July 1 date is the next mile marker to make a decision, staying with the current plan, extending the phase, etc. Stephen Gainey highlighted some concerns for school districts, including the costs associated with purchase of the safety equipment, and the trouble securing it at this time. Wants clear instruction and clear delineation of what is allowed and expected for member schools. Bloom highlighted that all the schools would need at this time would be hand sanitizer, wiping down equipment that is used, temperature checks at home and honesty about symptomatic conditions for students.

Edkins asked about older coaches and whether or not they should really be involved in these types of activities given the higher risk to older and unhealthy populations. Bloom highlighted that it is a much more difficult question and there will definitely need to be some guidance and considerations put in place for those students. Byrd asked a question about the 40% of students that live with grandparents and a threat of taking COVID-19 home to the at-risk grandparents. Burroughs noted it was a risk and that risk was not any different than these students being out in the general public. Moore asked if there would be some guidance to LEAs that they would have to monitor their own data and make decisions based on the local data, above and beyond the NCHSAA guidelines. Commissioner Tucker answered that LEAs should take that approach and it would be highlighted in the NCHSAA guidance that they should. Gainey asked whether the NCHSAA should communicate nothing beyond the June 15 date, making sure that everyone knows they need to get it right, covering things to the highest level of detail. Commissioner Tucker noted that these dates should be internal dates, rather than spoken dates, to give the Board and Staff some guideposts as to when data will be considered, and decisions will be made.

Motion to extend the COVID-19 dead period for athletic activities through at least June 15, 2020 made by Jackson, seconded by Foster. Approved 16-0.

Stephen Gainey highlighted that he believes Association should make sure that membership knows that the Association is actively working on a plan that would allow for the return to athletic activities when conditions are in place that it can begin.

Motion to authorize preparation of a document plan to inform the procedures and best practices that would allow an opportunity to open activities and summer conditioning should conditions continue to improve relative to COVID-19 made by Stephen Gainey, seconded by Jackson, approved 16-0.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Friday, June 5, 2020**

A special called meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Brad Craddock at 11:30 a.m. via the virtual meeting platform, Zoom. Members in attendance included Brad Craddock, Jerry Simmons, Sandy George, Ronnie Beverly, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Mark Byrd, Brian Edkins, Tim Foster, Michael Gainey, Stephen Gainey, Rob Jackson, Troy Lindsey, John Luciano, Fred Lynch, Cathy Moore, Masanori Toguchi, Joy Warner, and Bobby Wilkins.

Affiliate members Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association, and Wendell Hall who represents the North Carolina School Boards Association.

Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, James Alverson, Chiquana Dancy, Mark Dreibelbis, Tra Waters, Juli Kidd and Brad Alford were also in the meeting.

Commissioner Tucker opened the meeting by describing the SMAC recommendations for phased return to athletic activity. Noted that the committee to reopen schools has not met this week, awaiting further instruction from NCDHHS in the form of formal guidance. Craddock opened the floor to discussions of the SMAC recommendations. Toguchi asked how much exposure is necessary for a quarantine to be put in place? Toguchi also asked whether there would be 25 people allowed at campus or whether there would be 25 per facility, which could push the number on campus up to 100 people based on number of facilities. The clarification was provided that it would be based on 25 per facility, but that it needed to be a school facility. Commissioner noted that athletic directors need to consider athletic medical coverage. Michael Gainey expressed concern about monitoring cleaning of balls, etc. and the potential loss of facemasks, which cannot be replaced each day (financial concern). Stephen Gainey noted that the number one concern he is receiving is parents saying not to put a mask on their kid when school returns. Asked if "strongly recommend the use of a mask" could be used instead of required. Suggestion to require a mask through check-in and then as they leave after a facility, no mask during training. Commissioner will make an editorial change to strongly suggest a mask be worn, rather than requiring. Luciano added concerns about adding more paperwork on top of already burdened coaches, also noted that not being able to do a lot of the functions and fundamentals of the games involved is difficult to swallow. Foster and Craddock noted the potential mental health benefits to getting teams back to work outs. Craddock noted the reduction to 90 minutes from the SMAC suggested 2-hour limitation on workouts.

