

SITA Wrap-up Meeting – Monday, June 27, 2011 – 5:30 PM @ Hoak's Restaurant

Present: Jim Reichert, Mike Fitz, John Langan, Fred Covelli, Eileen Pyrak, Patti Kazmark, Mary Lou McEvoy, Mark Burlow, Fr Ed Durkin, Dave Zydel

Discussions

1. Jim Reichert stepped down as director of SITA. The board would like to thank Jim for his years of service to the athletes.
2. League Fee for 2012 will remain at \$150 per school.
3. The cost of ribbons will increase by about \$600 next year; purchases approved for next year are 2 starting pistols, 1 bullhorn, new storage bin with wheels.
4. SITA will not have a director for the coming year; a board of 10 members is currently in place and a majority vote of these 10 members will approve purchases, rule and/or league changes. On-site decisions as to violations or disqualifications will continue to be made by the officials in attendance.
5. A gift to St. Francis High School of \$250 is approved and should be forwarded by the treasurer as soon as possible.
6. Schools moving up:
 - a. to DeMarco: OLSH
 - b. to Walter: Annunciation
7. Schools moving down:
 - a. to Walter: Christ the King
 - b. to Holbel: St. Ambrose
8. Equipment: Fred Covelli will inventory all equipment to assure that we have 2 complete sets available should we have more than one track available next year.
9. Eileen Pyrak mentioned that it would be helpful to have some type of tape or rope surrounding the long jump runway. Eileen will research keeping in mind the limited storage and size (length) of containers.
10. Defibulator – Southtowns Catholic did indeed run a fundraiser to donate a defibulator to SITA. The organization that distributes the equipment requires that we have 5 or 6 members of the organization certified to operate the equipment. John Langan also noted this training includes a First Aid course. Mike Fitz will find out details. All agreed this is necessary and most board members seem willing to participate. Coaches should be encouraged to take the training as well. Mike will find out if we are limited to how many members can participate in the training.
11. 2012 is the 30th Anniversary of SITA. The ribbons and all other awards will be so marked, and further discussion as to how we can celebrate this milestone will continue. It was also mentioned that perhaps some kind of advertising on the ribbons would help defray the cost.
12. All-SITA: Agreed to expand awards to include 2nd and 3rd place ribbons as well as first place plaques.
13. ALL-SITA: Agreed more time is needed between championships and All-SITA to allow for coaches to submit their rosters and get the athletes seeded properly.
14. All leagues: In an attempt to make more events available, we will initiate the following changes for 2012:
 - a. a non-scoring 800 relay for 10 to 12-year olds. This will be a mixed relay meaning that either boys or girls can be included, no specific number of either gender (2 boys, 2 girls, or 3 boys, 1 girl, etc), and no points will be awarded. The race will take place before the other scoring 800's. Each school will be allowed to enter two teams of four.
 - b. schools will be allowed to enter 4 athletes in both the jumps and the throws instead of 3.
15. Holbel League: Approved to reinstate co-ed 800 relay.
16. Proposal for 2012 Holbel League Schedule: Due to the shrinking enrollment in the schools which results in less competition in this league and less parent volunteers, Mike has proposed the following re-structuring which has been approved for trial in 2012:

8 school league (current count)
7 school league

4 meets, 6 schools per meet
4 meets, 5 schools per meet

- a. This will cut three meets from the schedule. Each school still runs three league meets including running every other school in the league twice and running one school three times.
 - b. Relays- We can run all six schools at once. (this would change the rule for having two relays if you could field them)
 - c. Sprints- Run two timed final heats. Record the first four places from first heat and hold those kids, run second heat look at first four times and place best times from both heats combined for ribbons 1st to 4th and points. This is basically our championship method without running a final. Each school would still be able to have two athletes per age group. Will add about 20 minutes to meet but we may need that for the additional kids in the field events.
 - d. Field Events- No changes other than more competitors.
 - e. 4 X 200 Relays- Add co-ed. May be easier for schools to find two girls and two boys rather than four for a regular relay. Also add mixed 800 relay of any combination of gender, ages 10 to 12.
 - f. Time for these meets will probably increase by at least 30 minutes. If scheduled with another meet it should be on a weekend, if scheduled during the week it should be alone. One obstacle may be that we now have to deal with blackout dates for as many as six schools.
17. Sprint start: To avoid confusion experienced by some of the athletes, the start of the sprint will be moved up to the blue triangles on the SF track. The present start line is beyond the curve lines which confuses some of the runners in regard to staying in their lanes. The 8-year old 60 meter will move up accordingly. Since the bleachers have been extended, the finish line will still be in sight of the spectators.
18. Rule regarding staying in lanes for sprints: The athletes should stay in their lanes, but should they veer to the left or right and in no way impede another runner, they will be allowed to complete the race without being disqualified. If there is any interference with a runner in his/her correct lane, they will be disqualified. Determination will be made by the officials.
19. Canisius and Lackawanna tracks: both tracks will be contacted in September to determine if we will be permitted use of the tracks in the spring of 2012.
20. Extended schedule: This past year we extended the schedule to run over 5 (almost 6) weeks instead of the usual 3. For 2012, we agreed to do the same, beginning end of April and ending first week in June. This schedule will include all races including the Championships and All-SITA.
- a. Advantages are:
 - Easier to write schedule and honor all blackout days.
 - Spreads out time between meets, less hectic on coaches and volunteers.
 - Easier to get dates at facilities after May 15. First two weeks of May are the heart of the high school track and lax seasons.
 - Later start, in theory weather and temps should be better.
 - Having room at the end of schedule gives Mary Lou more time to do seeding for the championships and All SITA
 - Our sanctioned officials (Fred & Mac) are more available for later scheduled meets because high school season is basically over.
 - b. Disadvantages are:
 - Seems we ran into summer recreation league conflicts later in season. Esp. All SITA.
 - Season is longer for those that like a condensed season.
 - Ran into Diocesan softball playoff schedule. (I was unaware of this for this season and already have that schedule for next year)
21. Championships:

- a. Sprints: question regarding whether to pick the fastest 2 from each of 3 heats or the fastest 6 of all combined heats for the finals – decision to stay with the fastest 2 in each of three heats due to the number of athletes involved and the lack of 6 available timers able to accurately determine all 14 times. Much easier and much more accurate to pick only 2 from a race.
- b. Throws: Is it possible to record the throw distances for all athletes competing in the throws and not just the top 6? – it is possible but only if we have enough parent volunteers available to catch every athlete and make sure their farthest throw is recorded. Right now the measuring is only done at the end which is done due to time restrictions. We would have to have enough volunteers there to measure and record every athlete as quickly as possible without rushing the athletes.

22 . Spring coaches meeting: New coaches will be required to stay 10-15 minutes after the meeting for more thorough explanation of the rules. New coaches should have any question or concerns ready and will be encouraged to e-mail or call any board member for clarification.

SITA Board members 2012:

Mike Fitzgerald
Fred Covelli
John Langan
Patty Kazmark
Lenny Coppola
Robin Bartnik
Eileen Pyark
Kelly Vacco
John McEvoy
Mary Lou McEvoy