

NYSAAA

NYSAAA SPRING NEWSLETTER 08

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS & PHOTOS of the 26TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE March 12-15, 2008

Passing of the Gavel

Chapter Award Winners

ALSO INCLUDED INSIDE:

Roger Brown, CMAA Receives NIAAA
State Award of Merit

Mason Morenus Receives Otis Sennett
Award of Excellence



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NEW YORK STATE ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION, INC. 2008-09 DIRECTORY

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Chapter 4: John Goodson

Chapter 5: Peter Shambo

Chapter 6: Brett Banker

Chapter 7: Cathy Phillips

Chapter 8: Igor Bishko

Chapter 9: Bob Siracuse

Chapter 10: Eileen Kilcullen, CAA

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTEPAD

Alan Mallanda

Congratulations to Bill Bryant, Al Brunetti and the Chapter IV conference planning team for another outstanding conference program. With approximately 350 attendees and over 125 Exhibitors, the conference was, once again, very successful. Conference evaluations from both attendees and exhibitors have been reviewed and as always, are most helpful in planning the next year's conference. President Wayne Bertrand and his conference planning team headed up by Bruce Potter and Chris Colnan (Chapter II) have already begun the planning process. Some new ideas and subtle changes will be incorporated into next year's conference which will again be held at the Saratoga Hilton on March 18-21, 2009. More information about the conference plans will be forthcoming in the fall edition of the NYSAAA Newsletter.

The NYSAAA has three years remaining on its contract with the Saratoga Hilton and the City Center for its annual conference. In addition to the 2009 date listed above, the following dates have been established for 2010 – March 17-20 and 2011 – March 16-19.

Congratulations to Jack Foley for being selected to be inducted into the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame this summer. Jack has been extremely involved in both State and National associations for many years and is a recipient of both the NYSAAA and NIAAA Award of Merit (their highest honors).

The NIAAA Hazing DVD is now available from the NYSAAA office in Lake Luzerne. We have acquired copies for sale and distribution to our members as a way of facilitating its purchase. The price is \$30 each, including shipping. Purchase orders and/or checks should be made payable to the NYSAAA, Inc., 119 Pleasant View Drive, Lake Luzerne, NY 12846. This is a must have DVD for your student and parent pre-season meetings, and addresses the national crisis surrounding hazing in our schools today.

SPECTACULAR SALE - See the back page for our SPRING SPECIAL SALE on the Athletic Administrator Handbook – Revised Edition. For a limited time only, through July 15th, this “must have” handbook will be available (only through the NYSAAA Office) at an unbelievable price of \$50.00 (regularly \$75.00) plus shipping. Many schools who have still not upgraded their edition of the handbook, should do so now at

this price. Many schools will also want to get a second or third copy for other administrators in their schools. Supplies are limited, so order quickly.

Congratulations to Todd Nelson, former Chapter III Rep, for being named as Assistant Director for the NYSPHSAA to replace Lloyd Mott upon his retirement. The NYSAAA would also like to thank Lloyd for all his years of service to both associations and the student athletes of NYS. We join many others who attest to the fact that Lloyd's presence in the NYSPHSAA has made a significant difference over the last eleven years and that he will be sorely missed by all. Best wishes to Lloyd in his retirement.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to the new officers of the NYSAAA who took over at the annual meeting in March. Led by Wayne Bertrand (2), President, the rest of the Executive Committee is comprised of Harold Fried (9), President Elect; Mike Giruzzi (5), Vice President; Dennis Fries (5), Treasurer; and Roger Brown (4), Secretary. Chapter Reps leaving the Representative Board at the end of the school year are: Todd Nelson (3), to be replaced by Bill Brown (Jamesville-Dewitt); Mike Giruzzi (5), to be replaced by Peter Shambo (Penfield); and Igor Bishko (8) (retirement), whose replacement has not yet been determined.

Congratulations to Don Snyder, long time member of NYSAAA and Publications Committee Chair for many years, on his induction into the Long Island Wrestling Hall of Fame, he joins Bob Goldberg, Past President of NYSAAA, who was inducted last year, and many others who have been outstanding contributors to the sport of wrestling on Long Island.