Blankenship asked about a common document from the state or whether LEAs would have to provide their own waivers, etc. Commissioner asked the Board members to discuss with their local Board Attorney. Moore asked a question about the broad and vague definitions of underlying health conditions and how that should be defined, noting that there are a number of underlying health conditions that could impact students differently due to COVID-19. Wants the language to say, "including but not limited to" to spur the conversation about conditions that could negatively impact. Moore also asked about indoor workouts, particularly related to the Governors' guidance. Toguchi recommended doing fall sports only for the first phase of reopening athletics. Lindsey asked about multi-sport athletes and having them in multiple sessions per day. Board seemed to agree that limiting a student's workout time to a single 90-minute session per day, regardless of how many sports the student participates in throughout the year, at the very least strongly recommending that limitation.

Craddock made a motion to open gymnasiums for the first phase of reopening, Foster seconded, the motion split 8-8 and the Board elected to leave the decision whether to open gymnasiums to each individual LEA.

Motion by Toguchi to adopt the recommendations for return to athletic activity as amended in the discussion, seconded by George, approved 14-2.

Motion by Foster to lift the dead period corresponding with the week of the NCCA Coaching Clinic, seconded by Blankenship, approved 14-2.

Commissioner thanked the Board for their work and closed the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Sunday, August 9, 2020

A special called meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Jerry Simmons at 8:03 p.m. via the virtual meeting platform, Zoom. Members in attendance included Jerry Simmons, Ronnie Beverly, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Mark Byrd, Steve Clarke, Brian Edkins, Michael Gainey, Stephen Gainey, Mark Garrett, Rob Jackson, Troy Lindsey, John Luciano, Fred Lynch, Masanori Toguchi, Joy Warner, and Bobby Wilkins.

Affiliate members Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association.

NCHSAA Staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Mark Dreibelbis, Tra Waters, Brad Alford, Chiquana Dancy, Ken Brown, and James Alverson were also in the meeting.

Commissioner Tucker opened the meeting, explaining that the Executive Committee had been working behind the scenes, including a meeting on Friday, to provide an altered schedule and calendar for the 2020-2021 Athletic seasons. President Simmons explained the model's beginnings and asked for confidentiality over the next few days as the model is finalized with the input of the Ad Hoc Committee. Commissioner Tucker shared the results of the survey to all superintendents and heads of school in charter and parochial schools. The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) provided feedback to the Executive Committee, indicating that they believed that the Association needed to try to play any sports they deem low risk as soon as is feasible. Commissioner Tucker explained the calendar and opened the floor for questions.

Stephen Gainey applauded the proposed calendar and asked a question about whether or not there would be playoff opportunities. Commissioner Tucker explained that there would be some form of playoffs, hopefully, but that there would be some limitations on the number of teams that qualify. Gainey also raised the issue of transportation for students that may not be able to make the trip to campus without school provided transportation. Byrd raised the concern about the spring sports final regular season play date going beyond the end of the school year. Lynch asked about basketball being able to participate in holiday tournaments, despite the first play date being January 4. Toguchi explained that multi-team events would likely be difficult to pull off this year and games may be limited to one team versus one team events. Highlighted that there will be added sanitation measures. Members raised questions about whether there should be a Board imposed dead period until October 1. Simmons and Blankenship both said that they believed coaches should be allowed to work with their student athletes in cases where the school systems allow it. Other members asked about cheerleading at games, and Commissioner Tucker noted that the NFHS had provided some guidelines that allow for better distancing and COVID-19 prevention measures for that activity.

Simmons noted some of the things that the Board should be aware of, including the delay of membership dues and other items. Commissioner Tucker highlighted the problem of not being able to delay catastrophic insurance payments to make sure that students maintain coverage while working out over the next few months.

Rob Jackson made a motion that the calendar, as presented be forwarded to the Ad Hoc committee for their input on Tuesday. Seconded by Stephen Gainey, approved 17-0.

Commissioner Tucker raised a question about Regional Meetings, as they have traditionally been held in person during the month of September. Commissioner noted that the Staff would recommend the meeting be held virtually on the scheduled day of that meeting.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Tuesday, August 11, 2020**

A special called meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Jerry Simmons at 8:03 p.m. via the virtual meeting platform, Zoom. Members in attendance included Jerry Simmons, Ronnie Beverly, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Mark Byrd, Steve Clarke, Brian Edkins, Michael Gainey, Stephen Gainey, Mark Garrett, Rob Jackson, Troy Lindsey, John Luciano, Fred Lynch, Masanori Toguchi, Joy Warner, and Bobby Wilkins.

Affiliate members Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association.

NCHSAA Staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Mark Dreibelbis, Tra Waters, Brad Alford, Chiquana Dancy, Ken Brown, and James Alverson were also in the meeting.

Joy Warner, David Brown were absent.

