WIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES
April 22-23, 2010
WIAA Office

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Joe Feist (District 7), Vice President Ed Ploof (District 3), Harlan Kredit (District 1), Craig Olson (District 2), Chris Bigelow (Region A), Henry Karnofski (District 4), Wendy Malich (Region B), Rich Rouleau (District 5), Loren Sandhop (District 6), Al Falkner (District 8), Ken Lindgren (District 9), George Juarez (Region C), and Michele Webb (At-Large).

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS: Ross Hjelseth (WFIS), Ed Laulainen (WSCA), Stark Porter (WSSAAA), Todd Stordahl (WOA), and Randy Ryan (District Directors).

WIAA STAFF: Mike Colbrese, Executive Director; Cindy Adsit, Andy Barnes, Teresa Fisher, Jim Meyerhoff, and John Miller, Assistant Executive Directors; and Leah Francis, Director of Finance and Operations.

EXECUTIVE BOARD/STAFF WORK SESSION
LEAGUE STABILITY – Ed Ploof reported that new leagues have been formed as a result of the recent classification cycle, with qualifying events being determined at this time.

TOURNAMENT FORMATS
The Board held a three-hour work session, reviewing three format options regarding the state basketball tournaments. Board members realized any format change could potentially have far reaching effects in many ways, but felt it was necessary given the requests from the member schools to shorten the basketball season, reduce the cost for schools and fans attending state tournaments, reduce the number of days out of school, reduce tournament costs for the association and to create a more intriguing state tournament for participants and fans. After much discussion, the Board selected an option which will be shared with the Representative Assembly members for comment.

Call to Order
Mr. Colbrese shared a discussion highlighting the meeting that took place in Spokane on Tuesday, April 21, 2010, between the WIAA District Directors (Jim Piccolo, Tom and Marilyn Doyle, Shelly Thiel, Kent Andersen, Bruce Campbell, Russ Brown, Randy Ryan and Bob Kirk), WIAA staff and WIAA Executive Board members attending the WSSAAA conference (Loren Sandhop, Craig Olson, Ken Lindgren and Ed Ploof.) The purpose of the meeting was to clarify concerns over Board process; accountability; communication to and from the Board members, WIAA staff and district directors; football and soccer site selection; and proposed changes to the eligibility process. As a result of discussion that took place during that meeting, it was recommended that the district directors meet at least once annually with the WIAA Executive Board during a regularly scheduled meeting. District Directors will be invited to attend the July 26-27, 2010, meeting.

Subcommittee meetings were held from 9:45 AM until 10:45 AM.
WIAA Executive Board President Joe Feist opened the Executive Board meeting at 10:45 AM on Wednesday, April 22, 2010. Mr. Feist welcomed the members of the Board and thanked them for attending.

**District Reports:** Each Board member gave a summary report of recent activities or issues within his/her respective district.

District 1: Harlan Kredit reported that the district board has not met since the March Executive Board meeting. He added that legal counsel suggested that the NW Conference register as a 501c3 (non-profit) organization. Al Falkner shared that the Greater Spokane League is registered as a nonprofit organization. Mr. Colbrese added that the districts are covered under the WIAA (non-profit) umbrella policy, but that does not necessarily extend to the leagues.

District 2: Craig Olson reported that John Miller attended the recent meeting where the amendments were presented, and discussion took place regarding potential combination agreements with other districts and the four WIAA Executive Board initiatives.

District 3: Ed Ploof reported that the district board has not met since the March Executive Board meeting. Discussions have taken place regarding league alignment and qualifying tournament formats. Wendy Malich added that the new 2A schools are also working to develop regular season and postseason schedules and tournament formats.

District 4: Henry Karnofski reported that Cindy Adsit attended the recent meeting where the amendments and other topics were discussed. There was lengthy discussion about the decision of a league regarding a clerical error involving school boundaries.

