

VPA ACTIVITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 10, 2016
Middlebury UHS, Middlebury, VT

Members Present: Kim Maniery, Dan Marlow, Bill Lawson, Joe Harrington, Frank Pecora, Mark Mooney, Rob Reardon, Lisa Atwood, Jay Hartman, Joe DeBonis, Bob Johnson

Also Present : Sean Farrell (Middlebury AD), Krisin Kaney (Competitive Giving League), Steve Croucher (Randolph AD)

Minutes:

- Lisa A. thanked committee on behalf of Harwood for the outpouring of support after there recent tragedy.
- motion by Rob, second by Jay, to approve minutes of 8/4/16. Vote – approved unanimously.
- correspondence – brief discussion on Middlebury situation where the intent of the Member to Member program is being questioned in boy’s hockey. Sean F. gave an explanation of the situation. No action taken.
- discussion on recommendation from Middle School Football Committee in regards to requiring MS football to be Flag football. Recommendation is that this is a requirement for teams in grade 5/6 for the Fall 2017 season and a requirement for teams in grade 7/8 for the Fall 2018 season. Noted that this is full pad and contact. Middlebury UHS is the model program and will be helping to develop a video for coaches showing what it is like. Also noted that there are already many flag football teams in VT.

Motion by Rob, second by Lisa, to approve recommendations from the VPA Middle School Football Committee. Vote – approved unanimously.

- Harwood/U-32 Football Cooperative team proposal presented. This would be for 2 years. Motion by Dan, second by Kim, to approve the cooperative football team between U-32 and Harwood. Vote – Yes-7, No-0, Abstention-2 Motion approved.

Burlington HS/Colchester HS Girl’s Hockey Cooperative team renewal presented. Motion by Dan, second by Rob, to approve the Burlington/Colchester Girl’s Hockey Cooperative team renewal. Vote – approved unanimously.

Steve Croucher (Randolph AD) presented a new cooperative team proposal in Girl's Lacrosse between Randolph and Chelsea. Both schools have seen dwindling numbers in their programs. Chelsea has had to rely on 8th graders to fill out their team. Under current agreement, half the games would be at Randolph, half at Chelsea. All other arrangements have been agreed to. Motion by Rob, second by Jay to approve the Randolph/Chelsea Girl's Cooperative team for two years, effective Spring 2017. Vote – approved unanimously

- presentation by Kristin Kaney on the Competitive Giving League. This has currently been going on at Essex HS. Basically, it is a program that is designed to get sports team in a competitive situation where they are raising funds and gathering food for a local food bank. Current proposal would be a week long and during the trial period, would focus on D1 basketball tournament. Trophies and awards for winners. Only designed for sports teams in the semis.

Motion by Dan, second by Kim, to support CGL in concept. Recommend that an advisory group of Athletic Directors be formed to work out logistics of the program and to look at ways it could possibly be implemented. Also, recommend that this program be presented at the next VSADA meeting. Vote – Yes-8, No-1 Motion approved.

- Bob J. presented final information on the possibility of Fall golf. Issue was Discussed at the latest VSADA meeting and in a straw vote, over 75% of the schools supported it.

Motion by Rob, send by Frank to approve Golf as a Fall sport effective Fall 2017. Vote – approved unanimously.

- Bob J. notified ASC that the Executive Committee would like to include 1 ASC Member of the Executive Directors Search Committee. Lisa Atwood volunteered. No further action needed.
- Bob J. gave a brief update on Fall Championships. All has gone well (football is scheduled to go on November 12th). Attendance appears to be up. Game Day Championship went very well even though it had to be moved indoors. A full report will be given in February. No further action.
- Bob J. gave an updated on the Recruitment Policy approved at the last ASC meeting. VPA legal counsel has weighed in and made a number of changes. The intent of the policy remains the same and many of the conditions/ procedures are the same. Bob will finalize the new version and present to the Executive Council.
- Bob J. gave a brief update on the upcoming VPA.VSBIT workshops on “Inappropriate Behavior by Student Athletes”. This is the send set of workshops and will be conducted in mid-November. No further action.

- Bob J. presented final draft of proposed policy concerning 5 year of eligibility in a 4 year period of time. Proposal was discussed at most recent VSADA meeting. Bob presented the process and overall it was supported by the VSADA.

Motion by Rob, second by Jay, to approve the 5 years of eligibility in 4 year proposal as presented. Vote – approved unanimously. Will go to VPA Executive Council for final consideration.

- Discussion on proficiency based grading and the possible effects on schools and athletic eligibility. Some schools are struggling with this, while others have a system in place. Mark M. mentioned that Twinfield HS has been dealing with this for several years now and feels that they have a good system in place. At recent VSADA meeting, AD's did ask if some sort of training could be provided to them. Bob J. will look at this. No further action taken.
- Discussion on Act 46 and possible impact on schools and athletic programs. Agreement that we need to wait for a full discussion since we will have a new Governor and there are concerns about support for Act 46. No further action.
- adjourned. Next meeting – February 2, 2017 @ Golden Eagle Resort, Stowe, VT