Commissioner Tucker introduced the board and the discussion of the feedback from the Ad Hoc committee relative to the proposed calendar alterations due to COVID-19. The Commissioner shared the names of each member of the Ad Hoc committee with the Board, highlighting the diverse group and the full sport representation on the committee. She opened the floor to the members of the Board that had been a part of the Ad Hoc Committee Meeting this morning. Toguchi shared that he felt that at times the group started to focus on what was best for their individual sport or situation, and he felt the need to refocus their discussion towards what is best for kids. He noted he was surprised by which sports were the most vocal with concerns about the calendar. Noted that he felt good about the feedback and thought that it would benefit all kids. Franks noted that there were a lot of comments and questions about transportation and other issues that would arise based on the calendar. He noted there were very good ideas, and all were reviewed, felt that the session was positive. Aldridge noted concerns with Soccer and Lacrosse in the January period, but highlighted that the group realized that once things moved that other issues would crop up. He highlighted that sharing athletes and coaches working together to accommodate multisport athletes this year because of the circumstances of this year.

Commissioner Tucker noted that there was some concern or an idea of reducing the total number of games played in the proposal to limit the amount of crossover and fewer games may allow more time in the calendar to do some more things. Did not believe that the whole group was sold on this idea but did think it worth mentioning to the Board. Commissioner also noted that there was an idea with moving Men's Soccer into the same slot as Football, due to weather concerns in the mountains. She highlighted some ideas that came up to move tennis together to accommodate moving some sports like lacrosse that had overlap concerns with football. Noted that there had been some concerns with indoor track not getting an opportunity to participate this year. She also highlighted a concern with wrestling not being allowed to have tournaments and the like, as well as not allowing basketball tournaments.

Blankenship spoke about a concern with football practice in February in the mountains during snowy weather. Asked to have some wiggle room with football practice trying to start earlier, around February 8th instead of the 15th. Simmons expressed that he felt that any recommendation like that should have been presented to the Ad Hoc Committee on the front end. Commissioner spoke that she believes that the Ad Hoc Committee understood that the Board could make determinations as they see fit. Simmons asked for a motion on proposed date changes for November 4th cross country and volleyball starts as well as February 8th for football.

Wilkins made the motion in favor of moving cross country and volleyball first practice date to November 4th and moving football first practice day to February 8th, Blanton seconded. Lindsey raised the question about the ramifications of moving football start dates back one week. Toguchi voiced some support for the idea because of interfering with practice for Baseball and Wrestling and not Basketball games. Wilkins called for the question. Motion approved 17-1.

Garrett raised the question that had come up in the Ad Hoc Committee discussion about moving the men's soccer season into the same window with football. Aldridge highlighted the same coach generally coaches both teams and staff added with a crossover between men's and women's soccer is problematic due to officiating issues.

Jackson made a motion to approve the draft calendar as presented, seconded by Gainey. Toguchi raised issues relative to the pressure put on men's lacrosse by moving football back a week and a long crossover period. Approved 18-0.

Commissioner asked superintendents and principals questions about how schools were handling locker rooms being open once school begins. The representatives were split for open locker rooms and facilities for physical education classes or closed. Commissioner brought up the questions about how to handle skill development interpretation during the time period when there are not in-season sports.

Commissioner discussed how this information would be released. Reiterated that she wanted the membership to have the information prior to the general public and media. Simmons asked staff to put skill development reminders in the presentation for tomorrow. Coinciding with the opening of schools and following the conclusion of the dead period, the decision on opening locker rooms and weight rooms will be determined by each LEA. Toguchi raised a question whether there is a difference between curricular use of weight rooms and locker rooms or extra-curricular use of those facilities.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Wednesday, September 2, 2020**

A special called meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Jerry Simmons at 7:30 p.m. via the virtual meeting platform, Zoom. Members in attendance included Jerry Simmons, Ronnie Beverly, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Mark Byrd, Steve Clarke, Brian Edkins, Michael Gainey, Stephen Gainey, Mark Garrett, Rob Jackson, Troy Lindsey, John Luciano, Fred Lynch, Masanori Toguchi, Joy Warner, and Bobby Wilkins.

Affiliate members Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association; David Brown, representing Officials and Regional Supervisors were in attendance. Wendell Hall, North Carolina School Boards' Association, was not present.

NCHSAA Staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Mark Dreibelbis, Tra Waters, Brad Alford, Chiquana Dancy, and James Alverson.

