

2010 Spring Track and Field NJSIAA Committee Meeting Minutes

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Date: June 8, 2010
Time: 9:30 am
Place: NJSIAA Headquarters

Present: James Camburn, Ed Colona, Lou Fraulo, Bill Milone, Rich Refi, Carl Rickershauser, Brian Rodak, John Schwartz, Frank Calise, Len Pietrewicz, and Don Danser

By and large, the championship season went well, with two new sites for sectionals (Randolph High School and Ridge High School). Most correspondence dealt with officials' decisions, mostly at the Sectional meets. The season culminated in the Meet of Champions where seven meet records were accomplished on a warm, but rainless night. In fact, the weather throughout the series was quite acceptable!

I. Correspondence:

One was addressed to Mr. Timko asking for "an exploratory discussion" to consider outsourcing the running of both cross-country and the outdoor meets to a private organization in light of the financial difficulties the NJSIAA is facing because of the ticket price fixing imposed on it by the state legislature. Committee did not think this group could handle spring track from the sectionals through the meet of champions, but did not close the door on the idea.

Another e-mail asked the committee to consider holding the Group Meets on a Thursday and Saturday pattern at 3:00 pm and 11:00 am respectively instead of the present 4:00 pm and 11:00 am Friday-Saturday pattern. "This would eliminate all of us having to stay over and help us all with our tight budgets." – The committee thought that this would be too disruptive to the academic schedule this late in the year. Starting at 3:00 pm on Thursday would mean that large numbers of athletes would be leaving their schools around 11:00 am on Thursday – getting home around mid night, and probably going late to school on Friday, if they go at all, and therefore did not recommend this change.

Received an e-mail praising one of our pole vault officials, Mr. Kevin Schweers, who worked the event at one of the Group Meets. "Mr. Schweers knowledge of the sport, professionalism, and control of the event were of the utmost quality. In addition, he displayed a warm and out-going manner to all coaches and athletes," are just a few of the words of praise the coach had for Mr. Schweers. The e-mail was forwarded to Mr. Schweers.

A couple of e-mails asking that the site of the Meet of Champions be changed. "While Jost Field is a fine venue, the logistics are cumbersome at best. Traffic is horrendous when we arrive and parking is non-existent." We are aware of the site's limitations and are always looking for a venue that must have at least the following:

1. Full 8-lane track that allows ¼" pyramid spikes
2. Double venues in pole vault and discus
3. Lights for track and all field events

And if we are to move it, must be at least as centrally located and have better parking.

And finally, school administration and track coaching staff must want to host it.

Another coach asked if it were possible to add two more sites to the sectionals so that there can be only two groups at each site, instead of three groups (Buena, Egg Harbor, South Plainfield, and Randolph had 3 groups while the remaining sites had two groups.). Given the financial situation, this kind of expansion is out of the question. However, to ease the burden of travel on as many schools as possible, next year the sectionals will have the following pattern:

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1. Egg Harbor – South Groups 3 and 4
2. Buena – South Groups 1, 2, and NP South B
3. Hillsborough – Central Groups 1 and 4
4. Monmouth – Central Groups 2 and 3
5. South Plainfield – North II Groups 2, 3, and NP South A
6. Ridge – North II Groups 1, 4, and NP North A
7. Mahwah – North I Groups 2 and 3
8. Randolph – North I, Groups 1 and 4 and NP North B

Also – Sectional times will be 4:00 pm Friday and **10:00 am** Saturday
While Group Meets will be 4:00 pm Friday and **11:00 am** Saturday.

The final correspondence discussed changing the order of events, especially in regards to the 3200 in the meet of Champions. Changes were made and will appear later in the minutes

Two e-mails were received after the meeting. They were forwarded to those who were in attendance for comments, the consensus of which follows:

I. Don-Please throw these ideas out to the track committee. thanks

1- Remove timing truck from the infield at the MOC. Move any tents to the middle of the field as both block the view of the finish line. The truck blocks the finish from the entire viewing area from the back stretch.

