

Members present: Carl Rickershauser (State Rules Interpreter) , Jim Casey (Central Meet Director), Ed Colona (South Meet Director, Robert Byrnes (North II Meet Director), Tim Grant (Coach-Pingry), Jacob Brown (Coach Ridgewood), Chuck Klaus (Executive Committee member), Lou Fraulo (North I Meet Director), Cristian Lynch (Coach-Kingsway), Grant Shivers (Athletic Directors' representative). Don Danser (NJSIAA Staff)

Absent: John Martin (Coach-Westfield, Dave LaGamba, Athletic Directors' Representative).

First of all, congratulations to all involved: athletes, coaches, officials – for a terrific tournament. Even the weather cooperated.

Thirteen pieces of correspondence was received with four themes:

1. Stay at Morris County Central Park (a.k.a. Greystone). All but one of the 3 or 4 that mentioned this were for staying there. One wanted to go back to Warinanco only if the old course could be maintained. Mr. Byrnes said the new construction makes that impossible. There has been a new road with curbs put in that uses some of the old course.

2. Another correspondence dealt with Garrett Mountain. Mr. Fraulo said that he and the Park walked through the course this summer and the park made virtually all the improvements they could to the course. The e-mail suggested there were several injuries resulting from course problems, but no evidence of that is on record.

3. Most of the e-mails concerned the lack of a stage. In the past, the NJSIAA was able to rent a portable stage from the Monmouth County Park System. That stage is no longer available. In fact, we learned today that it was sold for scrap because the hydraulic s were broken on it and would not be cost effective to repair. We are open to suggestions as to where we could rent a suitable portable stage at a reasonable price.

Two e-mails concerned the location of the ceremonies, asking that it be placed near the finish line. The consensus of the committee was that the finish line area is too small to handle this. It was also suggested, that barring a stage, we use the slope next to the shelter as a "stage" to make it easier for viewing and taking pictures.

4. The final correspondence discussed dealt with adding two more wild cards to the Meet of Champions. The committee felt unanimously that this was not a good idea as long as the current conditions under which the meet is conducted exists. The biggest concern is that there are over 175 of the best athletes in each race now. It was brought up that athletes have a much harder time running a better time at the Meet of Champions than they did at the Group Meets, even when weather and course conditions are almost exactly the same. This year, according to a post on one of the track forums, 53 ran faster at MOC than at groups [0.6 to 108 seconds, average 12.7 seconds] and 107 ran slower [0.5 to 83 seconds slower, average 16.1 seconds]. Looking at the top half who ran both days [81/162 runners], 31 ran faster and 50 ran slower [average 11.3 seconds faster and 11.3 seconds slower]. Half of the top 20 finishers ran faster at MOC. This is due in part to the tight crowd of great runners boxing themselves in, literally not having enough room to run. The committee did not want to make this worse.

Changes for next year

The biggest change for next year is to save enough money to save 22 man-hours of work. Presently we pay 60 cents per chip what we have to glue onto the back of numbers. We buy 3500 for the Group Meet the Meet of Champions.

Currently we allow 12 names max per school per gender. We order 3500 bib chips for a total cost, including shipping \$3950.

If we allow a maximum of 8 names instead of the current 12 on the roster we could do the following:

From sectionals we would have 5 teams of 8 for 40 per gender per group for a total of 80 per group and then add 10 (assuming all the top ten were really individuals) for 90 total for group. 90 times 4 groups = 360 per sectional. There are 4 sectionals times 360 for a total number of 1440 athletes to groups. Currently we advance 2240. That saves 800 chips.

The groups would require 1440 plus the non-publics. Using this year's number of NP teams and assuming that all of them would have 8 kids, which they don't, you add an additional 336 bibs for NPA and 416 for NPB (this is both genders) for a total of 752. $1440+752 = 2192$ total chips needed.

$2192 \times \$1.09 = 2389.28$ as opposed to $3500 \times 1.09 = 3815$ for a savings of 1,425.72

Now if we bought the pre-affixed bibs and chips for 1.60 a chip it would be $3507 + \$400$ setup (this is for custom printing) = 3907. This year with shipping we spent 3950! This would save all of us big time efforts, i.e. saving 22 hours of affixing chips to bids.

In doing this, we would need to allow the coaches to make substitutions up to 30 minutes before race time, for any race (i.e. this would apply to the Sectionals, the Groups, and the M.O.C.). Thus we would save much time and effort and still allow the coaches as much roster flexibility as possible. In fact, this will give the coaches even more flexibility because they would only need to list one alternate instead of 5. With the present system, only the 5 could be used throughout the tournament.

Regulation changes:

Sectionals will be on November 7, 2015

Group Meets will be on November 14, 2015

Meet of Champions will be on November 21, 2015.

Sectional Schedule:	10:00 Group II Girls	11:40 Group I Girls	
	10:25 Group III Girls	12:05 Group IV Girls	
	10:50 Group II Boys	12:30 Group I Boys	
	11:15 Group III Boys	12:55 Group IV Boys	
Group Meet Schedule	10:00 Group II Girls	12:00 Non-Public B Girls	2:00 Group I Girls
	10:30 Group III Girls	12:30 Non-Public A Girls	2:30 Group IV Girls
	11:00 Group II Boys	1:00 Non-Public B Boys	3:00 Group I Boys
	11:30 Group III Boys	1:30 Non-Public A Boys	3:30 Group IV Boys
Awards Schedule	10:45 Group II Girls	12:45 Non-Public B Girls	2:45 Group I Girls
	11:15 Group III Girls	1:15 Non-Public A Girls	3:15 Group IV Girls
	11:45 Group II Boys	1:45 Non-Public B Boys	3:45 Group I Boys
	12:15 Group III Boys	2:15 Non-Public A Boys	4:15 Group IV Boys
Meet of Champions Schedule:	11:00 am Girls		
	11:45 am Boys		
	12:30 pm Awards Ceremony starting with Girls		