Commissioner Tucker welcomed the Board and thanked them for making the time again for this special meeting. The staff displayed the recommendation document from the Ad Hoc Committee, which included some staff recommendations, and referred to the sport calendar with playoff dates as supported by the Ad Hoc Committee. After extended discussion and thorough review, Board members made several adjustments to the recommendations and elected to vote on the entire document at once as finalized after their discussion.

Motion by Jackson to approve the recommendations as presented and amended during the evening discussion, seconded by Edkins. Approved 19-0.

The following represents the approved provisions:

- 1) To mandate a 3-day dead period for all out-of-season sports beginning the first day of each season or tryout period.
- 2) To keep the dead periods for the last five (5) student days of the first semester and the last ten (10) student days of the second semester. These dead periods would allow in-season sports to continue.
- 3) To maintain current NCHSAA Handbook policy regarding pre-season scrimmages in all sports, with the following exceptions:
 - a. Only two (2) teams allowed on site at any given time per sport.
 - b. All sports are limited to one (1) scrimmage which will be limited to two (2) hours.
- 4) To increase the season limit from 10 to 14 meets in Swimming & Diving, Cross-Country, and Track & Field.
- 5) To allow one (1) weather-related postponed contest to be played in a week that would not count towards the Board of Directors approved weekly limitation for 2020-2021 in a given sport. To exceed the weekly limitation, any other postponements due to extenuating circumstances must be approved by the NCHSAA.
- 6) To allow one (1) conference tournament or meet that does not count in seasonal or weekly limitations in individual sports (Cross-Country, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track & Field, & Wrestling), allowing all conference member schools to compete.
- 7) To allow conference tournaments in team sports to be conducted in accordance with all weekly and seasonal limitations for the 2020-2021 academic year. If a conference tournament is held, the two (2) teams that advance to the conference tournament championship contest will be allowed one (1) additional contest that is not subject to weekly or seasonal limitations.
- 8) To use 32-team brackets for all team sport playoffs, including subdividing football into two 16-team brackets for each classification.
- 9) To allow playoff qualification as follows (depending on the number of conference teams participating in the sport).
 - a. 1-6 teams = 1 automatic berth
 - b. 7-8 teams = 2 automatic berths
 - c. 9+ teams = 3 automatic berths
- 10) To be eligible for a team sport playoff berth, all schools must fully participate in conference competition as determined by each individual conference.
- 11) To determine wildcard spots or teams using only conference winning percentage. This provision allows utilization of previous methods used for dual team wrestling and tennis (no "leap-frogging" rule).
- 12) To use predetermined brackets for the playoffs to minimize travel for qualifying teams. This provision allows utilization of previous methods used for dual team wrestling and tennis (exception: lacrosse).
- 13) To use the following regular season regulations in Cross-Country:
 - a. Maximum of four (4) schools per contest.
 - b. In meets with four (4) schools competing, teams are limited to seven (7) individuals.
 - c. In meets with three (3) schools competing, teams are limited to nine (9) individuals.
 - d. In meets with two (2) schools competing, teams are limited to fourteen (14) individuals.
- 14) To use the following regular season regulations in Golf:
 - a. Men's and Women's teams from the same school are allowed to practice together.
 - b. Men's and Women's matches will utilize the Triple Bogey Rule.
 - c. In a dual match with two (2) schools competing, teams are limited to five (5) individuals.
 - d. In a tri-match with three (3) schools competing, there may be a maximum of 15 male and 15 female participants.
 - e. In a quad-match with four (4) schools competing, there may be a maximum of 20 male and 20 female participants.
- 15) To use the following regular season regulations in Swimming & Diving:
 - a. Virtual Meets are allowed.
 - i. Teams must compete against another school during the same week
 - ii. Exhibition heats are allowed
 - b. In-person meets may be conducted with the following regulations:

- i. Dual meets between two (2) competing schools are limited to participating athletes, plus one (1) alternate per relay.
 - ii. Tri-meets between three (3) competing schools are limited to 30 male and 30 female participants total.
 - iii. Exhibition heats are not allowed.
- 16) To use the following regular season regulations in Tennis:
 - a. Men's and Women's teams are permitted to practice simultaneously when both seasons overlap.
 - b. The maximum number of schools participating in a given contest will be two (2).
 - c. Teams are limited to participating athletes plus two alternates if only six (6) participants are competing.
 - d. The state individual tournament will be the only post-season opportunity for 2020-2021. A dual team championship will not be conducted this year.
- 17) To use the following regular season regulations in Track & Field:
 - a. No more than four (4) schools may be represented in a given meet/contest.
 - b. Teams are limited to participating athletes plus one (1) alternate per relay.
- 18) To use the following regular season regulations in Wrestling:
 - a. Teams will be limited to two (2) tri-meets per week.
 - b. There will be no tournaments permitted.
 - c. Head-to-Head competition only.
 - d. Teams are limited to participating athletes.
 - e. The state individual tournament will be the only post-season opportunity for 2020-2021. A dual team championship will not be conducted this year.
 - i. Wrestle-backs will not be allowed in regional and state championship tournaments (Single-Elimination).

