

SECTION XI
NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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CONFERENCE/COUNCIL AGENDA
October 2009

I. **NOTICES**

A. Meetings

- Wed, Sept 30 - Executive Board, 4 pm, Section XI Office
- Thu, Oct 1 - Conference I, 9 am, Section XI Office
- Fri, Oct 2 - Conference II, 9 am, Section XI Office
- Mon, Oct 5 - Conference III, 9 am, Section XI Office
- Tue, Oct 6 - Conference IV, 9 am, Section XI Office
- Thu, Oct 8 - Athletic Council, 9 am, Section XI Office
- Thu, Oct 15 - Athletic Directors' Meeting, 8:30 am, Holbrook CC
- Tue, Oct 20 - Girls' Tennis Seeding, 10 am, Section XI Office
- Fri, Oct 30 - Field Hockey & B/G Soccer Seeding, 9 am, Section XI Office
- Wed, Nov 4 - Girls' Volleyball Seeding, 10 am, Section XI Office

- B. Dues and Service Charges – **Due September 1, 2009!** Still outstanding: Bellport, Brentwood, Bridgehampton, Huntington, Montauk, and Shoreham-WR.

NOTE: Schools not having paid these fees by October 15th will not be considered members. Teams and student-athletes representing these schools will not be eligible for Section competition (regular season and Section/State Tournaments).

- C. Spring Officials' Fees – Spring officials/reconciliation fees for 2008-09 are still outstanding from Amityville, Comsewogue, East Moriches, Greenport, Riverhead, Ross, Sachem, Springs and Wyandanch.

REMINDER: First payments for 2009-10 officials' fees are due **October 1st**. Please check on the status of these invoices in your district. Thanks!

- D. Conference Presidents – Conferences must confirm all representatives to Section committees as well as the Athletic Council.

4. Boys' Tennis 2009/10

DIVISION I

League I	League II
Half Hollow Hills East	Huntington
Commack	Hauppauge
Half Hollow Hills West	Northport
Walt Whitman	Smithtown West
Harborfields	Kings Park
Smithtown East	Elwood/John Glenn

DIVISION II

League III	League IV
Islip	Deer Park
East Islip	Brentwood
Bay Shore	Lindenhurst
West Islip	West Babylon
Sayville	North Babylon
Connetquot	Central Islip
	Babylon

DIVISION III

League V	League VI
Ward Melville	Stony Brook
Sachem East	Sachem North
Comsewogue	Miller Place
Bayport-Blue Point	Middle Country
Patchogue-Medford	Bellport
Mt. Sinai	Port Jefferson

DIVISION IV

League VII	League VIII
Westhampton	William Floyd
East Hampton/BH/Pier	Rocky Point
Shoreham-Wading River	Mattituck
Longwood	Southold/Greenport
Ross	Hampton Bays
Southampton	Riverhead
Eastport-South Manor	Center Moriches

5. Combining – To revise the Combined Teams for 2009-10 as follows:

- Boys Lacrosse: East Hampton/Bridgehampton/Pierson – V, JV
Ross/Shelter Island – JV, B
East Hampton/BH/Pierson/Springs/Montauk – B
- Girls Lacrosse: East Hampton/BH/Pierson – V, JV, B
Ross/Shelter Island – JV

- B. **Tournament** - The Tournament Committee met on Tuesday, September 22, 2009, at 11:00 am, in the Section XI Office. In attendance: Chair W. Shierant; Conference I: T. Combs, J. Mankowich; Conference II: J. Pennacchio; Conference III: J. Vasile-Cozzo; Conference IV: R. Mayo, D. Phillips; T. Horan, T. Mullins, J. Tasman, J. Thode and E. Cinelli. (Absent: J. Sparacio and J. Valente)

1. Boys' Golf

- a) "Shall pre-determined holes on the scorecard be designated to determine first place in the event of a tie at the end of the first day of the Section XI championship."
- b) "Shall the medals for places 2 through 10 be awarded with no designation of the finishing place."

Note: The Committee denied a request from the Sport Chair to require Section XI coaches to be markers at the NYSPHSAA golf championship.