Have a safe
and enjoyable
summer,

Alan Mallanda, CMAA





Future NFHS/NIAAA Conference Dates/Sites:

2008 – San Diego, CA (Dec. 13-16)
2009 – Dallas, TX (Dec. 12-15)
2010 – Orlando, FL (Dec. 11-14)
2011 – Indianapolis, IN (Tentative)

An Anti-Hazing DVD, sponsored by the NIAAA entitled “Dying to Belong” is now available for purchase and use in schools throughout the country. The NIAAA and Alegro Media have developed this three part educational DVD for Athletic & Activities Directors, Coaches, Teachers, Students and Parents. Copies of this invaluable educational tool are available for purchase from the NYSAAA office @ \$30.00 each (incl. shipping) or may be ordered directly from Alegro Media, 1651 Washington Street, Kansas City, MO 64108 at \$24.95 plus \$5.00 shipping/handling (www.allegromediakc.com). This is a must see in every school district with all student/parent groups. Copies may also be ordered from the NYSAAA, Inc. office in Lake Luzerne, NY.

Summer Institute:

The Athletic Administrator Leadership Training Summer Institute dates are set for Brewster, MA (Cape Cod) for July 20-23, 2008. Hotel Rates (Condos) are extremely reasonable (\$175/night) for this time of year on the Cape and in addition to the professional development experience, it has become an event for the entire family to enjoy. Get more information, schedule of courses and registration forms at www.section1.niaaa.org All Leadership Training Courses are sanctioned through the NIAAA.

Role of the Principal in Interscholastic Athletics DVD:

The NIAAA in partnership with the NFHS and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NAASP) recently produced this titled DVD. It emphasizes the role the principal must take relative to interscholastic athletics and how the principal should interact with and support the athletic administrator and coaches. The DVD is available to all as a free download for NIAAA members on the NIAAA website. Go to www.niaaa.org and click on the download link.



NIAAA Executive Director Attends NYSAAA Conference:

Bruce Whitehead, (above), Executive Director of the NIAAA, was in attendance at the NYSAAA Conference this past March. The NYSAAA was honored to have Bruce spend several days visiting with us. Bruce was very impressed with the quality and size of our conference, and noted that at his address to the attendees at the Conference Awards Banquet on Friday. We thank Bruce for his continued support and partnership with the NYSAAA.



NYSAAA President's Message



Delivered at the Annual Meeting of the NYSAAA, on March 14, 2008, at the Saratoga Hilton by incoming President, Wayne Bertrand, CAA, Guilderland CSD

I stand before you here today honored and humbled as the new President of the NYSAAA. However, I have to tell you

I am also a little a frightened at the prospects of such a daunting task. Carrying on the tradition of EXCELLENCE that has been established by my predecessors is not an easy assignment for anyone. Nonetheless, it is one that I am “geared up for” and ready to take on. The great leaders this organization has put forward to serve you and who have led this organization over the past twenty six years has been extraordinary. The appreciation that I have for those who served before me, is considerable. Every one of them has served us and the profession very well. It is my promise that I will make every effort to carry on the proud tradition and provide for you the same benefits and rewards in my term of office that my predecessors have provided all of us

It would be wrong of me not to share special Thanks to the many people that assisted me to get to this place and time in my career. In the beginning I never imagined that my career path would take me into athletic administration. I was very happy teaching health and physical education. I especially, loved being on the field after school coaching football and baseball. However when my AD and mentor Jay Wayand began sharing with me the particulars of the job and then he eventually invited me to drop by and visit this conference I was hooked. Another special friend Bob Stulmaker was also there strongly encouraging me to join the ranks. He kept me posted on local openings, gave me advice and took the time to prep me for interviews which aided me greatly. When I did get the job at Guilderland, Bob then pressed me to become involved in this organization. I will always be appreciative of his friendship and encouragement.

The other key person is Dave Herman. Dave has been my trusted traveling companion to several National conferences, he also accompanied me to a few Summer Institutes at the Cape, and more importantly lets not forget our weekly Friday night Saratoga County Chapter AAA meetings. We were always engaged in conversation that was centered on our athletes, the Suburban Council, Section II and the profession. It was certainly the best LTC course I ever took.

