



Western Dakota Association

Monday, June 3, 2019 - 10 a.m., CT
Williston High School (Conference Room/Main Office)
4200 32nd Street W, Williston, N.D. 58801

Present: Bruce Schumacher, Guy Fridley, Mark Wiest, Dave Zittleman, Ben Lervick, Jim Roaldson, Mitch Lunde, Paul Jundt, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, David Mieure, Jim Green, Colby Simonson, Matt Mullally

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Jim Green is taking an assistant principal position within the Watford City District. Brian Dokken will serve as Watford City's AD.

Zittleman called for additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the Feb. 27, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Moved by J. Roaldson, seconded by M. Lunde to approve the minutes as read. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances. Beginning Balance: \$5,611.19. Ending Balance: \$11,145.54. Noted revenue was \$19,450.49 for the W. Region Basketball Tournament; \$2,2249.87 from the WDA Girls' Soccer Tournament. Noted expenditures was \$5,000 for SID/Executive Sec. contract fee and \$1,000 for the WDA Senior Scholar Recipients. Moved by S. Nustad seconded by B. Schumacher to approve the current financial report. Additionally, Mullally presented the proposed 2019-20 budget. Projected beginning revenue of \$11,220.01. Total projected revenue of \$42,820.01. Projected ending expenditures of \$36,890. Moved by M. Lunde seconded by M. Wiest to approve a first reading on the proposed budget. All vote yes, **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2018-19 Spring schedules Concerns/Issues/Review

Baseball

Coaches expressed a desire to play non-conference games early in the season as well as in the final week of the regular season. This would leave the middle portion for conference play. A start date for WDA games would be around April 14. The concerns for this request is it doesn't give many options for makeup dates and there are other school activities that could conflict with the schedules.

With the increase of field turf fields, coaches/ADs want to "phase out" the use of metal cleats. The can cause damage to turf fields. ADs believe it appropriate to establish a grace period before a hard date on when players will no longer be allowed to use them. This would also be followed for softball. This issue would be brought forward to NDHSAA, EDC colleagues. Also, given the large group of coaches, it was advised that only one spokesperson per team be permitted to speak/discuss issues in future coaches meetings. Assistant coaches/others would continued to be allowed to sit in on the annual coaches meeting, but not participate in the discussion. An assistant coach is permitted to take the place of a head coach at the meeting, if necessary.

The plan moving forward is to again plan for JV tournaments at the end of the season, but leave the option to schedule additional two games, if threat of inclement weather is likely going to disrupt/cancel the tournament.

Softball

Despite the need to move the W. Region/WDA Tournament to Minot due to uplayable field conditions in Dickinson, the event went well. Having two turf fields permitted the consolation and semifinal games to be played at the same. Coaches said plans for next year is to attempt to schedule a regular season tournament (Fargo), if possible, to create more non-conference play. Also, make efforts for some local umpires to also be part of crews working postseason tournaments.

Tennis

Coaches expressed a desire to continue to hold the tournament in

Minot or Bismarck. The 2020 is tentatively planned for Jamestown. Some coaches were concerned about the condition of some outdoor courts there. J. Roaldson said this concern has never been brought to his attention, and believes the primary outdoor courts used in Jamestown are fine. Perhaps the secondary outdoor courts may need to be examined closer. However, the new indoor facility in Jamestown has four courts. Couple that with the primary outdoor venue (Bollinger Courts) and there is adequate facilities to host the region event.

Track-Field

Athletic.net, the program used by track/cross country coaches to report athletes' meet results, has caused some issues, at times, in getting accurate information linked to the site. Coaches need to better monitor the site to make sure accurate listings are posted and names not left off. Coaches expressed a desire to return the Parade of Athletes event prior to start the state track meet. This event has been difficult to organize given the large number of athletes and creates added work to tournament staff right before the meet is to begin.

Girls' Soccer

Coaches again requested an additional week to spread out matches and provide more time to prepare for the postseason. With the addition of teams to the conference in the future, expanding the WDA Tournament into three days may become necessary. When the time comes to do that, the current format for seeding and advancement to the state tournament may need to be revised. Currently, the top two regular season placewinners automatically qualify for the state tournament. And the other state tournament seeds are determined by a state qualifier. To align with other WDA/region tournaments, all teams would have to play their way into the state tournament, starting with quarterfinal matches/loserout/semifinals/state qualifiers and championship. Seven schools will again field a varsity program next spring with plans to increase that number in the future with the addition of Williston, Dickinson and TMCHS.

New Business

Live Streaming Events

Some schools continue to have issues with patrons/individuals live-streaming events. These individuals often don't notify schools ahead of time of their plans to live-stream. And often, they make requests for a designated space in the stands/arena or need additional equipment or access to electricity. This can cause additional work for ADs/event hosts, as well as some costs. Each school will adopt its own "in-house" policies relating to live-streaming its events. And set up fees, if it wants. Despite this being a public event, schools have the right to limit and determine who will be permitted to live-stream/broadcast its activities. P. Jundt said releasing it on a tape delay basis is always an option for those who are interested in videstreaming.

For live-streaming WDA postseason events, a daily fee schedule will be adopted and in line with the NDHSAA rate/regulations. Moved by D. Mieure and seconded by M. Wiest to establish a fee schedule for live-streaming postseason WDA postseason events. All yes, **Motion carried.**

By-Laws/Constitution Revisions

M. Mullally requested that ADs take time over the next couple of months to review the WDA's existing by-laws and rules (posted on the conference website). Any potential changes/adjustments will then be formally acted on at a future meeting.

Three-person officiating basketball crews for JV

Each school will have to determine if this is something it wants to adopt or put into practice. Several issues discussed include whether it is necessary for that level. Whether there are enough officials. Whether it's something that can be done consistently with both boys and girls games. And what the additional costs.

One-day region/state orchestra event

ADs are advised to discuss with their band/music instructors to determine if holding a one-day region music event will provide a better experience and format for students. A survey was sent out this spring to outline a change as a result of needing a suitable host venue to allow the event to be held for one day.

Finalize 2019-20 Fall and Winter Sports Schedules

Boys' Tennis: The annual JV tournament will be moved to the Saturday preceding the week of the West Region Tournament.

Boys' Hockey: Hazen-Beulah will return to varsity play in 2019-20. Teams will have the option to play them twice (3 point games) or once (6 point game). Also, playing their JV team vs. H-B for region points.

Boys-Girls' Basketball: The dates for the sub-varsity tournaments schedule have not yet been set. Looking at potentially moving the freshman tournaments up a week. However, how this would impact remaining games scheduled regular games has not yet been resolved. Issue to be revisited in August.

Athletic.net

An Athletic.net subscription fee is necessary in order to see all times/distances recorded for track. Without it, only a limited number of results throughout the spring are available for the general public. Patrons/Coaches can sign up with Athletic.net to view the postings, but it only lists the top 25. A subscription fee is needed to sell all the listings. Is there something could be done to provide a place on our website each week to post a thorough listing of the times/distances for each event for girls and boys. One possible solution is for the M. Mullally to have a subscription and then list those results by pdf link to the track pages.

SID/Executive Secretary 2019-20 Contract

After discussion, the board approved the 2019-20 SID/Executive Secretary contract for Matt Mullally. The 12-month contract, beginning in August, 2019 is \$34,000 and includes a \$500 stipend toward a new computer. New contract will be prepared. Moved by B. Lervick seconded by D. Mieure. All voted yes, **Motion carried**

2019-20 WDA Membership Reminder

M. Mullally reminded the ADs that the annual WDA membership fee should be made payable by Sept. 1, 2019. The cost \$1,000 for full members and \$50 for associate members. As part of the meeting packet, an invoice is available for each school as a pdf.

2019-20 WDA AD Meeting Schedule

Dates/times were set for the upcoming 2019-20 AD meeting schedule.

Thursday, Aug. 8, Bismarck, 1 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 14, Jamestown, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8, Minot, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, March 4, Bismarck, 2 p.m.

Monday, June 8, Belcourt, 10 a.m.

Finalize 2019-20 West Region/WDA Postseason Schedule

ADs reviewed and formally adopted the 2019-20 WDA/West Region postseason championship/tournament schedule. In addition, sites were selected for future region/conference events in activities. The updated listing of future sites can be viewed on the conference website.

Administrative Passes for 2019-20

WDA members will be responsible for printing and laminating its conference administrative passes for 2019-20. In previous years, the passes were made by Image Printing, Bismarck. The decision to make the passes "in-house" will save approximately \$500. Mullally has created the pass design. Each schools will send him their list of administrators/spouses to receive passes. Mullally will create the passes and then email/and or mail a pdf file of the passes to each school. Schools will then print them out and laminate them.

Lifetime WDA Passes

WDA members who would wish to provide a WDA Lifetime Pass to someone deserving from their city/area, can contact M. Mullally by July 1. Passes are customarily handed out to former coaches, ADs, school officials or other workers/volunteers who have made significant contributions to high school activities in their area/state.

SID/Executive Secretary Report

Mullally said our fourth on-line yearbook will be released by mid-June. The yearbook provides a thorough year-in-review for all 22 sports as well

as several Fine Arts activities/team scholar recipients as well as other information about the conference. The previous three yearbooks are also available to view on the WDA website.

Mullally, also sent out a draft of the 2019-20 AD/Coaches handbook. Several changes/revisions were made. Mullally would like to update the coaches contact sheet as part of the handbook. Several new coaches have been hired and more will be hired over the summer. ADs should send Mullally a contact information sheet of its coaches for 2019-20. They will be added to the handbook for quick reference. Also, Mullally will provide the ADs sport-specific information from the handbook prior to the start of the season. This can then be reviewed at AD/coaches meetings prior to the start of the season for reference.

Girls Wrestling

With the continued increase in girls participating in the sport, more opportunities for the athletes to compete is needed. Teams/programs that have these athletes are encouraged to look at scheduling matches, when available.

Trapshooting, archery, figure skating

G. Fridley asked how other members are handling letters/student recognition for non-traditional sports, including trapshooting, archery. Some award letters if they provide some form of funding. Other schools allow the activity to use the school name but do not award/recognize letter-winners.

E-sports gaming

M. Wiest said Mandan has approved funding to purchase gaming devices/hardware for future e-sports gaming opportunities for students.

Athletic Review

Recommended changing the Region Track Meet from a set date to a deadline. This will create greater flexibility in avoiding inclement weather.

Recommend using the next region placer in each respective weight class to fill a open spot at the state wrestling tournament. This will serve as the region's "silent nine" in the event a seeded wrestler is unable to compete.

Recommend not adding an additional game for for the 2019-20 boys and girls' hockey seasons.

Recommend moving the entire girls' hockey season one week later, beginning with the 2020-21 season. Season would begin and end one week later than the boy's season.

Allow a six-dive score of 170 or higher to be a state-qualifying standard as long as the diver has completed an 11-dive list at some point during the swimming-diving season.

Recommend not adding an additional game for for the 2019-20 boys and girls' basketball seasons.

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

The next WDA meeting will be Thursday, Aug. 8 in Bismarck, beginning at 1 p.m. Location to be determined. Bruce Schumacher will begin his term as president.

Respectfully submitted

Matt Mullally, WDA Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2019, 2 p.m. CT

Hughes Education Center

806 North Washington Street - Bismarck, N.D. 58501

Present: Bruce Schumacher, Guy Fridley, Mark Wiest, Dave Zittleman, Ben Lervick, Jim Roaldson, Mitch Lunde, Paul Jundt, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, David Mieure, Jim Green, Matt Mullally

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Zittleman called for additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the Jan. 9, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Moved by J. Roaldson, seconded by B. Schumacher to approve the minutes as read. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances.

Beginning Balance: \$7,611.19. Ending Balance: \$6,511.19

Noted revenue was \$500.00 from Farmers Union Insurance as a match for the WDA Senior Scholarship program. Noted expenditures included SID/Executive Secretary payments for January, totaling, \$2,500.

D. Zittleman discussed a request from outside enterprises/people to live stream some of the region basketball games. It's allowed under NDHSAA rules/guidelines. However, the fact that games are being allowed to be viewed via Internet web stream opens the possibility of losing admissions/gate revenue. In light of this, it should be the right of the conference to receive one-half of the revenue NDHSAA takes in for the allowing the video live streams. Currently, the WDA receives one-half of revenues from the tournament under the agreement with the NDHSAA. The board believed getting a portion of the live stream revenue fee is a reasonable request. The issue will be brought up at the next NDHSAA Tournament Committee meeting. Moved by Martin seconded by M. Wiest to approve the current financial report as presented. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2018-19 Spring schedules Concerns/Issues/Review

The board will monitor closely the weather in the coming weeks before determining whether changes/adjustments to the spring activity calendar will be necessary.

Baseball

J. Green said Watford City will be fielding only a varsity team this spring. **Track**

The indoor season will begin in mid-March. The WDA will again split its two conference indoor meets on March 29. Bismarck will be one of the sites with Williston the other.

Girls' Soccer

S. Martin said TMCHS will again be playing a JV schedule.

Sub-varsity tournaments

Weather permitting, JV baseball tournaments will be scheduled in late May. Sites and brackets will be determined based on the number of participating teams. Minot and Bismarck will be potential hosts.

Weather permitting, JV softball tournaments will be scheduled in late May. Sites and brackets will be determined based on the number of participating teams. Minot and Dickinson will be potential hosts.

Weather permitting, Bismarck will host the JV girls' tennis tournament on Monday, May 21.

WDA Senior Scholarship/NDIAAA scholarship program

P. Jundt said four boys and girls applications were received for the annual WDA Senior Scholarship program as sponsored through NDIAAA. A committee of ADs, who do not have an applicant from their school, will review the applications and select one boy and girl recipient. The winners will receive a \$500 scholarship and be eligible for the state scholarship award. As customary, the students will be recognized on the final day of the West Region Basketball Tournament. P. Jundt said some prob-

lems exist with the on-line application form by NDIAAA. In the future, a change should be made to the application to make it more user friendly.

Adjustments to the West Region Tournament bracket schedule

Resumed discussion on whether hosts of region baseball, softball and volleyball tournaments should have the discretion to adjust (i.e. flip) the tournament bracket to enable the host team to play its quarterfinal game/match in the evening. As discussed earlier, this could allow more local fans to attend that first game, boosting gate revenue. Some support adjusting the bracket because it gives schools/towns that host region events sporadically the assurance the host school will have a more favorable opening game time. Some believe the region tournament bracket schedule should be consistent from year-to-year and activity-to-activity. It's not an in-season tournament, but a region tournament that should take into consideration all the teams participating. Moved by J. Roaldson seconded by S. Martin to allow the host the discretion to change (i.e. flip) the bracket pairings to allow the host school to be in the evening time slots for baseball, softball and volleyball regional quarterfinals. **Yes:** G. Fridley, M. Wiest, D. Mieure, J. Green, B. Schumacher, S. Martin, J. Roaldson, S. Nustad. **No:** B. Lervick, P. Jundt, D. Zittleman. **Motion carried, 8-3.**

JV baseball and softball game limits

Resumed discussion on setting consistent inning limits on JV baseball and softball games.

Proposal was that JV1 and JV2 baseball games should be five innings in length with no time limit. No extra innings will be permitted. Proposal for JV1 softball will be five innings and no time limit. For JV2 softball, five innings and a 90-minute time limit. A six-run per-inning rule will be applied for both JV1 and JV2. No extra innings will be permitted. It was moved by M. Lunde seconded by M. Wiest to approve the proposals. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

New Business

Winter Season

Wrestling: The region tournament in Belcourt went well. First year the event was held there. Coaches were satisfied with the venue and how it was conducted. No major issues discussed among coaches regarding the season/tournament.

Boys' Hockey: The region tournament in Minot went well with no major issues among coaches discussed regarding season/tournament. Region tournament now adopts the four official system, M. Lunde said.

Girls' Hockey: Coaches meeting conducted during the state hockey tournament. Discussion about moving the girls tournament to a different location/city and/or different weekend was discussed. A majority of coaches would prefer this option.

Gymnastics: The conference tournament held in Minot. One issue is to adjust how the vault judging point system is administered. Should develop more of a point spread to those who perform more difficult vault attempts.

Boys-Girls Basketball: The region tournament will be held in Bismarck. Coaches meeting was conducted in Mandan. Boys coaches want to establish, through NDHSAA, a joint officials-coaches gathering prior to season to go over points of emphasis regarding officiating standards. These meetings could be held in a number of sites...Discussion about changing the conference schedule to establish set days for conference games to create more equity...Some coaches wanted to make sure Saturday games are played as early as they can to allow teams to return home at a reasonable hour...A point for future consideration is whether coaches should not permit co-senior region athletes of the year as it may cause for split votes at the state level for senior athlete of the year honors. This year there were co-boys senior athletes, but not on the girls side.

Region play-in dates for basketball

Discussion about setting a uniformed schedule for when region play-in basketball games should be held. Coaches would prefer they be conducted on same day. Facility availability becomes an issue as some WDA schools host state gymnastics the weekend in which region play-in games would be held. Some schools potentially would have to look at other venues to host the games. This was the case this year as Jamestown hosted gymnastics at the school gym. As a result, the girls' play-in game between Jamestown and TMCHS was held at the University of Jamestown's arena. It appears Dickinson and Jamestown would be the two schools most affected as they are regular hosts for the state gymnastics meet. The play-in games must be completed by the Saturday preceding the region tournament, according to NDHSAA provisions. Moved by J. Roaldson seconded by G. Fridley to designate the immediate Friday following the end of the regular season to serve as the date for which region basketball games will be conducted. In the event weather/or other circumstances (venue booked for state gymnastics) prevent the game to be held that Friday, then Saturday will be the day the game will be played. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Officials Per diem

D. Miere asked what our conference per diem rates are for officials working W. Region and WDA postseason events. He wants to make sure his community/school are setting rates that are consistent within the conference and state. After discussion, it was moved by G. Fridley and seconded by M. Lunde to set the per diem for game officials at the state rates for \$15 for out-of-town officials and \$8 for in-town officials. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Dickinson to sponsor soccer

Dickinson officially will sponsor soccer, beginning in the fall of 2019 with the boys' season. The plan now is for a JV- only schedule. The spring of 2020 will also feature girls playing a JV-only schedule.