Motion by Blankenship to approve staff recommendation to move the Cheerleading Invitational date to May 22, 2021, seconded by Jackson. Approved 19-0.

Motion by George to increase the maximum number of participants in workouts to 25 indoors and 50 outdoors, based on guidance from Governor Cooper and DHHS. Seconded by Toguchi. Approved 19-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45PM.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Wednesday, October 14, 2020**

Board of Directors met on the Zoom platform Wednesday, October 14, 2020. All board members were present with the exception of Rob Jackson and Stephen Gainey, due to another meeting conflict. Staff members present were Commissioner Que Tucker, and Tra Waters.

The focus of the meeting was to review the 2020-2021 Modified Sports Manual, and the selected items as reviewed by the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee for inclusion in or deletion from the manual. Additionally, the manual was reviewed and vetted by the Ad Hoc Committee with input from sports advisory committees.

The Board Members agreed to review and discuss each item separately, and then consider them as a group.

Sports Medicine Items under review:

1. Volleyball (page 36)
 - a. NFHS/NCHSAA Rules Modifications
 - i. Mandate that game officials must wear cloth face coverings at all times. Discussion ensued: could this be a problem with other sports; what about the whistle if they must wear the mask; wanted to be sure that spectators must wear masks.
2. Swimming & Diving (pages 28-29)
 - a. NCHSAA Regulation Modifications - Eliminate the "Empty Lanes in a Race (Dual Meet)" and "Empty Lanes in a Race (Meet)" from manual. No concerns since SMAC was okay with this.
3. Lacrosse (page 23)
 - a. Skill Development Regulations - Addition of chest protectors to allowable equipment. Discussion involved why this was not always allowed; since it was viewed as protective equipment, initial guidelines did not allow it. Later in the summer, a specific question relative only to the wearing of the helmet, goggles, mouthguard was brought to the staff. Did not think about chest protector at that time.
4. Football (page 21)
 - a. Skill Development Regulations - Addition of regulation to allow helmets to be worn, provided a team has had at least one month of workouts*
 - i. NCHSAA Handbook Policy 4.5.2 (c) remains in effect – *"A licensed athletic trainer or first responder must be physically present if any protective equipment is worn by student-athletes participating in football skill development during the school year"*
 - ii. Discussion ensued: why a month? They can wear the helmet the first day of regular practice. Thinking that putting on a helmet should be reserved for some type of conditioning in advance; would SMAC have a concern if reduced the time? Staff indicated that should not be a problem.
 - iii. ***Members agreed to change the condition to "...provided a team has had at least two weeks—14 days—of workouts/conditioning.**

Motion to accept all items by Blankenship; second by Lynch; Approved 17-0

Golf Item: Consideration for the State Championships to be a one-day, 18-hole event, as opposed to a two-day, 36-hole event; for boys and girls. Motion by Toghuchi; second by George; passed unanimously, 17-0

Motion to adopt the 2020-2021 Modified Sports Manual, including the approved items, by George; Second by Byrd; passed unanimously, 17-0

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Wednesday, November 4, 2020**

A special called meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Jerry Simmons at 6:30 p.m. via the virtual meeting platform, Zoom. Members in attendance included Jerry Simmons, Neil Blankenship, Ronnie Beverly, Chris Blanton, Mark Byrd, Steve Clarke, Brian Edkins, Michael Gainey, Stephen Gainey, Mark Garrett, Rob Jackson, Troy Lindsey, John Luciano, Fred Lynch, Masanori Toguchi, Joy Warner, Tod Morgan and Bobby Wilkins. Ronnie Beverly, Rob Jackson, and Mark Garrett were absent.

Affiliate members Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association.

NCHSAA Staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Mark Dreibelbis, Tra Waters, Brad Alford, Chiquana Dancy, and James Alverson were also in the meeting.

Wendell Hall, representing the North Carolina School Boards' Association, was absent.