The next person was my former Superintendent @ Guilderland Dr. Gregory Aidala. Greg has been a wonderful role model and mentor for me. He taught me the importance of professionalism and the need to be child centered. Thank you, Greg for providing me with my dream job.

It was a vision of Dr Aidala's that the program should have an assistant. In my time I have had two great individuals in that position. First, there was Larry Gillooley. Together we built Guilderland's program up to where it is today. Larry was extremely loyal and courageous to stand by me while the department was transitioned to where we sought to take it. Above all he has become one of my great friends. I am proud of the fact he has moved on to take over his own program and is an involved member in AAA. My current Assistant is Regan Johnson. I had the pleasure of coaching him as a HS athlete and being associated with him and his family for better than 30 years. He is bright beyond his years and fanatically driven to produce sustained results. He is resolved to do whatever it takes to make Guilderland great no matter how big or difficult the task is. I know he will someday be a great leader and a vital member of this organization.

Many thanks are owed to the two past presidents (Pat Pizzerelli & Roger Brown) who took a chance and nominated me to the Executive Committee several years ago. I promise you that I will not disappoint you. Alan Mallanda, I thank you for the help you have given me to this point. I am sure we will be spending time together this year.

Special thanks go to this organization for teaching me, encouraging me and raising my standards as an effective athletic administrator.

Finally, I want to thank my family. You have been my greatest supporters. They have encouraged me along the way and have never complained about the long hours. Everyone is in Australia now enjoying the Down Under. But I know they are thinking of me and are quite proud.

As for the 2009 Conference...The theme “Good to Great” that will guide my conference comes from the classic leadership book by Jim Collins. The planning team that will be led by Bruce Potter is very excited at the prospects of developing a conference that will be a rich learning experience and meaningful for everyone. It is our hope that our conference will be one that encourages you personally and provides you with information that will move your organization to greatness.

In closing, I believe that this group owes our outgoing President Bill Bryant, one last ovation for a job well done. To the membership thank you for having me as your president. I look forward to the upcoming year.



AROUND THE STATE

Nina Van Erk, NYSPHSAA



TASK FORCE ON ADAPTED ATHLETICS:

The first task force meeting on adaptive athletics will be scheduled for the first week in June. Sections are encouraged to submit the names of representatives who are interested and willing to serve. Statewide representatives will also be invited to join the NYSPHSAA in this endeavor.

SPORT SEASON COMMITTEE:

Jim Osborne (Section 9) has once again agreed to chair the Sport Season Placement Committee. The meeting will be scheduled in June. Sections are being asked to identify a representative to serve on the committee.

HALL OF FAME:

Selections for the 2008 Class of the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame have been announced. The following six will be inducted at the August Central Committee Meeting and awards dinner at the Rye Town Hilton. Sal Ciampi (coach), Jack Foley (administrator), Boomer Esiason (athlete), Gene Masters (coach), Bill Moran (administrator) and Peter Oley (coach). Congratulations to all.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR POSITION:

Todd Nelson, Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics at Herkimer Schools (Section III) has been selected to fill the vacancy left by Lloyd Mott's retirement. Todd has been extensively involved in the Section III Athletic Council, as well as serving as Chapter III Representative on the NYSAAA Representative Board. Todd will begin a two month transition period on July 1st through Lloyd's retirement in September.

MANDATORY ATHLETIC DIRECTOR WORKSHOPS:

The 2008 schedule is nearly complete. The sportsmanship workshop will also be included this fall. Sections will have the opportunity to select key eligibility topics to be reviewed.

NYSPHSAA WEBSITE:

The new website is up and running. The By Laws & Regulations along with other portions of the handbook are now available in a PDF format on the website. We encourage Athletic Administrators to download the various documents for distribution to their coaching staff. The on-line store is also up and running. This has significantly reduced data entry and has eliminated the need to follow-up on open invoices from non school purchasers. The site also accommodates the sale of championship programs and clinic registrations. Please visit www.nysphsaa.org

RISK MANAGEMENT DVD:

Developed by the NFHS and NIAAA, can be purchased through the on-line store for a cost of \$34.95. This two part video can be shown to parents & students to highlight the need to take responsibility for one's safety. Part II targets administrators and coaches focusing on the 14 duties involved in interscholastic athletic programs.