ADOTY

The ADs conducted their nominees and vote for the 2018-19 region activities director of the year. G. Fridley was selected for the honor and will be formally recognized at the West Region Basketball Tournament

Volleyball

G. Fridley announced that Dickinson will be hosting its annual volleyball tournament for Sept. 27-28, 2019. Some EDC teams are planning to compete as well as some perennial powers from Montana. Teams that are interested in being in the field should contact him soon.

Letter pins

G. Fridley asked if other schools are in the practice of buying letter pins for athletes. They are expensive and a cost the athletic department incurs. Several members said they don't provide them.

Gymnastics

The 2019-20 WDA Gymnastics Meet will be held in Jamestown. Formal approval will come at the annual June meeting. Initially, it was scheduled for Mandan but concerns were raised regarding limited seating and space to host this event. Mandan requested it be hosted by another member in which Dickinson tentatively agreed to do so at the January 9 meeting. However, schedule constraints don't permit for the event to be held there, either.

SID/Executive Secretary Report

Mullally said there were some issues regarding Hudl for basketball stat-keeping this winter. As a result, more time was needed to put the weekly stats together. The website will again have West Region Basketball Tournament page for followers of the event. Once the winter season concludes, the transition starts to the spring sports activities and preparing pages on our website.

E-sports gaming

M. Wiest said Mandan is looking into this endeavor. A E-sports event is planned in Mandan on March 11.

Freshman Basketball Tournament in 2019-20

A proposal was made by B. Schumacher to move the 2019-20 Freshman boys and girls basketball tournaments in Bismarck-Mandan a week earlier. This would help to ease issues regarding venue availability since currently they are conducted along with the sophomore tournaments. Some scheduling issues still need to be ironed out prior the event. Issue was tabled for the June meeting.

Athletic Review

A proposal/topic likely coming to the May meeting will be a different location or date for the state girls' hockey tournament. A large majority of state coaches are in favor of holding their tournament separate from the boys tournament.

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

The next WDA meeting (our annual meeting) will be Monday, June 3 at 11 a.m. in Williston.

Respectfully submitted

Matt Mullally, WDA Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2019 10 a.m. CT

Minot Public School Administrative Office/Board Meeting Room
215 2nd St. SE Minot, ND

Present: Bruce Schumacher, Guy Fridley, Mark Wiest, Dave Zittleman, Ben Lervick, Jim Roaldson, Mitch Lund, Paul Jundt, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, David Mieure, Jim Green, Matt Mullally

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Zittleman called for additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the Nov. 20, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Moved by Nustad, seconded by Martin to approve the minutes as read. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances. Beginning Balance: \$8,367.32. Ending Balance: \$7,611.19. Noted revenue was \$3,880.40 from the WDA Cross Country Meet; \$472.10 from the WDA Girls' Swim-Dive Meet. Noted expenditures included SID/Executive Secretary payments for November and December, totaling, \$5,000.

Moved by Martin seconded by Fridley to approve the current financial report as presented. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2018-19 Schedule Concerns/Issues/Review

Winter

Six region play-in games (3 boys games/3 girls games) will be held between Feb. 21-23. There is the potential the games could require some facility changes/adjustments to sub-varsity tournaments that are customarily held in Bismarck-Mandan during the weekend of the play-in games. If Bismarck teams are in play-in games, that could mean sub-varsity tournaments have to be moved to another site or times adjusted. As the regular season winds down, and the play-in game matchup scenarios become clear, activities directors will collaborate on the sub-varsity tournament schedule and venue options.

Coaches worked on the 2019-20 wrestling season at the annual Bismarck Rotary Tournament. Tentative plans have Dickinson hosting a tournament in mid-January, 2020. Minot would then host an early bird tournament in late November. Jundt asked how the reception has been in scheduling triangulars to generate more crowds, atmosphere and competition. Some teams are currently scheduling them and the feedback has been mostly positive. The challenge is trying to balance schedules so teams are not "home heavy" one year and not the next.

Martin said Turtle Mountain Community College will be the site of the 2019 West Region Tournament. Martin said the facility is more than capable to hosting the event and will provide plenty of amenities for athletes, fans and tournament officials.

Postseason Tournaments

Concern was expressed how TV coverage of the postseason events could adversely affect gate admission/tournament revenue for some state/region events. M. Lunde said admission/revenue was noticeably down at the recent Class A-B Volleyball Tournament in Minot. BEK Sports provided coverage of all the matches. While the coverage has its benefits, and generates revenue for the NDHSAA, it does affect attendance/gate numbers.

A concern moving forward is, if the NDHSAA grants permission to broadcast the West Region Basketball Tournaments, how that potentially affect the admission/tournament revenue? Revenue the conference counts on to cover a good portion of yearly expenditures. The WDA presently receives half of the proceeds from the combined boys-girls tournament. TV broadcasting of some, or all of the games likely would affect admission numbers, and subsequently, tournament proceeds. The NDHSAA would receive the broadcast revenue, but would some of that be shared by the conference/region schools? Zittleman has shared

these concerns with NDHSAA officials.

Adjustments to the West Region Tournament bracket schedule

Tabled the issue so activities directors can discuss the matter with coaches. It will be revisited at the Feb. 27 meeting.

The pros and cons of allowing the region tournament bracket to be adjusted (i.e. flipped) for sports like baseball, softball and volleyball were considered. This point is whether the tourney host should have the option to play in the evening session on the first day. This could allow more fans to attend that first game, boosting gate revenue. It currently is in use for baseball and softball but could it be opened to other region tournaments. Some support adjusting the bracket because it gives schools/towns that host region events sporadically the option to place the host school in the evening session. Some believe the region tournament bracket schedule should be consistent from year to year. It's not an in-season tournament, but a region tournament that should take into consideration all the teams participating. Switching the bracket to allow the host to move its game to the evening will effect three other teams that have been moved from the afternoon to the evening session. It may also create confusion to the public who are used to the current region bracket order of games on the first day (1-8, 4-5, 2-7, 3-6).

New Business

Spring Schedules

JV baseball and softball

Discussion began about a reasonable amount of sub-varsity games and plans for postseason play. G. Fridley said he sets up between 20-22 softball dates for the JV. That arrangement works in scheduling during the short window of dates in the spring. Tentatively, the plan is to again hold JV baseball and softball tournaments in May. M. Lunde said Minot would be willing to host either sport. Bismarck would again also be a host. Dickinson could host one of the softball tournaments. The size of the tournament and its format will be determined on the number of teams each program is expecting to field this spring.

Tabled discussion on establishing guidelines on innings/time limits for JV baseball-softball games until ADs can discuss with coaches. D. Zittleman said it would be good to provide direction to umpires/teams. This would head off any confusion or questions as to length of the games.

Track scheduling

M. Lunde is hopeful more emphasis can be placed on establishing a consistent JH/JV track meet schedule in the future. This will insure these athletes are getting more opportunities to compete.

Soccer

Pending school board approval next month, Fridley said Dickinson will begin sponsoring boys and girls soccer programs, beginning in the fall of 2019. JV schedule would be planned for the boys in the fall of 2019 and JV for girls in the spring of 2020. No timeline set on moving into varsity scheduling.

WDA Swimming-Diving Championship future site schedule

Adjustments were made to the site rotation for boys and girls swimming-diving championships. Bismarck, Williston and Jamestown are the three sites that currently host the events. At the June annual meeting, the new rotation schedule will formally be approved.

Future Scheduling/Greater emphasis on conference-wide equity

Mieure would like to see more emphasis placed on what's best for the conference over what's best for schools/programs when it comes to scheduling and the availability of playing conference opponents in sub-varsity sports or non-counters vs. conference teams.

Some schools have greater flexibility in their scheduling options while others do not. This is creating issues that are hard to overcome for some schools.

Mieure said he respects everyone's hard work in putting schedules together. He knows it's not easy to do and there is a lot to account for, but is there a way to do it that provides greater equity?

One area of concern explained was some schools, Williston, Watford City and TMCHS, often having to play a majority of their basketball games on weekends, due to travel time. Often playing back-to-back dates.

These weekend schedule arrangements were requested years ago by some ADs to reduce the number of trips taken. Limit the amount of missed class time and avoid late night returns on school nights. However, there is a competitive advantage issue when one team did not have to play the night before, according to Green. Are there options to resolve this situation in the future? Green realizes Watford City's location is going to mean added travel time. That can't be helped, but are there solutions/options to insure more equity?

A few years ago P. Jundt drafted a basketball schedule proposal that essentially set up Friday-Saturday dates. At the time, it did not draw much support for a number reasons/concerns. Among them was finding enough officials to work those games, especially when some also work collegiate games that often take place on weekends. Facility availability was another issue. And some schools wanted to take advantage of playing games on other nights. Roaldson believes there are advantages to having to play on back-to-back dates. It prepares teams for postseason play, for one.

Geography is something that can't be overcome in the conference. Some are going to have competitive advantages simply because of their location.

A question raised was whether this is a basketball issue or concerns about how scheduling, in general, is set up for other activities?

D. Mieure thinks it's something that should be looked into in other sports. However, the current volleyball schedule plan put in place has been good. It takes into consideration the additional travel incurred by some conference members by making the Bismarck-Mandan schools be on the road for 2-point matches.

Nustad said BHS is willing to play teams on weeknights, if that is going to help create more scheduling flexibility for some schools. He pointed out that BHS' boys hockey team came to Williston on a Tuesday to play. Establishing a "Tuesday-Friday" conference schedule, for instance, may sound good and equitable, but whether that can be achieved is another matter.

ADs don't want to have kids return home well after midnight on school nights, regardless of the school involved, Jundt said. There are other activities that share facilities. Lervick said each school is unique and has many activity commitments (like Fine Arts) to account for. Already it's a challenge to fit everything in.

Martin said his programs often are playing on weekends. A main reason is the TMCHS school district adopted a Monday-thru-Thursday class schedule. That has made weekend travel more appealing for activities, since it avoids missing class on Fridays. He shares sentiments about the back-to-back issues and the competitive advantage it allows for some teams that only play once on that weekend. Can we get closer to an equitable schedule. That's what he would like to see moving ahead.

Changes/adjustments to BHS fall volleyball scheduling

Due to construction of a new gym at Bismarck High, venue changes will be necessary for volleyball in 2019. The secondary gym at BHS will be available to host some contests. Other matches may be scheduled at other gyms in Bismarck during this period.

Game times on Saturday

Fridley asked if we can make more effort to start Saturday games earlier to allow teams to return home earlier. Some schools schedule early afternoon events while others prefer having games later on Saturday. The reasons for that include challenges in finding sufficient help to work/supervise the games, keeping home events from overlapping.

2020 WDA Gymnastics Meet

After visiting with other ADs and coaches, Wiest said the Mandan gymnastic facility is just not suitable to host the conference meet. There isn't enough seating, and the current seating, doesn't provide the best sight lines. Dickinson has tentatively agreed to host the event in 2020. Formal approval will come at the annual June meeting.

2019-20 Hockey Schedule

Due to the 2019-20 NDHSAA activity calendar starting a week later, the WDA hockey schedule has to be adjusted. ADs agreed to keep the already-scheduled games on the same days but adjust to the new dates.

NDIAA Scholarship Program/WDA Scholarship Program

P. Jundt reviewed the procedures for the NIAAA/NDIAAA Student Scholarship and application. Students must type the application to be eligible. Students are only eligible if the AD is a member of NIAAA/NDIAAA. The applicants are selected by each school and forwarded on to the WDA/W. Region ADs for review and selection. The deadline line for completed applications is Feb. 28. As customary, ADs which do not have an applicant, will serve as the selection committee. One boy and one girl will be awarded a \$500 scholarship. The WDA premiere partner, Farmers Union Insurance, will provide matching dollars. The WDA/region scholarship recipients will be recognized at the West Region Basketball Tournament.

ADOTY

Mullally informed ADs they can begin to send him via email their nominee for 2018-19 West Region Athletic Director of the Year. Nominees will be announced at the next meeting (Feb. 27) where a formal vote will be conducted. The recipient will be announced during the West Region Basketball Tournament.

SID/Executive Secretary Report

Mullally provided some statistics on current website traffic to the conference website. Google analytics provides the break down. Traffic has seen an exceptional increase in the past calendar year. In addition to the website, the conference Twitter account presently has 4,600 followers. Mullally explained the Hudl statistics software the schools use in basketball has been good, for the most part. There have been some delays in getting access to the Hudl stats. There has also been a few occasions when the stats had to be adjusted to take into account stats missed when video was cut off, or some jersey numbers could not be clearly seen to properly record stats. Mullally provides weekly conference and team statistics on the website for boys and girls basketball using the Hudl program.

Athletic Review

P. Jundt addressed topics expected to come up at the next Class A Review.

- Change first girls' golf practice date to Aug. 5 and move up state meet from Oct. 7-8 to Sept. 30-Oct. 1. ADs support the recommendation.
- For team matches at the region and state tennis duals, once match has been decided, the remaining individual match/matches that have not started a third set will play a super tie-break for the full third set. ADs support the recommendation.
- A rostered member of the volleyball team shall attend the coaches/captain meeting. ADs support the recommendation.

Tournament Committee

D. Zittleman said the committee made recommendations for site locations for the 2025-26 year.

WDA ADs recommend the NDHSAA draft media etiquette guidelines for NDHSAA-sponsored events.

ADs took no position on whether tournament team hosts should be formally recognized during introductions at state events/tournaments.

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

The next WDA meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 27, at 2 p.m. CT in Bismarck

Respectfully submitted

Matt Mullally, WDA Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2018 11 a.m., CT/10 a.m. MT
Dickinson Public Schools Learning Lab
266 3rd Ave. West, Dickinson, ND)

Present: Dave Zittleman, Ben Lervick, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Guy Fridley, Dr. Shane Martin, Jim Green, Scott Nustad, Dave Mieure, Matt Mullally

Conference Call: Jim Roaldson

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Zittleman called for additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the Aug. 6, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Moved by S. Martin seconded by S. Nustad to approve the minutes as read. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances.

Beginning Balance: \$11,016.32 Ending Balance: \$8,367.32

Noted revenue was \$1,279.28 from the WDA Boys' Soccer Tournament; \$4,100 in 2018-19 WDA memberships. Noted expenditures included SID/Executive Secretary payments for August, September and Oct totaling \$7,500; and reimbursement of \$543.28 to M. Mullally for payment to Go Daddy Inc., for a two-year contract for Website Domain Host Services.

D. Zittleman turned in a check for \$3,880.40 and the financial statement for revenue following expenditures for the 2018 WDA Cross Country Championships.

Discussion ensued clarifying what the tournament manager fee should be when hosting WDA/W Region postseason tournaments/events. It was determined a \$150 (1 DAY)-\$250 (2 DAY)-\$350 (3 DAY) formula should continue to be followed. The exception is a \$100 fee for those that host a play-in game/match. If changes/or circumstances require an adjustment to that formula, it will be reviewed at a future meeting.

Moved by G. Fridley seconded by M. Wiest to approve the current financial report as presented. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2018-19 Schedule Concerns/Issues/Review Winter

Activities Directors (ADs) reviewed the number of sub-varsity teams their respective schools would field for the upcoming boys and girls basketball and hockey programs.

S. Martin said the current plan is for the 2018-19 region wrestling tournament will be held at the new Belcourt Fine Arts Center which is presently being constructed. In the event that facility will not be ready in time for the Feb. 9 tournament, the event will be held at the Turtle Mountain Community College in Belcourt. Martin said that facility is more than capable of hosting.

Spring

M. Wiest said its likely Mandan will not be playing baseball games this season at Veterans Memorial Ballpark. The facility is undergoing major renovations. Games may be played at an adjacent baseball field at the complex, or renting/using facilities in Bismarck.

The region boys' golf tournament will be held in Dunseith and hosted by Belcourt. Adjustments were made/creation of new tees to ensure the course will meet the distance requirements as set by NDHSAA. The region girls' tennis tournament will again be hosted by Minot. This WDA girls' soccer tournament will be hosted by Mandan (Tuesday and Thursday event).

RSchool Scheduling

Discussion held about how multi-entry tournament/meet events are entered into the RSchool on-line conference schedule. G. Fridley said this has created some confusion and redundancy in the conference RSchool listing. Is there a way to alleviate this issue? A remedy would be to

list/designate these events as non-conference. This appears to only be an issues for such events as track/cross country/swimming and gymnastics. M. Lunde said we should do a better job of keeping an eye on this and make sure we are not adding more entries when it's unnecessary. A continued concern is when scheduling is left to others to post on the conference site. This may result in games/events inadvertently being changed or omitted without the knowledge of those affected teams. ADs are reminded that Dec. 1, 2018 is the deadline to post spring schedules on the RSchool site.

W. Region NDHSAA Director Position

The open NDHSAA W Region director position will be voted on in December. P. Jundt has agreed to represent the region in this capacity. D. Zittleman encouraged ADs to recommend/vote for Jundt for this position.