Commissioner Tucker welcomed the Board and thanked them for making the time again for this special meeting.

Upon a recommendation from the staff and the Swimming and Diving advisory committee, the Board discussed regional qualifying for diving. To narrow the field to 12 in the regionals, a recommendation was discussed to count six dive scores to qualify the top 12 performers per region. Moore raised a question about whether any consideration had been given to getting fewer dives as an official score/qualifying mechanism. Alford answered no, due to NFHS Rules permitting 11 or 6 dive meets.

Motion by Blankenship to allow qualification for diving regionals based on six-dive score meets, seconded by George. Approved 18-0.

Board discussed the graduation requirement and whether a waiver should be given to students for certain sports that go past the end of the first semester. Many schools are asking about cross country and volleyball being allowed to participate beyond graduation for students graduating at the end of the first semester. Commissioner noted that several have submitted hardship requests for these scenarios. Noted that there would be two rules involved, the graduation requirement and the regularly enrolled and attending rule. Commissioner noted that consideration could be given because this situation for volleyball and cross country due to COVID-19. Traditionally, those sports would be done prior to the end of the first semester.

Warner made a motion to waive the graduation requirement and the enrolled and attending rule for students graduating early in both cross country and volleyball for the 2020-2021 academic year only, due to calendar changes necessitated by COVID-19. Seconded by Luciano. Garrett called the question. Motion failed 2-16

Board discussed whether or not the meeting for December would be able to be held in-person. Several had issues with travel bans, etc. Board agreed to meet virtually in December.

Staff presented the Realignment Committee's proposal for the formula to be used for classifying schools in the upcoming 2021-2025 Realignment. The process includes three data points and comprises a computation of ADM Score, State Cup Score, and ISP Score to establish classification within the East and West Regions.

Motion by Wilkins, second by Lindsey. Warner asked a point of clarification, whether Board was approving giving to membership for feedback and Commissioner noted that this would serve as final approval on the process for 2021-2025. Moore asked for clarification on the timeline relative to conference alignment and final approval. Simmons called the question.

Approved 17-0. Blanton was not present for the vote on this motion.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE ACTION ITEMS
BETWEEN SPRING 2020 MEETING & WINTER 2020 MEETING**

1. On June 1, the Board of Directors entertained the recommendation to allow CPR/AED renewal extension for one year. Approved the extension in certification 19-0.
 - a) *That online education courses shall take the place of “hands on” or in-person training for AED/CPR Certification for 2020-2021 school year only. The following will be also be applicable:*
 - *-The 120-day extension offered by American Red Cross and the American Heart Association should be utilized.*
 - *-New coaches or those without a certification, must take online training until hands-on training is available.*
2. On July 23, 2020, following clarification on state guidance for reopening during COVID-19, upon recommendation from the Commissioner, with DHHS and SMAC approval, the Board approved moving into Phase 2 for reopening of athletics, which includes an allowance to begin the sharing of equipment such as balls, etc. with no change in the Phase 1 numbers restrictions. The recommendation was approved 18-1.
3. On August 20, 2020, upon recommendation from the Commissioner, the Board approved to grant a one-year waiver of Handbook Rule 1.2.16 (All-Star Game, Bowl and Benefit Games) so that any senior athlete who is invited to participate in an all-star event may do so even though neither the high school season nor their career has concluded in that sport. The recommendation was approved unanimously.
4. On October 5, 2020, Board named Tod Morgan, current principal of Jones Senior High School, to fill the position vacated by Steven Clarke. The vacancy occurred in accordance with Bylaw II, Section 1, due to Steven Clarke’s promotion to principal of a non-member school (Onslow County Virtual School).
 - a) The Nominating Committee will review this appointment as it considers names to replace outgoing Board members next spring and will submit a recommendation for a replacement to a vote of the Annual Meeting in 2021.
5. On November 12, Board of Directors approved the following recommendation: To require volleyball players to wear masks during play and practice; additionally, all persons participating in indoor skill development—coaches, athletes, support staff, etc.—must wear a mask at all times. Approved 17-2.
 - a) Effective not later than Monday for Volleyball (allows for “practicing” wearing the mask during scrimmages leading up to first play date, which is Monday. Effective immediately for all other indoor skill development.
 - b) Concerns were shared: Worried that wearing masks during demanding activities could create safety concerns for our participants. Worried about the impact on other sports that will start soon relative to requiring VB to wear masks. Against masks during actual physical play until such time that NCDHHS changes their guidance on strenuous exercise