Not practical for the present venue and then would block the view of the spectators on the home side of the field,

2- Mandate flights in the LJ/TJ at the sectional level. 10 to 12 athletes in a flight, with a flight specific run thru period. Flights can be set up either by shortest jumper to the longest, or by coordinating with the order of events. At the N2, G 1 & 4 at Ridge, the 100m went off at 5:15pm. With 10 in a flight, 3 flights could have been made up of all sprinters before the dash, those not in the dash could have jumped while the dash was going on. Waiting 15-19 minutes between jumps is just not good for the athletes.

Most directors feel that at the sectional level, open pits work better than flights because athletes tend to be in more multiple events at this level. We did go to flights at the group meets and M of C because doubling is less frequent.

3-Enforce the check in procedure as cards were accepted after the field event had started.

Referee may allow this at his/her discretion, especially at the beginning of meet when transportation, etc may cause late arrivals. We like to give athletes the benefit of the doubt whenever possible.

4-Clerking at the Egg Harbor group meet was way ahead of itself. 3200m girls were called to the clerk almost 50 minutes before the race. The 200m race closed at 1:11pm for a race that started after 2:30. Clerking at this meet should be very easy.

[Head Clerk's reply] There are always complaints about the time between calls and the time athletes were called to the clerking area. I believe that the clerks should have a mike and make the calls. I was very specific that the calls were for cards only! We later called the athletes to the clerking tent only in enough time to get them to the track and allow them to take striders in the outside lanes.

5-Conflicts existed at the sectional level in the throws. Alternate 2 throws from one group with 1 from another. 2 possible conflicts are better than the 3 that happened.

It wasn't a conflict in some sectionals because of 3 groups. But it will be looked at carefully to avoid it, if at all possible.

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6-Place the 4 x 800 at the end of the MOC and if those 2 relays are at the sectional and group level, do the same. Your better runners will then be available and the races will not be watered down.

See order of events for M of C later in minutes

7-At facilities where 2 venues are available, ie 2 PV pits, plan on using them to speed the meet, especially the PV.

This was the case. Every site that had double field event venues used them. Mahwah is the only sectional site without two pv venues.

8-Should all spikes be checked before the meet as set in the regs?

In other words, coaches can't be trusted to follow the rules? Spike requirements are the site's responsibility. Officials will spot check. Any violators will be disqualified from the TOURNAMENT immediately.

9-Were the long jumps at Egg Harbor valid? The sand pit was at least 6 inches below the level on the runway which can make jumps longer. At least 10 tons of sand should have been added.

No one else made this observation. However, it will be passed on to Egg Harbor

10-Should coaches areas in the field events be placed in a position to actually help the athlete? Some were moved far away making them useless.

Not able to respond without a specific site named. They were next to the events at Egg Harbor and South Plainfield.

II.

Don,
I am the track coach at _____ HS and I have some questions over the last few weeks involving the state meets. First, we ran trials and finals at the sectionals in the 200, but at the group meet only finals. I seem to remember that the regulations used to state that, if automatic time was being used that the 200 would be a final on time. Since all sites now used automatic should it be a final on time as is the group meet.

We have only coaches seed times to go by in the sectionals. That's why there are trials and finals at the Sectionals, but not at the Groups or M of C.

Also, at the groups at Egg Harbor the girls' races in the 200 were improperly seeded, I was able to get Carl's [Meet Referee] attention and reseed the boys' races.

Unfortunately clerks made an error that shouldn't happen. Glad to hear that it was corrected for the boys

My second question is the use of one-eighth inch spikes at Egg Harbor, many athletes were using one-quarter, when I brought the matter to the attention of the officials I was asked to personally identify the athletes. I don't feel that a coach should be put in that position. None of the athletes were checked by the officials.

The site requires the 1/8" spikes. I was told by Mr. Colona that coaches told him which schools were in violation. Those coaches were warned that if an athlete was caught, he/she would be disqualified from the tournament. The officials were spot-checking.

Third, at the MOC the 110 hurdle final was before the 100 final, even though the 100 trials were before the 110 hurdle trials, this doesn't make any sense, many of the athletes in the paddock were confused.

