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Florida High School Athletic Association

Board of Directors Meeting – Agenda Item

Site:

Date:

Check One: Action:

Discussion/Information:

Topic (brief descriptive statement):

Approval / Non-Approval of National Center for Sports Safety, Prepare Course as an approved sports safety course to be used in conjunction with school district in-service coaching certification classes. The approval of a sports safety course by the FHSAA Board of Directors is mandated in FS. 1012.55.

Detailed Information (background, observations, etc.):

See attachments and enclosed Prepare Coaches Manual.

Recommendations(s):

The Executive Director recommends the Prepare Safety Course be approved by the FHSAA Board of Directors for use with school district coaching certification in-service training if the district wishes to use a sports safety course within its' training curriculum.

Rationale:

FS. 1012.55 mandates the FHSAA Board of Directors approve any sports safety course used by school districts as a part of their coach's certification programs.

Alternative(s) to Recommendation(s):

Approve / Not approve

Data Source:

Florida Statutes
National Center for Sports Safety.

Impact (to be completed by FHSAA staff):

No financial impact to FHSAA

Dr. Roger Dearing

Name of Individual Submitting Item

Signature

PREPARE: Coaches Certification Course

During the 2009 legislative session a bill entitled, "An act relating to certification of public school athletic coaches" was passed amending s. 1012.55, F.S. This bill provides that completion of a sports safety course shall meet certain in-service certification requirements and it also requires that such a program must first be approved by the Florida High School Athletic Association in order to become effective.

Specifically, the law states: "Completion of a sports safety course shall count for 6 hours of required school district in-service for athletic coaching certification if the course is approved by the Florida High School Athletic Association Board of Directors and meets the following requirements:

1. The course consists of at least 8 modules, and
2. The course immediately provides an individual with a "merit" certificate at the time of successful completion, and
3. The course is delivered through hands-on and on-line teaching methods, and
4. The course is a hands-on course taught by either a state-licensed athletic trainer who holds a current certificate from the Board of Certifications or a member of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, and
5. Hands-on course material is less than 120 pages, and
6. The course covers sports safety specifically, excluding coaching principles and procedures for cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and
7. The course is authored or approved by a least 10 health care professionals, including doctors of medicine, doctors of osteopathy, registered nurses, physical therapists, and certified athletic trainers, and
8. The course is revised and reviewed for updates at least once every 30 months, and
9. The course is available to the general public for a retail price under \$50, and
10. Each course examination is automated and taken on-line with a score of 80 percent or better for successful completion.

The FHSAA staff has ensured that the ten requirements of the law are met, as follows:

1. The course consists of 8 chapters and each chapter is one module (Emergency Plan, Heat and Cold Illness, Recognition, Emergency Medical Considerations, Principles of First Aid, Head, Neck and Face Injuries, Warm Up and Cool Down, High School Level II-general injury terms-nutrition and nutritional supplements and concussions).
2. At the completion of Post Tests, with a score of at least 80%, the participant can print a "Merit" Certificate (attached).
3. During Hands-on and On-Line participation there is a certified athletic trainer available 24/7.
4. Yes, the course is hands-on and is taught by the required professional.
5. The course text is 114-pages (attached).
6. Module 5 is Principles of First Aid, and CPR is not in the course.
7. There are 30 health care professionals, who authored and approved the course text; they are listed on pages 5 through 8 of the text.
8. The course was brand new in 2008, next revision is not due until mid-2010, however, and the original authors are working on it now.
9. The on-line course cost is \$41 and the hands-on course cost is \$49.
10. The automated certificate is available at completion as described in number 2 above.

In summary, this course if approved by the Board of Directors will be a great option for those individuals attempting their school district's coach's certification requirements. The course is being offered through the National Center for Sports Safety (NCSS). Attached for your review is a copy of **CS/CS/HB 1539** for your perusal. The Executive Director recommends approval.

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to certification of public school athletic coaches; amending s. 1012.55, F.S.; providing that completion of a sports safety course shall meet certain inservice certification requirements; requiring the sports safety course to be approved by the Florida High School Athletic Association Board of Directors and to meet specified requirements; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 1012.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.55 Positions for which certificates required.--

(2) (a) Each person who is employed and renders service as an athletic coach in any public school in any district of this state shall hold a valid temporary or professional certificate or an athletic coaching certificate. The athletic coaching certificate may be used for either part-time or full-time positions. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to any athletic coach who voluntarily renders service and who is not employed by any public school district of this state.

(b) Completion of a sports safety course shall count for 6 hours of required school district inservice instruction for athletic coaching certification if the course is approved by the Florida High School Athletic Association Board of Directors and meets the following requirements:

- 1. The course consists of at least eight modules.

29 2. The course immediately provides an individual with a
30 "merit" certificate at the time of successful completion.

31 3. The course is delivered through hands-on and online
32 teaching methods.

33 4. The course is a hands-on course taught by either a
34 state-licensed athletic trainer who holds a current certificate
35 from the Board of Certification or a member of the American
36 Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

37 5. Hands-on course material is less than 120 pages.

38 6. The course covers sports safety specifically, excluding
39 coaching principles and procedures for cardiopulmonary
40 resuscitation.

41 7. The course is authored or approved by at least 10
42 health care professionals, including doctors of medicine,
43 doctors of osteopathy, registered nurses, physical therapists,
44 and certified athletic trainers.

45 8. The course is revised and reviewed for updates at least
46 once every 30 months.

47 9. The course is available to the general public for a
48 retail price under \$50.

49 10. Each course examination is automated and taken online
50 with a score of 80 percent or better for successful completion.

51 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.



NATIONAL
CENTERS
FOR
SPORTS
SAFETY

PREPARE

Sport First Aid

Certificate of Completion

Coach's Name

has completed the National Center for Sports Safety course

PREPARE

Date