Soccer expansion

Beginning in the fall of 2018, Williston will be fielding a varsity and JV boys' soccer team for competition. This will bump the number of participating varsity teams in conference play back to seven. Dickinson is on pace to begin a boys and girls program, beginning the following year. It will likely begin with a JV boys' schedule in 2019 with potentially a JV girls' schedule in the spring (2020). Watford City may also be sponsoring soccer in the not-so-distant future. TMCHS Belcourt sponsors girls soccer and will again play a JV schedule in the spring of 2019.

New Business

Fall Sports Reports Volleyball

The issue of scheduling for 2019 was held. M. Lunde said there is three options for matches given the 11-team conference. 1. Play a double round robin schedule. 2. Play a single round robin schedule; 3. Continue to have an unbalanced schedule with some matches counting for 2 points. At the coaches meeting, the group was in favor of continuing the 18-2 format (18 matches and 2 in-season tournaments). Coaches preferred adjustments to the tie-break criteria to address the unbalanced schedule and not have some matches count for 2 points. A couple of tie-break options addressing an unbalanced conference schedule were presented and reviewed. At the coaches meeting, B. Lervick presented the order of finish in the standings using the current structure (1 pt and 2 pt matches) and if matches counted for 1 point. It revealed little change this year in order of finish and seeding for the region tournament. However, the 1 and 2 pt match set up does have the potential to impact the standings, as illustrated in the EDC this year. A team could drop 1 or more spots with a 2 pt. loss. As a way to provide concessions to teams that have more travel, the majority of the 2 point matches were hosted by those teams with more travel. J. Roaldson said some teams, including his program, would prefer to play teams twice (1 point each) that are traditionally at, or near the top of the standings. Unfortunately, that preference is not possible for all teams. P. Jundt added teams need to worry less about whether matches are worth 1 and 2 points, and just go and play the matches. Teams should not prepare any differently when facing an opponent regardless of the 1 or 2 pt match.

It was moved by M. Lunde seconded by S. Martin to have all single matches worth 2 points in the WDA standings and all Home/Away (double round robin) matches to be worth 1 point in the WDA standings; and follow the current five-year schedule plan which was adopted in the fall of 2017; Furthermore, the current tie-break procedure will remain. **Yes:** P. Jundt, G. Fridley, M. Wiest, S. Nustad, B. Lervick, S. Martin, J. Green, D. Mieure, M. Lunde, B. Schumacher, D. Zittleman. **No:** J. Roaldson
Motion carried

An issue raised was how the length of the volleyball season makes it challenging for some athletes to make the transition into winter sports. There is very little break for athletes. At a time when participation numbers are decreasing in girls sports, is this an area where changes are warranted to help with that? Any adjustments to schedules would be daunting, since it would affect schedules and postseason events of other activities.

D. Mieux said is there any possible way to adjust how the W. Region Tournament bracket is set up to allow the host site to play a later match/game (i.e. flip the bracket)? Williston hosted this year's tournament and happened to play two afternoon matches. A number of students were excused from class to attend. This issue was not well received by some teachers/staff. Could this be alleviated or changed if the home team can move its opening round match the evening? B. Schumacher and J. Roaldson indicated that would not necessarily promise better crowds/support. Some feel students are more likely to go to the afternoon match, if it means an excused absence from school. Baseball is the only W. Region event that the NDHSAA allows flipping the bracket to enable the home team to play in the evening session on day one. The driver for this was an increase in gate revenue. Since it's not an option now for other tournaments, should it then be allowed for baseball? The issue will be tabled and discussed at a later meeting.

Golf

J. Roaldson said there was discussion about using the iWannamaker program for scoring at region/state postseason events. Coaches expressed concerns about the 2019 schedule beginning a week later. This would result in more school missed and potentially affect tournament scheduling with golf courses. This concern has been brought forward for Athletic Review. Coaches also in favor of allowing individual state qualifiers to participate independently at the regional meet.

Tennis

Tournament was held in Minot. No issues brought forward by coaches.

Boys' Soccer

Coaches want the East-West crossover matches to be designated as scrimmages. Currently, they are not full 40 minute halves. They play 30 minute halves. They count only in overall record (non-conference). Coaches also want to recognize a "player of the match" for both teams after each regular season match. Coaches also interested in using Hudl for their programs.

Cross Country

Advisory asked that the conference meets should not be in the same location of the state meet. Reasons for this was, in case of bad weather, the race course doesn't get torn up. Also, hosting at the same location (often on a golf course) is tough/damaging to the rest of the course. And this means additional meet management duties in a short time frame.

West Region Tournament Admission Fees

Discussion about uniformed pricing for region postseason tournament fees. The NDHSAA-set price scale for daily admission is \$8 for adults; \$5 for students. Some postseason events also offer three-day passes while some are not clear about allowing them. ADs will discuss this issue of passes at an upcoming NDHSAA Tournament committee meeting. Once this discrepancy is cleared up, it will be revisited at a future meeting to set prices.

West Region Baseball Play-in Games

This 2019 West Region baseball postseason will feature two region play-in games. It was moved by G. Fridley seconded by S. Nustad to set the region play-in game schedule to the Monday prior to the start of the West Region Tournament. In the event of inclement weather, the play-in games would move to Tuesday or Wednesday. This year's tournament is in Bismarck. Postseason pitch counts apply to the play-in games. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

West Region Tennis Tournament Host Site

With the recent opening of Jamestown's indoor recreation facility which includes four indoor tennis courts, J. Roaldson said the school/community wants to be part of the rotation to host boys and girls tennis regional events. At the June annual meeting, Jamestown will be formally added to the future rotation of region tennis tournament sites.

West Region Wrestling Tournament Host Site for 2019-20

The 2019-20 West Region Wrestling Tournament was tentatively scheduled for Minot, but a scheduling conflict at the MSU Dome prevents Minot from hosting. The directors tentatively approved Watford City hosting this event for 2019-20. At the June annual meeting, Watford City will be formally added to the future rotation of region wrestling tournament sites.

All-state player recognition

M. Wiest asked if there is a procedure plan to release all-state teams following the season/postseason tournaments. And which organization/association is tasked with releasing it to the media? There was a delay this fall in releasing the all-state soccer teams. The NDHSCA handles all-state and postseason awards, and should take the lead to release this information. ADs will visit with NDHSCA officials in the future to affirm this should be the plan moving forward.

All-State Tournament Volleyball Team Selection Process

The all-tournament team for the Class A volleyball tournament was selected by four coaches (two from West Region; two from East Region) as established by coaches in the two regions. Question was raised as to why there needs to be designated coaches to complete this duty. Currently, the four coaches of the teams that lose state qualifier matches at their respective region tournaments, serve as the panel to select the all-tournament team. As a result of this arrangement, some schools/programs incur lodging/meal expenses. B. Schumacher said perhaps costs could come from the tournament budget. Another possibility is for workers/volunteers or other coaches that are attending to conduct the selection in the future. Other state tournaments have media or tournament officials oversee the selection.

Coaching Evaluations

G. Fridley asked for some feedback regarding end-of-season evaluations by student-athletes. Several schools use a variety of on-line or computer-based survey programs. Fridley is in the process of making changes to Dickinson's evaluation process.

SID/Executive Secretary Report

M. Mullally said some additions, corrections were made to the WDA AD/Coaches on-line guide. Mullally asked ADs to review this again forward any changes or updated coaching contact information. Mullally made the arrangements with Watford City coaches to receive access to their current Hudl basketball accounts. This was necessary as we prepare for the season and weekly stats to be posted on the website.

Athletic Review

P. Jundt said one item that will be discussed is changing the tie-break procedure at state tennis. Allow a super tie-break after two sets when the outcome of the 3-2 dual match has been decided. This change would allow for the match to end sooner.

Tournament Committee

At its next meeting, committee will look at potential state sites for 2025-26 and consider need updates to its state tournament policy manuals. Another issue to address is change of site for the 2019-20 boys' state golf meet from Hawktree in Bismarck to another course.

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

The next WDA meeting will be Wednesday, January 9th at 10 a.m. CT in Minot. (Note: That is a week earlier than initially planned to due a scheduling conflict with a NDIAAA meeting)



Western Dakota Association

Monday, Aug. 6 2018, 1 p.m.

Hughes Education Center,

806 North Washington Street, Bismarck ND 58501

Present: Dave Zittleman, Ben Lervick, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Dr. Shane Martin, Jim Green, Scott Nustad, Dave Mieure, Matt Mullally,

Absent: Guy Fridley

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Zittleman called for additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the June 4, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Moved by M. Lunde seconded by S. Nustad to approve the minutes as read. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances.

Beginning Balance: \$6,307.53 Ending Balance: \$8,016.32

Noted revenue was \$2,568.18 from the WDA Girls' Soccer Tournament; \$945.65 from the West Region Softball Tournament; \$4,000 in 2018-19 WDA memberships. Noted expenditures included the final two SID/Executive Secretary payments for the 2017-18 year, totaling \$5,000 as well as administrative service expenses such as WDA passes \$304.61 and championship signs \$236.43. Moved by B. Lervick seconded by B. Schumacher to approve the current financial report as presented. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

A second reading was held on the proposed 2018-19 WDA operating budget. Projected revenue totals \$34,221.36. A majority of this comes from WDA membership fees as well as tournament revenue. The general agreement is revenue after expenditures of postseason tournaments would be returned to the conference. The estimated revenue from tournaments is conservatively estimated at \$18,000. It was moved by J. Roaldson seconded by M. Wiest to direct revenues after expenditures from WDA/Region postseason tournaments to the conference general fund. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Projected expenditures total \$37,532.76. Mullally pointed out that the budget includes \$5,000 in built-in contingency funds to cover unforeseen expenses associated with fall, winter and spring activities. Only on rare occasions, have these funds been tapped into.

Moved by M. Lunde seconded by S. Martin to approve 2018-19 budget as presented. All voted yes; **Motion carried.**

In the interest to save future expenses, it was proposed by P. Jundt to have each school responsible for making administrative passes, beginning with the 2019-20 school year. In previous years, WDA passes were made by an outside printing company (Image Printing, Bismarck) at a cost of about \$1.50 per laminated pass. M. Mullally would provide a pass template which would be forwarded to each school. The schools would then add names/titles and laminate them. Moved by P. Jundt seconded by M. Wiest. All voted yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2018-19 Schedules/Review

Baseball

B. Lervick is in the process of putting together the 2019 schedule which will include non-conference date options with EDC opponents. He will forward the schedule draft when it is ready.

RSchool Scheduling

P. Jundt point out there are times when discrepancies on the RSchool team calendars need prompt attention. In order to make those changes swiftly and avoid confusion as to who should make corrections/additions when dealing with multi-team entries, ADs authorized B. Lervick to go in and make the necessary changes on RSchool team calendars. Lervick is the conference's leader for RSchool.

ADs were reminded of upcoming deadlines to post future schedules on RSchool. Dec. 1 for spring activities. June 1 for fall/winter.

New Business

Boys' Soccer Postseason

The 2018 WDA Tournament will be held on Saturday, Oct. 6 in Mandan. Three matches will be played (2 state qualifiers and the championship).

2018-19 WDA Membership

M. Mullally reminded members to turn in their 2018-19 WDA membership fees by Sept. 1. Annual fee is \$1,000.

2019-20 Wrestling West Region Tournament

Minot is hosting the 2020 West Region wrestling tournament. Initially it was planned again for the Minot State Dome, but likely will need to be moved to the Minot Auditorium because the MSU Dome will be in use that date, according to M. Lunde.

NDHSAA Director Seat Nomination

P. Jundt has agreed to represent the West Region/WDA on the NDHSAA board of directors. The next step in the process is for Jundt to be formally nominated in October.

All-Conference, All Academic Certificates

M. Mullally sent ADs a PDF template of the All-Conference Certificates and Academic All-Conference Certificates. Schools are responsible for presenting the certificates to their respective student-athletes who earn these honors. On the WDA website, a listing of all-conference selections are posted.

Drop Box

M. Lunde reminded ADs to use the shared Drop Box program to download rosters and other pertinent information for the 2018-19 year.

Softball-Baseball Sub-Varsity

Tabled discussion on sub-varsity tournaments for baseball and softball until next spring when participation numbers become known.

WDA On-Line Guide

The board reviewed the WDA on-line guide which was put together by M. Mullally, as requested by ADs. The guide contains rules/regulations for each activity as set forth by the NDHSAA and the conference. Other items in it include a varsity coaches directory, tie-break procedures, postseason formats and information about sub-varsity tournaments among other items. The idea behind the guide is to provide a quick reference for ADs and coaches. The ADs will forward it to their head coaches for review. Any changes/additions will be passed on to M. Mullally. The guide will continually be updated/

NDIAAA Workshop

A reminder the annual NDIAAA fall conference will be held in Mandan in mid-September.

SID/Executive Secretary Report

M. Mullally said the 2017-18 WDA on-line yearbook was posted on the website in June. It's the third year the conference has put together a comprehensive review of its activities for its patrons/coaches/athletes and other followers of the conference.

Some minor changes were made to the Home page of the website, but menu bars are the same as well as general layout.

With Watford City now in the conference, additional team pages were added for the school in respective sports.

WDA 8-6-2018 Meeting -- Page 2

A new two-year contract with Go Daddy, the website provider, will go into effect in mid-August.

Class A Review

Looking ahead to 2019 football, the AAA West Region/WDA will again be eight teams with the return of Jamestown. Current AA member Fargo Shanley has opted to move up to AAA in 2019. As a result, another team had to be moved up to balance the number of teams, according to the NDHSAA. Jamestown was that team.

Athletic Review

P. Jundt had forwarded action taken at the last NDHSAA athletic review meeting.

Two items of note. It was recommended to move the entire girls' hockey season one week later, beginning in 2019-20. This would alleviate current challenges, including overlapping of the fall-winter sports seasons for some athletes and provide a separate venue/tournament. Recommendation was to pass it. Official action was "A no vote" (10-0).

Also, extend the girls' soccer season by adding to the beginning of the season. And set the start date for the boys' season as Aug. 1 or 2. If Aug. 1 is on a Sunday, it would be Aug. 2. Recommendation was to pass it. Official action was "a no vote" (8-2).

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2018 at 11 a.m. CT in Dickinson.

Respectfully submitted
Matt Mullally, WDA Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Monday, June 4, 2018, 11 a.m.
Jamestown High School
1509 10th Street NE, Jamestown, N.D. Bismarck ND 58501

Present: Dave Zittleman, Ben Lervick, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Dr. Shane Martin, Scott Nustad, Dave Mieure, Matt Mullally

Absent: Guy Fridley (Preparing for the Class A Boys' Golf Meet in Dickinson)

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Introductions were made to Jim Green, new Watford City activities director.

Zittleman called for additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the Feb. 28, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Moved by J. Roaldson seconded by S. Nustad to approve the minutes as read. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances. Beginning Balance: \$2,404.90 Ending Balance: \$6,307.53. Noted revenue was \$14,436.95 from the 2018 West Region Basketball Tournament (March 1-3). That amount was significantly less than previous revenue totals from the tournament. (**2017:** \$21,159.03; **2016:** \$21,394.21; **2015:** \$18,540.60; **2014:** \$26,725.16). To offset the potential for continued revenue declines, directors generally agreed that moving revenues, after expenditures, from other regional tournaments is an option. Proceeds from the basketball regional go toward operating expenses for the conference. Directors will review past region tournament proceeds to get a better idea of what potential revenue would be generated from other regional events in 2018-19. And if possible, deposit those funds into the WDA account.

Mullally presented the proposed 2018-19 WDA operating budget. Directors will give it a final reading/passage at its August meeting. Moved by S. Martin seconded by M. Lunde to approve current financial report as presented. All voted yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2018 Spring Sports Review/Coaches Meetings Soccer

Discussion item for coaches was avoiding three matches in a week, if possible. Proposed plan was to have WDA matches on Tuesdays and Fridays. Extending the season a week (An earlier start date for matches) could alleviate the concerns with multiple games in a week. P. Jundt said he would draft a schedule. Also, will check with EDC schools to determine potential dates for crossover matches.

At the regional coaches meeting, a majority were not in favor of a conference tournament. Rewarding regular season play, avoiding late-season injuries were among reasons for having top four seeds qualify for the state tournament. If a conference tournament is continued, a double-elimination format would be preferred. That would align with other sports/regional tournament formats. Tentative dates for the 2019 WDA Tournament would be May 21-23, and hosted by Mandan.

Baseball

Plans to continue single round robin schedule (18 games with the addition of Watford City) next year. This would free up more time in the schedule, weather permitting, for more non-conf. games and possibly some against EDC opponents. At regional coaches meeting, many want more non-conf. options. Moving the play-in games off of the opening day of the region tournament is recommended. With two play-in games next year, this would have to happen anyway.

Softball

Directors said the single round robin schedule, which was adopted this spring due to weather/shorter season, went smooth and assured a balanced schedule. Coaches liked it as well, and therefore, this will format will be used again. Moved by M. Lunde, seconded by P. Jundt to continue the single round robin schedule (18 games with the addition of Watford City) next year. All voted yes, **Motion carried.**

Track

2019 schedule will be drafted this fall. Bismarck hosted the WDA Championships and Dickinson will host the event next year.

Tennis

At the region coaches meetings, no issues were brought up by coaches. Minot hosted the West Region Tournament. Coaches like the event there as all matches can take place, weather permitting, at Hammond Park.

Boys' Golf

Dickinson hosted the West Region and Class A Tournament. This spring, the East-West Classic was held in Fargo. No word yet on where next year's event will be held. Next year's schedule will feature similar format with the Bismarck schools partnering to host 2 tournaments, likely on consecutive days. Watford City will be participating next spring.

Softball-Baseball Sub-Varsity

Continued challenges with end-of-season sub-varsity tournaments (Available umpires, venues, volunteers, costs and time spent in planning). Some ADs would prefer discontinuing the tournaments in favor of extra games built into the schedule. Topic will again be revisited.

