

June 9, 2011

## OHSAA Board of Directors Update – June 9, 2011

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** – The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors met Thursday morning at the OHSAA office for its regularly scheduled June meeting. The complete set of meeting minutes will be posted later at OHSAA.org. Of note, the June meeting is the final Board meeting of the 2010-11 school year. The 2011-12 Board of Directors will hold its first meeting August 4.

### **Statement from Commissioner Ross regarding the Competitive Balance Proposal**

Dr. Dan Ross, OHSAA Commissioner, has issued the following statement on the future of the Competitive Balance Proposal, which was voted down by the member schools during the annual referendum voting period in May. The proposal, which would have allowed the OHSAA to use a formula for determining athletic count numbers used in assigning schools to divisions, was defeated 332-303.

“This fall, the OHSAA will conduct a survey of our membership to gather feedback on the Competitive Balance issue. The Competitive Balance Committee will then meet to study the survey results and determine if a new proposal should be forwarded to the Board of Directors for consideration of a new referendum issue next May. It remains the goal of the OHSAA to keep public and non-public schools together in the same tournaments. The Competitive Balance Committee’s goal is to do that, but also to create a more balanced method for how schools are placed into divisions. We appreciate all of the feedback from our member schools thus far and expect to receive even more when the survey is completed.”

### **Highlights from the Board Meeting**

- By a 5-4 vote, the Board approved a proposal from the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association to allow member schools to play up to 22 regular-season basketball games beginning with the 2012-13 season. Of note, the length of the season will not be expanded.
  
- The OHSAA recently imposed sanctions against five member schools. The list of infractions and penalties will be included in the complete meeting minutes posted at OHSAA.org, but media members may obtain the list earlier by contacting Tim Stried, OHSAA Director of Information Services, at [tstried@ohsaa.org](mailto:tstried@ohsaa.org).
  
- The Board accepted the 2011 winter sports financial reports except for wrestling and ice hockey, which are still being completed. Of note, while attendance for the girls basketball state tournament remained nearly the same from the previous year (34,473 in 2011), the boys basketball state tournament attendance was down by 21,015 paid admissions (130,820 in 2010 compared to 109,805 in 2011). This continues the trend of declining attendance at the boys basketball state tournament, which has fallen each year since attendance reached 175,399 in 2006. Of note, attendance peaked in 2003 with a paid total attendance of 192,880.
  
- By a 9-0 vote, the Board passed a motion that beginning with the 2012-13 season, the total number of regular-season games permitted in ice hockey will be capped at 35 games regardless of how many games are part of various regular-season tournaments.
  
- By a 5-4 vote, the Board approved a proposal from the Ohio High School Swimming Coaches Association to modify the state tournament qualifying procedures so that in swimming events, each of the four district tournaments will have two automatic qualifiers to the state tournament, while the other 16 state qualifiers will be at-large selections from the remaining best times of all district competitors. This change will be in effect for the upcoming 2012 state tournament.

- With a 9-0 vote, the Board approved the creation of a second division in girls and boys bowling beginning with the 2013-14 season if the number of participating teams still qualifies for a second division.

- By a pair of 9-0 votes, the Board approved two proposals from the Ohio High School Bowling Coaches Association to take effect for the 2011-12 season. First, to allow coaching to begin a week earlier than previously published. Second, to eliminate scrimmages and increase the number of regular-season contests permitted from 22 to 24.

- By a 9-0 vote, the Board denied a proposal from the Ohio High School Bowling Coaches Association to adopt a statewide coaches' dress code. The Board said such a regulation should be a school-adopted rule.

**Note:** The Board of Directors held a special meeting via teleconference on Friday, May 20. The minutes from that meeting are posted at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/news/board/minMay11Special.pdf>