The Committee on Classification met on Wednesday August 3, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in Grand Island. Jay Bellar, NSAA District III Board of Director, chaired the meeting. The mission of the committee was to discuss a potential proposal for football classifications, review the 8-man football and 6-man football numbers, and consider classifications for other sports and activities.

Committee members present were Wendy Henrichs, Lincoln East; Dr. Dan Endorf, North Bend Central; Dr. Bob Reznicek, Boys Town; Jay Bellar, Battle Creek; Tracy Douglas, Hastings; Gus Brown, Valentine; Dr. Jon Cerny, Bancroft-Rosalie; Dr. Troy Unzicker, Alliance; Kyle Hemmerling, Elwood; and Mike Brockhaus, Sidney. NSAA Staff present were Dr. Jim Tenopir, Jennifer Schwartz, Jon Dolliver, Nate Neuhaus, Dan Masters, and Jeff Stauss. Stu Pospisil from the Omaha World-Herald was also in attendance.

Dr. Tenopir presented a classification proposal for football using the three-grade boys enrollment count and using established numerical cutoffs for each of the six classes of football in an effort to standardize the ratios in each class. Using the three-grade boys enrollment count would be placed in the following classes: Class A - 425 and above, Class B 160 to 424, Class C1 70-159, Class C2 – 69 and below, Class D1 – 33 and above, and Class D2 – 32 and below. The committee agreed to submit this proposal in each of their respective NSAA districts.

The committee also discussed the cut-off number for schools to be able to participate in the playoffs for 8-man football and 6-man football. The committee tentatively agreed to submit a proposal in each of their respective NSAA districts which set the playoff eligibility number for 8-man football at 47 (three-grade boys enrollment count) and 6-man football at 25 (three-grade boys enrollment count).

It was determined that the committee would continue to meet until all of the issues were considered specifically the classification for other sports and activities.

With no further business, the committee adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

The next meeting of the Classification Committee is tentatively scheduled after the November NSAA District meetings.

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Jennifer Schwartz, Assistant Director