

WEST ALAMEDA COUNTY CONFERENCE
MINUTES – AD MEETING
Friday, May 12, 2023

Present: Alameda (Molina), Berkeley (Parker), Bishop O’Dowd (Reed, Kigar), Castro Valley (Stacy), Encinal (Gorham), Hayward (Prasad), Mt. Eden (Duran), Piedmont (Smet) San Leandro (Thomas) San Lorenzo (Flowers), Tennyson (Feeney) (Commissioner (Kiesel)

Absent: Arroyo

Guests: None

1. There was no public input.

2. There were no changes to the April 24. 2023 AD minutes.

3. Basketball

- AD’s confirmed girls’ basketball cross-league game sites. Those games and site remaining unconfirmed are:
Tuesday, December 12 - *Castro Valley vs. SJND*
Tuesday, January 16 - *Castro Valley vs. Berkeley and Piedmont vs. Mt. Eden*
- AD’s confirmed that San Lorenzo would be given a full JV schedule once other league schools decided on how many levels to offer. SJND will not have a JV level.

4. No action or discussion on soccer schedules as we’re waiting for the San Lorenzo USD to decide on finals week and winter break.

5. Wrestling

- Coaches rejected the “mini-tournament” concept for girls and the girls’ schedule will be the same as the boys’ schedule. The league commissioner was asked to ensure that a school would not be hosting basketball and wrestling on the same date.

6. Badminton

- AD’s agreed with coaches and will keep leagues the same for the 2-23-24 season. We’ll get a schedule when we know all school’s spring breaks
- Piedmont will host all its matches on campus next spring. We now have seven “one-gym” schools
- AD’s addressed the glitch in our special rules dealing with the election of POTY and directed the league commissioner to add the following to the Badminton Special Rules;
“2701.2 From among the nominees listed on the ballot, coaches shall select a boys’ “Player of the Year” and a girls’ “Player of the Year.” **If a selected POTY is part of a doubles’ team nomination, the partner of the POTY shall automatically also be placed on the all-league first team.”**

7. Baseball

- After a full discussion of some alternatives, AD's agreed to keep the leagues the same for the 2023-24 season,
- AD's addressed the coaches' concerns about JV scheduling by directing the league commissioner to come up with a JV schedule that give all schools with one or two non-varsity levels two guaranteed games a week.
- AD's directed the league commissioner to develop a "ten-run-rule" policy to be presented to them at the August AD meeting and implement for the 23-24 season.
- There was massive dissatisfaction with the NEBUA; its communications policies and its assignment policies. The league commissioner was asked to review other officiating options.

8. Boys' Golf

- AD's agreed by consensus to make the following change to the Golf Special Rules:
 - Regarding Scoring in Dual Matches:
 - 10.1 The best five of six medal scores shall be used to determine the winners of each match
 - 10.2 Dual match ties will be broken in the following prioritized manner:
 - ~~10.2.1~~ 10.2.2 The team whose first five scorers have the fewest double pars.
 - ~~10.2.2~~ 10.2.1 The scores of the sixth golfers from the teams in the tie. If one team has a 6th golfer and the other team doesn't, the team with the 6th golfer wins.
- AD's rejected the girls' coaches' request to hold the league tournament at the Monarch Bay short course. Arroyo will be hosting the tournament and will look for a full size course for the October 16 championships
- AD's want to avoid potential gamesmanship concerns around the question of "which tees to use?" When the schedule is generated and coaches decide which course(s) they will use when hosting matches, they will also decide which tees to use and it will be posted on the schedule.
- Concerns about "keeping score" in the championships will be handled by outlining the specific scoring procedures in the golf fact sheet

9 Lacrosse

- Those AD's with lacrosse by consensus approved the boys' and girls' lacrosse schedules, knowing that some of the dates would need to be changed; continuing with a single round.
- Coaches want the postseason meeting to be 15 days after "Seeding Sunday" AD's feel that day would be too far from the end of the season and suggest the following playoff week schedule:
 - Monday evening – postseason meeting
 - Wednesday evening – first round of the playoffs; 1 vs 4 and 2 vs 3
 - Friday evening – championships (host next year by Berkeley)

10. Softball

- AD's spent time reviewing the advantages of the coaches' alignment recommendation; a 4 x 4 x 4 model. MSC (Duran, Parker, 11-1-0) to approve the following, as a one-year experiment to work to solve competitive equity problems and directed the league commissioner to schedule accordingly, with a Shoreline tournament at the end of the season:

o Foothill	Shoreline A	Shoreline B
Alameda	Berkeley	Hayward
Arroyo	Encinal	Piedmont
Castro Valley	Mt. Eden	San Lorenzo
O'Dowd	San Leandro	Tennyson

Foothill plays a double round against each other and one game against all Shoreline A schools – 10 games (same # as now) all of which count in league standings

Shoreline B - plays a double round against each other and one game against all Shoreline A schools – 10 games (same # as now)

Shoreline A - plays a double round against each other; one game against all Shoreline B and all Foothill schools – 14 games

- AD's directed the league commissioner to develop a "ten-run-rule" policy to be presented to them at the August AD meeting and implement for the 23-24 season.
- AD's addressed the coaches' concerns about JV scheduling by directing the league commissioner to come up with a JV schedule that give all schools with non-varsity levels two guaranteed games a week.
- Both AD's and coaches want to ensure that all adults involved in our softball games, coaches, umpires and others, approach their officiating duties in a "DEI- positive" manner. Comments, gestures, body language (i. e. their approach to the game) must be positive and constructive). There is room for improvement here and AD's asked the league commissioner to work with the SCUA administration to make them aware of our concerns.