WDA Scholar Award

Scholarships were mailed out to the 2017-18 WDA Scholar Recipients (Elizabeth Leingang, Mandan; Brody Armstrong, Minot High).

New Business

2018 Boys' Soccer

Beginning next year, Mandan and St. Mary's will co-op. Williston will begin sponsoring a boys program and will compete at the sub-varsity level, according to D. Mieure. He will be looking for scheduling opportunities.

Sub-varsity Football Starting Times

M. Wiest noted the starting times next fall for Mandan sub-varsity games.

2018-19

Wrestling

Several schools having adopted triangulars to create a better dual atmosphere at home. The challenge is to create a schedule so teams are not "home heavy" with triangulars one year and then have few home events the next. B. Schumacher said his program will be lacking many home dates next year. Looking at possible schedule adjustments. Perhaps a future conf. triangular schedule can be put together to head off any scheduling issues.

NDHSAA Director Seat Opening

There is a director term open for the NDHSAA, representing the West Region/Class A.

P. Jundt said he would volunteer his time to serve in this capacity. There needs to be at least two nominees/candidates from the region which also include other school administrators. The board supported Jundt's willingness to take on this role.

WDA Lifetime Passes/Administrator Lists

--Mullally said directors wishing to add names to the WDA Lifetime Pass List should contact him. He will make arrangements for the new passes to be made this summer in time for the new sports season.

--Mullally will make arrangements for 2018-19 administrative passes to be printed and available at the August meeting. Directors should email the list to Mullally. He will send out a proof sheet to review prior to going to print.

WDA 2018-19 Membership

--The 2017-18 WDA membership fee will again be \$1,000 for full members and \$50 for associate members. Mullally provided an invoice for the membership fees. Payment should be made by Sept. 1, 2018.

WDA Postseason Rotation

A listing of future region/WDA postseason championships was reviewed. A few changes were made.

WDA 2018-19 Meeting Schedule

Some changes were made to the directors meeting schedule for 2018-19.

Monday, Aug. 6, 1 p.m. (Bismarck); Tuesday, Nov. 20, 11 a.m. CT/10 a.m. MT (Dickinson); Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019, 10 a.m. (Minot); Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2019, 2 p.m. (Bismarck); Monday, June 3, 2019, 11 a.m. (Williston).

Following the meeting, some indicated that our annual June meeting should rotate between Williston, Watford City and TMCHS Belcourt. Jamestown, which was part of the June meeting rotation, could switch off with Dickinson every other year for the fall (November) meeting.

SID/Executive Secretary Report

--Mullally said our two-year contract with Go Daddy to provide our conference website management account is up in August. The cost is a \$408 (\$17 a month). Over the next couple of weeks Mullally will spend finishing end-of-year items, including posting the on-line yearbook. This will be the third edition and is a comprehensive review of the year that was in the conference. Later this summer, updating sports web pages and preparing the site for our next year will be completed. The addition of Watford City will mean additional pages to post...Another project is a AD/Coach Activity Guide. This on-line publication would include information on each sport to serve as quick reference for ADs as well as coaches and other followers. Mullally will collaborate with B. Lervick and others on this project which will be ready by the August meeting for review.

--WDA premier sponsor Farmers Union Insurance provided outdoor banners that can be put up at facilities/venues beginning this year. There is one custom-made banner for each school.

--Also, the new conference logo will go into effect this summer and be featured on the website and other items/places.

SID/Executive Secretary Contact

The board approved a new SID/Executive Secretary contact for M. Mullally for the 2018-19 year. As outlined, it will be \$2,500 per month, covering 12 months, beginning in August, 2018. Moved by P. Jundt, seconded by M. Lunde to approve the contract. All vote yes; **Motion carried.**

Associate Membership fees refunded

Associate membership funds of \$50 will be returned to Minot Bishop Ryan for girls softball. Last fall/winter, the school opted to compete at the Class B level. Moved by M. Lunde, seconded by P. Jundt to refund the money. All voted yes; **Motion carried.**

Athletic Review

P. Jundt reviewed current NDHSAA athletic review items to be discussed and acted on.

Hockey: Increase number of allowable regular season games to 23 for

boys and 25 for Girls. Recommendation is: No

Move the entire girls hockey season one week later, beginning in 2019-20. This would alleviate current challenges, including overlapping of the fall/winter seasons for some athletes. Provide a separate venue/tournament. Recommendation: Yes

Swimming: Change the boys' diving standard from 235 to 275 for an 11-dive meet. Recommendation: Yes

Allow transfer students to compete in regular season varsity swim meets as unattached individuals. Board members said there needs to be clearer language on this rule and its potential impact on other sports.

Basketball: Change the boys shot clock to 30 seconds to match the girls. Recommendation: Yes

Increase the number of allowable basketball games by two. Recommendation: No

Tennis: Allow each school to enter a third doubles team to participate in region and state individual tournaments. Recommendation: No

Send protests to NDHSAA office within 24 hours of competition instead of at the region meeting. Recommendation: Yes

Girls' Soccer: Allow players on 22-person roster to be replaced during state tournament. Recommendation: Yes

Track-Field: Add Olympic-style qualifying standards. Recommendation: Yes

Adjust 300 Hurdles standards to :42.44. Recommendation: Yes

Utilize athletic-net as the mandatory state qualifying reporting site. Recommendation: Yes

Softball: Combine the Class A and B tournaments into one site. Recommendation: No

Review Recommendation in regard to Boys and Girls Soccer Seasons:

Extend the girls' season by one week by adding to the beginning of the season. Set the start date for the boys' season as August 1 or 2. If Aug. 1, is on a Sunday. Recommendation: Yes

Discussed whether provisions should be put into place regarding team personnel eligible to be on the bench/sideline/dugout during games/matches. Should it only be high-school-aged and older personnel. In the interest of safety, should children be prohibited from being this close to the action?

Also discussed crowd control at the conclusion of tournament championship games and the issue of safety for athletes/officials/tournament staff as well as spectators that storm the court/playing area.

NDHSAA Tournament Committee

The NDHSAA board will review and formally approve 2018-19 region-state tournament sites/venues at its June meeting.

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is Monday, August 6, 2018 at 1 p.m. in Bismarck.

Respectfully submitted

Matt Mullally, WDA Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018, 2 p.m.
Hughes Education Center
806 North Washington Street, Bismarck, N.D.

Present: Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Dr. Shane Martin, Dave Mieure, Randy Cranston, Matt Mullally, Mitch Lunde (via conference call).

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Zittleman called for additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the Jan. 24 meeting were reviewed. Moved by S. Martin seconded by M. Wiest to approve the minutes as read. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances. Beginning Balance: \$4,904.90 Ending Balance: \$2,904.90 Moved by S. Martin seconded by G. Fridley to approve current financial report as presented. All voted yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2017-18 Spring Schedule/Issues/News/Concerns

Softball-Baseball Sub-Varsity

Discussion resumed on scheduling sub-varsity tournaments for May. Facility and umpire availability were considered as well as the potential number of participating teams. M. Lunde said Minot would be willing to host JV1 and JV2. Bismarck Public Schools tentatively agreed on hosting the JV baseball tournaments.

WDA Scholar Award

There were a total of eight applications (5 boys/3 girls) for the annual WDA Senior Scholar Award as conducted by NDIAAA. Directors S. Martin, G. Fridley and D. Mieure agreed to serve on the selection committee. The boys and girls winner each receive a \$500 (\$250 sponsored by the conference/\$250 by Farmers Union Insurance). The region winners will then be eligible for the state award. The winners will be announced at the West Region Basketball Tournament in between championship games. The boy recipient was: Brody Armstrong of Minot. The girl chosen was: Elizabeth Leingang, Mandan. Mullally will contact the students this spring and make the necessary arrangements to send checks to the schools in which they will be attending.

Sportsmanship Expectations

S. Martin shared concerns regarding player/racial insults directed at some of his athletes from earlier this winter season. Recently, he was made aware of these incidents. Directors agree there is zero tolerance for this behavior. ADs and school officials have been proactive in educating/promoting its patrons/teams on good sportsmanship and citizenship. Unfortunately, incidents still occur. Schools will continue to examine effective ways to get this message across. Lunde shared some fan behavior/and guidelines they use.

ADOTY

The annual region athletic director of the year voting was conducted. Six directors were nominated, and following voting, Ben Lervick, Bismarck Century, was selected. He will be recognized at the West Region Basketball Tournament and at this spring's state conference.

New Business

Winter Coaches Meetings

Wrestling

Minot and the Minot State University Dome was a great venue for the region tournament. Next year, the event will be hosted by TMCHS-Belcourt. Martin said a new hotel and conference center will be ready to host the event.

Gymnastics

Dickinson hosted the WDA Championships. Jamestown was the site of the state event. Coaches strongly encourage two judges be used in regular season meets/competitions.

Boys Hockey

Minot hosted the West Region Tournament and again will host in 2019. Event went well with few issues.

Coaches resumed discussion on a potential two-tier hockey classification. The intent is to provide more competitive games within the state.

Girls Hockey

Discussion again on having a separate site/date for the state tournament. Possibilities could be to hold the event a week after the boys' tournament. This could also alleviate the concern with athletes coming off the volleyball season in the fall. Moving the season start date back could create a better transition from one season to the next for those athletes. Allow athletes a little time in-between seasons.

Basketball (Boys and Girls)

Coaches again requested the return of a morning "shoot around" prior to the start of the Class A Tournament to get acclimated to the venue. Currently, teams conduct a brief shoot around at halftime of games. Coaches want to re-seed the West Region Tournament following play-in games. Beginning next year, there will be three play-in games (6 vs. 11; 7 vs. 10; 8 vs. 9). Under the current bracket format, the No. 1 seed would play the winner of the 8-9 game. If the 11 seed would upset the No. 6 seed, they would play the No. 3. One of the advantages of being the top seed should be to get to play the lowest seed. Re-seeding would present challenges in scouting future opponents. No longer teams could watch one game. Currently, the NDHSAA does not permit re-seeding of bracketed tournaments.

Issue raised by girls' coaches is why shot clock (time) is different than the boys. Should it be the same.

In regard to sub-varsity postseason tournaments, the plan moving forward is to seed the top four teams for the freshman tournaments and then have a random draw for the remaining teams in filling out the bracket. It's not necessary to come up with specific seeds for each team. Mullally met with the coaches to discuss stat keeping using Hudl/Hudl Assist and getting more additional information on the team pages on the conference website.

Boys' Swim-Diving

WDA Championships were hosted by Bismarck Public Schools. D. Zittleman said Bismarck would be willing to host the event each year, provided coaches-ADs are fine with that.

Tie-Break Criteria for regional seeding

Currently, NDHSAA has tie-break criteria in place for regional seeding purposes for some sports (including football and boys'-girls' hockey). The WDA has tie-break procedures for other sports (basketball, tennis volleyball, for example). Additionally, the EDC also has separate tie-break criteria for many of its sports.

In basketball, for example, the tie-break in terms of point differential is different between the WDA (maximum of 10 points) and EDC (a maximum of 13 points). Perhaps a consistent/uniformed tie-break criteria should be implemented, since its used to determine seeding of NDHSAA-sponsored regional events. Should the NDHSAA establish those criteria?

Life-Track Surveys

Lunde said a new coaching evaluation program to consider is LifeTrack Services, Inc. It's a fast, efficient way to process this information.

Sub-varsity Soccer Tournament

Mandan will host the event this spring. Specific dates/times will be determined at a later date. TMCHS Belcourt is beginning a girls' soccer program this spring, and will compete in sub-varsity play.

Conference logo change

With the addition of Watford City, our conference logo had to undergo a subtle change. An additional "star" was added in our three-dimensional 'A' lettering.

The first band of stars represent the conference charter members (Bismarck High, Dickinson, Mandan, Minot, Williston) with the second band representing the remaining full members. JPGs of the new WDA logo design in school colors were forwarded to the ADs for use, beginning this next school term. The logo can be used at the discretion of directors.

SID/Executive Secretary Report

—Mullally met with Kevin Ressler, state marketing/sales representative for Farmers Union Insurance. In addition to providing a match toward the annual senior scholar award, Farmers Union will fund other promotion projects next year, including outdoor banners for each school with the conference logo. Also, fund items such as travel mugs and provide shirts/pullovers for schools which will include the new logo.

—The project to include Fine Arts items to the WDA website is moving forward. Several photos (music/drama) were added to the Fine Arts page and Mullally has been in contact with many Fine Arts instructors from schools about providing additional information on this site, including event schedules and results of music contests, speech events, student congress as well as photos and video. It's a work in progress but in time could be a great addition to the site and attract more followers.

—Prior to the start of the West Region Tournament, our WDA Twitter Account reached 4,000 followers! This has become another important resource in providing information about WDA activities/events.

East-West Items

Wiest asked if we should consider setting parameters on a competitive dance season? Is the season too long and varies too much from program to program? Perhaps more consistency is necessary among participating schools.

Athletic Review

Discussion on potential changes in the girls' shot clock (time) is expected.

NDHSAA Tournament Committee

April meeting will review future state tournament locations/sites.

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is Monday, June 4, 11 a.m. at Jamestown High School.

Respectfully submitted
Matt Mullally, WDA Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Jan. 24, 2018, 10 AM -- Minot
Activities Directors Meeting

Present: Mitch Lunde, Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Ben Lervick, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, Dave Mieux, Randy Cranston, Matt Mullally

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Zittleman called for additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the Nov. 1 meeting were reviewed. Moved by G. Fridley seconded by S. Nustad to approve the minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances. Beginning Balance: \$9,904.90 Ending Balance: \$4,904.90 Moved by S. Nustad seconded by B. Lervick to approve current financial report as presented. All voted yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2017-18 Schedule/Issues/News/Concerns

Baseball

Discussion resumed on region baseball play-in dates and how established tournament pitch counts factor into when regional play-in games can be scheduled. WDA and NDHSAA officials have discussed the matter, but it has not been resolved. J. Roaldson will visit with Justin Fletschock of NDHSAA to again discuss WDA's position/interpretation on the matter of pitch counts and how they affect the region play-in game. It was moved by M. Lunde seconded by J. Roaldson to have the play-in game on the Thursday (day one) of the West Region Tournament which will be held in Williston. Concerns were brought regarding travel and whether the play-in game could be held at a more convenient time/location for those teams involved. P. Jundt pointed out that next year the play-in game(s) would need to be moved off the opening day of the tournament since two play-in games would be necessary to get the region bracket to eight teams. Voting yes to have play-in game on Thursday of Tournament: M. Lunde, J. Roaldson, G. Fridley, S. Nustad, D. Mieux, M. Wiest, B. Lervick. Voting No: P. Jundt, B. Schumacher, D. Zittleman. Abstaining: S. Martin; **Motion carried, 7-3.**

Sub-varsity baseball tournaments will be scheduled at a future time when programs have a better idea of how many teams they will field this spring. G. Fridley note that lack of umpires/officials living in his area will make it unlikely for Dickinson to again host a sub-varsity tournament (Baseball or Softball) the spring.

D. Zittleman said discussion will resume on scheduling the sub-varsity tournaments at the next meeting.

Boys Golf

Schedule for 2018 has been set with the East-West Tournament scheduled for Fargo. WDA officials want to see the event moved back to Jamestown. Watford City will be added to the schedule of meets. A decision will be needed at some point on how many regular season meets the conference wants to set up. And whether there should be a schedule rotation, if it's not possible for every school to host a tournament during the regular season due to tournament limits.

Volleyball

The 2018 schedule has been set and teams have determined which in-season tournaments they will compete in. The conference schedule will feature 11 teams with the addition of Watford City and three scheduling groups for an unbalanced schedule. Schedule format was adopted this past fall with collaboration from coaches.

Boys Swimming-Diving

WDA officials approved moving the 2018 WDA boys swim-diving championships to Bismarck from Minot due to concerns about sufficient seating.

Future WDA/West Region Postseason Events

WDA officials reviewed the proposed schedule of 2018-19 WDA/West Region Tournament locations/venues. The plan will be forwarded to NDHSAA for final approval.

Some changes were approved. The West Region boys' hockey tournament will be held in Minot. (Initially, scheduled for Bismarck). The tournament will return to Bismarck (2019-20 season).

Bismarck will host the West Region Baseball Tournament. St. Mary's School will co-host with Bismarck Public Schools. The 2018-19 postseason schedule can be viewed on the conference website -- wdasports.org

Graduation Requirements

J. Roaldson discussed how changes in graduation relating to extra-curricular activities/participation could affect how programs determine participation opportunities for student-athletes. Issue will continued to be monitored to see if schools need to address language in its policies pertaining to participation in extra-curricular activities.

Postseason Tournament Schedule

Tournament managers/host do have the right to adjust the schedule of opening round tournament games to allow the host team to play in the evening. This practice already occurs in some activities/sports (baseball/softball) and is allowed by NDHSAA. Other region tournament brackets generally have stuck to the 1-8, 4-5, 2-7, 3-6 order of quarterfinal games.

New Business

2018-19 Scheduling

Fall

Cross Country: D. Zittleman said the schedule has been updated.

Football: Schedule complete. In 2019, there may be changes in number of Class AAA and AA teams which could affect scheduling.

Volleyball: Schedule completed.

Boys Soccer: Schedule completed.

Girls Golf: Schedule completed.

Winter

Boys-Girls Basketball: Schedule plan complete. (11 teams)

Teams have one non-conf. games.

Hockey: Schedules being finalized.

Wrestling: Scheduling to be finalized at regional

Gymnastics: Scheduling will be conducted at state meet.

Swim-Diving: Scheduling will be conducted at state

Watford City WDA Membership

As required by WDA by-laws, a formal application and approval is required for new conference membership. Application was received.

