

New Jersey Interscholastic Fencing Association

Fall 2009 Preseason Coaches' Meeting

Morris Hills High School

October 24, 2009

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Barbara Lynch, Morris Hills

Lauren McCarthy, Morris Hills

Jim Lawless, Voorhees

Roger Jones, Morris Knolls

Molly James, Somerville

Steve Sobel, Referee, NJIFOA Representative

Jeffrey Tishman, Referee, NJIFOA Representative

Pam Pearce, Butler

Lou De Vito, West Milford

Ken Katz, Bergen Tech

Gene Packer, Fair Lawn

Patrick Curran, Holy Angels

Colleen Caldwell, Ramapo

Jen Mackay, Ramapo

H.W. James, Somerville

Tom Owens, Pompton Lakes

Toni Kiernan, Wayne Hills

Nick Mestanas, North Hunterdon

George Janto, Columbia

Sabina Orsi, Teaneck

Pat Lawrence, Teaneck

Natalie Miller, West Morris Central

Vincent Paragano, Governor Livingston

Jim Rutzler, Governor Livingston

Jason Suter, Wayne Valley

Chris Awad, Wayne Valley

Molly James, Somerville

Kate Lyon, North Hunterdon

Kasey Semanchik, North Hunterdon

Mike Malecki, Morris Catholic

Micah Lewis, Wayne Hills

Josh Lewis, Wayne Hills

Susan Lewis, Wayne Hills

Tom Tishman, Mendham

New Jersey Interscholastic Fencing Association Officers

Chris Awad	Sabina Orsi	Toni Kiernan	Gail Kedoin
President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer

1. Introduction of Officers
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Tournament Dates
 - NJIFA
 - Cetrulo Boys' Relay Championships: Saturday, January 9th @ Morris Knolls
 - Santelli Girls' Relay Championships: Sunday, January 10th @ Voorhees
 - There will be no change in the format: Preliminary Pools then Placing Pools
 - Seeding must be completed by December 31 and emailed or faxed to Tom Tishman
 - The NJIFA website has the forms that can be downloaded and emailed or faxed to him.
 - NJSIAA
 - District Championships (*Entries Must Be Postmarked by Friday, January 22nd*)
 - District 1 & 2: Saturday, January 30th (Snow: February 6th)
 - District 1—Hackettstown—Rep: Marianne Pratschler
 - District 2—North Hunterdon—Rep: John Reid

- District 3 & 4: Sunday, January 31st (Snow: February 7th)
 - District 3—Wayne Valley—Rep: Chris Awad
 - District 4—Fairlawn—Rep: Gene Packer
 -
- Sweet Sixteen Team Tournament—Begin February 9th and 10th
 - Boys': 2/9 (snow 2/11) "16"
 - 2/17 (snow 2/19) "8"
 - 2/23 (snow 2/25) "4"
- Sweet Sixteen Team Tournament—Begin February 9th and 10th
 - Girls': 2/10 (snow 2/16) "16"
 - 2/18 (snow 2/22) "8"
 - 2/24 (snow 2/26) "4"
- Finals 3/2 (3/3) @ Morris Hills
 - Consolation 4:30 pm
 - Finals 7:30 pm
- Individual State Championships (Entries Must Be Submitted by Wednesday, February 10th)
 - Boys & Girls: Saturday, March 13th
 - Location: rider University
- Freshman-Sophomore Tournaments:
 - Morris Knolls Invitational: Wednesday, December 30th @ Morris Knolls
 - Bergen-Passaic: Sunday, February 21st @ Ramapo
 - Skylands: Saturday, February 20th @ Voorhees

4. Tournament Issues:

- Must Bring Complete Working Strip Sets and Timing Devices
- Each team must bring 2 sets of timing devices, weights and shims (girls' team must have 2 sets, boys' team must have 2 sets)
- Weights & Shim/Lost Equipment Plan
 - Discussion tabled at Spring Meeting
 - Committee formed: Gene Packer, Noah Lewis, and Jim Rutzler
- Clearly Mark School and/or Personal Equipment
- Chris Awad reported that Jeff Bukantz emphasized that if a referee has a conflict with any bout, he must excuse himself. There is to be no taunting. One foot off the side of the strip is off the strip.
- Coach Credentialing—Parents/Private Coaches Are Not Allowed To Coach At Any Match or Tournament

