CHSAA VIRTUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, September 8, 2020
6:00pm

MINUTES

1.0 ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken. Wendy Dunaway was absent.

2.0 GOVERNOR’S COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM MEETING OVERVIEW

Commissioner Blanford Green updated the Board on the Governor's Covid response to approve variances for football. She reported per ask, that the Governor's Covid Response Team had not provided the variances to CHSAA.

The Commissioner answered questions from the Board regarding public declarations by state officials and not receiving the variances to allow football to be considered.

Title IX was discussed as well as inequities for schools that were not currently in an in-person learning model.

The Commissioner reminded everyone that recommendations on moving forward should come from the membership not the public. Gabe Trujillo added that fall sports shouldn’t move forward from a safety standpoint not just due to the Covid, but because kids have not had access to training. He also believes that once the football issue is opened, then other fall sports will be up for discussion.

Terita Walker shared that the struggle is getting student athletes safely into the gym and into weight rooms. She shared the difficulties in keeping cohorts together. She is concerned and disappointed that items were shared among board members that were released to the public. The calendar was approved by state officials and communicated by CHSAA and families/communities have adapted accordingly.

Caleb Coats shared that he doesn’t support changes in the calendars as his district’s responses range from “no way” to “not ready to play”. Jeff Durbin complimented the CHSAA staff for the well thought out sports calendar and feels that the Board should uphold.

Mike Hawkes stated that without updated medical data regarding Covid, why would the Board contemplate making this change. With regards to optics, the question from the membership and public would be ‘why are we only just considering football?’

Luke DeWolfe commented that the current schedule will allow to return to athletics safely. It is hard justifying sports which will most likely bring Covid into schools and require shut downs. This was brought up too fast and there are too many unanswered questions to make a solid decision. His districts votes were nineteen against, two in the middle and four yes.

Ernie Derrera shared that club sports have re-scheduled their calendars to align with the CHSAA calendars. They are in favor of keeping the calendar that has already been approved by the Governor’s office.

Tony Exum shared his thoughts and feels that because the calendar was well prepared and approved, that we should stick with the original plan.

Wendy Pottorff shared that her community is both for and against football resuming in the fall. The main concern is the health (both mental and physical) of the student athletes. Most of the issues she is hearing are coming from parents, not students. We should remain with the original plan.
The Commissioner thanked the Board for their input and perspective. It is good to be on the same page and provide the Governor’s office with what our membership’s thoughts are on resuming fall sports.

At this time a motion was made by Ryan West to send the following resolution to the Governor’s Covid Response Team. The CHSAA Board of Director’s decision is to maintain the current approved calendar for sports. The resolution was seconded by Jeff Durbin. A vote was taken of the Board members and all members approved.

Associate Commissioner Tom Robinson shared CHSAA’s Mission Statement which reads “In pursuit of excellence, the Colorado High School Activities Association strives to create a positive and equitable environment in which all qualified student participants are challenged and inspired to meet their highest potential.”

Tony Exum reiterated the need for stability and for safety. Discussion on how this will be presented to the membership/league presidents and a reminder that this will remain under wraps until the official release.

3.0 ADJOURNMENT
The motion to adjourn was made by Michael Hawkes and seconded by Richard Hargrove. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.