ONLINE COACHING COURSES:

NYS Coaching certification courses are once again being offered in partnership with SUNY Cortland. Go to www.cortland.edu/physed for registration information.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP:

The NYSPHSAA will be participating in the NFHS Student Leadership Conference in July in Indianapolis, Indiana. Murphee Hayes, Director of Health, Physical Education & Athletics at Whitney Point CSD in Section IV has been named as the coordinator of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

CHAPTER AWARDS HIGHLIGHT 26TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Dave Martens Annual Awards Luncheon:

Judith A. Martens Secretarial Award of Excellence:

Chapter 1 – Nicole Laureti, Hendrick Hudson
Chapter 2 – Laura Crandall, Bethlehem
Chapter 3 – Katie Volsie, Jamesville-Dewitt
Chapter 4 – Deborah Tudi, Ithaca
Chapter 5 – Gerry Carmichael, Batavia
Chapter 6 – Kristen Heckman, East Aurora
Chapter 7 – Lisa Menard, Northeastern Clinton
Chapter 8 – Carole Ceusters, Island Trees
Chapter 9 – Annette Lawless, Orange Ulster BOCES
Chapter 10 – Bonnie Walker, Gouverneur
Chapter 11 – Enez Boozer, Walt Whitman
CHSAA – No Recipient

Distinguished Service Awards:

Chapter 1 – Marianne LePore, Section I Office, Assistant Director
Chapter 2 – Bill Varno, Official
Chapter 3 – Charlie Engle, Boys' Soccer Chairman
Chapter 4 – James May, Bromme County Stop DWI Coordinator
Chapter 5 – Edward Stores, Section 5 Executive Director
Chapter 6 – Jim Walker, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Niagara Frontier League
Chapter 7 – Dr. Philip Volk, Champlain Valley Physicians' Hospital
Chapter 8 – Norman Murray, Announcer, Hofstra University
Chapter 9 – John Russo, Administrator, Warwick Valley CSD
Chapter 10 – Ernest Witkowski, Superintendent, St. Regis Falls CSD
Chapter 11 – Donna Madison, Section 11 Office Staff
CHSAA – No Recipient

Apple Appreciation Awards:

Todd Heimer (8), Membership
Denise Herman (2), Conference Volunteer
Werner Kleemann (5), Conference Wrap Up and Emcee
Al Brunetti (4), Conference Planner
Greg Ransom (1), Section 1 Executive Director
Margaret (Maggie) Doherty, Student, Saratoga Springs HS,
Conference Singer (4 Years)

The Roy O'Neill Conference Awards Banquet:

Chapter 1 – Gregory Ransom, Section 1 Office
Chapter 2 – Thomas Heinzelman, Hudson Falls
Chapter 3 – Barbara Felice, Holland Patent
Chapter 4 – Michael Johnston, Horseheads
Chapter 5 – Peter Shambo, Penfield
Chapter 6 – Art Mohagen, Allegany-Limestone
Chapter 7 – Donna Moody, Lake Placid
Chapter 8 – Steve Connell, Island Trees
Chapter 9 – Glen Maisch, Kingston
Chapter 10 – Gary Tischler, Madrid-Waddington
Chapter 11 – Paula Nickerson, Middle Country
CHSAA – No Recipient

NIAAA State Award of Merit

Roger Brown, CMAA, Unatego (retired)

Otis Sennett Award of Excellence

Mason Morenus, Cortland (retired)

ROGER BROWN, CMAA RECEIVES NIAAA STATE AWARD OF MERIT

Roger Brown, CMAA received the highest award given by the NYSAAA at the Annual Roy O'Neill Conference Awards Banquet in March. Roger has been a Past-President of NYSAAA as well as Resolutions Chair for many years. He is now retired from his position of Director of PE and Athletics at the Unatego Central School District in Otego, NY after serving there his entire career. Roger continues to serve the NYSAAA as the Secretary on the



Executive Committee and also serves at the National level on the NIAAA Certification Committee. Roger has contributed many times both at the state and national conferences as a workshop presenter. He

has been a strong leader in the state association and continues to teach Leadership Training Classes. He also achieved the distinction of being one of only eight in the state certified as a "Certified Master Athletic Administrator". Roger continues to live in Otego, NY with his wife, Susan, and is planning some time next winter in Florida at their new winter retirement home. Congratulations, Roger - a well deserved honor and achievement.