District 5: Rich Rouleau reported that the district has not met since the last Executive Board meeting. Mr. Colbrese added that Mr. Rouleau represented the Association during the 20-year recognition ceremony at the Yakima SunDome earlier this month. Rich reported that 58 state championship tournaments in basketball, volleyball, dance/drill and cheerleading have been held in the SunDome since 1999.

District 6: Loren Sandhop reported that the spring general meeting was held where the amendments were clarified by Cindy Adsit, service awards were presented, and the four WIAA Executive Board initiatives were discussed.

District 7: Joe Feist reported that Jim Meyerhoff attended the district meeting to cover the amendments. There was discussion about the potential for changes to the state basketball tournament format. Current eligibility chair Marty Friedman announced his retirement at the end of this school year, so the district is reviewing potential candidates to fill that position. The District 7 Board also expressed their appreciation of the discussion regarding two- versus three-person mechanics in basketball.

District 8: Al Falkner reported that since Randy Ryan has announced that he will retire after the 2010-11 school year, there has been discussion about how to fill that position. There was an expressed concern regarding the WIAA/WOA statewide agreement requiring facilities for officials in softball and baseball. Randy Ryan added preliminary
information about combination agreements for the next classification cycle. The “spirit”
games (Rubber Chicken Game, Squeaky Shoes Game) that have traditionally been held 
in the Spokane Arena may no longer be feasible due to the increase in charges being assessed by the Arena.

District 9: Ken Lindgren reported that the winter tournament finances were finalized, that 
the spring tournament sites and managers have been finalized, that the combined 1B-2B 
league is set for the next classification cycle, that the amendments were covered by John Miller, and that the district board took positions on the four Executive Board initiatives during the last district meeting. The district continues to support three-person mechanics for basketball.

CONSENSUS ISSUES
Lindgren/Olson moved to approve the agenda and minutes from the March 24, 2010, 
meeting. Mr. Colbrese added that staff is pursuing concerns regarding the amateur status of students involved with the Sounders Development programs and has a meeting scheduled with the Sounders to clarify. MOTION PASSED.

AFFILIATE GROUP REPORTS
ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL PRINCIPALS – Mr. Colbrese reported 
that the superintendents, principals, and athletic directors from the Northwest League 
were meeting at the same time, so Beth Vander Veen was unable to attend the WIAA Executive Board meeting.

MIDDLE LEVEL PRINCIPALS – Cherie Carroll reported that the lowest (achieving) five percent of middle schools in the state may apply for a “Race To The Top” grant which mandates that the principal be released and that the class day for students will be lengthened (as the means to meet the required 360 additional classroom hours.) There is concern about the impact on after school activity programs for these schools.

WASHINGTON STATE SCHOOL DIRECTORS’ ASSOCIATION (WSSDA) – no report.

SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION (WASA) – Mr. Colbrese reported that the superintendents, principals, and athletic directors from the Northwest League were meeting at the same time, so Mark Venn was unable to attend the WIAA Executive Board meeting.

WASHINGTON SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION (WSSAAA) – John Miller reported that the majority of the recent meeting was about the conference itself. Stark Porter added that there is considerable support for the later dates for the conference (as opposed to earlier in April).

WASHINGTON OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION (WOA) – Mr. Stordahl reported that at the request of the district directors, and based on allegations that the fees being charged had increased; he has been reviewing the financial reports of the 2009-10 wrestling tournaments. 11 reports (of the 90 tournaments) have been submitted to date. Of those reviewed, three showed an increase. He added that he annually attends the regional meetings around the state, which typically involve the district directors and league representatives as well. He shared frustration that many schools place blame on the officials associations for the WIAA/WOA agreement, although the agreement was
mandated by the WIAA Executive Board before any future fee increases would be considered. Mr. Falkner, who served on the agreement review committee, added that the statewide agreement was established jointly by members of both the WIAA and WOA Executive Boards.

WASHINGTON STATE COACHES ASSOCIATION (WSCA)
Ed Laulainen reported the association has not met since the March Executive Board meeting.

