

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

AGENDA

September 10, 2026, 8:30 a.m.

Brookside School, 1260 Meadowbrook Rd. N. Merrick, NY 11566

- I. Good & Welfare- Moment of Silence in memory of 9/11
Marc Martone
 - II. Attendance
 - III. Review and approval of agenda with the right to re-order **APPROVED**
 - IV. Introduction of New AD's..... Mike Bongino
 - V. Approval of High School Association June minutes.....**APPROVED**
 - VI. Section VIII Report.....Pat Pizzarelli - Executive Director
 - a. HALL OF FAME- October 7th- get your tickets and promote within your district.
 - b. Football Officials- NFHS point of emphasis- Sideline Control. The coach cannot show digital footage to officials; it will lead to immediate ejection. Discriminatory actions will lead to immediate ejection. Officials should not be engaging with spectators- go to AD or supervisors.
 - c. Modified Volleyball- Last year it was passed to go to 25 point games, officials now requesting more money which would make them surpass JV officials. Going back to 20 point games for that reason. No opposition was presented at the meeting.
 - d. Inside Out- October 2nd in person training for 2 hours immediately after the NYSPHSAA meeting.
 - e. Boys Badminton- needs a sports coordinator, girls coordinator already in place.
 - f. Officials/Scrimmages- School districts are NOT permitted to pay officials for scrimmages even through the booster clubs.
- Justin Jonas
- i. Karen- Winter schedules are in progress. You can check the spreadsheet on the website on status.
 - ii. September 22- New AD and new administrative assistants training MUST attend.
 - iii. Directory and bus passes must be picked up today.
 - iv. Cross Country- Missing bibs or replacement bibs for meets. Coaches must complete form before meets. If coaches do not complete form by 5pm the day of the meet, the runner may run but will not be a scorer. Schools will be charged for missing or replacement bibs.

- v. State Busses- driver running out of hours for northern regions. Need to take into account when making travel plans for dinner after arrival. Section will be looking into local drivers in those areas to assist.
- vi. Varsity Media- has bid for all championship games. Cannot livestream any games they are streaming but can record for coaching purposes.
- vii. Awards- Sub Regional & Regional games- If it is a true LIC then the fish plaque will be given out. If not a true LIC then a generic plaque will be handed out.
- viii. Regional Rotation- Winner of county championships involved in At Large Bid has the choice to select which path they want to go in accordance with State Policy. Teams can select their path upon winning.
 - i. If you choose At Large Path- school is responsible for all costs for lodging. Concern is turn around time for reserving hotel rooms.

VII. Fall Sport Coordinators.....

- a. Boys Badminton- Coaches meeting for all Varsity and JV coaches with games starting yesterday. No officials therefore coaches must oversee scoring of games. Looking for a boys coordinator to work with this year to take over next season.
- b. Game Day Cheer- Game starts Oct. 7th.
- c. Cross Country (B/G)- Have three sites this year. There were about 400 bibs misplaced last year. Recommendation that coaches collect at the end of every meet and redistribute at next meet. The committee and coaches agreed for week one only to have a novice 1 mile race and JV will be 2 miles and Varsity is 5K.
- d. Field Hockey- Saturday, Sept 5, we had another fantastic JG Memorial Tournament, with all 20 Varsity Field Hockey teams participating. Many thanks to Nick and Amanda at Port for hosting the event.
 - Several schools have had to drop their JV FH team.
 - A reminder of the Field Hockey pilot program for JV & modified using fewer players and a modified field. Designed to help programs struggling with numbers. We have over 600 youth field hockey players this fall. Please hang on to get us through the "Covid Gap" as players return to activities.
 - Ability or Enrollment alignment for schedules: Field Hockey has aligned by Ability to the benefit of all schools. We have aligned by enrollment in the past and it is disastrous with only 20 teams.
 - It is my opinion that aligning by enrollment would end multiple field hockey teams who would not be able to compete.
 - Profanity: not on the fields, not from the fans. I have already had reports of profanity from the fans directed toward the officials. Please remind your supervisors and your fans.....age old story.
 - Back to back Varsity and JV games during Sept: **at or just before JV game time**, if you are lucky and have a second set of officials for the JV game....and your opponent and officials arrive early...AND you happen to have a second field hockey lined field, YES, with all agreeing, you may start the JV game earlier than scheduled.

- Sectional Final games are still scheduled to be played at Adelphi. As noted in the FH Handbook, if Adelphi is not available for our games, final games and /or VIII vs XI Regional games will be played on high school fields.

ii. Post season games past Sectionals: Please read carefully!

- It is my understanding, at this time, that our Sectional Class Winner will play Section XI for the LIC Sub-Regional game.

