

Minutes

Florida High School Athletic Association

Baseball Advisory Committee Meeting

10:00 A.M., August 27, 2012

Webinar

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| Ken Ronald | Fernandina Beach High School | BAC |
| Rick Turner | Naples High School | BAC |
| Ernie Padron | Florida Christian High School | BAC |
| Mike Parks | Official | |
| Wayne Yancey | FACA Rep | |
| Justin Harrison | Assistant Executive Director for Athletic Services | FHSAA |
| Cristina Broska | Director of Athletics | FHSAA |
| Dale Klaus | Director of Athletics | FHSAA |
| Kyle Chavers | Intern | FHSAA |

1. Introduction and Purpose

- a. Cristina Broska called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. She opened with the fact that no voting would be able to take place during this meeting because there were not enough members from the Baseball Advisory Committee present to form a quorum.
 - i. Those not in attendance: Ronnie Gray (Suwannee High School), Eric Entrekin (Lake Brantley High School), Richie Warren (Jesuit High School), and Jasone DeWitt (Lake Wales High School)
- b. The future date of the meeting will be moved to the spring, and it will take place in either late May or early June.

2. Review Procedures, Agenda, and Expense Vouchers

3. Selection of a Chairperson

- a. Mrs. Broska stated that because no voting taking place, there was no need to elect a chairperson.
4. Review and Adoption of 2011 Committee Minutes
 - a. Mrs. Broska asked that everyone review the minutes from last meeting.
 - b. No one had any concerns with the details of the minutes from the previous meeting.
 - c. Mrs. Broska made a note that the coach's manual is now available online (and will not be sent out), but the NFHS book will still be shipped to them.
5. Review of 2012 Baseball State Championships
 - a. Mrs. Broska review of this past year's state tournament in Port St. Lucie was positive.
 - i. Rain delays were a slight problem (as some games were played at 9:00 P.M), but all the games were still able to be played.
 - b. Ernie Padron called in and joined the meeting at this time
6. Sportsmanship
 - a. Justin Harrison welcomed everyone and thanked them for taking the time to have this meeting.
 - b. Mr. Harrison noted that last year was a great year for sportsmanship in every sport, as only an extremely small percentage of student-athletes had "lapses in judgment." Mr. Harrison then began to discuss the sportsmanship issues that pertain to baseball.
 - i. Mr. Harrison stated that the use of foul words is prevalent in all sports, but is still not right and will not be tolerated. He noted that swearing will be taken more seriously this season than in the past.
 - ii. Mr. Harrison went on to discuss malicious contact in baseball. Whether or not a runner does everything possible to avoid contact, will play the largest role in determining what will be deemed malicious contact.
 - c. Mr. Harrison's review of the state tournament in Port St. Lucie was also positive.

7. Review of 2012 NFHS Rule Changes

- a. Mrs. Broska reviewed the following rule changes:
 - i. 1-3-2 Note—Clarifies and places additional emphasis on the importance and legal repercussions of altering non-wood baseball bats
 1. Mrs. Broska noted that it is a criminal offense to alter a baseball bat.
 - ii. 3-3-1f—Restricts the use of any video monitoring or replay equipment for coaching purposes during the course of the game
 1. Mrs. Broska cited Game Changer (app) as a specific example of what the rule pertains to.
 - iii. 3-3-1i—Restricts the use of any electronic devices in the coach's box
 - iv. 6-2-2c Exception—Clarifies that an incoming pitcher be treated equally. If a pitcher is ejected, an incoming pitcher should be afforded the same warm-up criteria as if he were replacing an injured player
- b. Mrs. Broska asked if there were any questions or concerns pertaining to the rule changes.
 - i. Wayne Yancey had a concern with 3-3-1f. Mr. Yancey asked why the coaches can no longer use the Game Changer app. He has found it useful for the athletes during games and for scoring purposes.
 1. Mrs. Broska stated that the Game Changer app may be used outside of the dugout.
 - a. Mrs. Broska mentioned that players are not to stick their heads out of the dugout to view the information on the Game Changer app.
 2. Ernie Pardon asked what the difference between videotaping and the use of Game Changer is.
 - a. Mrs. Broska noted that neither pieces of technology are to be used in the dugout or during the game for coaching purposes.
 3. Mr. Yancey asked if high school baseball is the only level of baseball with this restriction.
 - a. Mrs. Broska said that she would bring up Mr. Yancey's concern to the NFHS.
 4. Rick Turner asked what the penalty would be if coaches used Game Changer during a game.