MASON MORENUS RECEIVES OTIS SENNETT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Mason Morenus, a long time resident of Homer, NY and retired Athletic Administrator from Cortland City Schools was the recipient of the Otis Sennett Award of Excellence for his contributions to the association over many years. Mason was one of the original organizers and founders of the NYSAAA in 1981. He served the association as Membership Chair for years, in addition to being a workshop



presenter, emcee and organizer of the raffles at annual conferences in the past. Although retired from Cortland HS, Mason still serves as Executive Secretary to the Interscholastic Athletic

Conference (IAC) in central New York State. Mason was joined at the conference by his wife Jane and his two children, Becky and Luke. Congratulations to Mason, and thanks for all you've done for the NYSAAA over the years.

CHAPTER NEWS

REPORTS FROM CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES MEETING

Thursday, March 13, 2008
Saratoga Springs, NY

General

- A recommendation was made to promote the sale of the NYSAAA Handbook at league and chapter meetings. Handbooks can be ordered through the NYSAAA and the NYSPHSAA.
- Dave Martens distributed and discussed a timeline for the NIAAA Student-Athlete Scholar Application process. The application form will appear on the NYSAAA website throughout August and September. Chapter Representatives must be in receipt of applications from Athletic Directors in their chapter by December 5, 2008. The Chapter Representative must submit one male application and one female application to Dave Martens by January 9, 2009. A selection committee will determine one male and one female candidate who will be presented to the Executive Committee at the January meeting.
- Dave Martens also discussed the National Emergency Network and the importance for each Chapter Representative to have a telephone number for each Athletic Director in his/her chapter just in case an emergency should arise.
- Dennis Fries announced that New York has the highest number of members in the NIAAA.
- Dennis Fries mentioned that the NYSAAA is working closely with the NYSPHSAA to present concussion management workshops in each section throughout the state.
- Dennis Fries announced the dates for the 4th Annual Section I Summer Institute at the Ocean's Edge Resort in Brewster, MA from July 20-23. Registration forms are available on the NYSAAA website.
- Dave Garbarino gave thanks to the Chapter Representatives for their cooperation to provide handouts for the Sparky Rector Drop-In Center at the conference.

Chapter 1 (Rich Beckley)

- The winter chapter meeting was held on January 25 at Crystal Bay in Peekskill. 58 Athletic Directors were in attendance. Presentations were made by John Ford and Brian Howk of Daktronics and Jim MacElevy and Barry Cocklet from MacWear. Authors Bob Nathanson and Arthur Kimmel from Long Island University discussed their new book, "The College Athlete's Guide to Academic Success, Tips from Peers and Profs." Mike Gansell (Harrison AD) led a discussion will take place on scheduling philosophies with regard to geography vs. cross conference/strength. Rich Beckley (Katonah-Lewisboro AD) led a discussion on a proposed girl's swim schedule.
- Chapter 1 officers include: President-Rich Beckley (Katonah-Lewisboro), Secretary- Joe Durney (Port Chester), Treasurer-Steve Young (Horace Greeley), Chapter Representative-Rich Beckley, Assistant Chapter Representative-Mel Carrozza (Saunders), Awards-Steve Young, Publications-Joe Durney, Membership-TBA, Resolutions-Tom Collins (Pearl River), Professional Development-Mike Gulino (Byram Hills) and Jim Rose (Yonkers), Leadership Training-Steve Young, Certification-Jim Dennett (Ossining).

- There is a review of how games and tournaments are sanctioned by Section I. T was a concern that some tournaments in the past may have been sponsored and run by outside agencies.
- Cheerleading has become a major topic. Section I voted this year to treat cheerleading as a sport and, as a result, have developed regulations in the area of coaching certification, stunting, and safety. There continues to be discussion on length of the season.

