

Action Items

High School Breakout Meeting

2009 NFHCA Annual Convention

Moderated by Kathy Noble, H.S. Group Representative

The High School Membership discussed and took action on the following items during its January 16, 2009 meeting:

Approved action items from the 2008 NFHCA Annual Convention.

Pam Stuper introduced herself and her new position on the NFHCA Board. She asked for feedback on the clinic curriculum from the membership, which she received.

Discussion of Committee Reports

All-American Committee

Diane Walker – Chair

The issue of sportsmanship as a criterion in the All-American selection was raised and discussed. The committee's recommendation was to include a question for 2009 on the nomination resume as to whether an athlete had ever received a "yellow" or "red" card during a game and if so, please explain the situation. This was unanimously supported by the constituency.

Coach of the Year

Sandy Jozefowski – Chair

The issue was presented that only 4 out of the 6 regions had selections for Coach and all regions were reminded of the significance of this selection.

It was suggested that the nomination process be simplified in an effort to increase the number of nominations. Under the new schematic, the initial nomination form would include nominee's name, school, contact information and a brief statement as why this person is being nominated with information on the nominating individual. Once all nominations were received, the national or regional chairs would contact the nominees notifying them that they are being considered for the "Coach of the Year" award and ask them to complete a more detailed information form as to the team's season. It was generally understood that this would yield more reliable and accurate information while also yielding more nominees. This process was unanimously supported with the stipulation that Executive Director reviews it for additional issues to be considered.

High School National Academic Squad Committee

Janet Dickey –Chair

There was a general consensus that the form has been improved, the form is straightforward and concise. It was suggested that an additional line be added that specifies what the individual's G.P.A. is and on what scale that is from. That was unanimously supported by the attendees.

Rule Suggestions

In a number of areas, there were concerns voiced by individual coaches as to present NFHS rules. It was suggested that NFHCA should communicate to NFHS as to their concerns. The following topics were discussed:

1. **Minimum field dimensions** are currently listed as 90 yds x 50 yds and there was discussion supporting that a field of that size is much too small for a varsity high school contest. There was concern that this size field actually is dangerous.

A motion was presented to recommend to NFHCA that the field dimensions be 100 yds x 60 yds and if a field is not in compliance, on penalty corners, the defensive team should be required to be 50 yds back from the endline and not be on the midfield line which is less than 50 yds on a shortened field. The motion passed unanimously.

2. The mandate of a **7 yd distance by all players on hits going into the circle** has resulted in too many players being in the circle and creating more danger than before. In addition, the ball must be brought back to the broken line taking away any advantage the offensive and non-fouling team had in the play. The motion was for NFHS to reconsider this 7 yd distance on hits taken within the broken line area and to have the hit taken at the spot of the foul. That would be reverting to the rule as it was before it was revised three years ago. The vote in favor of this motion was 95 in agreement and one opposed.

Discussion Issues

The remainder of our session was used for questions from the membership. Issues discussed were implementation of the bow measurement for sticks, all-star selections, eyewear issues, prospective athletes visits on college campuses and senior night at Festival. Those in attendance shared their observations and perspectives amongst each other on these issues.