- a. Mrs. Broska said she would look it up in the rulebook and send out that information.
 - 5. Mr. Yancey stated that the rulebook does not use the phrase “in dugout” when discussing the restrictions on the use of video and replay equipment.
 - a. Mrs. Broska said she would get clarification on this topic.
- 8. Old Business
 - a. Rule 201.01(D)
 - i. **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 will eliminate the word “Play” from the rule.
 - 1. Mrs. Broska informed everyone that the 40/60 issue was voted down and explained why the ADAC voted it down. This topic will be up for vote again at the next BAC meeting.
- 9. New Business
 - a. Game Ending Procedures
 - i. **Recommendation:** We should be able to invoke Rule 4.2.4 when games are a total mismatch and seriously out of hand scoring wise or in situation where safety is in question. By mutual agreement of the opposing head coaches and the UIC, any remaining play may be shortened or the game terminated.
 - 1. Mr. Yancey stated that that if a game were to get out of hand it is always possible to “even up” the teams by subbing in other players.
 - 2. Ernie Pardon noted that Georgia has a 10 run rule after one inning and a 15 run rule after five innings.
 - 3. Mike Parks stated that he believes calling a game has a more of a negative impact on the losing team than a positive one.
 - a. It was noted that this issue rarely comes up, but softball has this rule in place.
 - i. This issue will be discussed further at the next meeting.
 - b. Pregame warm ups
 - i. **Recommendation:** Similar to other sports like soccer, basketball, and football, we would like to recommend that language be put in place for

pregame warm ups stating that teams need to warm up on their half of the field.

1. Mrs. Broska asked the coaches if this was an issue that they believed needed to be added to the rulebook.
 - a. Everyone was in agreement that if some coaches are not sharing the field appropriately, and disrupting opposing teams' warm up sessions, then guidelines need to be added to the rulebook.

10. FACA

- a. Mr. Yancey began by noting the fact that the FACA recommended discontinuing the use of the Baden baseballs, as the ball is of poor quality and expensive.
- b. In regard to the Regional Baseball Tournament, Mr. Yancey asked if there is a way for a District Champion and the runner up from the same district to be on opposite sides of the bracket. This would eliminate the possibility of the two teams playing each other until the Regional Final game.
 - i. It was noted that the aforementioned method was in place during 1996.
- c. Getting high school coaches involved in the community by speaking at clinics is something that Mr. Yancey and Shelton Crews are currently working on.
 - i. Mr. Yancey mentioned a "point system" that will go toward various award considerations, (i.e. The Hall of Fame).
- d. Mrs. Broska asked what the feedback on the baseball was
 - i. Mr. Yancey replied that 17/24 members of the FACA recommended discontinuing the use of the Baden Baseballs.
- e. Mrs. Broska said the FHSAA will take a look at the issues surrounding the Regional Tournament.
 - i. Mrs. Broska noted that next year is a good year to try to implement this change because it is a reclassification year.
- f. State Finals
 - i. Mr. Yancey proposed that the state finals have only two teams in the future as opposed to four teams. He also noted that this may be a good way to cut costs since a lot of high schools are looking to save money.
 - ii. Mrs. Broska related this consideration to the new state finals format for soccer.
 1. She noted that there had been problems finding venues to support semifinals and finals soccer games. After the new format was implemented this past year, Mrs. Broska noted that there was some initial backlash, but the new format received positive feedback at the end of the year.
 2. Scheduling differences also determine a team's cost.

- a. Mrs. Broska explained that if a team has a late finals game they would end up having to stay an extra night, thereby increasing the cost of lodging. If teams are all able to play earlier in the day, then teams would not have to incur that extra cost.
 - iii. Mr. Padron asked if the potential new State Finals format would be two out of three games or just one game.
 1. Mrs. Broska replied that if the finalists were to play two out of three games then, they would be incurring the same lodging costs as if there were four teams in the finals.
11. Mrs. Broska opened the floor for any questions or concerns. There were no questions or concerns and the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 A.M.