It was moved by G. Fridley seconded by D. Mieux to accept Watford City as full member into the Western Dakota Association, effective in the 2018-19 school year. All voted yes. **Motion carried**

Future broadcasting of West Region Basketball Tournaments

Plans are calling for 2019 West Region boys-girls basketball tournaments to be broadcast by BEK Sports/BEK Communications as approved by the NDHSAA. WDA officials expressed concerns about how this may affect attendance, and essentially, tournament revenue. Revenue generated from the event helps to cover annual WDA expenditures/services. Most prominently, funding the conference's executive secretary/SID position. D. Zittleman will visit with M. Fetsch, NDHSAA executive secretary, about these concerns and whether the conference will receive some of the proceeds of the broadcasting contract.

Sub-varsity game limits for basketball

With the addition of Watford City a question was posed as to whether it would affect the total number of sub-varsity games available, i.e., continuation of postseason tournaments. The additional two games on the will not mean the discontinuation of end-of-season tournaments. Players are allowed a predetermined number of quarters to play. Coaches will need to monitor these quarter totals to assure players will be eligible to participate in the Sophomore and JV tournaments.

WDA Scholar Award

Applications and Nominations for the annual WDA Senior Scholar Award must be completed by Feb. 28 in partnership with NDIAAA. One senior boy and senior girl will receive \$500. Selection committee will review applications and select this years scholar winners.

The recipients will be announced at the West Region Basketball Tournaments in Bismarck. Recipients will be recognized at halftime of the boys' championship game, and/or during halftime of a game which involves schools of the scholarship recipient. M. Mullally will be on hand to take a photo of the recipients. The new scholarship winners will be posted on the Team Scholar Award page.

At the conclusion of the girls and boys championship games, the all-WDA teams will be announced. Coaches will select the teams at the Sub-varsity tournaments a week earlier.

Athletic Director of the Year

M. Mullally said nominations for the W. Region Athletic Director of the Year are needed prior to the Feb. 28 meeting. Mullally will call for nominations a week before for the meeting and the board will make selection at its meeting. The recipient will be recognized during halftime of the boys championship game of the West Region Basketball Tournament. Mullally will forward winner to Lorell Jungling, NDIAAA executive secretary.

SID/Executive Secretary Report

—Weekly posting of boys and girls basketball cumulative team stats/stat leaders has been going relatively smooth. There has been a few delays in getting stats uploaded on the HUDL account. Each week, since the start of the season, the boys and girls have had stats posted on the website (Boys on Monday; Girls on Tuesday). Additionally, team stats for WDA duals have also been posted on the wrestling main page/and team pages. Also, conference leaders in scoring/goaltending in boys and girls hockey has been posted weekly on the website.

NDHSAA

Class A Review items and recommendations

—J. Roaldson will discuss baseball region play-in scheduling and how it pertains to tournament pitch counts.

Tournament Committee

April meeting will review future state tournament locations/sites.

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2 p.m. at BPS Administration offices at Hughes Administration Building, Bismarck.

Respectfully submitted
Matt Mullally, WDA Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Nov. 1, 2017, 11 am CT/10 am MT -- Dickinson
Activities Directors Meeting

Present: Mitch Lunde, Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Ben Lervick, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, Dave Mieure, Randy Cranston, Matt Mullally

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Zittleman called for additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the Aug. 8 meeting were reviewed. Moved by S. Martin seconded by B. Lervick to approved the minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances.

Beginning Balance: \$15,771.78. Ending Balance: \$9,904.90

G. Fridley asked how our current financial standing relates to last year.

Beginning Balance (10/28/2016): \$9,848.58. Ending Balance: \$11,553.98

Moved by M. Lervick seconded by G. Fridley to approve current financial report as presented. All voted yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2017-18 Schedule/Issues/News/Concerns

Fall

Discussion about adjusting starting time for boys' tennis dual matches to account for enough daylight to finish matches on courts that do not have lighting.

Discussion about how awards are administered for WDA girls' swim-dive championships. Do all eight placewinners in relay events take places on awards platform?

Winter

—J. Roaldson asked about the use of a shot clock in subvarsity basketball games. Most will use shot clock if there are workers/volunteers available to do operate it. Used primarily for sophomore and JV games.

—Discussion about staggering middle school-age activity seasons to address issues such as availability of officials, coaching and facilities. Currently those middle school seasons run concurrently with high school seasons. Issue will be reviewed at a future meeting.

—G. Fridley asked about triangular wrestling duals among WDA teams to create more matches, better atmosphere at home events. Some programs prefer to just keep single dual matches in order to have more home dates. D. Zittleman said, if it works for some programs to do triangular they should pursue them. G. Fridley said Dickinson will not host a wrestling tournament this season.

Spring

—The 2018 track season will include a series of "mini-WDA meets" with predetermined teams. This will ensure meets to be conducted in a reasonable time frame. The meets will likely include four or five teams.

—B. Lervick reviewed the planned varsity baseball schedule. The plan is for conference games to primarily be played on Tuesdays. A single round robin doubleheader of two 7-inning games will be implemented. The home team will have last at bats in both contests. Lervick is also setting up non-conference doubleheaders with EDC opponents as well as non-counters with WDA teams to fill out schedules. Teams need to request how many additional non-conf. games they want.

—Minot will be hosting the West Region girls' tennis tournament. It was moved from Bismarck. The event will be held Thursday, May 25 thru Saturday, May 26, 2018

—S. Martin said TMCHS is beginning a girls' soccer program. The team will be scheduling JV matches this spring with intent to go to varsity in a couple years. Bismarck will be hosting the first West Region girls soccer tournament. The event will be held on Tuesday, May 22 and Thursday, May 24.

—J. Roaldson earlier forwarded the 2018 softball schedule. Current pod

set up will remain. Minot Bishop Ryan will remain in the WDA for the upcoming season. Changes to the pod system/ or other scheduling changes will be addressed after 2018 with the addition of Watford City to the conference. It's not known if Minot Bishop Ryan will remain in Class A or move to Class B, following this season.

—The 2018 East-West Classic boys' golf meet will be held in Fargo, April 27-28. Event was traditionally in Jamestown.

Watford City transition to Class A and WDA

Randy Cranston, Watford City activities director, attended to discuss plans for Watford City move to Class A and the Western Dakota Association, beginning in the fall of 2018.

Sports in which WC will sponsor include: (Fall) Football (AA); boys and girls cross country; volleyball; and girls golf (Winter) boys and girls basketball; wrestling; (Spring) boys and girls track, baseball, softball, boys golf.

At this time, no plans for Watford City's Junior Gold (club) hockey to request becoming a school-sponsored activity. Soccer potentially could be a sponsored activity in the future.

Cranston would like to continue and expand scheduling now of sub-varsity and JH activities so his teams/programs can get acclimated to WDA-level competition.

—No board action has yet been taken to formally add Watford City as a full member to the conference, beginning in 2018-19.

New Business

Fall Sports Review

Volleyball: The 2018 schedule will feature 11 teams with the planned addition of Watford City. As a result, a new scheduling format is needed. A schedule proposal was presented by Dickinson. It would feature an unbalanced schedule using "three scheduling groups". The format presents one-point and two-point matches since not every team plays each team twice.

Additionally, there was discussion on which regular season tournaments WDA teams would participate in. Bismarck hosts a tournament in late August (first weekend of play). Dickinson hosts a tournament in later September while Fargo has a tournament the first weekend in October.

Under a new scheduling change, teams would have to scale back to two tournaments. Concerns included: If WDA teams opt out of Fargo Tournament then Fargo/EDC schools would opt out of the Bismarck Tournament. If Bismarck decided to discontinue its tournament, would Fargo move its tournament to the opening weekend? Dickinson would like to continue its tournament, but any change of date could jeopardize them getting teams from Billings, MT. And the Billings participation has been a draw to get other Class A programs to compete at their tournament.

It was moved by S. Martin seconded by S Nustad to adopt the Dickinson Schedule Proposal. **Yes:** S. Martin, S. Nustad, B. Lervick, M. Wiest, G. Fridley, P. Jundt, M. Lunde, B. Schumacher, D. Mieure, D. Zittleman. **No:** J. Roaldson. **Motion carried 10-1**

Directors will draft the 2018 WDA schedule. In regard to in-season tournaments, the directors request feedback from coaches following their region meeting. 2018 scheduling will be revisited in January.

Girls' Golf: Dickinson hosted the West Region Tournament. Scheduling for 2018 will feature nine meets plus the West Region Tournament.

P. Jundt said having an official present to monitor holes/scoring at future tournaments/at least the state qualifying tournament, should be considered. There has been issues, both in girls and boys competitions, regarding accurate scoring kept by golfers and proper rule interpretations. An idea pitched is that at the first meet teams would play together and coaches closely monitor their rounds to teach/instruct proper playing procedures and application of rules. These Items to be revisited again at January meeting.

Boys' Soccer: A majority of coaches at region meeting again want to discontinue the WDA/W Region tournament. They additionally requested an additional week to the season to spread out matches. Discussion about players required to have matching color undershirt/garment. J. Roaldson said the 2018 East-West Crossover again will be a two-day event in Jamestown, Aug. 17-18.

Boys-Girls' Cross Country: Williston hosted the WDA Championships. 2018 scheduling reviewed. D. Mieux said the only issue to come out of the region meeting was a tie for senior athlete. Next year's conference meet will be in Jamestown.

Football: AAA 2018 scheduling in place. Coaches requested facilities be equipped with a data/stat program to provide statistics following games. Directors took no action.

Boys Tennis: Bismarck hosted the West Region Tournament. No issues from coaches at region meeting.

2018-19 Basketball Scheduling

B. Schumacher presented the planned 2018-19 boys and girls basketball scheduling. A double round robin schedule for 11 teams (Watford City added). There may be some tweaks needed due to facility availability issues.

West Region Tournament additions/changes

President Zittleman said the addition of a West Region girls' soccer tournament as well as a site change of girls' tennis from Bismarck to Minot in the spring requires official notification to NDHSAA. Zittleman will draft a letter to NDHSAA informing of the additions/changes.

Changes to future WDA meeting dates

To avoid a conflict with the January NDIAA meeting, President Zittleman set the next WDA regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 in Minot, beginning at 10 a.m. Location will be determined at a later date.

Additionally, Bismarck will host its meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 2 p.m. This was changed to coincide with the West Region Basketball Tournament (March 1-3).

SID/Executive Secretary Report

—Uniformed WDA all-conference certificates were printed this fall and provided to members. M. Mullally will send out a pdf file to ADs so additional certificates can be printed, as needed, in the future.

—Beginning this winter season, WDA members will be using the same basketball stat-video program (Hudl). Teams are asked to provide access for M. Mullally to their team sites so stats can be updated on the conference website in a timely matter.

—Farmers Union Insurance has agreed to again match the WDA senior scholar award (\$500).

NDHSAA

Class A Review items and recommendations

—Having penalty kicks/shootout, first, instead of an overtime period to determine outcome of consolation round matches at state soccer tournament.

Tournament Committee

Nothing to report.

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018 in Minot.
Location to be announced.

Respectfully submitted
Matt Mullally, WDA SID/Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Aug. 8, 2017, Bismarck Hughes Education Center

Present: Mitch Lunde, Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Ben Lervick, Dr. Shane Martin, Dave Mieure, Scott Nustad, Matt Mullally

President Zittleman called the meeting to order

Minutes of the March 1, 2017 and June 5, 2017 meetings were presented. Moved by Fridley, seconded by Lunde to approve the March 1 minutes. All voted yes. **Motion carried.** Moved by Martin, seconded by Wiest to approve the June 5 minutes. All voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances. Beginning balance of \$8,813.01. Revenues for the reporting period totaled \$8,000 with expenditures of \$541.23, leaving an ending balance of \$15,771.78. Moved by Wiest, seconded by Nustad to approve the current treasurer's report. All voted yes. **Motion carried.**

The 2017-18 WDA proposed budget was reviewed. Projected revenues of \$40,963.01 with projected expenditures of \$36,475. Moved by Fridley, seconded by Lunde to approve the budget. All voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2017-18 fall schedules

Schumacher informed ADs that St. Mary's won't field a JV soccer team this fall. The change may affect a few match times.

St. Mary's also won't field a JV volleyball team, due to low numbers.

2017-18 winter schedules

Wiest said Mandan will have a boys' JV hockey team and will schedule games.

2017-18 spring schedules

Baseball

Resumed discussion on a conference baseball schedule. After lengthy debate, it was moved by Lunde, seconded by Lervick to have a single round robin doubleheader, on the same date, with both games 7 innings. The home team will be the home team for both games. All yes. **Motion carried.**

Tuesdays and Fridays (with Saturday as a flex day) will be the schedule template for league games.

In addition to the 16 conference counters, plans are to arrange 2 non-conference doubleheaders with EDC opponents for the nine varsity-fielding members. Remaining non-conference games will be scheduled by each school/team. Schools can arrange non-counter games with fellow WDA teams to fill out schedule. Lervick and Fridley will put together a schedule and forward it to members.

Softball

J. Roaldson said he's working to complete a master softball schedule. Schedule will again feature two pods/divisions.

Track-field

Zittleman said a track-field schedule should be finished later this fall.

Boys' Golf

The proposed schedule had the annual East-West Classic hosted by Fargo instead of Jamestown. This change was news to activities directors. Moving it to Fargo will increase considerable mileage for teams. The question was posed would EDC teams attend the tournament if it was held in Williston/Dickinson? After contacting some WDA coaches and discussing with Jamestown Country Club personnel, the tournament could be continued in Jamestown.

The conference meet schedule will also be tweaked. A meet, initially scheduled for Riverwood G.C. in Bismarck, will be dropped and be combined with one scheduled for Hawktree (north of Bismarck).

Girls' Soccer

The dates for the first West Region Tournament were discussed. Proposal was to have the tournament hosted by Bismarck with the play-in match on Tuesday evening and two state qualifying matches and the

championship to be held on Thursday. Some expressed concerns about moving the match schedule to the middle of the week and the potential to miss school time during final testing for some students. The boys soccer tournament in the fall is set up for Thursday and Saturday. The spring season presents different challenges in scheduling. Several region/state tournaments/events are taking place that week in May, making it challenging for personnel to host events. And with end-of-year testing and other school activities.

Moved by Nustad, seconded by Lunde to set the West Region Girls' Soccer Tournament to Tuesday, May 22 and Thursday, May 24. Yes votes: Lervick, Nustad, Lunde, Jundt, Wiest. No vote: Roaldson. Abstained: Martin, Fridley, Mieure. **Motion carried (5 Yes/1 No/3 Abstaining).**

West Region Tournament Site Changes

The 2017-18 West Region Volleyball Tournament is being moved to Mandan from Williston. Concerns about the floor in the new Williston gymnasium were reasons for the change.

The 2017-18 West Region Girls' Tennis Tournament is being moved to Minot from Bismarck. Bismarck is scheduled to host the girls' soccer regional and the Class A-B track tournament that week. Zittleman will forward the planned changes to Matt Fetsch at NDHSAA.

WDA 2017-18 Membership

Mullally informed the members that Sept. 1, 2017 is the deadline for conference membership fees. \$1,000 for full members. Associate member fees is \$50.

New Business

Coaches Meetings

A preliminary schedule of 2017-18 coaches' meetings was presented. A final schedule/with changes will be forwarded to activities directors.

All-conference/All-academic honors

Mullally will make arrangements for a uniformed all-conference certificate to be created for schools to award to athletes earning the distinction.

Roaldson also brought up academic all-conference honors. Some schools recognize it, while others do not. He was asked about it by parents. Criteria for academic all-conference was approved by past directors. It is as follows:

Must be a member (athlete) of a varsity team in a NDHSAA-sanctioned sport. (This excludes managers, statisticians, trainers and cheerleaders). Need not be a letter winner in that sport.

Must earn a minimum 3.6 GPA as follows:

Fall Sports: 3.6 GPA in 1st nine-week grading period or 1st six-week grading period.

Winter Sports: 3.6 GPA in 3rd nine-week grading period or 4th six-week grading period.

Spring Sports: 3.6 GPA in 4th 9-nine week grading period or 6th six-week grading period.

Roaldson proposed formally adopting it into the by-laws. It was moved by Lunde, seconded by Roaldson to include academic all-conference criteria in the WDA by-laws. Yes vote: Lunde, Fridley, Wiest, Roaldson, Schumacher, Mieure, Nustad. No vote: Jundt, Martin, Lervick. **Motion carried (7 Yes/3 No).**

All-conference selection announcements

ADs are reminded of a change in policy (approved in June) toward announcing all-conference teams. They will now be announced following the final game/match at regional postseason events in that respective sport. Teams are selected by coaches at respective coaches meetings. Additionally, the practice of having all-tournament teams was discontinued.

Rotation of officers

Mullally put together a proposed rotation of WDA officers which include the current full membership. Future changes can be made, if necessary.

Sub-varsity Tournaments

--Mullally is working to create a file for ADs which covers main questions/issues for postseason sub-varsity tournaments. Mullally will work with ADs in developing a future sheet which includes pertinent tournament host information to also be displayed on website.

SID/Executive Secretary

--The 2016-17 WDA yearbook/guide was posted in June. This is the second on-line yearbook project completed.

--ADs are encouraged to look at the website on respective team pages to determine if there are any coaching changes/additions that need to be made for the fall season.

--WDA champion signs were created for each school to have on site for sub-varsity events as well as for photos for varsity champions. These signs will be used for photos and in place of purchasing trophies. The signs will remain with the schools.

--2017-18 WDA administrative passes were handed out as well as WDA lifetime passes. If there are any changes/additions, Mullally will make the arrangements with the printer.

