

VPA ACTIVITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Friday, May 5, 2017

Capitol Plaza, Montpelier, VT

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

Also Present: Pat Burke (SBHS Principal), Craig Sleeman (BFA-Fairfax Football)

Minutes:

- motion by Jay, second by Rob, to approve minutes of 2/4/17 and 2/14/17. Vote – approved unanimously.
- meeting with Pat Burke, Principal @ South Burlington HS, SBHS is requesting that they be allowed to have one color of uniform for all sports for the 2017-18 school year. This is due to the changing of the mascot and the process involved in getting new uniforms for all teams.

Motion by Jay, second by Bob D., to allow SBHS to have one uniform (color) with all sports teams for the 2017-18 school year. Vote – approved unanimously.

- presentation by C. Sleeman on BFA-Fairfax/Lamoille UHS Cooperative Football team (AD not available). BFA and Lamoille have had MTM agreements in football over the last 5/6 years. On several occasions, BFA has had to ask for a waiver of numbers as there had been significant interest from Lamoille. They are now in a position where Lamoille has numbers to justify a cooperative team. The VIFL has been notified of this request.

Motion by Dan, second by Rob, to approve a cooperative football team between BFA-Fairfax and Lamoille UHS for the next 2 years. Vote – approved unanimously.

- Correspondence
 - a) Burlington HS refugee decision on former hardship applicant (no action necessary)
 - b) Burlington HS refugee hardship (no action necessary. Approved due to new procedures).
 - c) Norwich situation (no in-door track for next two years, no action necessary)
 - d) School self-reporting a coaching violation. No action necessary.
 - e) proficiency based transcript article (information only)

- f) Randolph UHS approval for additional eligibility due to student being in a foreign exchange program (request approved due to new procedures, no action necessary).
 - g) VSADA recommendation to move Tennis to a Fall sport (no action necessary pending committee review).
- Bob J. presented revised Gender Non-Conforming policy. This revised policy is the result of a meeting in January with representatives from VSBA, VSBIT, VT Agency of Ed., Outright VT and Oxbow HS concerning the VPA Trans-Gender Policy. Policy was in need of update and revision. Gender Non-Conforming was not a category that had been included, but according to VT State Law, it should be.

Motion by Rob, second by Bob D., to support revised policy and to refer on to the VPA Executive Committee for final action. Vote – approved unanimously.

- Bob J. presented proposed alignments for 2017-2019 in all sports but lacrosse (that is to be finalized later in May). Motion by Lisa, second by Kim, to approve alignments as presented. Vote – approved unanimously.
- Act 46 discussion. Over the past several months, several school districts have Gone through Act 46 discussions. Several of them (Northfield/Williamstown and Proctor/West Rutland/Poultney) have been approved, while several others (Whitcomb/Rochester/South Royalton and Cabot/Danville/Twinfield) have been rejected. Impact of consolidation could affect the number of schools (primarily in D4) and will develop a discussion around how many divisions we need to have. By August, several consolidated districts will be ready to come to ASC and propose scenarios for their teams. Schools/districts are now looking for ASC to come forward with some criteria. Three standards are set.
 1. 2 or more schools come together, total numbers will determine placement in a division.
 2. Schools must attempt, in good faith, to consolidate with other high schools in their consolidated district before entering into a MTM agreement or cooperative team agreement with a school not involved in the consolidated district. ASC will hear appeals to extenuating circumstances.
 3. In a district with 2+ high schools, a school with minimal numbers shall combine with the districts other school in order to form a merged team. Appeals may be heard if a) school with minimal numbers wants to combine with non-district school or b) merged school does not want to accept athletes from a school with minimal numbers due to full teams.

Bob J. will have several schools present proposals at August meeting.

- Bob J. presented revised athletic recruitment policy (VPA Legal Counsel) had

made several changes to original document. Discussion. Concern expressed that some private schools have been allowing 8th graders to sit on there bench during tournament games. This is not to be allowed as it is an unfair recruitment tool.

Motion by Lisa, second by Joe H., to approve revised athletic recruitment policy as presented. Vote – approved unanimously. Will now be referred to VPA Executive Council for final consideration.

- Discussion on Member to Member Program. Revisited situation with Burlington HS and Girl's tennis. Initial situation had Burlington accepting a MTM athlete from VT Commons even though they had 2 students not make the team. Question is what is a "cut". Burlington's thought was that the students had not been cut, because they did not have the skills necessary to make the team. Also, continued discussion on "need" versus "want".

Motion by Joe H., second by Kim, that school cannot enter into a MTM agreement with another school if they already have the team numbers listed for a full team in the MTM agreement. Vote – approved unanimously. Bob J. will update MTM agreement form and will notify VSADA.

- Mt. Abraham and Vergennes are requesting a continuation of their Cooperative football team for the next 2 years.

Motion by Jay, second by Bob D., to approve the Mt. Abe/Vergennes Cooperative Football team for the next two years. Motion approved unanimously.

- Adjourned.