

Minutes of the NJSIAA Outdoor Track and Field Committee Meeting

10:00AM Tuesday, June 10th, 2008

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1. Members Present:

Donald Danser, Assistant Director, NJSIAA
James Camburn
Ed Colona
Lou Fraulo
Wayne Gardiner
Bill Milone
Rich Refi
Carl Rickershauser
Dr. James Sarruda
John Schwartz
Pam Wilson
Frank Calise
John Struck
Marty Holleran

II. Correspondences

1. Adoption of the NFHS Rule 4 Section 2 Article 4

Several conferences would like the NJSIAA to adopt the NFHS Rule 4 section 2 Article 4, which states "In dual meets, each school is entitled to enter three contestants in individual events, but it is recommended each school be permitted to enter as many contestants as conditions warrant."

Motion passed to allow leagues or conferences to make conference rules governing the number of competitors allowed to participate in each varsity event during regular season competition in dual meets (i.e 2 boys teams OR two girls teams), double dual meets (i.e. 2 boys teams AND two girls teams competing at the same time at the same site), three-team dual meets (i.e three boys teams OR three girls teams where team scoring is done as dual meets where Team A scores against Team B, Team A, scores against Team C, and Team B scores against Team C), or double-three-team dual meets (involves three boys teams and three girls teams competing concurrently)

So that officials will know ahead of time what competition rules each league will be following, leagues who wish to do so, must file with the NJSIAA c/o Don Danser their adopted rules regarding varsity track and field meet participation before March 1, 2009. Those who do not submit these rules must follow the current rule which limits participation in a varsity meet to a maximum of five participates per event per school in all of the situations

Motion: Lou Fraulo
Second: Ed Colona

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Passed: Unanimously

This still requires approval of the NJSIAA Program Review Committee and the Executive Committee. It will be presented to them in the fall.

2. Two e-mails concerning seeding at the sectional level. Committee decided to establishing a sectional seeding sub-committee to look for ways to prevent unrealistic seeds being submitted at the entry level of the tournament. Committee members interested in serving on the committee should email Donald Danser within the coming weeks.
3. Complaint about the pole vault at the Mahwah sectional involving meet management changing the starting height of the Group 1 pole vault. This should not have happened. Tournament directors did not have the discretion to change the starting height of either the pole vault or the high jump. However, they did have discretion on whether the field of competition warranted standard bar elevations (2" in HJ 6" in PV) or double elevations and whether or not to use the double elevation once or twice, again, depending on the qualify and quantity of competitors remaining after each height. The main purpose for the double elevation is to limit the waiting period for the highest seeded competitors. Committee felt there was no need to change the procedure and directed the tournament director to stress with the sectional meet directors to follow the tournament regulations.
4. Another e-mail was concerned that officials were not checking the poles to make sure they complied with the rules. This e-mail was circulated to all of the meet directors, who were asked to share it with their pole vault officials.
5. Another e-mail concerned the seeding the athletes using 2-3-4-5-6-7-1-8 as the preferred lane assignments instead of the standard lane assignments at Egg Harbor Group Meet. This meet was seeded by the computers (South Plainfield used the clerks) since all entries were already in the computer. A setting in the program was not set correctly and caused the problem. Finding how to correct it was also part of the problem.
6. It was proposed to change the wild card system to take 6 from each site (making 48 instead of 42 per event in the Meet of Champions) because of the very real possibility of different weather conditions between the two sites. The Meet of Champions did not end until 9:30 pm on a school night. Increasing the number of athletes could make it impossible to finish the meet in a reasonable time. Another suggestion was to take just three from each site. The Committee felt no change was necessary.
7. A request was made to use other criteria, not just actual performance, for allowing a Group Winner to be placed higher on the Performance list for

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- the Meet of Champions. In other words, use the number of victories and converted times (like the mile converted to a 1600 time, etc) to advance the athlete. Committee felt the present system is sufficient.
8. Another e-mail concerned F.A.T. ties. Yes it is possible to have a tie with F.A.T. The referee, however, makes the final decision whether or not there is a tie when he/she examines the photo of the finish. Two athletes can have the exact time (to hundredths), but if the photo shows space between them, and the referee agrees, then one is awarded a higher place. The system actually times to the thousandth of a second.
 9. Finally, the last correspondence dealt with the discus at the Meet of Champions. We throw both the boys and girls at the same time. Past experience has taught us that we can be caught by darkness running the discus back to back, especially when virtually all 84 eligible competitors appear and if we want to stay with measuring every attempt. The officials in the three throwing events set up their flights based on the athlete's request where they want to be if the athletic is involved in two or more events.

III. Tournament Regulations

1. Dates for Spring Track meets:

Sections	May 22-23, 2009
Groups	May 29-30, 2009
Nof C	June 3, 2009

No changes in starting time.
2. Competition Sites for Group Finals:

South Plainfield:	Groups I, II, III
Egg Harbor:	Groups IV, NP A, NP B
3. As of this date, we do not anticipate a change in sites, however, North I will have a different break down.:
Mahwah will host Groups 2 and 3; Hackensack Groups 1 and 4.
4. Triple and Long Jumps: Open pits will be by groups at both Sectionals and Groups, but will be run traditionally at the Meet of Champions (flights etc)
5. At Sectionals and Groups have a boys and girls pole vault on Friday and Saturday (presently girls go on Friday and boys on Saturday) to even out the field
6. With the approval of the Program Review Committee and the Executive Committee, Spring Track and Field will adopt the sports-specific classification to be consistent with cross-country and winter track and for the same reasons these sports are classified sports-specific.