

WEST ALAMEDA COUNTY CONFERENCE
MINUTES – AD MEETING
Tuesday, March 28, 2023

Present: Alameda (Molina), Arroyo (Budge), Berkeley (Parker), Bishop O'Dowd (Reed, Nishimoto), Castro Valley (Stacy), Encinal (Gorham), Hayward (Prasad), Mt. Eden (Duran, Hernandez), Piedmont (Smet) San Leandro (Thomas) San Lorenzo (Longaker), Tennyson (Feeney) (Commissioner (Kiesel)

Absent: None

Guests: None

1. There was no public input

2. There were no changes to the March 1, 2023 AD minutes.

3. NCS

- AD's were encouraged to sign up for a ZOOM NCS DEI discussion in April.
NOTE: Info was sent out to AD's – April 13 at 1:00 pm is the meeting date and time
- There was extensive discussion of NCS playoff divisions based on school size rather than competitive equity. No action was taken
- AD;s addressed the 4/14 NCS BOM agenda and recommend the following action:
 - Consensus to oppose X. D. – the change in the water polo championships proposed by the EBAL
 - Consensus to support X. E. and X. F. – the BVAL's proposals to modify NCS divisions

4. Basketball

- After a full discussion, MSC (Longaker, Reed, 12-0-0) to approve the modified 2023-24 basketball schedules, dated "proposed 3/28/23." There was consensus that if San Lorenzo and Tennyson develop varsity-level programs by the end of December, the six Shoreline schools would work to add them to their schedule.
- The league commissioner was asked to pencil in five cross-league games; the five Foothill schools vs five of the Shoreline schools; Berkeley, Encinal, Hayward, Mt. Eden and SJND

5. Soccer

- MSC (Molina, Longaker, 12-0-0) to approve the four amended 2023-24 soccer schedules.
NOTE: Arroyo and San Lorenzo will be looking at alternatives to starting side by side soccer games starting at 3:15/3:30
- The league commissioner reported on the phone conversation with the NBSRA assigner.
- AD's emphasized the safety concern they have when less than a full crew of officials works soccer games.

6. Wrestling

- No action was taken on the wrestling schedule for next Winter as AD's wanted to explore the possibility of restructuring how we schedule the girls' program.

7. Football

- AD's had a brief discussion about how they are planning to integrate the new NCS "July 19 helmet conditioning" rule into their football program.
- No action was taken of the proposed changes to the Football Special Rules involving the structure of the all-league teams as AD's wanted to see parity between offense and defense which does not exist in the present proposal. AD's proposed adding one "utility" position to the offense.

8. No action was taken on flag football. AD's are waiting for NCS structure and calendar decisions. Some WACC schools are in the process of assessing interest in the program.

9. Fall and Spring Tennis

- The league commissioner was instructed to insert the JV Jamboree into the schedule
- MSC (Molina, Reed, 12-0-0) to move to tennis matches to Wednesdays/Fridays to reduce missed class time.

10. Water Polo

- MSC (Molina, Parker, 11-0-1) to recommend approval of the MACPolo contract tender.

11. Baseball

- AD's expressed serious about the inability of the NEBUA, our baseball umpire contracted provider, to supply umpires to both our varsity and non-varsity games. The lack of qualified umpires at games leads to many negative side effects. Communication with the NEBUA assigner has become very difficult. AD's agreed to work with their school administration to ensure a positive athletic experience for our baseball players.
- Rainouts threaten the integrity of the league schedule. AD's are looking at modifying the league tournament, scheduled for the week of May 8-12 to allow for rainout make-ups. This will be a topic for discussion at the newly added Monday, April 24 AD meeting.

12. Lacrosse

- MSC (Reed, Parker, 8-0-4) to approve the Lacrosse Fact Sheet presented by Bishop O'Dowd and posted on the website.

13. Softball

- The SCUA has suggested we work with them on scheduling non-league games next year to spread them out over the week
- The Softball Fact Sheet presented by Bishop O'Dowd was approved by consensus
- Rainouts threaten the integrity of the league schedule. AD's are looking at modifying the league tournament, presently scheduled for the week of May 8-12 to allow for rainout make-ups. This will be a topic for discussion at the newly added Monday, April 24 AD meeting.

14. Swimming and Diving

- The fact sheet was emailed to AD's during the meeting; no formal action was taken.
- We need to schedule start times for swim meets at "on campus" sites taking into consideration possible academic disruptions to the school day: Berkeley, Castro Valley, Encinal, and San Leandro are sites with on campus pools.

15. Tennis

- The league commissioner was directed to schedule tennis matches on Wednesdays and Fridays
- MSC (Reed, Molina 10-0-2) to approve the Tennis Fact Sheet presented by Bishop O'Dowd

16. Track and Field

- MSC (Prasad, Gorham, 12-0-0) to approve the fact sheet emailed to AD's at the meeting.
- Track programs at most league schools are growing; at some schools rapidly growing. We need to take this into consideration when scheduling next year as some meets this year are simply too big. Any meets scheduled before Daylight Savings Time kicks in should have lights.

17. Spring Volleyball

- It appears that Mt. Eden will have a program next year so all 12 schools will need to be scheduled using competitive equity, not geographic proximity.

18. The league commissioner encouraged those AD's who are attending the AD Conference in April to stop by the rSchoolToday booth and encourage that company to develop a simple process for transferring scheduling information to CIF Home Campus.

19. During a round table discussion, AD's reviewed the ways that coaches at their school make decisions about who "makes the team" and who doesn't. There was agreement that:

- Coaches should make their process as transparent as possible and available to athletic administration, students and parents/guardians.
- Coaches should be allowed to make final decisions based on their subjective evaluations of objective criteria; that "objective criteria" being available to all in advance.
- Students trying out for a sport who come late to tryouts because of participation in a sport in the previous season should be given a full opportunity to "make the team."
- Extraneous information such as 1) participation in "open gym," or 2) participation in a "club program" must not be used.

20. The AD's reviewed the effects of the many game cancellations this Spring due to weather. AD's suggest an additional AD meeting, not originally on the calendar, for Monday, April 24 at 8:00. This meeting might be ZOOMed or it might be an "in-Person" meeting, based on what happens between now and then.

Next Meeting – Monday, April 24, 8:00 am; "In-Person" or Zoom

Respectfully submitted

Dave Kiesel, WACC Commissioner