--This fall will meet with Farmers Union Insurance's Kevin Ressler to discuss scholarship match and other possible projects.

NDHSAA

Class A Review items and recommendations.

Nothing to report

Tournament Committee

Nothing to report.

NDIAAA Fall Workshop

Event is scheduled for Sept. 16-18 in Mandan.

President Zittleman adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is set for Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017 in Dickinson at 11 a.m. CT/10 a.m. MT

Respectfully submitted

Matt Mullally, WDA SID/Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

June 5, 2017, 10 a.m. -- TMCHS (Belcourt) School

Present: Mitch Lunde, Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Ben Lervick, Dr. Shane Martin, Dave Mieure, Matt Mullally; **Absent:** Scott Nustad

President Lunde called the meeting to order

G. Fridley moved, D. Zittleman seconded to approve the agenda.

Minutes of the March 1 meeting were not available, and will be tabled until the Aug. 9 meeting.

Dave Mieure, Williston's new activities director, was attending his first meeting. Formal introductions were conducted.

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, presented current finances. Beginning Balance: \$18,263.01.

Moved by G. Fridley seconded by B. Lervick to approve current financial report as presented. All voted yes; **Motion carried.**

Mullally presented the proposed 2017-18 budget, calling for projected revenues of \$40,963.01 and projected expenditures of \$36,475. Beginning cash balance of \$8,313.01. Tabled until Aug. 9 meeting.

Old Business

Boys' Soccer

Discussion regarding whether to discontinue the W. Region Tournament. Moved by M. Lunde seconded by J. Roaldson to discontinue tournament as requested by several coaches. Yes vote to end the tournament were: M. Lunde, J. Roaldson, M. Wiest; No vote to continue the tournament were: B. Lervick, S. Nustad, B. Schumacher, P. Jundt. Abstained from voting: G. Fridley, S. Martin, D. Mieure.

Motion failed by 4-3 vote.

Spring Sports Review

Softball

--Point of clarification is in out-of-pod games the host team will be the "home team" in both games of the doubleheader. Moved by G. Fridley seconded by D. Zittleman. All voted yes. **Motion carried.**

--Changes in the make up of the conference's 2 pods is now under review. Competitive balance and distance/travel are two factors to consider in the formation of future pods. Current Pod A: BHS, Jamestown, Mandan, Minot High and TMCHS/Current Pod B: Century, Dickinson, Legacy, Minot Bishop Ryan, Williston

Baseball

--Plans are for the continuation of the 5 inning and 7 inning doubleheader format. (5 inning is game one). Concerns were addressed regarding length of games this spring.
--One proposal is a single round robin doubleheader WDA schedule. This would allow for more dates for non-conference games, potentially with EDC. It's likely non-counter games between WDA teams will be scheduled in the event EDC teams cannot/will not schedule games.
--In the event a change will not be made by NDHSAA to allow the play-in game to be held the Monday or Tuesday prior to the W. Region Tournament, directors approved changing future W. Region play-in dates to the Thursday before the W. Region Tournament. Moved by P. Jundt seconded by B. Lervik. All voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Track-Field: Directors support moving up the start time of West Region Meet to 2 p.m. Central Time. If not, at least 2 p.m. local time.

Boys Golf:

No major issues. There were eight regular season meets this season. Mullally asked how (when and what course) is the individual state qualifier determined by coaches?

Girls Soccer

Moved by P. Jundt, seconded by B. Schumacher to hold a West Region Tournament, beginning in 2018. Vote: Yes to have tournament: P. Jundt, B. Schumacher, Scott Nustad, B. Lervick; No: M. Wiest, J. Roaldson, M. Lunde.

Abstained from voting: G. Fridley, S. Martin, D. Mieure.

Motion carried by 4-3 vote.

--Moved by P. Jundt seconded by D. Zittleman to mirror format of existing boys' tournament. All voted yes. Motion carried.

--Discussion regarding a future site of tournament was held. Bismarck is the likely site, but no formal action was made.

--Request by coaches to add another week to the season. No action taken by directors.

Girls' Tennis

Discussion about future West Region Tournaments be held in Minot given its favorable reviews by coaches. Bismarck is currently in the rotation to host and Jamestown is a potential site once indoor courts become available. Minot is tentatively planned to again host the girls' region tournament next year instead of Bismarck.

WDA Senior Scholar Award

Mullally said scholarship funds were mailed to this year's WDA Senior Scholar Recipients Emily Bichler, Bismarck St. Mary's and Brian Swanberg, Bismarck Legacy. The scholarships were \$500 each and made out to the college.

New Business

Hudl Video Contract Services

P. Jundt visited with HUDL representatives about the company offering a conference rate for services. For football, boys and girls basketball, the annual fee would be \$2,879. For Hudl Assist the would be an additional \$1,300. All WDA schools plan to use Hudl next sports season.

Williston Gymnasium floor

D. Mieure reported cracks forming in the new gymnasium floor in Williston. Administration is making arrangements to repair/replace the floor in time of the new school term. Mieure will keep directors updated as to the court's condition and whether the facility will be able to host the region volleyball tournament there in November.

WDA Lifetime Passes/Administrator Lists

--Mullally said directors wishing to add names to the WDA Lifetime Pass List should contact him. He will make arrangements for the new passes to be made this summer in time of the fall season.

--Mullally will make arrangements for 2017-18 administrative passes to the printed and available at the August meeting. Directors should email the list to Mullally. This year, middle school athletic directors will be added among the administrators for each school/district.

WDA 2017-18 Membership

--The 2017-18 WDA membership fee will be \$1,000 for full members and \$50 for associate members. Mullally provided an invoice for the membership fees. Payment should be made by Sept. 1, 2017.

WDA Postseason Rotation

A listing of future region/WDA postseason championships was reviewed. Some tentative changes may occur.

WDA AD meeting dates

--Dates for the 2017-18 AD meeting schedule has been set.
Tuesday, Aug. 8: Bismarck (Hughes), 1 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017: Dickinson, 11 a.m. CT/10 a.m. MT
Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018: Minot, 10 a.m.
Wednesday, March 7, 2018: Bismarck, 2 p.m.
Monday, June 4, 2018: Jamestown, 11 a.m.

Sub-varsity Tournaments

--Moving forward, M. Lunde said it would be easier to have a uniformed set of guidelines-notes in hosting sub-varsity tournaments. Items such as fees for officials/admission costs/game formats, etc. This would alleviate questions every year from staff planning the events. Mullally will work with ADs in developing a future sheet which includes pertinent tournament host information to be displayed on website.
--In place of a JV2 postseason baseball/softball tournament, a proposal is for teams to schedule doubleheaders at the end of the year. Given the uncertainty of the number of teams/availability of umpires, it would be easier to schedule two games in place of a tournament. Directors will get feedback from coaches.
--Directors also decided a WDA champion banner/sign will be created for winning teams to use for photos. M. Mullally make arrangements for areusable banner/sign be available for schools. This will take the place of team trophies.

2017-18 Scheduling

B. Lervik said the deadline has been passed for fall 2017 schedules. They will be made available soon on the R School Today site. Mandan is also going to the R School site which the other nine full members are using.

2018-19 Basketball Scheduling

With the addition of Watford City to the conference in 2018-19, directors would like to get a early jump on basketball scheduling with an 11-team schedule. B. Schumacher said he would develop a scheduling format.

All-Region, All-Tournament team recognition

It was moved by G. Fridley seconded by S. Martin that announcement/release of all-WDA selections will occur at the conclusion of each respective postseason tournament; and the practice of naming all-tournament teams will be discontinued. All voted yes. **Motion carried**

New WDA Officers Terms

Beginning in August, the new term WDA officers will go into effect. D. Zittleman (Bismarck Public Schools) will serve as president with B. Schumacher serving as vice president.

SID/Executive Secretary Report

--Matt Mullally said the 2017-18 WDA on-line yearbook will be released in June. The 80-page issue is thorough review of the 22 WDA sponsored sports as well as other pertinent WDA news and projects.
--WDA website traffic/social media following continues to increase. To date, there are 3,445 followers to the WDA Twitter Account. Between March 4 and June 4, the number of page visits to the WDA website was just under 250,000, according to Google Analytics. The website was launched in 2014.

2017-18 SID/Executive Secretary Contract

--Moved by S. Martin seconded by M. Wiest to enter contract with M. Mullally for 2017-18 year. Contract with cover 12 months at \$30,000. All voted yes. **Motion carried**

NDHSAA

Class A Review items and recommendations

--Eliminate the 0.5 lb round down regulation that is utilized during wrestling regular season. (Yes)
--Add 7th place dual match at state wrestling. (No)
--The touch gymnastics warm-up on vault consists of two vault attempts. (Yes)
--Home hockey team will have choice of shooting first/last during shootouts. (Yes)
--During the state tournament consolation hockey games, a shootout will be held following the first overtime period. (Yes)
--Permit game or replay officials to use a replay monitor during televised state tournament basketball contests if a score goal at the expiration of time during any quarter/half or OT period should be counted. And if so, determine if it is a two or three-point field goal. (Yes)
--Change basketball roster rules for region and state tournaments to "For all NDHSAA Region and State Tournament basketball games, a maximum of 15 players may dress and play in the game." (Yes)
--Add week to girls' soccer season. (No)
--Change region track meet start time to 2 p.m. CT (Yes)
--Require all reg. season track meet hosts to use meet manager.
--Change state qualifying track standards for G TJ, 100H, B-G Discus, 110H, 300H (Yes)
--Announce all-state teams at state softball tournament. (No)
--Combine Class A-B softball tournaments. (No)
--Golf coaches not allowed on greens, tee boxes and bunkers. (Yes)
--Tennis player can request an official/and player or coach may leave court to find one. In the event a coach from both teams are not available to co-officiate a match; a coach or a neutral team may be asked to officiate. (Yes)

Tournament Committee

Nothing to report.

President Lunde adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is set for Tuesday, Aug. 8 at 1 p.m. CT
Location will be at Hughes Education Center in Bismarck.

Respectfully submitted
Matt Mullally, WDA SID/Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

March 1, 2017, 2 p.m. -- Bismarck High School

Present: Mitch Lunde, Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Ben Lervick, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, Jenice Schell, Matt Mullally

President Lunde called the meeting to order.

D. Zittleman asked for input on whether individuals who have WDA Lifetime Passes should be admitted into the West Region Basketball Tournament/with guest at no charge. It was moved by Shane Martin seconded by Ben Lervick to allow the passes to be used. Motion carried, 10-1. (**Yes:** S. Martin, B. Lervick, Mitch Lunde, Jim Roaldson, Guy Fridley, Paul Jundt, Scott Nustad, M. Wiest, B. Schumacher, Jenice Schell; **No:** Dave Zittleman) **Motion carried.**

Minutes of the Jan. 18 were reviewed. Moved by B. Lervick seconded by M. Wiest to approve the June 18 minutes as mailed. Moved by B. Lervick seconded by M. Wiest to approve the Nov. 2, 2016 minutes with the noted correction. All voted yes. **Motion carried**

Williston AD search

Jenice Schell, representing Williston Activities, in an interim role, said a new activities director at Williston will be named shortly.

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, reviewed current finances. Beginning Balance: \$7,553.98
Total Revenue: \$1,000 (Farmers Union Insurance Scholarship match)
Total Expenditures: \$0.00
Ending Balance: \$8,553.98 (3/3/17)
Moved by S. Martin seconded by D. Zittleman to approved current financial report as presented. All voted yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

Spring Schedules (Final Review/Changes/Issues)

Softball: Discussion on whether to leave current softball schedule arrangement or adjust it to "flip-flop" non-conf. games from home to away or vice versa as part of the pod scheduling. Moved by G. Fridley seconded by P. Jundt to leave current schedule in tact. Adjustments for home-away non-conf. games will be made in 2018. All voted yes. **Motion carried.**

JV 1 softball tournament will be played in Dickinson on May 20
JV 2 softball tournament will be played in Minot on May 20

Baseball

Directors affirmed this year's schedule will count both games of varsity doubleheaders in the conference standings. First game/5 innings; Second game/7 innings

In the event games cannot be played due to weather/field conditions, winning percentage will be used to determine region seedings. The region play-in game will be set for the Monday prior to the W. Region Tournament. In the event of inclement weather, it will be held the next day (Tuesday).

All JV baseball tournaments will be played in Minot. It will be a two-day tournament, May 19-20

Girls' Tennis: Varsity and JV schedules set

Girls' Soccer: Varsity and JV schedules set with the exception of finalizing East-West crossover dates. Activities Directors and coaches will continue discussion on establishing a region tournament in the future.

Track and Field: Schedule is in place.

Boys' Golf: B. Lervick said schedule is updated after making changes (Co-hosts for one Bismarck Meet).

Trapshooting

D. Zittleman said Bismarck Public Schools will not be participating/sponsoring trapshooting. Some members do recognize it as a club-status program, but no official sponsorship.

WDA Senior Scholar Award

Seven total applications were received for the annual award given to one boy and girl. Applicants came from Bismarck High, St. Mary's, Legacy, Mandan and Minot. Recipients will receive a \$500 scholarship. Selection committee will review applicants and make selections. Winners will be announced at the conclusion of the West Region Basketball Tournament.

New Business

Winter Sports Coaches Meetings

Gymnastics: No issues to report.

Boys Hockey: Discussion on a two-class hockey system was discussed, but it was evident that it would only affect three schools, since enrollment is the factor in determining classification under NDHSAA by-laws. Also a split would require a NDHSAA member vote.

Girls Hockey: Selection of all-region, all-state players was called into question when senior athlete of the year was not even an all-state selection. Process of selecting players for awards will be revisited.

Wrestling: Planning more triangular meets was discussed.

Girls-Boys Basketball: Scheduling for next year is near complete. Double round robin schedule. Moving forward, using the same statistic gathering program for each school would be a way to provide prompt and consistent team and individual statistics to be shared/uploaded on the conference site. Several schools are using Hudl. On a related matter, the membership fee by Hudl seems to vary for WDA schools. Perhaps a conference rate/fee could be secured in the future. Issue will be looked into.

West Region Athletic Director of the Year

Dave Zittleman was voted for the honor. Award will be announced at the conclusion of the West Region Basketball Tournament.
Fall Girls Soccer

Executive Secretary/SID Report

Farmers Union Insurance provided a match for the WDA Senior Scholar Award (\$250). New Recipients will be updated on the WDA Scholar Page on the website. Mullally will send out award letters and make arrangements for checks to be sent out to recipients this spring. Checks will be made out to the school.

Following the conclusion of the winter sports season, website updates and preparation for spring sports season will be completed.

NDHSAA

Class A Review items

Athletic Review

Tournament Committee

SID Evaluation

The WDA directors will set up an evaluation for the SID/Executive Secretary position.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 5 at TMCHS (Belcourt), 11 a.m. CT

M. Lunde adjourned the meeting

WDA 3-1-2017 Meeting -- Page 2

WDA dual tournament to determine the four seeds to move on to the Class A Dual Tournament?

Often matches take very little time to complete. Some of the reasons for that is due to open weight divisions due to low numbers or injuries. And some due to coaches electing to hold out kids to avoid a match with another wrestler. Does it warrant the expense in traveling/facility costs? Some programs like duals as an opportunity to get home matches draw support/awareness to the program. Hosting a triangular is possibility to remedy some of those problems. It adds the possibility of another match. J. Roaldson said one option is invite a strong Class B program from the area to take part. S. Martin said last year TMCHS had Class B Rugby participate in a triangular with BHS.

D. Zittleman said some coaches like duals, especially those early in the week (Tuesdays) because it provides early weigh before weekend tournaments. D. Zittleman added that from his experiences that wrestling people seem to put up with the issues that affect their sport; i.e., having these duals that don't take long or have limited matches. Also, having to travel distances to one match.

Some pointed to other sports like golf and gymnastics where there are low participation numbers, but we still travel regularly to events.

Spring Sports Review

Girls' Soccer: B. Lervick will draft a schedule framework for 2017. The earliest a regional tournament would be added is 2018.

Softball: J. Roaldson will draft a schedule framework for 2017. This year's W. Region Tournament will be conducted over three days and is hosted by Jamestown.

Baseball: M. Wiest will draft a schedule framework for 2017.

It was decided at the June 6 meeting to again count both games of the varsity doubleheader in the 2017 season. The first game is five innings and the second is seven.

J. Roaldson said given the decision to go back to metal bats should revisit this issue of counting both games. There is concerns that metal bats will create longer games and tax pitching staffs. Should we go back to the first one counting and the second a non-counter in the WDA standings? Perhaps one option to consider is going to 1 varsity counter. National Federation only allows a seven inning game.

Some ADs have indicated we simply have too many games in such as small window of time. Perhaps the one game will alleviate many issues relating to pitching and overuse of players. ADs will gather feedback with coaches about future scheduling options.

Sixth Grade Track/Travel

G. Fridley asked how other members set up events/meets for sixth grade track. Do they take them to out-of-town meets. M. Lunde said in Minot they only have in-house competitions. This common practice at others in the conference. Fridley said they are in the process of setting up schedules and he wanted to check on what other programs are doing.

All-Region, All-Tournament, All-State recognition

D. Zittleman said we seem to have this discussion regularly on when/where and what postseason awards should be announced at events.

In recent years, our conference has made it commonplace to announce all-conference honors at the conclusion of the region tournament. This has been the case in volleyball/hockey. Outside of boys and girls' regional basketball, an all-tournament team is usually not put together by tournament management. In the case of football, all-conference awards are not released to media outlets/public until the season is complete.

All-state awards are usually released after state tournaments. Do we need a standard policy/agreement as to what our conference will announce and recognize at postseason events to create uniformity among activities? This could be a discussion topic at future tournament committee meetings.

