



## **District H Winter Season Meeting**

Meeting Minutes

*Wednesday, February 14, 2007*

*Present:* J. O'Leary, P. Moran, D. Brickley, J. Gosselin, C. Genualdo, D. Paskind, E. Hardiman

*Absent Excused:* Br. T. Puccio, CFX, T. Arria, P. Cerasulo, J. Smith, P. Athanasidas

*Next meeting:* [Date], [time], [Location]

---

**Due to weather conditions the meeting took place via conference call.**

### **I. Girls Catholic Conference Large Volleyball Pilot Program**

Donna Brickley, Academy of Notre Dame Hingham, presented the Committee with information about the current pilot program for the Volleyball program. The pilot has been a success and teams have been able to complete full schedules. The pilot program will be expanded to include softball for the Spring season. Following the spring season a conversation will be held all parties involved to review the pilot program in the fall and spring.

The Committee voted unanimously to support the pilot program, commend the schools involved for their participation and encourage parties involved to consider expanding the program to other sports.

### **II. Basketball Committee Information**

David Paskind presented information on the recent Basketball Committee Meeting. The Basketball Committee continues to focus on changing the mouth guard rule to "strongly suggested." The Basketball Committee also discussed the use of three officials in regular season games. The Basketball Committee recommends that schools using three officials pay them 85% of the fee for two official games.

Members of the District Committee raised concerns related to the Mouth Guard rule, noting that in their experience game officials do not enforce the rule as written. Members of the District Committee believe in the validity of the mouth guard rule and acknowledge its importance protecting the safety of student athletes; however, members believe that it is imperative for game officials to enforce the rule in order to ensure consistency.

David also presented information on the seeding procedures for winter tournaments. The basketball seed meetings will take place prior to the hockey meetings. **The Tournament Directors priority in scheduling tournament competitions is to ensure that no school has two competitions on the same day / evening. This may lead to quick turnaround times for some teams in basketball or hockey. This scheduling priority allows students, athletic staff and administrators to have a presence at each competition.**



After some brief discussion the District Athletic Committee suggests **that the hockey tournament seedings take place prior to basketball as hockey venues are more difficult to select and confirm than basketball venues.**

### **III. John Bartlett**

Members of the District Committee discussed means to support the family of John Bartlett, BC High Athletic Director. Members of the Committee will work to encourage schools of the District to find ways to support the Bartlett family.

### **IV. Super 8 Tournament**

Paul Moran and Ed Hardiman presented information on the recent decisions by the Tournament Management Committee related to the Super 8 Tournament. Some members of the District Committee continued to express concern related to the double elimination format of the Super 8 Tournament.

### **V. District Athletic Committee Meeting**

The Committee discussed items on the agenda for the Winter District Athletic Committee meeting at the MIAA on Thursday, February 15, 2007.

The Committee will continue to articulate concerns related to the Cooperative Team guidelines promulgated by the MIAA. The District Committee believes that consistent guidelines are important; however, the District Committee has important knowledge of the context of schools involved in possible Cooperative Team arrangements. The District Committee strongly believes that ultimate approval must taken into consideration the context of the situation, the needs of the student athletes and the guidelines of the MIAA. When a conflict arises the District Committee believes that the process of approving a Cooperative Team must serve the needs of student athletes and not the needs of the process or guidelines.

The District Committee also discussed the proposed schedule for District Meetings in the Fall and Winter. The District Committee reiterates its request to the MIAA that we discontinue the practice of combining the District B and District H. This request was previously made in the minute of the Fall District H meeting. These minutes were approved by the Committee, via e-mail, and submitted to the MIAA. The District would like to use these days to bring Principals and Athletic Directors of the District together to meet with MIAA staff as well as address concerns and items that are unique to our context and situation.