We haven't changed the order of events for the M o C for many years except for the addition of the 4x100 and 4x800 to lead off the meet. You're the first to mention it. See the Order of Events for the M o C later in these minutes

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Tournament Regulations

Dates: Sectionals: Friday, May 27, 2011 – 4:00 PM - all sites
Saturday, May 28, 2011 – **10:00 am** – all sites

Group Meets: Friday, June 3, 2011 – 4:00 PM – both sites
Saturday, June 4, 2011 – **11:00 am** – both sites

Meet of Champions: Thursday, June 9, 2011 – 3:30 pm

*Sites: South 1. Egg Harbor – South Groups 3 and 4
 2. Buena – South Groups 1, 2, and NP South B

Central: 1. Hillsborough – Central Groups 1 and 4
 2. Monmouth – Central Groups 2 and 3

North II: 1. South Plainfield – North II Groups 2, 3, and NP South A
 2. Ridge – North II Groups 1, 4, and NP North A

North I: 1. Mahwah – North I Groups 2 and 3
 2. Randolph – North I, Groups 1 and 4 and NP North B

*Sites will remain the same unless a site's group and/or section changes. We are still waiting to hear from the Department of Education to supply us with the numbers.

Boys events will go first this year.

One change in meet procedures: 800, 1600, and 3200 will use ONE TURN STAGGERS.

Regulation changes

II. Sectionals

H. Elevation of Crossbars

1. Starting heights for the high jump and pole vault will be determined by the meet directors in conjunction with the Meet and/or Field Referee(s), depending on the information supplied by the coaches on the seed cards. They will also determine how many double elevations, if any, there will be in each event.

Delete H.2.

Ridge High School – North I Groups 1, 4, and North NP A

South Plainfield High School – North II Groups 2, 3, South NP A

Hillsborough High School – spikes ¼” pyramids

Buena – Groups 1, 2, and South NP B

Egg Harbor – Groups 3 and 4 Javelin and High Jump ¼” pyramid spikes – Track 1/8” pyramid spikes

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Meet of Champions Order of Events

1. Boys 400m Intermediate Hurdles Final on Time
Girls 400m Low Hurdles Final on Time
2. Boys 4x100m Relay Final on Time
Girls 4x100m Relay Final on Time
3. Boys 1600m Run Final on Time
4. Wheelchair 1600m Final on Time
5. Boys 100m Trials
Girls 100m Trials
6. Boys 110m Hurdle Trials
Girls 100m Hurdle Trials
7. Girls 1600m Run Final on Time
8. Boys 100m Final
Girls 100m Final
9. Wheelchair 400m Final on Time
10. Boys 110m Hurdles Final
Girls 100m Hurdles Final
11. Boys 800m Run Final on Time
Girls 800m Run Final on Time
12. Wheelchair 800m Final on Time
13. Boys 400m Dash Final on Time
Girls 400m Dash Final on Time
14. Boys 4x800m Relay Final on Time
Girls 4x800m Relay Final on Time
15. Wheelchair 100m Final on Time
16. Boys 200m Dash Final on Time
Girls 200m Dash Final on Time
17. Boys 3200m Run Final on Time
Girls 3200m Run Final on Time
18. Boys 4x400m Relay Final on Time
Girls 4x400m Relay Final on Time

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V. Advancement Regulations

C. To Advance to State Championships (Meet of Champions)

4. To enter the 4x100m relay and/or 4x800m – Coach must complete the Special Relay Entry Form (attached) and submit it to his/her Sectional Director before the end of the Sectional Championships May 27 and 28. Times submitted must be fully automatic and must have been achieved during the current 2011 SPRING season. Top 16 teams for each event will be accepted. There will be no additional entry fee. Coaches **MUST** check the usual track websites where performance lists are posted (such as lfracing.com or mctrack.org). If a team drops out before 12 noon on Monday, June 6, 2011, the next team on that event list will be moved up to keep the field at 16. After that date and time, the fields will be frozen and no other teams will move up.

The entire form must be completed or the application will not be accepted. Hand times for the 4x800 will be considered, but F.A.T. will have preference. There will be a separate form for each event.