

Minutes of Board Meeting

April 20, 1979

The Board of Control of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association met at the K.H.S.A.A. office on Friday, April 20, 1979. The meeting was called to order by President Jack Burkich at 9:00 A.M. with all Board members; Commissioner Tom Mills and Assistant Commissioners Louis Stout and Billy V. Wise present (J. D. Minnehan had to leave the meeting early because of an emergency). Conley Manning was present representing the

1085

State Department of Education. The invocation was given by Conley Manning.

Barney Thweatt moved, seconded by Denvall Barriger, that the minutes of the March meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

President Burkich introduced Coach Corky Miller, Fairdale High School, the 1979-80 President of the Kentucky High School Coaches Association. Mr. Miller spoke to the Board about the Coaches' Association sponsoring the Kentucky East-West All-Star games in Louisville on June 8-9. He also explained that the Coaches Association is sponsoring an all-sports clinic on June 7-10, 1979, and extended an invitation to all coaches to attend this clinic. He explained to the Board that with the Coaches' Association help, the injury insurance has increased from \$10,000 to \$75,000 during the past three years and it is the desire of the Coaches Association that this be further increased to a total of \$100,000 for the 1979-80 school year.

After a lengthy discussion Norman Passmore made a motion to change Basketball Tournament Rule VI-3 to read: "Upon written request of the principal of a participating school, the District Tournament Manager shall pay membership fees for a maximum of two coaches to the Secretary of the Kentucky High School Coaches Association from gross receipts of the Boys' District Tournament. The request must be received by the District Tournament Manager prior to March 1.

Upon written request of the principal of a participating school, the District Tournament Manager shall pay membership fees for a maximum of two coach to the Secretary of the Girls' Coaches Association from the gross receipts of the Girls' District Tournament. The request must be received by the District Tournament Manager prior to March 1." The motion was seconded by Glendon Ravesncraft and it passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Barney Thweatt reported that the Sports Committee met at the Springs Motel, April 19, 1979, at 8:00 P.M. On the recommendation of this Committee Barney Thweatt moved, seconded by Joseph McPherson, that Soccer remain a Spring sport for the 1979-80 school year as previously designated by the Board of Control, and that a survey again be conducted by the Commissioner during the 1979-80 school year to determine the season for future years. In the meantime, the principals, athletic directors and coaches are encouraged to work together to decide on the season for Soccer that would fit into the school athletic program and offer the best opportunity for the participating students. Joseph McPherson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Joseph McPherson moved, seconded by Barney Thweatt, that Soccer be added to those sports not subject to the provisions of By-Law 8, Contestant on Another Team. The motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Stokes Harris, Jr. and Mr. Whitney Page appeared before the Board to appeal the decision of the Commissioner regarding his interpretation of By-Law 5, Section 5, Enrollment Elsewhere, as presented to Fayette County Athletic Director, Andy Hopkins. Attorney Phil Scott was present representing the Kentucky High School Athletic Association

Testimony at the hearing was provided by Richard Page, Jr., father of Whitney Page and Lee T. Mills, Commissioner of the Association. The three petitioners are not enrolled in the Fayette County School

285

System nor do they attend a school which is a member of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association. The petitioners, Beckwith Archer and Whitney Page are enrolled in the Lexington School, a private school located in Fayette County, Kentucky and the petitioner Brooks Simmons is a student at Christ the King a Lexington Catholic parochial elementary school. Each of the participants is a tennis player and in particular, the Archer girl and Page boy have previously participated on Henry Clay High School's tennis team. They desire to participate again this spring on the Henry Clay High School tennis team.

The petitioners were advised by various coaches that the athletic director, Mr. Hopkins of the Fayette County School System, had informed the respective coaches that because students were enrolled in private or parochial elementary schools, they would not be allowed to participate on the Henry Clay tennis team.

The petitioners appealed Mr. Hopkins' ruling to commissioner Tom Mills of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association. Commissioner Mills ruled the petitioners ineligible to participate on Henry Clay High School's tennis team and cited as the basis of his ruling By-Law 5, Sec. 5, which provides that, "no student who is enrolled or connected with any other school other than the one he represents shall take part in any contest." The Commissioner further stated in his ruling that "students that are not enrolled in the Fayette County public high schools are not eligible to participate for a Fayette County public high school who is a member of the K.H.S.A.A. even though they may reside in that public school district."