2. Boys' Lacrosse Tournament Postponements

- a) "Shall the decision to postpone a tournament contest be made by the home school Athletic Director." NOTE: This would eliminate the procedure that if one field in a bracket is unplayable, the entire bracket must cancel its games.
- b) "Shall the decision to postpone the Section XI Classification Championship be made by the Sport Chair and Section XI."

3. Baseball Section XI Tournament - The Committee recommended continuing the following experiments for the 2009-10 school year:

- a) Qualifying - "Shall all teams with better than .500 league record qualify for the Section XI tournament." (This was a one-year experiment for the 2008-09 school year.)
- b) Tournament Rules - "Shall the Section XI tournament be a double elimination tournament with the outbracket being a single elimination." (This was a one-year experiment for the 2008-09 school year.)

Note: The Large School and Small School Championship will be discontinued. However, a classification tournament will exist.

4. Seeding - "Shall the decisions of the Seeding Committee be final with no right of appeal."

Note:

1. Girls' Lacrosse - The Committee tabled a request from the Girls' Lacrosse Chair, Jeremy Thode, to revise the time of a regulation girls' lacrosse contest during the regular season and playoffs.

- C. **Modified** - The Modified Committee met on Tuesday, September 29, 2009, at 9:00 am, in the Section XI Office. In attendance: Co-Chair: D. Robinson; Conference I: J. Thode; Conference II: T. Horan (for W. Shierant), P. Smith (for J. Pennacchio); Conference III: M. DeVincenzo; J. Tasman; Conference IV: D. Ferry, G. Ruppert; J. Sexton and E. Cinelli. (Absent: G. McCarthy, G. Beutel)

1. Modified Wrestling – “Shall the following wrestling items be approved.”
 - a) The official weight classes for competition are: 74, 80, 86, 92, 98, 104, 110, 116, 122, 128, 134, 140, 148, 155 and 158; and an unlimited weight class will be optional for contestants who are competing weighing within 10 pounds of each other.
 - b) Wrestlers must weigh in wearing only their singlet.
 - c) The starting time will be 4:30 pm
 - d) There will be a mandatory mat side weigh-in for the competing teams. All other matches will be exhibition using three one-minute periods.
 - e) Regular team scoring will be used.
 - f) Wrestlers counting for a team score may only wrestle at the above weight classes (no moving a wrestler to a higher weight class).
 - g) Exhibition matches will be established based on ability.

Notes:

1. J. Sexton presented drafts of the 2009-10 Early Winter and Late Winter Modified schedules.
2. J. Sexton presented the 2009-10 Modified Scheduling Calendar.
3. D. Robinson reviewed the NYSPHSAA Modified Committee 2008-09 survey results.
 - Mercy Rule – Baseball and Softball
 - Track 33” Hurdles – Boys’ Track
 - Wrestling Time Period
4. J. Sexton reviewed a request from Southampton to schedule doubleheader games (4:00 and 5:30). The Committee is not in favor of the Section scheduling doubleheaders; however, if two schools mutually agree to do so, they may schedule a doubleheader.

D. Safety Committee

The Section XI Safety Committee met on Friday, May 29, 2009, at 9:00 am, in the Section XI Office. In attendance: Chairman T. Mullins; Conference I – D. Robinson, J. Wright; Conference II – J. Sparacio; Conference III – J. Tasman; Conference IV – no representation; M. DeVincenzo, Dr. A. Donatelli, L. Mott, R. Nelson, and E. Cinelli.

Action Item - “Shall Section XI baseball and softball coaches be required to wear protective helmets while standing along the 1st and 3rd base lines during games.”

For Information Only:

1. Section XI Concussion Management Team – Lloyd Mott
Lloyd Mott reviewed the history of the New York State Concussion Management program. He gave a synopsis of the two workshops regarding concussion management that took place. The focus at this time is for each school to establish a school concussion management team with the following as possible members: school physician, school nurse, athletic administrator, certified athletic trainer, school psychologist or any interested professional. The school CMT shall:
 - Keep all coaches and faculty up to date on concussion management and RTP/RTS protocol.
 - Select a “point person” to act as the leader and liaison to the Section CMT.
 - Help to identify concussed athletes and monitor care along with return to school and play.