WASHINGTON FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS (WFIS)
Ross Hjelseth reported that he gave a report during the WFIS meeting earlier in the day at Seattle Christian. There was discussion about the possibility for a declaration of school participation (threshold number) to be taken into consideration regarding amendments to add new sports or activities under the jurisdiction of the Association. The WFIS Board requested that WIAA Executive Board take a position regarding national championships. He added that some Catholic schools may request that contests not be played on Good Friday. The WFIS Board offered to work in conjunction with the WIAA Executive Board regarding requests for accommodations based upon religion.

FINE ARTS – no report

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee: Ed Ploof summarized the initial review of the financial status of the Association, which show a shortfall in anticipated tournament revenue. He added that even if the upcoming spring tournaments were to generate substantial revenue, the shortfall may not be met and the Board will need to review options to balance the budget during the July meeting. He shared the discussion regarding the 2010-11 budget. In order to offset costs of the state music contests, the subcommittee proposed that a participant fee be established (similar to the fees charged for golf and tennis, which are the other events where admission is not charged). Mr. Colbrese suggested that the staff coordinate efforts with the Washington Music Educators Association to determine an appropriate fee.

Ploof/Lindgren moved that a participant fee be determined and charged to the schools, beginning with the 2011 state music events, to offset the costs. MOTION APPROVED on FIRST READING.

Mr. Ploof shared that there was discussion about the potential elimination of either winter coalition or the spring representative assembly meeting, either of which would represent a financial savings to the Association. Mr. Colbrese suggested that a review of the rules writing process would be in order before taking action on this issue, especially since so few amendments have been presented in recent years.

Calendar/Culminating Events Committee: Ken Lindgren summarized that subcommittee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of two classifications playing over two days at three sites versus three classifications over three days at two sites for the state volleyball championships. He relayed that the subcommittee recommended that for overall efficiency, the state volleyball championships remain at two sites. Mr. Falkner added that, based upon a $20,000 loss incurred with the 2009 state volleyball championships, that if the 2010 championships do not meet its expenses, the format of the tournament needs to be reviewed and possibly modified in
the future. Due to the difference in fees and other issues in comparing the bids presented by the Comcast Arena in Everett and the Toyota Center in Kennewick, the committee recommended the 2A, 3A, 4A state championships remain at the Toyota Center in Kennewick, and that the classification rotation be modified to have one large and one small classification paired during the schedule.

Handbook Committee: Michele Webb reported the subcommittee continues to review Article 18. Recommended that “the one year waiting period” be removed from Article 18.23.5 (amateur standing); that, in order for foreign students to follow the same requirements as United States citizens, a foreign student may not appeal for varsity status if he/she has graduated from his/her country; that participation in a summer program or in non-school programs can not be a condition of participation. 

Webb/Olson moved to approve the editorial changes for the 2010-11 handbook as submitted. MOTION APPROVED.

FINANCIAL REPORTS
Year-to-date: Ms. Francis reported that sometimes the year-to-date report does not represent an accurate financial picture compared to the year before, since the timing of revenues and expenses may vary from year to year.

Final Financial Report for 2010 Winter Events: Ms. Francis provided the final winter tournament report which showed that even though revenue was higher than projected in wrestling, gymnastics and cheerleading, the revenue for the state basketball tournaments was significantly less than expected.

WIAA 2010-11 Budget: Ms. Francis shared that the 2010-11 budget needs to reflect an even greater reduction in projected revenue. Since the Board previously determined that membership fees would not be increased for the 2010-11 school year, even though the increase was scheduled to be in effect, the Board proposed means to balance reduced revenue and increase expenses in other ways. Malich/Falkner moved to approve the 2010-11 budget on second reading which included options for balancing the budget. MOTION APPROVED.