NDHSAA

Class A Review items

--Look at boys' soccer starting date of Aug. 1 (of the proceeding Monday, if the calendar falls on a weekend).

--Revisit the 18-3 volleyball schedule possibility.

Tournament Committee

Discuss all-state award recognition and effectively providing that information to public/media.

NDIAAA

Event held this past September in Mandan. Some workshop/sessions were good. Some wondered if some changes are needed in future to provide more interesting/meaningful items.

SID Report

M. Mullally said Farmers Union Insurance has agreed to again match our \$500 in scholarships for our WDA Senior Scholar Award. They will also contribute in new outdoor WDA banners.

After contacting BEK Broadcasting/BEK Communications, they agreed to a \$1,000 sponsorship for the 2016-17 season. Mullally will send out an invoice. In return, BEK Broadcasting logo/brand will be placed on WDA web pages as well as upcoming broadcast schedules with WDA events. Work with BEK technical staff on featuring WDA clips from BEK events on the WDA site.

Other

P. Jundt wondered why our fall meeting has taken place in early November prior to the conclusion of fall sports activities.

President Lunde adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is set for Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2017

Meeting location will be in Minot, 10 a.m. CT

Respectfully submitted

Matt Mullally, WDA SID/Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Jan. 18, 2017 -- Minot, ND. Minot Public Schools District Office

Present: Mitch Lunde, Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Ben Lervick, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, Mike Campbell, Jenice Schell, Matt Mullally

President Lunde called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the Nov. 2, 2016 were reviewed. M. Lunde noted a correction in the discussion segment on boys soccer. Comments should have attributed to P. Jundt. Moved by Shane Martin, seconded by Scott Nustad to table minutes. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, reviewed current finances.

Beginning Balance: \$11,553.98 (1/17/17)

Total Revenue: \$1,000

Total Expenditures: \$5,000.00

Ending Balance: \$7,553.98

Moved by Ben Lervick, seconded by Bruce Schumacher to approve bills and the current financial report as presented. All yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

Spring Schedule

Baseball: Plan remains to count both games this spring. First game will be 5 innings and 7 innings for second game. Discussion will resume at March meeting.

In favor of counting just one game: Minot, Mandan, Dickinson, Jamestown

In favor of county both games; Century, BHS, St. Mary's, Legacy

Softball: J. Roaldson sent out master schedule.

Pod 1: Jamestown, TMCHS, BHS, Mandan, Minot

Pod 2: Williston, Dickinson, Century, Legacy, Bishop Ryan

Bismarck will host the JV1 tournament. Dickinson will host the JV 2 tournament. Jamestown will host the three-day varsity tournament.

Girls' Soccer: B. Lervick sent out the master schedule.

Girls' Tennis: Schedule is in place. ADs/Coaches would like to get the state tournament back in the west once in a while.

Boys-Girls Track: D. Zittleman said schedule is out. Every one needs to use Meet Manager program in getting athletes signed in for meets.

Boys' Golf: B. Lervick said there remains some scheduling challenges with some courses in Bismarck. In future, combining hosts for a Bismarck meet will be considered. Discussion on whether its necessary for every member to host a meet.

Volleyball: The proposal pitched is to increase matches by two. Options would be 20 matches and 2 tournaments; 18 matches and 3 tournaments; 16 matches and 4 tournaments. J. Roaldson moved and Shane Martin seconded a motion to support adding two matches.

Motion carried

In favor: S. Martin, J. Roaldson, M. Lunde, P. Jundt, S. Nustad, M. Wiest, S. Nustad, B. Schumacher

Opposed: G. Fridley

Another proposal is to support an increase in set limitations. Essentially, it would allow an athlete the ability to be in six sets a night. After discussion, board was not in favor of adding sets.

Fall Scheduling

Boys' Soccer: Plan is to tweak future schedules, so they are not the same order of matches every year.

J. Roaldson made a motion, seconded by S. Marin to dissolve W. Region Tournament. Some coaches do not want the tournament. Discussion followed.

Motion failed, 3-4

In favor of dissolving tournament: Roaldson, Wiest, Lunde

In favor of keeping tournament: Nustad, Jundt, Lervik, Schumacher

Abstaining: Fridley, Martin, Williston

Volleyball: 2017 schedule is complete

Girls Golf: 2017 schedule is complete

Winter Schedules

Boys-Girls Basketball: Schedules are compete

Boys-Girls Hockey: Schedule are complete.

Wrestling: Scheduling completed at Rotary Meet. The increase in triangular meets will again be revisited.

Boys Swimming-Diving: Future schedule to be complete at state event.

Dickinson Sixth Grade Track

Fridley said program started under school control and looking for possible events to attend.

Middle School AD Meetings

It was determined the meetings should be separate from the general WDA AD meetings.

Future West Region Postseason Events

Belcourt will be added to the West Region wrestling tournament rotation of hosts. Belcourt will host 2019 tournament.

--A change was made to the site of 2020 WDA Cross Country Meet. Bismarck will now host.

--Minot will host the 2020 golf meet.

In future, schedule of Sub-varsity postseason tournaments will also be included on the WDA website as a guide.

Watford City future membership

Appears they will be joining conference in 2019-20. Fridley said we should get them involved in attending future meetings and part of future scheduling.

WDA Senior Scholar Award

J. Roaldson said application forms are now available. Deadline to apply is Feb. 28.

Nominations will be made at the WDA March meeting and selection committee will be formed to review applicants. Winners will be announced at the conclusion of the West Region basketball tournament.

West Region/WDA Athletic Director of Year

Please send nominees for the this year's AD of year to M. Mullally. Once nominees are set. Ballot will be sent out.

Award announced at conclusion of West Region basketball tournament.

Class A Review

Volleyball: Addition of 2 matches

Hockey: Discussion about two-tier hockey

Tournament Committee

Changes in how region all-tournament teams are put together....Future state swim-dive meets going to West Fargo's new facility.

SID/Webite Report

Farmers Union Insurance will again match WDA senior scholar awards. \$500 match.

Mullally said challenges this year in updating boys and girls basketball individual team stats as a result of different state gathering programs by schools. In future, having one common program will assist in making stat gathering easier and efficient.

Next meeting, March, 1, 2017 at Bismarck High at 2 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.



Western Dakota Association

Nov. 2, 2016 -- Dickinson, ND Central District Office

Present: Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mark Wiest, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Ben Lervick, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, Jim Dykes, Matt Mullally

Conference call: Mitch Lunde

President Lunde called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the Aug. 9, 2016 were reviewed. Moved by Dave Zittleman seconded by G. Fridley to approve minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, reviewed current finances.

Beginning Balance: \$9,848.58 (9/9/16)

Total Revenue: \$7,050

Total Expenditures: \$5,344.60

Ending Balance: \$11,553.98 (11/2/16)

Moved by G. Fridley seconded by D. Zittleman to approve bills and the current financial report as presented. All yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

Fall Sports Reports

Football: Scheduling for 2017 should be set. 7 teams to compete in AAA West Region.

Girls' Golf: Bismarck Public Schools is starting to have issues with local courses about scheduling high school events on Saturdays.

Boys' Soccer: Coaches meeting again indicates no support to continue West Region Tournament. Reasons include it's not allowing sufficient preparation time for state tournament; regular season should determine the top four seeds; EDC does not have a regional tournament; it makes it difficult to space out matches knowing it has to set aside the first weekend in Oct. for the regional.

M. Lunde said should we have an "official vote" of coaches to determine their position. P. Lunde said he's listened to the complaints and it sounds like a "sport's problem" to coaches not legitimate reasoning for discontinuing the tournament. Lunde added we shouldn't be talking about not having a boys' regional tournament, but rather why we don't have a regional tournament for girls soccer? It seems we should providing that same postseason experience. And given issues with Title IX, should we ensure are providing the same postseason opportunities. D. Zittleman said we've come to this discussion before and this group feels strongly the benefits counter what some coaches are saying.

B. Schumacher said this season saw a lot of parity in the conference, especially between seeds 2-5. It would've been ashamed not to give that No. 5 seed an opportunity to compete for a state berth. And even seeds No. 6 and 7 provided a competitive play-in match. Other concerns expressed is how do coaches keep a team/players motivated to train and compete the right way if they know there is no end-of-season opportunity to qualify. B. Lervick said we should meet with our soccer coaches and get their feedback/input on this issue before moving forward with scheduling and making any formal decisions on postseason plans.

Another concerns was spacing out more days between matches to en Many matches are scheduled now on Tuesday and Thursdays. Soccer is a grueling sport and the current schedule doesn't present a lot of recovery time. P. Lunde said he would like to look into possibly a Monday and Thursday schedule to allow additional day of rest/preparation. Of course, that hinges on facility and referee availability. Soccer has traditionally avoided Friday matches due to football. Saturdays are an option, but again, it comes down to facilities and referees. Some ADs indicated they will not be participating in the West Fargo Tournament in future seasons.

Boys' Tennis

M. Lunde said there was no issues to report on the season. Coaches did

share their support of Minot being the site of W. Region Tournaments because of its ideal facility (Hammond Park). It allows all matches to be held at one site. Lunde said certainly other communities can host this event in the future. He's just reporting the feedback from coaches.

Construction on an indoor recreation facility in Jamestown is underway, J. Roaldson said. And when complete, that will include indoor tennis courts. And thus, another facility option for regional play.

Boys/Girls Cross Country

D. Zittleman said there was nothing of consequence to report on this year's season. He added Jamestown did a great job hosting this year's state event. Next year's meet will be in Valley City.

Girls' Swim/Dive

Nothing to report as of this time.

Volleyball

Recommendation is for coaches to set up 2017 schedule which again will include 16 conference matches and three tournaments. A formula based on the regular season order of finish will be used to determine which teams will play two less matches against two other teams. Those matches, however, will count double in the standings.

G. Fridley said he will develop the framework of a future scheduling system which would adopt a 18-2 model (double round robin WDA schedule).

Adopting the double round robin schedule and dropping one in-season tournament will have an affect on in-season tournaments. If several WDA teams elect not to take part in the Fargo Scheels Tournament in early October, than its likely many EDC teams will not participate in the Bismarck Invite in late August or Dickinson's tournament in late September.

WDA coaches indicated disappointment in the Scheels Tournament in Fargo. Several teams ended up playing conference foes in pool and placing round matches. B. Lervick did discuss this matter with Todd Olson, Fargo Public Schools AD. Olson was not involved in this year's tournament scheduling. He agreed changes need to be made to prevent teams playing conference foes, if possible.

RSchool Today Posting of Varsity Schedules

A reminder that the deadline for posting 2017 fall varsity events on the site is approaching. That deadline is Dec. 1.

The deadline to post winter varsity events for 2017-18 will be April 1.

P. Jundt said he's concerned about the potential for errors in posting schedules when multiple individuals are posting events. An incident occurred where he set his schedule and one of his event dates were changed unbeknownst to him. It created an issue/confusion. He said if a mistake is going to be made in posting schedules it better come from him. It's important that schools stick to the guidelines in properly posting schedules.

Winter Sports Review

Gymnastics: The 2017 WDA Championships will be held Minot, Feb. 17.

Boys/Girls Hockey: It was raised whether Hazen-Beulah will be fielding a varsity program this year. They will have a varsity team.

Wrestling: Coaches/ADs are reminded that skin checks are required at dual and tournaments.

G. Fridley said this year's Dickinson Tournament will only be one day/individual (Saturday). He expressed disappointing in having to scale back the tournament as a result of a drop in teams taking part, especially conference members. Some are competing in other tournaments that week.

Discussion was raised again on conference duals and whether they are necessary part of the WDA schedule. G. Fridley said is better to have a

WDA dual tournament to determine the four seeds to move on to the Class A Dual Tournament?

Often matches take very little time to complete. Some of the reasons for that is due to open weight divisions due to low numbers or injuries. And some due to coaches electing to hold out kids to avoid a match with another wrestler. Does it warrant the expense in traveling/facility costs? Some programs like duals as an opportunity to get home matches draw support/awareness to the program. Hosting a triangular is possibility to remedy some of those problems. It adds the possibility of another match. J. Roaldson said one option is invite a strong Class B program from the area to take part. S. Martin said last year TMCHS had Class B Rugby participate in a triangular with BHS.

D. Zittleman said some coaches like duals, especially those early in the week (Tuesdays) because it provides early weigh before weekend tournaments. D. Zittleman added that from his experiences that wrestling people seem to put up with the issues that affect their sport; i.e., having these duals that don't take long or have limited matches. Also, having to travel distances to one match.

Some pointed to other sports like golf and gymnastics where there are low participation numbers, but we still travel regularly to events.

Spring Sports Review

Girls' Soccer: B. Lervick will draft a schedule framework for 2017. The earliest a regional tournament would be added is 2018.

Softball: J. Roaldson will draft a schedule framework for 2017. This year's W. Region Tournament will be conducted over three days and is hosted by Jamestown.

Baseball: M. Wiest will draft a schedule framework for 2017.

It was decided at the June 6 meeting to again count both games of the varsity doubleheader in the 2017 season. The first game is five innings and the second is seven.

J. Roaldson said given the decision to go back to metal bats should revisit this issue of counting both games. There is concerns that metal bats will create longer games and tax pitching staffs. Should we go back to the first one counting and the second a non-counter in the WDA standings? Perhaps one option to consider is going to 1 varsity counter. National Federation only allows a seven inning game.

Some ADs have indicated we simply have too many games in such as small window of time. Perhaps the one game will alleviate many issues relating to pitching and overuse of players. ADs will gather feedback with coaches about future scheduling options.

Sixth Grade Track/Travel

G. Fridley asked how other members set up events/meets for sixth grade track. Do they take them to out-of-town meets. M. Lunde said in Minot they only have in-house competitions. This common practice at others in the conference. Fridley said they are in the process of setting up schedules and he wanted to check on what other programs are doing.

All-Region, All-Tournament, All-State recognition

D. Zittleman said we seem to have this discussion regularly on when/where and what postseason awards should be announced at events.

In recent years, our conference has made it commonplace to announce all-conference honors at the conclusion of the region tournament. This has been the case in volleyball/hockey. Outside of boys and girls' regional basketball, an all-tournament team is usually not put together by tournament management. In the case of football, all-conference awards are not released to media outlets/public until the season is complete.

All-state awards are usually released after state tournaments. Do we need a standard policy/agreement as to what our conference will announce and recognize at postseason events to create uniformity among activities? This could be a discussion topic at future tournament committee meetings.

NDHSAA

Class A Review items

--Look at boys' soccer starting date of Aug. 1 (of the proceeding Monday, if the calendar falls on a weekend).

--Revisit the 18-3 volleyball schedule possibility.

Tournament Committee

Discuss all-state award recognition and effectively providing that information to public/media.

NDIAAA

Event held this past September in Mandan. Some workshop/sessions were good. Some wondered if some changes are needed in future to provide more interesting/meaningful items.

SID Report

M. Mullally said Farmers Union Insurance has agreed to again match our \$500 in scholarships for our WDA Senior Scholar Award. They will also contribute in new outdoor WDA banners.

After contacting BEK Broadcasting/BEK Communications, they agreed to a \$1,000 sponsorship for the 2016-17 season. Mullally will send out an invoice. In return, BEK Broadcasting logo/brand will be placed on WDA web pages as well as upcoming broadcast schedules with WDA events. Work with BEK technical staff on featuring WDA clips from BEK events on the WDA site.

Other

P. Jundt wondered why our fall meeting has taken place in early November prior to the conclusion of fall sports activities.

President Lunde adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is set for Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2017

Meeting location will be in Minot, 10 a.m. CT

Respectfully submitted

Matt Mullally, WDA SID/Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

Aug. 9, 2016 - Legacy High School, Bismarck, N.D.

Present: Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mitch Lunde, Mark Wiest, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Ben Lervick, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, Jim Dykes, Derrick Bulawa and Matt Mullally

President Lunde called the meeting to order.

Derrick Bulawa, general manager of BEK Cooperative, provided some information on BEK broadcast opportunities for WDA members. BEK currently broadcasts over 1,300 high school and collegiate games throughout North Dakota. Bulawa answered questions and explained the set up for BEK broadcasts. Typically, a camera technician is present at the games to set up cameras. The broadcast announcers and the technical work for the broadcast is run from the BEK studio. Lunde asked about whether contracts/agreements need to be signed prior to events. Bulawa said BEK is comfortable working with schools and don't require contracts. He understands the concerns school officials have regarding broadcasts taking away from admission/concession revenue from schools. Schools have the final say on determining which events they want to cover, or indicate which contest they specifically don't want broadcast. Bulawa said BEK is wrapping up their schedule and would be interested in broadcasting WDA events this school year. Broadcast schedules would have to be established soon.

It was moved by D. Zittleman-seconded by Ben Lervick to approve the agenda. **Motion carried**

James Dykes, newly-hired Williston Activities Director introduced himself to members. Dykes is from Texas.

Minutes of the June 6, 2016 were reviewed. Moved by James Roaldson-seconded by Dave Zittleman to approve minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, reviewed current finances.

Beginning Balance: \$23,623.45 (6/6/16)

Total Revenue: \$3,000

Total Expenditures: \$16,774.87

Ending Balance: \$9,848.58 (8/9/16)

Moved by B. Lervick/seconded S. Nustad to approve current financial report. All yes; **Motion carried.**

Mullally presented the 2016-17 proposed budget. Projected revenues are \$41,150 with total expenditures at \$36,725 leaving an ending balance of \$4,425. Moved by B. Lervick-seconded by Bruce Schumacher to approve the 2016-17 budget. All yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

2016-17 Scheduling

Discussion again on keeping deadlines for posting future schedules. This continues to be a challenge as some have been able to meet the deadline dates while others have not. B. Lervick asked if we can have an initial deadline followed by a second deadline for publishing home schedules. That should provide sufficient time for revisions/adjustment. It was moved by James Roaldson-seconded by Scott Nustad to approve a varsity deadline schedule. Oct. 1, 2016 for spring; Dec. 1, 2016 for fall; and April 1, 2017 for winter. **Motion carried.**

D. Zittleman said it's important to try and establish deadlines, especially with new ADs getting acclimated with the RSchool Today Program tied to WDA scheduling. Hopefully, in time, a consistent deadline schedule can be adopted and met with regularity.

