

**VPA Activity Standards Committee**  
**Friday, November 3, 2017**  
**Middlebury High School, Middlebury, VT**

**Correspondence:**

- **Update on Springfield MS and Field Hockey:** Boys being able to play on a girl's team. This was a MS student wanting to participate on the MS Field Hockey team. Springfield did not appeal decision. Policy referenced "Equal opportunity for participation policy."
- **Protested game in Girls Soccer:** Official protest of a soccer game. Situation where 2 teams were playing, game was 0-0, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of game the football team was practicing and the boys came down to support the girls. Corner kick rewarded, they went to setup kick, and the football team moved down, girl headed the ball into the net. Football team came on to the goal line, team protesting that they made a distraction. Officials wrote statements, and the protest was denied by the VPA.
- **Field Hockey Situation (Windsor):** Last game of the season, Windsor up by 4, pushing and shoving going on, Windsor player stepped back and purposely swung to hit the OV Player. Initially a yellow card was issued, and then over ruled by veteran official and a red card was given resulting in a 2 game suspension. NFHS felt officials were appropriate in their call.
- **Winooski Soccer Situation:** Students birthday was not correct. They are still investigating the correct birthday. The student was taken off the team. Winooski had no idea; all the documentation they received stated he was eligible and that was why the age waiver was granted.

**Cooperative Team proposals:**

- Craftsbury/Hazen Union-Girls Basketball **Motion Passed**
- Randolph/Northfield-Girls Hockey **Motion Passed**
- BFA-St. Albans/Milton-Wrestling **Motion Passed**

**Policies for review/revision:**

- **Equal Opportunity for Participation Policy:**
  - Editing the second paragraph of policy. Adding snowboarding, Volleyball, Lacrosse and Ultimate Frisbee.
- **Amateur Status Policy:**
  - Removed #3
  - Changing students to student athletes and high school students to student's athletes.
- **Attendance at Sport Skills Instructional Programs:**
  - Bob J. will be reworking on this policy and we will look at in February.

**Update on AD mentorship program:**

- Meeting November 15<sup>th</sup> at VPA office.
- Process to setup a formalized program and providing training

### Update on Fall Golf Season:

- Went really well and had a lot of positive feedback
- Increase on number of student participating
- Golf will be approved as a fall sport in 2019 officially

### VPA Ultimate Committee on becoming a sanctioned Varsity Sport:

- Becoming a sanctioned sport in 2019 (Varsity Status)
- Program sustainability, Player Safety, No Pay to Play (Why Sanctioning Matters)
- Parents, Coaches, Players, ADs (Why Sanctioning is important)
- **Parent perspective:** The safety questions, more eyes on the field, coaches and players doing the correct things during the season. Questions asked of parents, but is that appropriate and whom do they answer too. Having an extra level of certification would be helpful. Gives kids an outlet and appeals to a lot of kids. Has a co-ed attraction for students. Sanctioning will help validate that. Ultimate teaches you have to be good citizens. That is unique and you don't do that in other sports. Kids are able to assert themselves. Kids feel honored and respected and makes them feel empowered.
- **Student perspective:** Literally cost nothing, we don't have what we need to be safe, and sanctioning would help provide that support we need. "Hippy sport, long hair and they play barefoot." More substantial sport and give it a level like other sports have and make people realize the sport.
- 20 teams who have expressed interest for this coming season. Ultimate doesn't say Varsity and JV. Lingo has been open 1 and open 2. Girls division has 7 teams. (Lyndon, St.J, BFA Fairfax, Montpelier, Burlington, South Burlington, CVU.)
- Asking to be fully sanctioned for FY19 school year for both a boys and girls division, pending the existence of nine girls teams by FY21.
- Motion to accept the proposal, seconded. **Motion Passed**

### Member-to-Member new criteria:

- ASC agreed to keep the MTM agreement in place, as is, for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year. A committee will be formed of VSADA and ASC members to examine the issue and provide recommendations to ASC at their May 2018 meeting.

### Meeting dates for 2017-2018:

- February 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 in Stowe, VT @ Stoweflake
- May 4, 2018 @ Capital Plaza, Montpelier, VT
- August 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> (TBD)