READINGS
Site Selection for First and Second Round Football and Soccer

Olson/Lindgren moved to approve the site selection criteria for football and soccer on third and final reading. Mr. Colbrese shared that the district directors do not support the proposal which would stipulate the WIAA Executive staff to resolve any disputes between participating schools in consultation with district directors. Randy Ryan added that since the first and second rounds are administered by the districts, the directors felt that the jurisdiction should remain at that level. Ms. Webb added that District 6 would be in favor of the proposal if wording were added to support inter-district agreements. Mr. Ploof shared that an appeal might not be upheld if such an agreement were in place. Mr. Miller reiterated that the revised language regarding site selection will standardize the date and time for first and second rounds in football and soccer. If the involved districts agree to make changes, they have the authority to make the changes (date or time). Sites for the first and second rounds will be determined by the district directors of the districts involved. In the event the two district directors cannot resolve site issues, the WIAA Executive staff will resolve the dispute in consultation with district directors. He added that the policy provides a consistent process for concerns to be heard when
two districts can not agree. He pointed out individual schools will not have the authority to appeal; only the district directors can appeal. MOTION APPROVED.

REQUESTS FOR ACTION
Site Selection for 2010-11 Volleyball Tournament
Lindgren/Kredit moved to approve the Yakima SunDome for the 2010 1B, 2B and 1A state volleyball championships and the Toyota Center in Kennewick for the 2010 2A, 3A, and 4A state volleyball championships. He added that the rotation will be adjusted to include one large and one small classification during each year of the three-year rotation. Even though the 4A schools played on Thursday and Friday in 2009, due to Veteran’s Day on Thursday, November 11, 2010 (and no school on that day), a rotation change would have a minimal impact for the 4A schools. The 4A classification will play on Thursday and Friday in 2010. MOTION APPROVED.

Draw Criteria for Football, Soccer, and Baseball
All board members provided input from the schools in each respective district to determine a position regarding the draw criteria for football, soccer and baseball. Lindgren/Olson moved to approve Option 3 (no change in the current criteria.) MOTION APPROVED.

NW Yeshiva Request to Modify State Volleyball Tournaments with the 1B state volleyball tournament to be played on Wednesday and Thursday
Mr. Colbrese presented the request on behalf of NW Yeshiva to permanently change the dates of the 1B state volleyball tournament to Wednesday and Thursday. Currently the 1B, 2B and 1A classifications rotate through the three-day, three-classification event at the Yakima SunDome, with each classification following a Thursday-Friday schedule once in every three-year cycle and following a Friday-Saturday schedule two consecutive years in the three-year cycle. Due to the number of teams involved (16 in each classification), and the number of matches played during each day of the tournament, NW Yeshiva is essentially prohibited from qualifying for the tournament due to the observance of the Sabbath. The school has requested that the tournament dates be changed on its behalf.
Mr. Colbrese shared that representatives of NW Yeshiva and the staff have yet to find a mutually acceptable meeting date but he was hopeful a date could be secured within the next month. Olson/Bigelow moved to table any action until such time that the staff and NW Yeshiva representatives have the opportunity to meet. MOTION APPROVED.

Decision regarding WIAA rule 25.2.5 and the forfeit of NW Yeshiva at the 1B State Basketball Tournament
Mr. Colbrese summarized that since NW Yeshiva did not meet the mandate of WIAA Handbook rule 25.2.5, by forfeiting its second game of the state basketball tournament, the WIAA Executive Board has the authority and responsibility to determine if a penalty should be assessed to the school. He shared that representatives of NW Yeshiva were aware that sanctions could be assessed for the forfeiture. He also praised the board for the methodical and careful review of the request to modify the tournament in order to accommodate the school’s observance of the Fast of Esther. Ross Hjelseth added that the WFIS Board suggested additional time and study be devoted to this issue before action is taken.
Falkner/Rouleau moved to go into executive session at 2:50 PM in order to discuss legal issues. MOTION APPROVED.

Lindgren/Karnofski moved to come out of executive session at 3:18 PM. MOTION APPROVED.

Kredit/Olson moved to send a letter of concern to NW Yeshiva. MOTION APPROVED.

