

**NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ON CLASSIFICATION**

Minutes of July 29, 2015 Meeting

The Committee on Classification met on Wednesday July 29, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in Kearney. Jay Bellar, NSAA District III Board of Director, chaired the meeting. The mission of the committee was to establish a purpose of the committee and to formulate goals and a plan of action.

Committee members present were Wendy Henrichs, Lincoln East; Tim Alyward, Lincoln Pius X; Dana Wiseman, Sutton; Dr. Dan Endorf, North Bend Central; Jeff Johnson, Papillion-LaVista South; Dr. Bob Reznicek, Boys Town; Dr. Jon Cerny, Bancroft-Rosalie; Todd Strom, South Sioux City; Jay Bellar, Battle Creek; Mark Skillstad, North Platte St. Pats; Dave Barrett, Adams Central; Jason Alexander, Ord; Dr. Dennis Shipp, Bertrand; Jon Davis, Alma; Kyle Hemmerling, Elwood; Dr. Troy Unzicker, Alliance; Gus Brown, Valentine; and Mike Brockhaus, Sidney. Ex-officio members included Rick Moses, NDE Liaison; NSAA Staff, Debra Velder, Jennifer Schwartz, Jon Dolliver, Sarah Sasse-Kildow, Ron Higdon, Nate Neuhaus, Dan Masters, and Jeff Stauss. Stu Pospisil from the Omaha World-Herald was also in attendance.

The Committee discussed a variety of issues in regard to classification and identified the following points to move forward:

1. Ratio, particularly in Class B.
2. Classifying. Use a female count for female sports and use a male count for male sports. An idea was presented to classify each school within a city to be classified in the same classification of the largest school population. (*i.e. Norfolk Catholic, Lutheran High NE would be Class A as Norfolk High School is Class A.*) Also addressed was to establish an east and west division in Classes C & D based on enrollment.
3. Utilizing a 2-year classification period for all activities, not just football.
4. Establishing a break-off number in each class. (*i.e. All schools with an enrollment of 1,000 or greater would be classified Class A, etc.*)
5. Decreasing the number of classes from 6 to 5 in the activities in which there are currently 6 classes. Other options presented were to increase the number of classes to 7 or restructuring the current 6 classes.
6. Study a multiplier/success factor.
7. Opting Up. A school would need to declare their intention to opt up prior to the release of enrollment numbers for the upcoming classification period.

At the request of the committee, the NDE has been contacted requesting enrollment numbers by a boy count and a girl count. A request has been made to the NFHS for information in regard to states who currently use a multiplier/success factor in calculating enrollment number for classification; states that have had a multiplier/success factor in the past and no longer utilize this method; and which states are currently studying classification. Committee members will be provided this information prior to the next scheduled meeting as well as any additional information committee members bring forward.

With no further business, the committee adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Classification Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 28, 2015 in Grand Island.

Debra Velder, Associate Director