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## ***NCHSAA Board of Directors Virtual Meeting via Zoom***

***October 6, 2024, 6:30pm***

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**Board Members Attending:** Elbert Lassiter, Roy Turner, Joe Franks, Bryan Tyson, Paige Badgett, Chris Blanton, Chad Duncan, Burt Jenkins, Jamie King, Allen Plaster, Don Phipps, Andy McCormick, Stephen Gainey, Dana Ayers, Henry Rice, Brian Carver, Larry Williford, Mark Garrett, Stephanie Phillips, Sam Jones, Eddie Doll, John William, Tanya Turner.

**Absent:** Wendell Hall

**NCHSA Staff Attending:** Que Tucker, Janna Fonseca, Karen DeHart, Rhonda Dreibelbis, Brad Alford

The Board met virtually for preliminary discussion regarding fall playoffs in the wake of Hurricane Helene and its devastating effect on numerous western counties. Commissioner Tucker opened the meeting by introducing present staff members and welcoming the new Board members.

President Gainey welcomed the group and opened by stating that this Board wants what is best for the students. He then provided updates based on conversations and communications he had with superintendents in western counties. The general sentiment expressed by most was to delay playoffs.

Commissioner Tucker addressed the current sports calendar and how playoff delays impact the schedule and state championship venues. Discussion ensued between Board members and Dr. Ayers indicated that “kids just want to play and don’t care if the championships are held at college facilities; kids need to play, no matter where. Athletics are good for kids”. Questions posed included: Can the staff review each sport separately as well as venues and report back? Can the length of game quarters or halves be reduced? Would playoff revisions be just for fall sports or all sports this year? Can the number of teams seeded on brackets be reduced? Can a pod system for region 8 schools be implemented? Can qualifying times be set for cross-country and qualifying scores for golf? Can teams be given additional games within a week to help them get the games played?

Ultimately, the Board challenged the staff to examine the logistics of state championship venues and see how playoffs can be revised, which sports could be condensed with multiple rounds within a week and report back on Tuesday evening during the follow-up virtual meeting with the goal of announcing the plan to the membership on Wednesday, 10/9/24.

The virtual meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

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***NCHSAA Board of Directors | Virtual Meeting via Zoom***

***October 8, 2024, 7:00pm***

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**Board Members Attending:** Elbert Lassiter, Roy Turner, Joe Franks, Bryan Tyson, Paige Badgett, Chris Blanton, Chad Duncan, Burt Jenkins, Jamie King, Allen Plaster, Don Phipps, Andy McCormick, Stephen Gainey, Dana Ayers, Henry Rice, Brian Carver, Larry Williford, Mark Garrett, Stephanie Phillips, Sam Jones, Eddie Doll, John William, Tanya Turner, Wendell Hall

**Absent:** N/A

**NCHSA Staff Attending:** Que Tucker, Janna Fonseca, Karen DeHart, Rhonda Dreibelbis, Brad Alford, Caitlin McMannen, Brandon Moree

Commissioner Tucker began this virtual meeting of the NCHSAA Board of Directors by introducing several staff members who were not in the 10/6/24 meeting (Caitlin McMannen and Brandon Moree). She stated that she hoped as the Board gives directives, members will trust the staff to do what they need to do rather than others doing their own research. Stephen Gainey reiterated this and then provided updates from several additional western counties regarding the effects of Hurricane Helene. He then requested that staff provide updates regarding any information they have heard from schools in the west.

Commissioner Tucker gave an update on Asheville HS.

Staff then shared information regarding facility availability if playoff dates were to be revised (move back one week later) giving details about the facility availability and staff suggestions, by sport.

Women's Golf: No change to facilities or state finals date; suggest changing number of 9-hole matches required from 5 to 3.

Volleyball: NCSU is available one week later although would necessitate playing 1 game Friday night and three on Saturday with a late afternoon start time due to women's basketball practice/schedule. Suggest allowing teams to exceed weekly limitation to help schools get matches scheduled.

Women's Tennis: Individual- Facilities are available but do not recommend moving dates. Suggest moving reporting deadline later to allow schools an extra day to complete matches.

Women's Tennis: Dual Team- Suggest postponing state finals by one week; allow schools to continue dual team matches but these will not count towards individual tennis seeding.

Cross-Country: Site is available one week later although there would be issues with regionals as many sites are non-school sites. Suggest moving last play date to 10/22 to provide an extra day for running meets.