The board also directed Mr. Colbrese to work with the WFIS Board, the ACLU, and the Anti-Defamation League to determine a process for reviewing similar requests in the future.

**Board Goal Regarding Eligibility Process**

Mr. Colbrese summarized the staff’s work on revising the eligibility process since July. During the July WIAA Executive Board meeting, each of the board members was asked by President Joe Feist to share a concern. The eligibility process was listed by nearly every member, therefore, the staff had been directed to develop some options for WIAA Executive Board review. Options and revisions have been presented during each subsequent meeting. Mr. Colbrese will share this progression with the Representative Assembly members as well.

Mr. Miller summarized the draft developed by the staff at the direction of the board to standardize the eligibility process, to improve upon consistency across the state, and to reduce the number of eligibility cases overall. Each of the board members shared comments from schools in his/her respective district. He added that the WIAA Executive Director is the only person authorized to interpret the WIAA rules, although no less than 150 individuals interpret “hardship” on a regular basis. The board agreed that the eligibility is a state issue, not a district issue.

Webb/Bigelow directed the staff to develop an eligibility process proposal that is more centralized and is believed to best meet the needs of students across the state. MOTION APPROVED.

**Proposed Categories for 2011 State Cheerleading Championships**

Ms. Adsit presented the proposed categories for the 2011 State Cheerleading Championships. The categories were developed based on feedback from the schools that participated in the 2010 state cheerleading championships and from input from the board of the Washington State Cheer Coaches Association.

2.1 Cheer Categories (One male may be a member of the following squads)

2.1.1 Small: 12 and under participants
2.1.2 Medium: 13-16 participants
2.1.3 Large: 17 and over participants
2.1.4 Non-Tumbling

2.2 Coed: 2 or more males

NOTE: The categories may be divided at the state championships by classification and/or if four or more teams qualify that meet the following:

Super Large: More than 20 participants
Large Coed: 5 or more males
Coed Non-Tumbling: 2 or more males

Olson/Karnofski moved to approve the categories for the 2011 State Cheerleading Championships as submitted. MOTION APPROVED.
PLANNING
Site for State Speech and Debate Events
Mike Burton provided a written report to the Board regarding the state of forensics in Washington (Attachment #1). The Forensics Board is in the process of developing the bid sheets for the speech tournament, with consideration for a potential eastside site. The state debate will remain at the traditional site, the University of Puget Sound. Al Falkner expressed his appreciation to the Forensics Board for considering eastside sites.

Representative Assembly
With only eleven amendments to discuss and vote upon, Mr. Colbrese indicated that some additional topics would be added to the Representative Assembly agenda in order to insure the meeting extends up to the Gareth Giles luncheon.

WIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD
Election of 2010-11 Executive Board President and Vice President
Falkner/Malich moved to approve Ed Ploof as the 2010-11 WIAA Executive Board President. MOTION APPROVED.
Ploof/Olson moved to approve Rich Rouleau as the 2010-11 WIAA Executive Board Vice President. MOTION APPROVED.

July Board Meeting Planning
Based upon discussion regarding communication with District Directors, the District Directors will be invited to attend either the July 26-27, 2010, or the September 26-27, 2010, meeting.

2010-11 Proposed Executive Board Meetings
Mr. Colbrese presented proposed date changes for the 2010-11 executive board meeting dates. The April meeting dates are tentative based upon the 2011 WSSAAA Conference dates (Attachment #2).

Executive Director’s Evaluation
Board members are submitting written evaluations to Mr. Feist for compilation.

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND OTHER INFORMATION
Three-Person Basketball Mechanics
Mr. Feist reported that three-person mechanics in basketball has been a topic of discussion in District 7. Mr. Colbrese presented the Statement on Three-Person Basketball Mechanics as developed by the WOA as requested by the WIAA Executive Board during the March meeting. Board members shared comments from the schools and leagues within their respective districts. With little support for leagues to have the option to choose between two- or three-person mechanics, the Board agreed that three-person format is working for the majority of the member schools. Three-person mechanics will continue to be required at the high school level.

