2005 NJSIAA Indoor Track and Field Committee Meeting Minutes March 8, 2005, 9:30 am Robbinsville, NJ

Present: Carl Rickershauser (NJSIAA State Rules Interpreter), Wayne Gardiner and Len Pietrewicz (FinishLynx and HyTek), Al Naimo (coach of Bergen Catholic), Jack Martin (coach of Westfield), Mary Sok (Coach of Watchung Hills), Jim Camburn (head clerk of state meets), Don Danser (Tournament Director and NJSIAA Assistant Director).

First order of business is correspondence:

- 1. Coach of Westfield girls and her athletic director expressed concerns over the disqualification of Westfield high jumpers for using chalk on the Jadwin Gym floor instead of tape to mark their steps. Princeton University's representatives had been constantly pressuring meet officials "to take care of the new floor." Even though it is not stated specifically in our regulations that chalk is not acceptable, and since no one has ever used anything but tape to mark the floor, when the incident occurred, a stronger reaction was invoked than might have happened in another venue. Given a different atmosphere, more than likely there would have been a different outcome. In any case, the regulations will clearly state that both the high jump and pole vault runways will permit only tape to be used to mark steps.
- 2. Next piece was from Bishop Eustace's boys track coach. He had seven concerns:
 - a. His first concern was the restoration of the 4x400 to the Meet of Champions. The committee agreed that this was doable. However, unlike any other events, there will be no wild cards and the teams to advance will come from the relay meets.
 - b. The order of events. These will be changed for both Group and Meet of Champions.
 - c. Suggest the pole vault relay be deleted from the relay meets. Committee did not agree.
 - d. Raising of the jump bar should be 2" per height in the group meet. Committee agreed. It was supposed to have been that way this year. The girls was run correctly, but somehow, the boys were run like the relay where the bar is raised 4" after the opening height.
 - e. Complained about an overly aggressive official whose job was to keep the paddock area clear of all but athletes. The area is small and becomes very crowded when 80+ competitors are there. To allow coaches there also would make managing the area very difficult. However, this does not give an official the right to be rude. The committee would hope that if a coach explains his/her problem, to an official, the official in question would show some understanding. Nevertheless, the official was doing his job. How he was doing it is very subjective. Mr. Fraulo had received no other complaints about this official.
 - f. Wonders why there were contestant numbers in his packet and were they necessary. This was explained both in the tournament regulations and in the coaches instructions included in the Meet of Champion packet. There are many college coaches watching the meet. They ask that these numbers be worn to help identify the athletes while they are performing.
 - g. "In the relay state championships, many coaches put down terrible seed times that were not capable of achieving." An on-going problem that has no easy solutions. We appeal to each coach's professionalism and integrity and are always open to suggestions as to how we can improve relay seeding.
- 3. The next piece from a long time fan asked for the re-instatement of the 4x400 in both meets and removing the pole vault. The 4x400 will go back into the Meet of Champions as stated above; however, it will stay out of the group meets. The pole vault will also stay in all meets. However, there will be no wild cards advancing to the Meet of Champions in the pole vault.

Other items discussed:

- 1. <u>Dates</u>: The committee decided that no matter what dates Princeton gives next year, the group meets will be run back to back. For example, IF next year's dates are comparable to this year's, Jan 9 would be a relay, the 15th and 16th would have been the Group Meets, and Feb 20 would have be the 2nd half of the relay program.
- 2. <u>Entry Standards</u> This past season there were no standards for the Relays. Next year there needs to be one for the Shot Put Relay. Having only one throwing circle has made this a necessity. Coaches are to be commended, by-inlarge, for following the standards. However, there are still too many entries in the sprints that did not make the standards. Letters to violators were or will be soon sent to athletic directors.
- 3. Order of events
 - A. Relay Meets No changes other than the boys will go first in 2006, followed by the girls.

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B. Gro	B. Group Meets				
	1.	55 Meter Dash Boys Trials 55 Meter Dash Girls Trials	7.	200 Meter Boys Finals on Time 200 Meter Girls Finals on Time	
	2.	55 Meter HHurdles Boys Trials 55 Meter HHurdles Girls Trials	8.	800 Meter Boys Final	
	3.	55 Meter Dash Boys Final 55 Meter Dash Girls Final	9.	1600 Meter Girls Final	
	4.	55 Meter HHurdles Boys Finals 55 Meter HHurdles Girls Finals	10.	3200 Meter Boys Final	
	5.	1600 Meter Boys	11.	800 meter Girls Final	
	6.	3200 Meter Girls	12.	400 meter Boys Final 400 meter Girls Final	
Boys will throw first in the Shot Put					
C. Meet of Champions					
1.	55 Meter Dash Boys Trials 55 Meter Dash Girls Trials		8.	1600 meter girls	
2.	55 Meter H.Hurdles Boys Trials 55 Meter H.Hurdles Girls Trials		9.	400 meter boys	
3.	55 Meter Dash Boys Final 55 Meter Dash Girls Final		10.	800 meter girls	
4.	55 Meter H.Hurdles Boys Finals 55 Meter H.Hurdles Girls Finals		11.	200 meter boys 200 meter girls	
5.	1600 meter Boys		12.	3200 meter boys 3200 meter girls	
6.	400 meter Girls		13.	4x400 meter Relay boys	
7.	800 meter Boys		10.	4x400 meter relay girls	

Over all the meets went well, given the atmosphere in which these events take place. All involved - fans, athletes, coaches, officials, and meet management – are to be congratulated for a very good Indoor Track championship series.