Men's Soccer: Site not available one week later due to NCAA and field preparation. Recommend delay seeding but no changes to state finals date. Allow schools to exceed the normal weekly limitation (current limit of 3/week and allow 4<sup>th</sup> on a non-school day, excluding Sunday).

Cheerleading: Facility is not available one week late; recommend no change to invitational date.

Football: Both venues are available one week later.

The Board then voted on various changes to the playoff schedule, sport by sport.

Women's Golf: Recommended to lower the minimum number of 9-hole matches from 5 to 3 to meet qualifying standards. Motion by Don Phipps, second by Mark Garrett. **Approved: 19-0.**

Volleyball: Board reviewed several options. Recommended adjusting seeding and playoff round dates, allowing more than 4 games in a single week (exceeding the weekly limitation) starting 10/12/24, and leave state final date as 11/2/24. Motion by Sam Jones, second by Mark Garrett. **Approved 19-0.**

Women's Individual Tennis: Recommended no changes to regional and state final championship dates. Recommend moving reporting deadline from 3:00pm to 11:59pm on Monday date to provide an extra day to complete matches.

Women's Dual Team Tennis: Recommended delaying dual team tennis playoffs by one week to provide additional playing opportunities. Motion by Don Phipps to approve recommendations for both individual and dual team tennis; second by Mark Garrett. **Approved 19-0.**

Cross-Country: Recommend changing reporting deadline from 10/19 to 10/22/24 at 11:59pm to give teams extra time to run conference tournaments and submit information (extend season); maintain regional and state final dates. Motion by Don Phipps; second by Chris Blanton. **Approved 19-0.**

Men's Soccer: Recommended providing additional playing dates by moving seeding date to 11/7/24 and allowing teams to exceed weekly game limitation. Discussion ensued regarding conference finish and RPI for seeding purposes. Motion to approve by Mark Garrett; second by Don Phipps. **Approved 19-0.**

Cheerleading: No changes.

Football: Several options were presented by staff to the Board (1. Move entire playoff schedule back one week; 2. Maintain original state final date but allow more than one game per week with 3 or 4 days between contests). Discussion included concerns voiced by the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) regarding time between games if teams were allowed to play more than one game per week to make up missed or postponed games.

Motion was made by Don Phipps for option 1, to move entire playoff dates back by one week with state finals played 12/20-21/2024; second by Bryan Tyson. **Approved 19-0.**

Discussion ensued regarding allowing schools to add an additional regular season football game to generate revenue in the extra week provided due to moving playoff calendar back. This would allow schools needing to complete their schedule an extra date to do so. For those who have completed their regular season, it offers an additional game opportunity. This would be only if it was the 11<sup>th</sup> game for both teams.

A motion was made by Jamie King to allow an optional extra game in week 12 for all schools. Those who have completed their regular schedule may play but not include that game in their Maxpreps record; for schools needing to complete their schedule, they can play two games (Saturday/Tuesday) and this game counts in Maxpreps for seeding purposes. There must be a minimum of 72 hours between games (3 days). Second by Dana Ayers. **Approve 18-1**

Mark Garrett made a motion to adjourn; second by Dana Ayers.  
The meeting adjourned at 9:43pm.

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***NCHSAA Executive Committee | Virtual Meeting via Zoom***

***October 29, 2024, 2:00pm***

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The Executive Committee along with the Past President of the NCHSAA Board of Directors met via Zoom on Monday, October 29, 2024.

Members present: Stephen Gainey, Mark Garrett, Brian Carver, John Williams, and Past President Chris Blanton.

Absent: Sam Jones and Allen Plaster (Note: These individuals were informed of the actions taken and both agreed).

The discussion item was how to receive the ADM (Average Daily Membership) number for the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the first month of the 2024-2025 school year. Discussion centered on the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene, as well as some issues with the transition from Power Schools to Infinite Campus. As a result, NCDPI (NC Department of Public Instruction) cannot give a date as to when the numbers will be available and sent to the NCHSAA. It was understood that action needs to occur as the membership expects the realignment to occur.

NCHSAA Bylaw VI was read and discussed. Mark Garrett made the following motion: "To follow Bylaw VI as written, requesting the 20<sup>th</sup> day numbers be submitted by the Superintendent of each PSU or the Head of Schools for Charter Schools." The motion was seconded by Stephen Gainey. **Approved 5-0.**

The committee authorized the NCHSAA Staff to create a collection form to be sent to the membership as soon as possible.