11. Swimming and Diving

- Swimming programs are growing at many schools and some potential meets would border on being "too big." In addition, the competitive equity disparities mitigate against certain dual or tri meets.

MSC (Smet, Duran, MOTION then WITHDRAWN) to place five schools in a Foothill League and five schools in a Shoreline League. AD's then looked at a six-team Foothill League consisting of Alameda, Berkeley, Castro Valley, Encinal, O'Dowd, and Piedmont. While that would result in greater competitive equity, it would leave the developing programs at Arroyo, Hayward, Mt. Eden, and San Leandro and many outstanding swimmers in those programs without the competition need to improve. No specific scheduling action was taken but the league commissioner was directed to come up with some scheduling options that might work to solve some competitive equity problems.

12. Tennis

- We will be a nine-team tennis league next Spring with the addition of Encinal to the WACC for boys' tennis. The league commissioner will begin working on a schedule when all schools have a spring break.

13. Track and Field

- By consensus, coaches placed seven schools in the Foothill League (Alameda, Berkeley, Castro Valley, Hayward, O'Dowd, Piedmont, and San Leandro) and five schools in the Shoreline League (Arroyo, Encinal, Mt. Eden, San Lorenzo, and Tennyson).
- Coaches and AD's universally preferred the 'combining meets' option that lets us start league track meets two to three weeks later in the spring season but no specific schedule was approved yet. Shoreline AD's want their student-athletes to be able to compete against Foothill student athletes, even if they're not scoring against them in a particular meet. What they don't want is to host a meet dominated by Foothill schools. Shoreline schools want to host other Shoreline schools and travel to Foothill schools. The league commissioner was asked to revise the schedule, combining meets where possible, and taking care when making meet host decisions.

14. Boys' Volleyball

- MSC (Parker, Molina, 10-0-0) to support the coaches recommendation that we align the WACC in the following manner for next season:

Foothill	Shoreline
Alameda	Berkeley
Arroyo	Encinal
Castro Valley	Hayward
O'Dowd	Mt. Eden
Piedmont	San Lorenzo
San Leandro	Tennyson

- The league commissioner was asked to develop a home and away schools against league schools and one mandatory cross-over game against schools in the other league. The league commissioner will begin working on a schedule when all schools have a spring break.
- MSC (Duran, Molina, 9-0-0) to recommend that the WACC Board approve the BAOA contract tender posted on the website for the next four years
- The CIF has ruled the Piedmont volleyball uniforms illegal starting the 23-24 school year, based on NFHS rules. There is no penalty listed for not following this rule. There is apparently not enough of a contrast between the jersey color and the number color. Piedmont brought the involved uniform to the meeting. AD's understand and support all NFHS rules and understand why two darker colors may not be enough of a contrast. MSC (Reed, Flowers, 8-0-0) to allow Piedmont to use the demonstrated jersey in WACC play next fall and to guarantee to BAOA officials that they will not challenge Piedmont's use of this jersey as long as Piedmont guarantees that, during their next uniform purchase cycle, they will purchase "legal" uniforms.

15. Flag Football

- The following schools will have offer flag football next Fall: Alameda, Berkeley, Encinal, Hayward, Mt. Eden, Piedmont, San Leandro, and Tennyson. The specific schedule will be available for the August 7 AD meeting.

16. Football

- AD's, by consensus, recommend the following changes to the Football Special Rules to the WACC Board:

1313.1 The WACC website shall be used for nominations and balloting in odd-numbered years. The MVAL Commissioner shall determine the nomination procedure in even-numbered years.

1313.3 Players shall be nominated by position. On offense those positions are **receivers (4)**, linemen (5), quarterback (1), and running back (2). On defense those positions are linemen (4), **linebacker (3)-(4)**, and defensive backs (4)

1313.4 Coaches shall vote for 1st team and 2nd team honorees. A coach may not vote for his own players. If a tie occurs, ~~and the tie can be resolved by determining which player received the most first team votes, it shall be done. Otherwise, ties shall be voted off; the coaches of the players in the tie shall not participate in the vote off.~~ If two players remain tied at the end of the second vote, both **all players in the tie** shall be selected to the all-League team. **If there is a tie for first team, the number of players selected for the second team shall be reduced. If there is a tie for second team, all players in the tie shall be given second team honors.**

17. Tennis

- Castro Valley volunteered to host the non-varsity invitational tournament on Saturday, October 28.

18. Coaches are moving in the direction of honoring our outstanding student-athletes in individual (rather than team) sports with ribbons/medals at our championship meets. The league commissioner was asked (consensus) to include an appropriate amount in the league budget for six honorees in each event in track and track and three in each weight class in wrestling

19. The league commissioner reviewed some financial information

20. Website

- The league commissioner encourage all schools to use the website for posting non-league athletic contests.
- AD were asked to check their listed fall coaches for accuracy.

Respectfully submitted Dave Kiesel, WACC Commissioner

Next Meeting – Monday, August 7 – NOON

NOTE: the August 7 AD meeting will be followed by an Eligibility Workshop at 4:00 pm