HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

AGENDA

November 19, 2026, 8:30 a.m.

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

I. Good & Welfare

II. Attendance

III. Review and approval of agenda with the right to re-order APPROVED

IV. Approval of High School Association October minutes APPROVED

V. Section VIII Report……Pat Pizzarelli - Executive Director

a. Thank you to all the fall sport coordinators and host schools for playoffs!
b. Expectations of Fans- Reinforce that fans are there to support their fans. No commenting on opponents/officials.
c. Playoffs- Must use GoFan for tickets…Cash is not accepted.
d. Swimming numbers of athletes going to State Meet- Sectional concern which will be brought up at State level. Will be looking at standardized numbers.
e. BEDS Numbers- were emailed out earlier in the week. State numbers coming out soon.

VI. Fall Recap Sport Coordinators……

a. Boys Badminton- Congratulations to Jericho who won the Team County Championship. LIC in spring. Congratulations to our individual winners as well.
b. Game Day Cheer- Congratulations to all County Champions!
c. B/G Cross Country- Thank you for support for multiple courses throughout the season. Rule change at State Level- Top team is 7 individuals and then next 5 students qualify for States. Looking into this makes the language more clear that it will be limited to top 12 athletes only. Congratulations to Cold Spring Harbor who won NYS Class C. The Federation State Championship is this upcoming weekend as it is a NYSPHSAA event- coaches must be present and athletes must be in school uniform. No PO's permitted, cash or check on site.
d. Field Hockey- to our Sectional winners:Class A winner Massapequa, Class B winner Manhasset, Class C winner Carle Place, Class A At Large Port Wash. Manhasset won the LIC in the subregional and travelled to Brewster for the Regional game against Lakeland…..unfortunately lost in a game that was one of the best in the entire State tournament. The postseason was difficult to navigate as we were involved in an At Large game, Sub Regional games and Regional games. This significantly impacted the number of playing days in the postseason calendar.

e. Football-Finals are this weekend. The Senior Game is Thanksgiving Day. December 9th is Grid Iron dinner in your POs.
f. Boys Golf-Congratulations to the conference winners: Conf 4 - Massapequa,Conf 5 - Garden City,Conf 6 - Roslyn,**Wild Cards,**Cold Spring Harbor,Plainedge

Important Golf Dates- Practice Rds- 5/17 & 5/19 - Red Course
Play in Match- 5/20 - 7 vs 10 , 8 vs 9 - Blue Course - 8am
County Tournament- 5/25 - Bethpage Blue - 7am, 5/26 - Bethpage Red - 7am
Practice Rd - LIC- 5/29 - Bethpage Black - 10am
LIC - Nassau vs Suffolk- 6/1 - Bethpage Black - 6/1 - 10am

g. Boys Soccer- Congratulations to all playoff teams and the County and LIC winners. Thank you to Jericho for hosting the regional final game.
h. Girls Soccer- Congratulations to all Conference and County winners. Dinner is November 30th.
i. Girls Swim- No Report
j. Girls Tennis- No Report
k. Boys Volleyball- Congratulations to all Conference County, and LIC Winners. Good luck to all those competing in State this weekend.
l. Girls Volleyball- Congratulations to all Conference County, and LIC Winners. Good luck to all those competing in State this weekend. The playoff issue was not enough officials to cover all the games.

VII. Winter Sport Coordinators
a. Boys Basketball- off to a good start.
b. Girls Basketball- notify Mike Pelan if you are not running a JV team this year.
c. Wrestling- Weight Certifications this weekend. More equipment available. The 14 day waiver is available on Coaches website. Must submit to the coordinator immediately. Appeals must be filed and it is $10 per athlete. When you appeal, if you fail hydration- the appeal is denied as final decision and original weight certification is final. Cheating on hydration will result in not being permitted to participate in POST SEASON.
d. Fencing- Cannot move any Fencing matches to Tuesday and Thursdays.
e. No Reports- Competitive Cheer, Gymnastics, Indoor Track and Field, Boys Swim, Girls Wrestling.