Mr. Mills testified that as commissioner, By-Law 5, Sec. 5, has consistently been interpreted in the manner in which the facts of this case were interpreted and the rule applied. The commissioner further testified that the reason for the interpretation was that the parents of each student residing in Fayette County have a choice to send their child to a public school and thus have that child avail himself of the curriculum and program offered by that system or in the alternative, to enroll that child in a private or parochial school system and have the child avail himself of the opportunities offered within that system. If the child were allowed to enroll in one system and yet take part in the activities offered by the other system, considerable administrative difficulties could and would probably arise. In the particular instance before the Board, the high school at which the petitioners desire to participate does not have any control over the children from the private school nor does the private school have control over these children when they leave that school to participate in athletic contests on behalf of the public high school.

The commissioner of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association is directed to interpret the by-laws and tournament rules of the Association and it has been his consistent interpretation that private or parochial school children, such as the petitioners, are not eligible to participate on behalf of a public high school.

A motion was duly made and seconded to sustain the ruling of the commissioner for the reasons he presented, as enumerated hereinabove, and upon a call for the question the motion was adopted unanimously.

3 of 5

The foregoing motion, passed unanimously by the Board of Control, adopted as its findings and conclusions the reasons stated by Commissioner Mills in his testimony and thus denied the petitioners' appeal.

Donna Wolfe, of the Kentucky Girls' Sports Association, appeared before the Board to discuss some of the problems that the Girls' Sports Association members have discussed at their meetings. She gave the Board a report on the success of the State Volleyball Tournament that their organization sponsored in 1978. Other items she presented to the Board for discussion was a better distribution of passes for the coaches at the Girls' State Basketball Tournament, preference in keeping the Girls' Sports Association for women coaches and the method of selecting officials for the Girls' State Basketball Tournament.

Mr. Mills gave a report on the volleyball survey that had been sent to the principals of member schools. He reported that 198 principals returned the survey forms. Seventy-two schools indicated they would sponsor a girls' team in 1979-80, 22 schools indicated they would sponsor a boys' team and 126 schools indicated that they would not sponsor a team for either boys or girls. Mr. Mills recommended that this information be presented to the Sports Committee for consideration and that a decision be made very soon to permit the schools to proceed with their plans to have a volleyball team should the Board vote to sanction volleyball as a fall sport during the 1979-80 school year.

Assistant Commissioner Billy Wise reported the attendance at the Boys' State Basketball Tournament at approximately 104,000 as compared to 84,000 in 1978. The gross receipts from the boys' tournament was approximately \$439,658.00 with expenses of \$107,426.50.

The Girls' State Basketball Tournament had an attendance of 28,753 and gross receipts of approximately \$113,064.00 with expenditures of \$61,125.55. A complete audit of both the boys and girls tournaments will appear in the August issue of the ATHLETE.

Upon a motion by Glendon Ravenscraft, seconded by Norman Passmore, the Board voted unanimously for Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky, to host the 1980 Girls' State Basketball Tournament

After a lengthy discussion on the location of the 1981 Boys' State Basketball Tournament, Zeb Blankenship made the motion, seconded by Norman Passmore, that the 1981 Boys' State Basketball Tournament be held in Rupp Arena, Lexington, Kentucky. The motion carried by a vote of 5-4.

Mr. Mills presented requests from Principals of Anderson County High School and Spencer County High School that their schools be permitted to change from Basketball District 29 to District 30. Following a discussion of these requests, Barney Thweatt moved, seconded by Joseph McPherson, that Mr. Mills and J. D. Minnehan be instructed to consider these requests and report their recommendations to the Board at the next meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Jack Burkich and Barney Thweatt were named delegate and alternate, respectively, to the forthcoming annual meeting of the National Federation.

4 of 5

Mr. Mills reported to the Board that the survey on classification in basketball, as requested by the Basketball Committee, is now being conducted. The results will be reported at the next meeting of the Board.

Billy Wise explained to the Board that he is presently conducting a poll among member schools concerning the assignment of district and regional basketball officials. He will report the results to the members at the next meeting.

The date for the next meeting of the Board was scheduled for Friday, July 27, 1979, 10:00 A.M., at Kenlake State Park, Aurora, Kentucky.

Denval Barriger moved, seconded by Zeb Blankenship, that all bills of the Association for the period beginning March 1, 1979, and ending March 31, 1979, be allowed. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

S. O. S.
Jack J. Burdick Tom Miller
President Secretary