

**Baseball Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, August 29, 2011**  
**Robert W. Hughes Building-Gainesville, FL**

Cristina Broska called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. The following committee members were in attendance: Charlie Warner, Pace High School, Ken Roland, Fernandina Beach High School, Rick Turner, Naples High School, Richie Warren, Jesuit High School, John Messina, Centennial High School and Wayne Yancey, Forrest High School. Dale Klaus, Director of Athletics, Justin Harrison, Assistant Executive Director for Athletic Services and Alexander Kenney, Intern were also in attendance.

1. Mrs. Broska welcomed the committee members to the FHSAA Office. She then introduced herself and explained why she was now in charge of baseball and what that meant for the committee members.
2. Each committee member introduced themselves.
3. Wayne Yancey was selected chairman by a unanimous vote.
  - a. Motion: Warner- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Roland, 5-0 to approve
4. The 2010 meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted without discussion of specific topics.
  - a. Motion: Warner- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Turner, 5-0 to approve
5. Review of Existing Baseball Manual/Coaches Folder
  - a. Spoke about the helmet rule requiring coaches to wear a skull style helmet when occupying 1<sup>st</sup> base and 3<sup>rd</sup> base coaches' boxes.
  - b. Spoke about BBCOR bats and what type of bats are considered legal.
  - c. The P/DH rule was brought up.
  - d. Mrs. Broska informed the committee that all rules were available for further reading on an online PDF file.
6. The committee reviewed the 2011 State Tournament which, for the last three years has been held in Port St. Lucie and run by the Treasure Coast Sports Commission.

- a. Mr. John Messina, State Tournament Director (Centennial High School), spoke about ways he can improve his tournament in this the fourth and final year of their contract. Also he hopes the tournament will return to that area.
  - b. He stated that with the new classification alignments the finals tournament will extend to a full week (including Sunday) to be played from May 17<sup>th</sup> -May 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. All regional baseball dates will be as follows:
    - i. Regional baseball tournament quarterfinals (3A, 5A and 7A) will be played on May 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - ii. Regional baseball tournament quarterfinals (2A, 4A, 6A and 8A) will be played on May 3<sup>rd</sup>
    - iii. Regional Semifinals will take place May 8<sup>th</sup>.
    - iv. Regional Finals will be played on May 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - d. To cut down on distractions at the state finals, no scouts may pass through the back gates to see players.
  - e. He asked if there was a way for either coaches or umpires to check for illegal bats during the season so it doesn't become an issue once teams get to the finals.
7. Mrs. Cristina Broska went over rule changes for the NFHS Changes for 2011-2012 school year. These rules include:
- a. Prior to the start of each game, each head coach must now verify to the umpire in-chief that all participants are legally equipped and equipment is in accordance with NFHS rules
  - b. Umpires no longer will be required to perform pregame equipment checks, as that responsibility will fall to the coaches beginning next year. Coaches can still ask umpires at the pregame conference to confirm that equipment is compliant.
    - i. Motion to have umpires check equipment before the game starts
      1. Motion: Roland, 2<sup>nd</sup> Warner, 5-0 to approve
  - c. Rule 1-3-5 states that "No artificial or intentional means shall be used to control the temperature of the bat."
  - d. Changes to Rules 1-5-8 and 3-1-6 deal with players' equipment on the field. State associations may now authorize exceptions NFHS rules to provide "reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs

and unique extenuating circumstances,” so long as they do not fundamentally interfere with the sport.

- e. Rule 6-2-2c Note: The starting pitcher may warm up by using no more than eight throws, completed in one minute (timed from the first throw). This rule applies to relief pitchers as well. At the beginning of each subsequent inning, the pitcher may warm up with no more than five throws, completed in one minute.
- f. Rule 10-1-2: The game officials retain clerical authority over the contest through the completion of any reports, including those imposing disqualification, that are responsive to actions occurring while the umpires had jurisdiction.

#### 8. Old Business

- a. Recommendations endorsed and improved by ADAC
- b. P/DH rule
- c. Coaches wearing helmets (see Part 5 Section A)
- d. Reviewed rule regarding restriction of head coaches after ejection of assistant coaches.
- e. Recommendation to increase roster size of playoff teams to 22.

#### 9. New Business

- a. Mr. Charlie Warner discussed changing the language in Rule 201.01 (D) “40/60 Rule”
- b. Recommendation: “A school must schedule and have under contracted no less than 60% of its regular season contest in the sport against FHSAA member schools.” This would eliminate the word “Play” from the rule.
  - i. He cited extenuating circumstances such as weather that could cause teams to not be in compliance.
  - ii. Also, extra stress is put on schools in less populated areas of the state that have trouble finding opponents.
- c. Motion to accept
  - i. Motion: Turner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Yancey, 5-0 to approve

#### 10. FACA

- a. Mr. Yancey reported the following recommendations from FACA.

- i. Use playing dates instead of number of games when figuring out how many games a team has played during a week.
  - ii. Extending JV game time limit to two and a half hours from two hours.
  - iii. Treat Friday games like Saturday games.
  - iv. Do not use the college DH rule.
  - v. Increase dress of players in playoff games to 22.
  - vi. Adopt a best-of-3 regional final
  - vii. Head coach not ejected when Assistant Coach ejected.
  - viii. If a Balk is called, continue play and then choose outcome of game.
  - ix. Increase to 30 game schedule.
  - x. Possibility of starting a statewide coaches' poll.
- b. FACA Tournament May 25-26 at Fireman's Field (Sebring, FL)
  - c. FACA Clinic December 8-10, at Hilton Oceanwalk Resort (Daytona Beach, FL)

#### 11. Sportsmanship

- a. Mr. Justin Harrison stated ejections and other issues increasing. In order to cut down on crude language the FHSAA will be much stricter when dealing with this issue. Also, they ask that since coaches are around the kids the most to help influence this as much as possible. Furthermore Head Coaches, please keep Assistant Coaches in check to insure neither party is ejected.

#### 12. Round Table

- a. Radar Guns and safety issues with pitcher fatigue.
  - i. Mr. Turner talked about being able to tell if his own players are getting fatigued from pitch to pitch by charting how they throw a certain pitch.
- b. Question about how many tournaments are allowed in a season and how that factors into the number of games.

#### 13. Motion to Adjourn at 1:10 pm.

- a. Motion: Warner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Roland