VIII. NYSPHSAA Report…….Jennifer Keane/Mike Bongino

a. BASEBALL-
i. Pitchers and Catchers (battery only) Defeated
ii. Revision to Pitch Count-Tabled in February
1. At the last State meeting, Section VIII was the only section opposed to the proposal due to the impact on players and teams of especially small schools. The reason it was tabled was considering adding a 5th night rest when a player reaches capacity. We are only one of four states that permit 125 pitches as max count. Proposal is to reduce max pitch count, Section VIII

concern is that the number of pitches was reduced significantly and may harm small schools or schools with limited pitchers. Section VIII agrees max pitch count should be reduced, the proposed numbers is what is being contested by Section VIII. Section VIII will continue to support 4 nights rest but would like to introduce 5 nights rest in order for a pitcher to reach 115 pitches, if necessary. In the current proposal, the difference is between 5-25 pitches depending on the monthly pitch count calendar.

a. Section VIII- wants to present if an athlete pitches 106-115 they will be required to have 5 nights rest.
b. Please review materials Sean emailed out which includes a breakdown of all the numbers. Section VIII proposal is in yellow, green is the current proposal which is tabled….not discussed at the State level yet. Sean wants to present it on Monday at that State Section Coordinator meeting.
    i. Discussion- the State safety committee has not been involved yet which is partly the reason it was tabled at State level. The other reason was data was not presented or available. The proposal was presented by Section I with section II support. Section II presented a detailed section which resulted in surgeries required.

b. Wrestling Weight Certification- appeal process was approved- In effect now,when you appeal, if you fail hydration- the appeal is denied as final decision and original weight certification is final. Cheating on hydration will result in not being permitted to participate in POST SEASON.

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

a. Forfeits- this is only in reference to a whole team contest, not an individual race, match or meet (example: forfeiting a weight class(es) in a wrestling contest or scratch in track). This is only at the Varsity level for the immediate future. This is not a universal policy. This will be sport specific within the overview directed by the Sport Coordinator.
    i. **<u>Process Recommendation for Immediate Implementation</u>**
        1. Two schools Athletic Directors have a conversation regarding why the one team needs to forfeit.
        2. Both ADs must have a phone conversation with Pat Pizarelli.
    ii. Discussion Items for Follow Up As Every Sport Is Different
        1. Consequences regarding eligibility for playoffs, next season impact for when game is forfeit in playoffs, consequence for making no effort to reschedule.
        2. The amount of Non-League games makes it difficult as there is not as much to hold over athletes for going away for vacations when there is a high non-league schedule.
        3. Consider a rule similar to Suffolk that has a winning percentage or standard for qualifying to the post season with consideration to records.
        4. What are forfeits counted as. Under State rule it's a loss for a forfeiting team and win for the opponent. Sport coordinators should consider if it was a game or non-league and outline if rescheduling would be permitted. Under

current rule, league games cannot be forfeit but non-league games could hurt the opponent who doesn't get to play.

5. The goal is to have each sport coordinator to include how forfeits will be addressed in each specific sport.
    a. **Winter sports coordinators must submit their forfeit proposals and possible consequence RECOMMENDATIONS by November 30th to Jenn/Matt.** The committee will meet on December 1st and a google form will be created and sent out to all ADs to vote on each sports forfeit proposal. Based on the outcomes of the vote, the forfeit policies will go into effect this winter.

X. Conference Reports…….

a. Conference I- Questions for girls lacrosse regarding JV schedule and concerns with playoffs. Tennis court dimensions and forfeits.
b. Conference II-

Overviews -

- **Girls Lax- John K.**
- Unanimous approval
    - No Byes,4 to 5 conferences,Ability within Enrollment, Getting away from yearly promotion and relegation,Coaches will do the seeding, Conference IV is home-away series
- **Flag Football**
    - Unanimous approval
- **Spring Track and Field**
- Unanimous Approval
    - Division 2A and 2B meets - 5 PM on May 11 at Calhoun / Roslyn
- **County Championships**
    - Class AA – 3PM on May 24 at Hewlett
    - Class A – 3PM on May 26 at North Shore
    - **Frosh/Soph Meet North Shore**
    - 5 PM on May 19 at Herricks
    - **Frosh/Soph Meet South Shore**
    - 5 PM on May 20 at VSN
    - **State Qualifiers**
    - 5 PM on June 3 and 4 at North Shore HS
- **Badminton- see notes**
    - Delay the vote until Thursday, Nov. 19
- **Baseball**
    - Unanimous approval

New Business

- 9th Week Football

- How many games- 4 games?
- MF Athletics for Track and Field needs- pole vaults, mats etc supplier

c. Conference III- all sport overviews approved except tabled badminton. PE senior awards- make sure we have 100% participation. Concern: League vs Non League games and how it is impacting post season selections. Discussion item to look across all sports to see if there should be a set minimum (percentage) of league games vs non-league games.

d. Conference IV- Forfeit discussion. All approved except girls lacrosse and badminton tabled. New coaching license certifications regulations.