State Events
Spring Events Updates – Mr. Colbrese reported that all staff members met with the state tournament managers and events are progressing as they should.
Spring State Events Board Representation – Board members signed up for spring events to present awards.

SPECIAL EVENTS - ECVI/ECKC – Andy Barnes reported that all teams have been set for both the Emerald City Volleyball Invitational and the Emerald City Kickoff Classic.

LEGAL REPORT
John Olson indicated that there was nothing additional to report since the March Executive Board meeting.

SCHOLASTIC CUP
Mr. Barnes reported that spring academic achievement applications are due on April 23, 2010, for the determination of the spring academic state champions.

JUST PLAY FAIR!
Mr. Miller shared that the number of ejections in boys soccer in foul play and abusive language are on par with the number of ejections during the 2009 season, even though the Board placed boys soccer on notice and mandated that the ejections in those two categories be reduced by at least sixty percent during the 2010 season. He suggested the Board members consider additional action to be taken during the July 26-27, 2010, meeting.

ELIGIBILITY UPDATE
Ms. Fisher shared the number of eligibility cases that have been heard to date. She added that the eligibility chairs and members of the eligibility committees will meet on May 4, 2010, at the WIAA office.

COACHES EDUCATION
Coaches School – Mr. Miller reported that registration for the 2010 Coaches School is available online with a significant number of registrations received at this early date. Mr. Meyerhoff was commended for organizing the outstanding general session and breakout presenters who will participate.

FALL WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
Ms. Fisher distributed the 2010 fall workshop schedule and a sheet requesting items to be included in the presentation.

WIAA HALL OF FAME – May 12, 2010
Mr. Barnes reported that the 2010 Hall of Fame ceremonies will be held at the Spirit of Washington Event Center in Renton. He provided the list of 2010 inductees and indicated that invitations will be sent to each board member.

MARKETING, PROMOTIONS, CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP
Mr. Colbrese indicated that there were no changes regarding corporate partnerships since the March 24, 2010, meeting.

NFHS
Mr. Colbrese shared information about the NFHS Summer conference. Five board members are planning to attend. He added that national championships continue to be an item of discussion among the executive directors of the state associations. One state
athletic association authorized teams from that state to participate in a national championship event. The NFHS is pursuing four national events – two in sports and two in fine arts, with eliminating, or at least minimizing, costs to participating schools and minimizing the loss of school time.

FEATURES AND ARTICLES
Mr. Colbrese submitted a series of articles and features of interest to the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Ploof/Malich moved to hold executive session at 12:15 PM. MOTION APPROVED.
Olson/Rouleau moved to come out of executive session at 12:45 PM. MOTION APPROVED.

REVIEW OF APRIL MEETING ACTION
Andy Barnes reviewed action taken by the Board during this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT
Olson/Lindgren moved to adjourn the meeting on Thursday, April 22, at 8 PM. MOTION APPROVED.

STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT FORMAT
President Feist reconvened the meeting at 12:55 PM at the Spirit of Washington Event Center in Renton, following the conclusion of the Representative Assembly meeting. Lindgren/Malich moved to approve the state basketball tournament format which maintains the 16-entry events with the first round conducted at regional sites (utilizing a seeded regional format) and the final eight teams continuing in a modified double elimination format at the state tournament site, effective with the 2010-11 school year. The 1B and 2B tournament will be in Spokane, the 1A and 2A in Yakima, and the 3A and 4A in Tacoma. MOTION APPROVED. The staff was directed to work with the District Directors during the June 1, 2010, meeting to develop the process for seeding the regionals, determining schedules, and compiling a list of potential sites.

Malich/Kredit moved to adjourn the meeting on Friday, April 23, at 1:15 PM. MOTION APPROVED.

Submitted by:
Joe Feist, WIAA Board President
Mike Colbrese, WIAA Executive Director
Cindy Adsit, Recorder

Next Meeting: July 26-27, 2010 Executive Board Meeting
WIAA office