

The following are the preliminary minutes from the December 5, 2019, OHSAA Board of Directors Special Meeting. The Board is expected to officially approve them at its January 16, 2020, meeting.

## OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES (December 5, 2019)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors held a special meeting on Thursday, December 5, 2019, at the Holiday Inn Canton. President Dan Leffingwell called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

**Board Members Present:** Dan Leffingwell, president; Jan Wilking, vice president; Jeff Cassella; Ryan Fitzgerald; Scott Kaufman; Gary Kreinbrink; Leonard Steyer; Bill Warfield, and Steve Watkins.

**Board Member Excused:** Bruce Brown (ex-officio) and Jeremy Marks (ex-officio).

**Administrative Staff Members Present:** Jerry Snodgrass, executive director, and senior administrative staff members Bob Goldring, Deborah Moore and Roxanne Price.

**Others Attending for All or Portions of the Meeting:** Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel; Ronald Sayers and Jacki Windon, OHSAA assistant directors; Teall Properties Group (TPG) executives Mike Wolfert, James Companion and Robert Gahagan, and Luke Sayers.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### A. Referendum Items

OHSAA legal counsel Steve Craig led discussion with the Board of Directors and staff regarding a potential Constitution item that the Board may consider approving as a referendum issue. The Board may act on the proposal at its January 16, 2020, meeting and, if approved, the item would be voted upon by the membership in May.

Senior Director Deborah Moore reminded the Board that they will be taking action on proposed referendum issues at the January 16 meeting. These were items that were reviewed with the Board at the October 23, 2019, Board of Directors Work Session. Dr. Moore also said a group of schools was considering placing an item on the referendum ballot by going through the petition process, but no information has been received as of this meeting.

#### B. Modification of Competitive Balance Business Rules

The Board, staff and Mr. Craig held discussions on a proposed modification to the OHSAA Competitive Balance Business Rules. It was noted that a Board of Directors Conference Call Meeting on the matter may be needed in the near future to further discuss this issue.

### ACTION ITEMS

#### A. Approval of New Sports Regulation on Head Decorations and Headwear

The Board, staff and Mr. Craig held discussions on a proposed new OHSAA Sports Regulation on head decorations and headgear. Executive Director Jerry Snodgrass said Senior Director Bob Goldring and other staff members met to discuss such a regulation, and he recommended that the following new General Sports Regulation be approved and become effective immediately and be included as part of General Sports Regulation 17 - Athletic Uniforms:

#### Head Decorations and Headwear

Refer to the National Playing Rules of the particular sport to determine what head decorations or headwear are permissible.

**Exception:** In the event a head coach represents to the referee in advance of the start of the competition that a player wishes not to expose his/her uncovered head, the referee shall approve a covering or wrap which shall not:

- 1.) Fundamentally alter the sport;
- 2.) Be abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other participant;
- 3.) Be attached in such a way that it is likely to come off during play, and
- 4.) Be deemed to be unsporting/offensive.

For other exceptions not addressed above, school administrators and/or head coaches shall contact the OHSAA sport administrator via email well in advance of the competition date to discuss if a waiver is available and, if so, the details of the waiver process.

**Note:** If there are any concerns about head decorations or headwear well in advance of the start of competition on that day, contest officials shall approach the head coach (or assistant coach if the head coach is not available) to address the issue.

Motion by Scott Kaufman, second by Jan Wilking to **approve** the recommendation as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

It was noted that the Executive Director's Office will formulate plans to share the new regulation with member school athletic administrators and coaches along with contest officials.

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### B. Approval of 2020 Ice Hockey Tournament Regulations

At its October 24, 2019, meeting, the Board of Directors approved the 2020 tournament regulations for the winter sports of bowling, basketball, gymnastics, swimming and diving, individual wrestling and dual team wrestling. At this meeting, Executive Director Jerry Snodgrass asked that the Board approve the 2020 tournament regulations for the sport of ice hockey. He said most of the modifications were related to date changes.

Motion by Leonard Steyer, second by Bill Warfield to **approve** the modified regulations as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

### C. Approval of Modification to 2019-20 Basketball Regulations

At its June 3, 2019, meeting, the Board of Directors approved the 2019-20 regulations that appear in the OHSAA Handbook, including the sport of basketball. At this meeting, Executive Director Jerry Snodgrass asked that the Board approve a modification to basketball regulation A. 1.10) that **removes** the language which says the Rawlings CompOhioCB (boys) and Rawlings CompOhio28.5CB (girls) is required to be used for all regular season contests in grades 7-12.

Motion by Ryan Fitzgerald, second by Jeff Cassella to **approve** the modification as requested.

Motion passed 9-0.

### D. Recommendation to Execute a Contract with Teall Properties Group (TPG)

Executive Director Jerry Snodgrass and Assistant Director Jacki Windon introduced the Board of Directors to executives Mike Wolfert, James Companion and Robert Gahagan of Teall Properties Group (TPG). Also in attendance was Luke Sayers. Following lengthy discussion and questions being answered, they recommended that the Board authorize the Executive Director's Office to execute a multi-year contract with TPG to become the exclusive agent for strategic business partnerships and athletic sponsorships rights. Under the partnership, TPG will work with the OHSAA to develop business relationships to benefit the Association and, in turn, its member schools. TPG also will represent the OHSAA in negotiations for opportunities related to the regional and national recognition of the OHSAA championships and student-athletes across its 26 sports. As part of the agreement, the OHSAA Executive Director shall be given a window to approve or disapprove all potential partnerships.

Motion by Scott Kaufman, second by Steve Watkins to authorize the Executive Director's Office to execute a contract with Teall Properties Group (TPG) as recommended.

Motion passed 9-0.

There was a unanimous motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:56 p.m.

Bob Goldring, Recorder