2016-17 WDA Membership

Mullally reminded the deadline for WDA membership fees is Sept. 1. D. Zittleman requested an official invoice be sent out. Mullally said he would send it out. The fee this year is \$1,000 for full members; and \$50 for associate members.

New Business

Special Olympics/Adaptive sports

J. Roaldson inquired about what level of involvement/participation schools play in developing Special Olympics. Some said they only allow facility use. Some provide program funding/coaching.

Sixth grade activities

G. Fridley asked about sixth grade activities. Dickinson is phasing more sports programs under its supervision/funding. Wrestling, cross country and track/field are initial sports featured with others to be added, including basketball.

All-WDA criteria

M. Lunde asked if this would be the time to review all-WDA criteria and whether more uniformity/consistency is needed. Some sports determine a selective number of positions. Others award so many slots based on teams finish in the standings. Others are determined by placing at conference meets.

Also, discussion about the timeline of when all-conference selections are made public. The teams are often determined by the coaches meetings at their respective meetings held at the region tournament. Debate on whether they should be announced at the conclusion of the region tournament or after state tournament events.

NDHSAA

Class A Review items

*Will revisit the 18/3 or 20/2 volleyball schedule proposals.

Athletic Review recent action

*Additional games for boys' hockey did not pass; *Additional wrestling events did not pass; *Random starting weights for state wrestling event passed; *Consolation matches for wrestling state dual passed;

*Wrestlers allowed to forfeit state dual match and still be eligible for state individual tournament did pass.; *An early starting date for soccer seasons did not pass; *New time provisionals for track sprint events did not pass.

Baseball switch back to metal-composite bats

The June vote and decision by the NDHSAA to go back to metal/composite baseball bats came as a surprise for some ADs given that opinions and recommendations from coaches and ADs prior to the decision painted a less-than-overwhelming sentiment to switch back. However, writeups or minutes made it appear that the majority of ADs approved the switch back. Upon the request by the WDA ADs, J. Roaldson forwarded a letter to NDHSAA officials indicating concerns that support for this decision was mixed, but that was not the impression from the release/minutes. Moving forward, NDHSAA should be more accurate when characterizing support/opinions from ADs.

Tournament Committee

*Next meeting will be in November.

NDIAAA

Fall workshop is set for Nov. 17-19 in Mandan.

SID Report

M. Mullally said a new two-year contract with Go Daddy has been arranged for website services. Over the past few weeks Mullally has been updating website content and tailoring individual team pages to link with RSchool Today calendars. New fall team pages are set up with winter and spring team pages to eventually be added.

Re-assign spring schedules

At the Nov. 2 meeting, ADs will determine which ADs will draft softball, baseball and girls' soccer schedules calendars.

President Lunde adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is set for Wednesday, Nov. 2 at 11 a.m. CT/10 a.m. in Dickinson

Respectfully submitted

Matt Mullally, WDA SID/Executive Secretary



Western Dakota Association

June 6, 2016 - Williston Area Recreation Center, Williston, ND

Present: Dave Zittleman, Jim Roaldson, Mitch Lunde, Lorell Jungling, Logan Midthun, Guy Fridley, Bruce Schumacher, Paul Jundt, Ben Lervick, Scott Nustad, Dr. Shane Martin, Matt Mullally

President Lunde called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the March 2, 2016 were reviewed. Moved J. Roaldson/seconded by Scott Nustad to approve minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

M. Mullally, executive secretary, reviewed current finances.

Beginning Balance: \$2,710.63 (3/3/16)

Total Revenue: \$21,919.21

Total Expenditures: \$1,006.39

Ending Balance: \$23,623.45 (6/6/16)

Moved by L. Jungling/seconded J. Roaldson to approve current financial report. All yes; **Motion carried.**

Old Business

Spring Sports Review

L. Jungling handed out drafts for future girls' soccer, baseball and softball schedules for 2017.

Soccer will begin season a week later as earlier approved. April 7 is the first allowable contest date.

A change was made in the baseball draft to open up the final Friday (May 19) and Saturday (May 20) of the regular season for makeup dates. Games scheduled for May 20 on the draft will be moved to May 6 while games scheduled for May 19 will be moved to May 18.

L. Jungling said the draft certainly can be tweaked and games moved within in the week to better accommodate respective teams' schedules. Due to difficulties in getting enough softball umpires in one location for sub-varsity softball and baseball tournaments, it was determined that two separate locations are needed. G. Fridley said Dickinson would be willing to host one of the softball tournaments.

It was moved by L. Jungling and seconded by J. Roaldson to approve the JV1 and JV2 softball tournaments to be held in Bismarck and Dickinson, May 20, 2017 and the JV1 baseball and JV2 baseball tournaments be held in Minot on May 20, 2017. **Motion carried.**

WDA Senior Scholarship Program

M. Mullally reported the checks for the two scholarship recipients -- Ben Hanson, Jamestown; Alison Froelich, Mandan; have been sent.

2016-17 Tie-Break Criteria

M. Mullally presented the latest WDA/W. Region tie-break criteria formats. It was moved by J. Roaldson seconded by G. Fridley to approve the criteria for 2016-17. The criteria will be posted on the conference website. One noted change will be to clarify on the softball tie-break that it applies only to WDA "counter" games. Some teams have filled out their schedule by facing WDA teams in "non-counter" games due to the unbalanced pod schedule. All yes, **Motion carried**

2016-17 Play-in Game

The board approved the play-in date schedule for sports in 2016-17.

Tennis: Match to be held the Monday prior to the West Region Tournament.

Volleyball: Match to be held on the Thursday a week prior to the W. Region Tournament.

Boys' Hockey: Game to be held on the Monday prior to the W. Region Tournament.

Basketball: Games to be held on the Thursday/or weekend prior to the W. Region Tournament. A specific date cannot be set since schools have facility issues to work around. (Dates for this past boys and girls play-in games were Thursday, Friday and Saturday).

Baseball: There was much debate on when the play-in game should be

scheduled. Either the same week of the tournament, or on the final Saturday of the regular season. P. Jundt said the play-in game should be part of the tournament and should be held on that Monday or Tuesday. J. Roaldson said he likes having that game on the Saturday (final of date of regular season). Schedule should allow for that Saturday to be open to accommodate that game, if necessary.

One of the main issues in selecting a date is how does it affect each team's available innings for pitchers. Should teams in the play-in game have the ability to have its pitching staff enter that tournament with all of its innings, or should some of those innings be used for the play-in game?

It was moved by J. Roaldson-seconded by G. Fridley that the play-in date for baseball should be held the Monday or Tuesday (weather) prior the West Region Tournament. The game will be played at the site of the higher seed. 9 yes; 0 no; 1 abstain (L. Jungling); **Motion carried**
Softball: See Below

2017 W. Region Softball Tournament extended to 3 days

The board discussed extending the W. Region Tournament to three days from its current two-day format. Coaches have requested the tournament be extended, enabling for one game per day.

P. Jundt said from a weather standpoint, having three days enables enough time to complete the tournament if weather becomes an issue. There are concerns now that if the opening day (Friday) is canceled due to weather, it would be impossible to complete the entire tournament in one day.

Currently, two play-in games for the W. Region Tournament are held on Thursday late afternoon/early evening. The reason for that was to enable all coaches to stay for the W. Region coaches meeting. And to give all teams a chance to have "that tournament atmosphere."

To be uniformed with the other sports it was moved by S. Martin and seconded by M. Lunde to approve the play-in games be held on the Monday or Tuesday (weather) prior to the West Region Tournament. The games will be held at the site of the higher seeds. And for the West Region Tournament to be three days. All yes; **Motion carried**

New Business

R School Today

B. Lervick pointed out some steps needed this year in inputting 2016-17 schedules on the shared on-line schedule/calendar.

Spring Coaches' Meetings

Girls' Tennis: Coaches again are requesting an additional week to fit in scheduling matches in 2017. This season featured a few examples where some teams were playing three, sometimes four WDA matches in one week late in the season. More time would ease that build up of matches.

P. Jundt asked why we are not playing a double round robin WDA schedule. Why are we playing so many non-conf. matches? Board recommends going to a double round robin WDA scheduled for the 2017-18 season. Will get feedback from coaches as whether those matches should be 9 or 5-point matches.

Softball: JV/Varsity postseason tournament brackets should note that higher seed in all instances will be the home team.

Track/Field: Coaches requested that eight placewinners at WDA Meet qualify for the Class A Meet. Currently, top six qualify. D. Zittleman said N.D. currently has the largest participation levels of any state track meet. Additional qualifiers (by place) are not necessary. There is qualifying standards are in place.

Girls' Soccer: Coaches requested again adding another week to the season to spread out matches. (Request was turned down at the boys' level). Another issue is whether a time clock/scoreboard time should be displayed during JV matches. Currently, official time is kept by the referees.

Boys' Golf: Coaches discussed is there any suspension procedure for players who are found to be skimming strokes (cheating on score) during meets. Should they be ineligible for upcoming meets/postseason awards (All-WDA)? Currently coaches and activities directors are addressing this issue in-house with its players that are found/suspected of skimming strokes.

There was some discussion on moving the East-West Classic Tournament to other locations. It's been held in Jamestown. Coaches want to keep it there as it's fairly centrally located for both conferences.

Baseball: Several issues brought forward by coaches. One, going back to the first game of the doubleheader (7 innings) counting in the standings and the second game (5 innings) is a non-region counter. L. Jungling reported that coaches voted 5 to 4 to go back to the one game count and the second game does not.

J. Roaldson said his coach is a proponent of going back to the initial schedule, indicating it's been difficult to develop pitchers, get more kids participating in varsity games. According to the coach, Why was there a need to change something that was working?

S. Nustad said prior to the sport getting NDHSAA-sponsorship there was club teams and usually just one, so the two doubleheaders were set up 7 inning and 5 innings. The first second game was sort of a defacto JV game since those programs didn't have a lot of numbers. Now, with more participants and JV teams, there are other opportunities to develop kids (in JV games). P. Jundt said it bothers him to set up a varsity WDA schedule where half the games count.

Discussion extended as to whether both games should be 7 innings, but no action taken.

It was moved by P. Jundt-seconded by B. Lervick to keep the current schedule format (Both games in the doubleheader count in the WDA standings). First game is five innings and second game is seven innings.

8 yes, 1 no; (Roaldson), Motion carried.

Second issue brought forward was returning to metal bats. L. Jungling said coaches voted 5-4 to keep wood bats. Board agreed to go along with coaches and keep wood bats. Third issue, coaches in favor of having the play-in games be held prior to the region tournament. Board earlier approved scheduling play-in games on the Monday or Tuesday before the tournament.

SID/Executive Secretary Contract

The 2016-17 SID/Executive Secretary contract for M. Mullally was reviewed and approved. Moved by L. Jungling-seconded by G. Fridley. All yes. **Motion carried.** Concerns were raised as to funding the position and the current procedure of payment. The drafted contract sets up payment schedule. Revenue from West Region tournaments are now going into the WDA account help fund the SID/Executive Secretary duties/services. M. Lunde said the position is not permanent and wanted Mullally to be aware.

Fan Conduct

Discussion about whether WDA should look to establish a uniformed policy regarding fan behavior/sportsmanship expectations. NDHSAA code of sportsmanship already read prior to activities, so whether a banner or policy will have much affect is debatable.

If there are unruly fans, WDA officials support each other in taking necessary steps to address incidents at their respective sites.

2016-17 Scheduling

Board discussed getting varsity schedules posted on the R School today site. Set the fall scheduled for Friday, June 10 with the winter and spring schedules to follow later this month.

All-WDA selection process

Should there be more uniformity in all-WDA selection of athletes? Some sports (football) give an allotment of all-conf. sports to teams based on their finish in the standings and each team is represented. Some sports (hockey) have a designated number of selection sports based on position (forward-defense). Coaches nominate athletes, but can't vote for their own athletes. M. Lunde said he would look into the issue to determine if changes are in order.

WDA Lifetime Passes

M. Mullally said nominations are open for WDA lifetime passes. The passes also include a guess to accompany the honoree. Dan Smrekar and Lorell Jungling were nominated and selected to receive passes. It was agreed that each school can select up to three individuals for passes. Selections should be emailed to Mullally so he can arrange for the passes to be made.

WDA Membership Dues

After discussion, it was moved by S. Martin seconded by D. Zittleman to increase the annual conference membership dues to \$1,000 per school. All Yes, **Motion Carried.** Scott Nustad moved-seconded by S. Martin to increase associate member dues to \$50. All Yes, **Motion carried** The current fee was \$625 (full member) and \$25 (associate member). M. Mullally will send out changed membership fee invoice/bill letter. Fees are due by Sept. 1, 2016.

WDA Administrative Passes 2016-17

M. Mullally is requesting a list of administrators from each respective school/district who will need 2016-17 administrative passes. Mullally will send the form via email by (June 10). List should be returned as soon as possible so Mullally can make arrangements for the passes to be made.

Proposed WDA/W. Region coaches' meeting scheduled

M. Mullally presented a schedule for upcoming WDA/W. Region coaches' meetings for the 2016-17 year. Board asked to review and finalize meeting location/times and which AD will be in attendance to oversee the meeting. Schedule will be discussed at August meeting.

WDA/West Region postseason site rotation

Board made recommendations and approval for future WDA/W Region postseason tournament/championships. The updated list will be posted on the conference website.

2016-17 WDA year

Beginning at the August meeting, the new term for WDA officers will begin. Current president M. Lunde has a year left on his term. Bismarck High board representative S. Nustad will fill vice president spot.

Williston AD position

L. Midthun, who is leaving Williston for the activities director position in Big Lake, MN, said as of June 6 there was no timeline for hiring his replacement.

Mandan AD position

Mark Wiest will take over activities director duties at Mandan later this summer, replacing L. Jungling, who is retiring.

St. Mary's AD position

Bruce Schumacher has taken over activities directors duties at St. Mary's. Dan Smrekar will continue to assist in some of those duties over the next season.

NDHSAA

Class A Review items

- *Will consider returning to metal bats in baseball
- * Recommend facemarks for ast pitch for softball.

Athletic Review items

- *An increase in tennis matches.
- *Random of draw of which weight class should begin matches at state tournament. Currently, random draw now used for regular season duals.
- *Addition of consolation round matches at state dual wrestling tournament.
- *Review state track provisional qualifying standards.
- *Additional two games for the boys'/girls' hockey season.
- *Designate more time for shoot arounds at Class A basketball tournament (prior to a team's first game). Currently, the shoot arounds are schedule at halftimes of other games during first day.
- *Begin girls' soccer season a week earlier.
- *Review proposed changes to football classification, beginning in 2017. Under proposal, WDA would have seven AAA playing members (BHS, Century, Dickinson, Legacy, Mandan, Minot, Williston) Three AA members (Jamestown, St. Mary's, TMCHS (Belcourt).

Tournament Committee

- *Should seventh place consolation games be eliminated from Class A competition entirely? Some sports still play out a seventh place match/game. Examples, Volleyball and Baseball.
- *Recommendation that spring tournaments sites be equipped with lights.
- *G. Fridley addressed his concerns that Dickinson is not getting enough consideration for hosting state tournaments. Fridley understands some events are needed to be hosted in a few locations due to venue size and other factors. However, he feels his community is not getting the same amount of opportunities to host events as other cities. Was asked to submit a list of state tournament events the community is capable of hosting in the future. It will be forwarded to the NDHSAA Tournament committee.

SID Report

M. Mullally recommends renewing the Go Daddy website service contract which is expiring this summer. Improved services has enabled updates/changes to the website to be conducted with no glitches. May 2016 produced the most monthly traffic to the site, just shy of 37,000 views. The estimated cost for the Go Daddy contract is \$180 a year. B. Lervick asked if more specific user traffic google analytic statistics could be made available.

M. Mullally is completing a comprehensive 2015-16 statistical yearbook for all 22 sponsored activities. Standings, postseason review, in-season news and notes, statistics and team-by-team results will be featured. Additionally, there will be other information pertaining to the conference, including tie-break criteria, team scholar recipients and WDA Scholar award program/winners. The 2016-17 postseason schedule and future WDA/W Region postseason sites will also be included. Mullally has discussed the project with a number of ADs. Request for project to be printed and sold to patrons. A printing estimated has been obtained and Farmers Union Insurance has agreed assist in the costs. Approximately 750 books would be available. Additionally, the project would be posted on the website, if file size is permitted by web provider.

P. Jundt wondered if posting it to the site would be the better as opposed to publishing the yearbooks. B. Lervick asked if preseason guides for each sports season (fall, winter, spring) could be completed/printed. A fall guide was completed and posted on-line the past years by Mullally. However, the short window of time between seasons to complete the winter and spring guides makes that a difficult endeavor.

WDA Branding/Logo

M. Mullally arranged and custom polo shirts be made for board of directors with the conference logo and respective school logo/and colors. Paradise Screen Printing LLC/Bismarck-Mandan completed the project. The cost of the shirts were \$338.67. Moved by J. Roaldson-seconded by S. Nustad to approve payment of the shirts. **Motion carried**

President Lunde adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting is set for August 9, Bismarck.
Meeting location will be Legacy High School at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Matt Mullally, WDA SID/Executive Secretary