XI. **Sport Overviews**

B/G Track & Field…….. Ed Corona/Nick Aurigemma APPROVED

a. No major changes. Schools be aware if it is your turn to host a section or State Qualifier.

Baseball……. Sean Burns APPROVED

b. In the past, Sub Regionals on Thursday and Regional on Saturday. Last year, dates were changed last minute which impacted teams. It was agreed that it would be Thursday and Saturday. At the last meeting, it was voted on and Sub Regional was moved to Wednesday and Regional will be on Saturday. This year all Sub Regionals are against Section XI, in future may impact teams as they will have to travel to other sections for potential overnight.

Flag Football…… Gary Gregory APPROVED

c. Two changes due to Regional Rotations that were approved after an overview was sent out.

Girls Badminton…….. Jenna Cavuto TABLED for December

d. Ability based in the regular season. Expand the post season to having more classifications for county champions rather than a single team for all participating schools. In the current system, there are 40 teams, 16 make playoffs and 1 County Champion. New language is 40 teams, 22 make playoffs, break into Class A, B and C for County Championships. There is no State championship so no State numbers to guide classes.

i. Discussion: why are the classification numbers being determined after selecting the 22 playoff teams, not prior to other sports. Committee discussed-there are no State championships so no State numbers to guide classes. Recommendation- look at the other sports and create the numbers that are relative to the data available on state guidance so the format for post season matches other sports. Tennis numbers have very similar numbers which can be used as a reference. Who will move on to the LIC if we have three county champions, if Suffolk only has one? The team who had the highest winning record of the three champions as they would have played each other in the regular season.

ii. Tabled for December meeting as post season needs to be more detailed. Badminton requested support two years ago and did not receive so coordinators worked independently on the current proposal.

Softball…….. Rachel Barry

APPROVED

e. Ability based in 6 conferences. We are waiting for post season dates but we are hosting all 4 classifications for LIC. Best of 3 for quarterfinals, semifinals and finals. A major change was adding a forfeit rule regarding two season forfeits resulting in losing your bid to playoffs. Recommendation to remove forfeit language from current overview and the in person vote for overview was based on forfeit language being removed.

i. Motion to approve Softball Overview with forfeit language removed.

G Lacrosse…….. John Kostkowicz

APPROVED

f. Attended all conference meetings. Changes- moving 4 conferences to 5 conferences. This will allow more teams in conference 3 to make the playoffs. Playoff structure on page 3 for 4 classifications.

i. Motion to approve GIrls Lacrosse Overview

B Tennis …….. Mike Scatturo

APPROVED

ii.

Approval of Sport Alignment/Schedules

XII. **Standing Committees**

Appeals	Dave Viegas

a. No Report

Awards	Mike Scaturro

b. Email Mike for medals. BSN reps for T-shirts

By-Laws & Policies	Dave Zawatson

c. No Report

Student Athlete Development	Pat Maguire

d. No Report

Modified Athletics	Cathleen Morra

e. Watch for major changes in Basketball to ensure coaches are following new rules.

Nominations	Don Lang

f. Modified Spring winter and track coordinator needed.

Safety Committee	Jennifer Keane

g. No Report

Sportsmanship	Justin Jonas

h. No Report

Team Up for Unity	Kru Patel

i. No Report

Sport Seasons	Michael Brostowski

j. No Report

Officials	Peter Cardone

k. Reach out with any issues. Boys lacrosse- State has based that 50 and two 30s yards lines need to be in “boys lacrosse” colors.

Championship Advisory	Ed Ramirez

l. No Report

Combining of Team Report — Mike Pelan

m. Valley Stream host with Lybrook for Girls Wrestling

Classification Committee — John Kostkowicz

n. Review placements for committee approval.

Ethics — Tom Lehman

o. No Report

XIII. **Association Reports**

a. NIAAA
   i. State meeting in October. Take advantage of free LTC being offered.
      1. LTC being offered- January 20th- 10am at Boces in person
      2. LTC being offered- April 5th - 10am at Boces in person
   ii. Several Positions Available will be sent out soon.
   iii. Google Doc for Sectional Award nominations will be sent out in January.

b. COA
   i. Complete AD Survey sent out regarding salaries
   ii. Todd Heimer- June 11th. Will look at alternative dates that do not conflict with State Championships.
   iii. January 26th next meeting- reach out to Tom if the school wants to present.

XIV. **Unfinished Business**

a. No Report

XV. **New Business**

a. At Large- is the choice of the winning team. The winning team has 24 hours and AD communicates with the Section.

XVI. **Announcements**

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

Next Meeting

December 17, 2026