5. NJIFOA Report—Steve Sobel

- Assigning Officials
 - Jeff Tishman assigns for the Bergen-Passaic League and the NW Jersey Athletic Conference
 - The NJIFA site also has the dual meet assignments
- Obtaining Membership—they need membership!
- Mr. Sobel encouraged leagues to hire officials for duals
- Safety Concerns
 - Masks must pass tests with armorers at tournaments (coaches make sure to enforce these rules!),
 - Make sure
- Sportsmanship
- Rules (new or changed)
 - The bib is not a target in foil!
- Website: www.njfoa.org and njfoa.wikispaces.com

6. NJIFA Point Personnel

- Tournament Date/Site Confirmation: Josh Lewis
- Tournament Start Time Reminder: Chris Awad
- Tournament Food/Refreshments for Officials & Staff to be provided by Hosting School
- Tournament Calculation Equipment Organizer: Chris Awad
- Tournament Vendor Contact (Cetrulo and Santelli): Gene Packer, Roger Jones
- Tournament Armorer Assigner: Ted Li
- Tournament Trainer Assigner: Ted Li
- Trophies: Pat Lawrence
- All State Point Calculation: James Rutzler
- All State Point Dinner: Chris Awad
 - Toni Kiernan will assist
- Website & Yahoo! Group: Tom Tishman
 - All New Coaches: Please email Tom Tishman all contact information to update website.
 - Website: www.njifa.org
- 501c3/Nonprofit Group: Nick LaTora
- Tournament Officials (Securing): Nick Franzi (NJIFOA), Chris Awad (NJIFA), Micah Lewis
 - Please Note: District Officials are secured by District Representative

7. Future Dates (Subject to Change)

- NJIFA Post Season Coaches' Meeting: Wednesday, March 17th @ Wayne Valley—7:15 PM
 - (This will change—new date not determined)
- NJIFA All State Banquet: Thursday, April 22nd @ The Hanover Manor—6:30 PM

8. Unfinished Business

- Jim Rutzler asked if we are still planning to recalculate the state individuals and it was decided we will keep the existing calculation system in place and at the end of the season we will look into other ideas.

9. New Business

- Pat Lawrence was voted in, replacing Sabina Orsi as Vice-President since Sabina's term is over
- Mr. Jack Dubois, Fencing Representative of the NJSIAA:
 - All nominations for the Hall of Fame (for active or retired coaches) can be sent to him. Nominations can be made for anyone who has coached for at least 10 years.
 - Stated 6 calendar days of practice must occur before a scrimmage or match can be scheduled.
 - All coaches must have current CPR certification and First Aid for sports certification. The Red Cross certification is good for a year; the American Heart certification is good for two years
 - Stated club teams cannot compete against interscholastic teams on any level including scrimmages
 - Interscholastic teams can only **practice** at club facilities
 - Reiterated that **all new coaches** must comply with the new rules for coaching including taking a sports-specific first aid course, a CPR (Red Cross or American Heart Assoc.) and a new coaches' course. These courses must be taken within one year of coaching or the coach will not be rehired.
 - New coaches can go to NFHSLearn.com to take this courses online
 - This course will allow the coach to receive national accreditation
- Gene Packman said the USFA wants to donate \$1,300.00 to a public high school to give a non-varsity program varsity status to encourage more varsity programs
- Tom Tishman asked that all new coaches sign onto Yahoo groups for fencing information and updates
 - New coaches can email Tom: TomTishman@AOL.com.
 - This is only open to HS coaches
- Harry James of Somerville received the
- Chris Awad reported that the taxes for 07-08 were filed
- Jeff Tishman raised a question: Can a varsity team fence one weapon if it didn't have a complete team yet? It was ruled by Jack Dubois that they could, if they followed all NJIAA rules

10. Adjournment