CLASS A: AT LARGE Section VIII Class A Finalist

REGIONAL GAME: NOV 7-SAT 1:00 PM @ TIOGA CENTRAL (IV)

WINNER GOES DIRECTLY TO STATES

CLASS A: Section VIII Class A Winner

SUB REGIONAL GAME: LIC NOV 3-TUES 5:00 PM @ ADELPHI

WINNER GOES TO THE WINNER OF SECTIONS I/IX respectively

REGIONAL GAME: NOV 8-SUN

If at Section I: 1:00 PM SITE: TBD

If at Section IX: 11:00 AM SITE: ROUNDOUT HS

WINNER GOES TO STATES

CLASS B:

SUB REGIONAL GAME: LIC NOV 4-WED 5:00 PM @ ADELPHI

REGIONAL GAME: WINNER GOES TO THE WINNER OF SECTIONS

I/IX respectively NOV 8-SUN

If at Section I: 3:00 PM SITE: TBD

If at Section IX: 1:00 PM SITE: ROUNDOUT HS

TIME AND SITE COULD CHANGE. WINNERS GO TO STATES

CLASS C:

SUB REGIONAL GAME: LIC NOV 3-TUES 7:00 PM @ ADELPHI

THE WINNER OF SECTION VIII/IX GOES TO STATES

- e. Football- Most teams are starting this weekend. Make sure lights are programmed correctly to stay on for the duration of the game. Please give opponents as much notice as possible if you do not have enough players and games need to be moved/cancelled. Please update Joe on all changes. Coaches must stay off the field. Coaches meeting notice will be going out next week.
- f. Boys Golf- Season is up and running - lets hope the weather cooperates. Google form was sent to all coaches - I forwarded to all ADs- The form must be completed so that the scoring format can be correctly inputted on scoring sheets - scoring sheets will not be sent until completed. Eisenhower Park - Rich has allowed us to book times for practices and matches in advance- very helpful to all teams - more work for me - all requests must be submitted to me - VERY difficult if requests are submitted inside of the week because times are released to the public. Schedules need to be set in advance - very difficult to request JV and Varsity times on the same day - do your best to keep all scheduled times. Tri-matches - Should only be used in emergencies towards end of season- Tri-matches count as 2 for the team and 1 for golfer - too many tri-matches will put your golfers in danger of not having enough matches to qualify for

county tournament . It also takes matches away from your team. One slight add on - Unanimously voted by coaches. If 2 teams split regular season and tie for conference championship- they will play a 9 hole match to determine conference winner for counties.

- g. Boys Soccer- season underway with league games being played. Games must be completed by October 14th.
- h. Girls Soccer- season is going well. Official assignments are better than last year.
- i. Girls Swimming- No Report.
- j. Girls Tennis- All going well.
- k. Boys Volleyball- Off to a great start.
- l. Girls Volleyball- Off to a great start. County Semi Finals to be played at Higher Seed.

VIII. Unity Summit..... Eric Caballero

- a. Unity Summit- September 23rd. Two new guest speakers. Looking for 100% participation from all districts. Register TODAY if you have not done so already. Newsday will be in attendance.

IX. NYSPHSAA Report.....Jennifer Keane/Mike Bongino

- a. Everything was approved except for regional rotation for class D boys soccer was defeated due to changing for one division should impact all.

X. Report from Male and Female Vice Presidents.....Jennifer Keane/Matt McLees

- a. Sectional concerns- At large cost is put on the school district. Need a point of contact for hotel reservations, field accommodations in those areas.
- i. Boys Lacrosse- did not receive any assistance during regional play last year. Schools were offered college dorm rooms. Teams had to bring their own sheets, towels, etc. Two years ago teams selected to stay at dorms and then changed to hotels at the last minute and received fees from college. Must contact Rob Zayas for vouchers.

XI. Conference Reports.....

- 1. Concerns: girls soccer tried to move a game to Sunday and was denied. Discussed volleyball restructure and officials in general regarding contracts. Can ADs view the contracts to become familiar with them. Section will look into.
- 2. No Report other than discussion of encouraging ADs to talk regarding sportsmanship issues.
- 3. Discussion items: Unity summit, volleyball numbers, alignment across sports, APP changes and policies.
- 4. No Report

XII. **Sport Overviews**

Boys Winter Track

Dennis Kornfield

- a. Same as girls.

Girls Winter Track

Kristen Frazer

- b. Limited date availability due to St. Anthony's schedule. Same structure as last year with less teams in the beginning of the season which was supported by all coaches. Field events will be increased from 5 to 8 participants when available. State qualifiers add races for underclassmen to fill "dead track time" during meets to assist with them getting bids to elite meets. These athletes cannot qualify for States. This will present post season opportunities for athletes who did not qualify for the post season meet. The proposal must be submitted to the Athletic Council for review. Discussion item- not providing a Winter Bus to States on Staten Island. In the last 5 years- approximately 12-21 athletes utilized the bus out of the 100-125 athletes attending. Seeking approval for Dates for winter season now and will wait for athletic council approval for other items.

- i. Motion to approve dates at St. Anthony's for winter track (Bloom, Lehman) - APPROVED

Bowling

Eileen Shultis from May

- c. Using every facility that can accommodate teams. Conference bowling in Mineola will now be split between Garden City and Mineola (half matches at each). The conference at Massapequa will be split between Massapequa and Wantagh (half matches at each). Conferences at Woodmere will be hosted but be closed on Friday and Saturdays and religious holidays. After concerns expressed- Eileen will contact RVC or Baldwin as an alternative to Woodmere. Eileen will send updates as new information comes in. AD's must contact Eileen if they want to move lanes. Will vote on the overview in October.