- Develop a school concussion management protocol which is to be approved by the Board of Education—the school physician must be informed and involved. Sample policies and protocol can be found on www.impacttest.org.
- Reinforce the school physician has the authority and responsibility to approve all return to play releases (working with the ATC if the school has one).
- Work with the Section CM Team to investigate access to care for uninsured.

The Committee decided to present this information to the athletic administrators at the October 2009 Athletic Directors' meeting.

2. Head Injury Association – Liz Giordano
Ms. Giordano explained to the Committee that the Head Injury Association is an independent, not-for-profit agency, widely recognized for its innovative programming for survivors of head injury and their families. They seek to increase public awareness of TBI (traumatic brain injury) and its consequences, and thereby obtain some solutions to the many problems facing Long Island's survivors and their families. The Association has been in existence for 20 years, and each March it conducts a program called "Head Injury Awareness and Prevention Celebrity Sports Forum. Ms. Giordano will provide information on the March 2010 forum when available.
3. NYSPHSAA Safety Committee Report – Tim Mullins
Safety Committee Chairman Tim Mullins reviewed the minutes of the April 2009 NYPHSAA Safety Committee meeting:
 - The state has been working to establish heat index guidelines.
 - The Committee is currently collecting data regarding head injuries that may be prevented by the use of helmets in girls' lacrosse.
 - Ray Nelson provided the Committee with information regarding the Minimum Weight Certification program and new recommendations that were approved for implementation in the 2009-10 school year.
4. Life of an Athlete – Matt DeVincenzo
Matt DeVincenzo provided information for the Committee regarding the NYSPHSAA Life of an Athlete Program. Section XI will conduct its "Year 5" program during the fall of 2009. Matt will coordinate this with the Section VIII Safety Chair and NYSPHSAA Assistant Director Bob Stulmaker.
5. Softball and Baseball Helmets
Section XI Softball Chair, Jim Wright provided information regarding the wearing of helmets by coaches when standing along the 1st and 3rd base lines during games. The Committee recommends that Jim Wright, along with Section XI Baseball Chair Joe Tasman, bring this item for discussion to their respective NYSPHSAA Sport Committees. Tim Mullins will bring this item to the NYSPHSAA Safety Committee. The hope is that this will be adopted at the state level.

An action item will be included in the October 2009 Section XI Conference/Council Agenda which reads: "Shall baseball and softball coaches be required to wear protective helmets while standing along the 1st and 3rd base lines during games."

6. Human Growth Hormones

Tim Mullins will follow up with the State Association regarding discussion on banning the use of Human Growth Hormones by student-athletes. This item was brought to the State Association a year ago but no action was taken.

- E. **Girls' Basketball** - "Shall Section XI schools be permitted to experiment with 16-minute halves in Varsity level non-league contests upon mutual agreement from both schools during the 2009-10 school year." (This would be a one-year experiment for the 2009-10 school year.)
- F. **Fiscal Issues Ad Hoc Committee** - The Fiscal Issues Ad Hoc Committee met on Tuesday, June 16, 2009, at 9 am, at the Section XI Office. In attendance: Chair: L. Lally, Conference I: J. Thode; Conference II: J. Pennacchio; Conference III: T. Mullins; Conference IV: R. Mayo; State Representatives: P. Nickerson, N. DeCillis. Also in attendance: E. Cinelli (Absent: D. Webster, D. Ferry, G. McCarthy and A. Agnesini)

For Information Only:

1. The Section XI Geographical Placement survey was reviewed with the Committee. Forty-two schools responded to the survey.
2. The Executive Director read the comments made by the Athletic Directors that were listed on the survey. It was clear that the schools are not in favor of geographical placement for Section XI League/Division alignments at this time.
3. A June 5, 2009 letter from East Hampton Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Charles R. Soriano, was discussed. Dr. Soriano identified his concerns regarding the loss of instructional time for students traveling to athletic competitions. In addition, the district must shoulder the rising costs of travel to areas such as Amityville, Elwood, etc.
4. A discussion took place regarding the overwhelming opposition to eliminate the current placement philosophy by the member schools. Therefore, the Committee recommends that conferences could consider adjusting schedules to accommodate travel issues such as:
 - Using neutral sites
 - Scheduling doubleheaders in baseball and softball
 - Scheduling contests on Fridays and Saturdays or during vacation time to limit the impact on school release time for educational issues.