

The following are the preliminary minutes from the March 18, 2023, OHSAA Board of Directors Special Meeting. The Board is expected to officially approve them at its April 27, 2023, meeting.

OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES (March 18, 2023)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors held a special meeting on Saturday, March 18, 2023, at the University of Dayton Arena during the OHSAA Boys State Basketball Tournament. President Bill Nye called the meeting to order at 8:58 a.m.

Board Members In Attendance: Bill Nye, president; Gina Franks, vice president; David Alvarado; Bo Arnett; Andy Bixler; Molly Feesler (participated virtually beginning at 9:04); Jay Selgo (joined the meeting at 9:20); Paul Stone; Jeff Wheeler, and Scott Hunt (ex-officio) and Glen Gillespie (ex-officio).

Staff Members In Attendance: Doug Ute, executive director; Kim Kiehl, chief operating officer; directors Bob Goldring, Kristin Ronai and Beau Rugg; Laura Vermilya, controller, and staff member Ronald Sayers.

Others In Attendance: Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel.

I. ACTION ITEMS

A. Recommendation to Approve Additional 2023 Referendum Items

At its December 1, 2022; January 12, 2023, and February 16, 2023, meetings, the Board of Directors approved the recommendation to place 10 proposed changes to the OHSAA bylaws and one constitution item before the membership for referendum. At this meeting, Director Kristin Ronai reviewed two additional 2023 referendum items (both Bylaws), and recommended that they also be placed before the membership for referendum. If approved by the Board, member school principals would vote on the proposed modifications between May 1 and 15. The two new recommendations were the following:

Bylaw 4-4-1, High School Academic Standard, and Exception 1 (Modification)

The most significant proposed modification to the bylaw would occur in Exception 1 for students in the 12th grade and in their final year of school. Eliminated is the stipulation that this student maintains a grade point average in the top 10 percent of the student's class, and it would be replaced with the stipulation that this student continues to maintain engagement in coursework to the satisfaction of the school and demonstrates that the requirements of the bylaw have been fulfilled based on an assessment of the student's past behavior records, attendance and previous grades.

Bylaw 4-4-1, High School Academic Standard, Exception 4 (New)

Language has been added along with a new exception to provide better clarity and to permit eligibility for students enrolled in College Credit Plus (CCP) classes. The newly proposed language begins with *"A student engaged in a College Credit Plus during a high school's semester shall be presumed to be passing that class until it is shown that the student has received a failing grade at the conclusion of the class or subsequently dropped the class, at which time the class can no longer be used to assist the student in meeting the five-credit standard. A student who is engaged in a CCP course has an added responsibility to immediately notify the school for which they participate when any changes with their enrollment status within the CCP course occurs, and it is the school's obligation to confirm the schedule change upon receipt of notification."*

The language for the proposed new exception would be: *"A student enrolled in a College Credit Plus (CCP) course or courses which credit hours would have counted toward the satisfaction of this Bylaw BUT FOR the fact that the actual course work did not commence in the grading period in question (but within the same semester), can nonetheless have the course credit/credits count toward satisfaction of this requirement PROVIDED the student was enrolled in the CCP course at the beginning of the semester in question. Likewise, if the CCP course work is successfully completed within the semester of the high school's calendar but before the high school's calendar's next grading period within the same semester starts, the CCP credits can count toward satisfaction of this requirement."* A few notes indicate that this exception does not apply to CCP courses taken over the summer and that a student who drops a CCP course shall become ineligible for the remainder of the grading period in question upon the school's confirmation of the schedule change.

Motion by Jeff Wheeler, second by David Alvarado to **approve** the additional referendum items as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

B. Recommendation to Approve Two Additional Regular Season Contests in Field Hockey

Director Beau Rugg said the OHSAA Executive Director's Office recommended that the sport of field hockey be permitted to schedule 18 regular season contests beginning with the 2023 season. This would be an increase of two regular season contests from what was previously permitted.

Motion by Andy Bixler, second by Bo Arnett to **approve** the recommendation as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

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II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Executive Director Doug Ute led discussion on some financial and staff issues.

Motion by Jeff Wheeler, second by Jay Selgo to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Motion passed 9-0.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

FUTURE MEETINGS

(Unless noted, all meetings are on Thursdays and begin at 9:00 but are subject to change.)

2022-23 School Year: April 27, 2023, and June 8, 2023 (8:30 a.m. at Canal Park in Akron).

2023-24 School Year: August 31, 2023; September 29, 2023 (**Friday**); October 26, 2023; January 11, 2024; February 15, 2024; April 25, 2024, and June 6, 2024 (8:30 a.m. at Canal Park in Akron).