Bowling

Brian Landini from May

- d. Same at above

Competitive Cheer

Jennifer Keane

- e. Everything is the same as last year. All teams put in to host the same three weekends so that will be reviewed and other dates will be accepted.

Approval of Sport Alignment/Schedules – None at this meeting

XIII. **Standing Committees**

Appeals

Dave Viegas

- a. No Report

Awards

Mike Scaturro

- b. Everything ordered for the fall season.

By-Laws & Policies

Dave Zawatson

- c. No Report

Student Athlete Development

Pat Maguire

- d. No Report

Modified Athletics

Cathleen Morra

- e. Schedules for Winter I & II will be sent out next week.

Nominations

Don Lang

- f. Send Don any openings on committees so nominations can go out.

Safety Committee

Jennifer Keane

g. Meeting at end of month.

Sportsmanship

Justin Jonas

h. Appeal process- \$250 fee. Notify Justin of appeal and complete form. Officials who wrote the report will be required to attend the meetings moving forward. The timeline may be more delayed due to that however the athlete is approved to play during the appeal process.

Team Up for Unity

Kru Patel

i. No Report

Sport Seasons

Michael Brostowski

j. No Report

Officials

Peter Cardone

k. Reach out regarding officials today.

Championship Advisory

Ed Ramirez

l. No Report

Combining of Team Report

Mike Pelan

m. Fencing- Oceanside will join Wheatley and Roslyn.

Classification Committee

John Kostkowicz

n. No Report

Ethics

Tom Lehman

o. No Report

XIV. **Association Reports**

NYSAAA

Eric Caballero/Anthony Brancato

a. Should have received email that it was paid, may have to sign n

COA

Tom Lehman

b. October 6th- Special Olympics, RVC presenting on puberty discussions. Please send a representative if you cannot attend. Reach out to Tom if you want to present at future meetings.

XV. **Unfinished Business**

a. Alignment across sports- Mike met with all sport coordinators and discussed impact and great points for all individual sports were made. One universal policy does not fit all sports' unique needs, however, ability within enrollment is the best option currently as straight ability and straight enrollment is very difficult. It would be very challenging to counteract against Sport Coordinators who break down their alignment and shows it best for the program overall.

b. Volleyball – Officials- Section meet with Coordinators regarding officials for Boys and Girls Volleyball. HSAA voted and approved going home and away. Recap: JV games are only covered with two officials for the month of September for 12% of games and 3% covered by two in October. Officials are taking more section XI games because they make more money for back to back. Last year we tracked and did not have significant back to back games. 60% of JV games have no officials currently assigned, 33% of JV assigned with 1, 7 % have coverage with two officials. Order of assigning (Varsity League-2 officials, JV League- 2 or 1 if available, then Modified which doesn't impact the Sept/Oct numbers). The biggest change was scheduling for officials who aren't available till 7pm for JV games. Officials have also gone on record at meetings that they are not recruiting because they will lose games.

- c. **Modified Rules-** At spring meeting, basketball/volleyball/wrestling/track were discussed to review sections modifications (which is currently more restrictive) to align with State rules.
 - i. Motion: For Girls and Boys basketball at the modified level to follow the State Regulations. (Scaturro, Keane)
 - ii. Motion to Table (Dottin, Schratweiser) In Favor-21, Opposed-24 Abstain-5 Motion To Table Defeated.
 - iii. Original Motion: In Favor- 34 Opposed- 1 Abstain-7 APPROVED
 - i. No Shot Clock at modified level.Volleyball will be discussed at the Superintendents meeting and discussed in October. Track remaining as is.
 - iv. **Overview Timelines-** all sport coordinators received the timeline for overviews and the process, contact Eric Caballero and Mike Bongino to receive it. Due dates will be strictly enforced to uphold the multi-level approval process.

New Business –

- a. Surveys and Invitational Fees- AD's need to oversee what the fees are for invitationals and what the fee is for must be listed on flyer.
 - i. Reminder: do NOT reply all for individual concerns. Please address other schools specifically.
 - ii. Surveys: Very valuable and should be used globally. If it's about a rule or specific district methods, please contact that school or conference directly.
- b. Emergency Contact for Officials needed. It's on Zebra and has issues uploading to LeagueMinder for ADs to view. Section looking into alternative options.
- c. Wrestling- Mat Rotation for schools who must bring mats to championships- email sent out.
- d. Baseball- Coaches meeting next week. Email Sean with new coaches contact.
- e. List serves for AD's and second for AD's & Administrative Assistants.
- f. When teams are dropped can there be a delay in cancelling schedules so teams needing games and officials can pick up those games.

XVI. Announcements

All announcements must be written and given to Shannon McEntee, Secretary

- a. Jim Amen- "By 2029, all lacrosse balls must be fluorescent green or yellow".
Please budget appropriately as white will not be permitted at that time.

XVII. Next Meeting Discussion Item

- a. Tracking Invitational Data- fees.

Next Meeting

**** October 2, 2026- NYSPHSAA Mandatory Meeting**

October 15, 2026- HSAA Meeting