Chapter 2 (Scott Stuart and Mike Satterlee)

- A concussion management workshop will be held on March 26.
- John Underwood will present "Life of an Athlete-Part 4" in May.
- A boy's soccer proposal was approved for a two year experiment on the yellow policy and includes the following: reduce from 5 to 3 the number of accumulated yellow cards before the player must sit out a game; if a team accumulates 20 yellow cards during the season, the team will not be allowed to participate in the end of season Section II tournament.
- The classification of parochial schools is a concern, especially in basketball.
- Due to the large turnover of Athletic Directors in the past two years there has been significant action to encourage membership and participation in Chapter 2 of the NYSAAA.

Chapter 3 (Todd Nelson)

- Section III has successfully negotiated a new contract with officials.

Chapter 4 (Jeff Manwaring for John Goodson)

- The winter chapter meeting on February 13 at Johnson City High School was postponed due to a snow storm. The meeting has been rescheduled for May with John Underwood presenting "Life of an Athlete-Part 4."

Chapter 5 (Mike Giruzzi, CAA)

- The winter chapter meeting was held on February 14 at Bristol Ski Resort. Bob Stuhlmaker (NYSPHSAA), Alan Mallanda (NYSAAA), and Ed Stores (Section V Executive Director) each presented information. Ron Whitcomb discussed the results of the Physical Education Profile.
- The chapter will have 3 positions that will need to be filled by May. Those positions are President, President Elect, and Certification Coordinator.
- Congratulations to Mike Giruzzi who was selected to the position of Vice-President for the NYSAAA at the state conference in Saratoga Springs.

Chapter 6 (Brett Banker)

- There has been much discussion regarding the possible reorganization within the Section VI office. Currently there are several part-time employees. There is consideration for creating a full-time Executive Director position.
- Mandatory training for the Concussion Management-Phase 2 program, as well as information on MRSA, will be held on March 19.
- John Underwood will present "Life of an Athlete-Part 4" on April 28.

Chapter 7 (Cathy Phillips)

- A Safety/Chemical Health workshop featuring the North Country Mental Health and Champlain Valley Family groups at the Lake Placid Olympic Training Center will be held in April.
- Work continues with Section X to coordinate changes in dates and times for JV football schedules.

Chapter 8 (Igor Bishko)

- Section VIII is completing a one year experimental alignment of all the leagues in the sports with five classifications. The strengths and weaknesses of the school programs within each classification are being considered. Surveys will be distributed to coaches and athletic administrators following each sports season. A sub-committee of the Athletic Council will make a recommendation at the end of the school year to determine the alignment for the 2008-09 school year.
- A golf outing will be held on April 23 for athletic administrators and friends with the proceeds to benefit the "V" Foundation.
- The addition of an extra football game will enhance the regular season and will allow more teams to participate in the play-offs.
- Congratulations to Igor Bishko who will be retiring at the end of this school year and thanks for your years of service to the group of chapter representatives of the NYSAAA.

Chapter 9 (Bob Siracuse, CAA)

- Section IX is exploring the possibility of restructuring two leagues into one.
- John Underwood will present the "Life of an Athlete-Part 4" on May 13.
- A committee is reviewing non-public schools with regard to their classification and strength of program.
- A concussion management workshop will be held this spring.

Chapter 10 (Eileen Kilcullen, CAA, and Rose Bronchetti)

- A seminar dealing with concussion management will be held on March 20.
- John Underwood is scheduled to present the "Life of an Athlete-Part 4" at a student leadership seminar on May 6 at Clarkson University.
- Plans are being developed to host a regional site for the Selection/Classification screening/testing program for 7th and 8th grade students.

Chapter 11 (Kevin O'Reilly, CAA, and Tim Mullins)

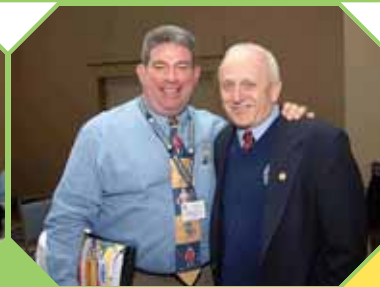
- Approval was given for a 9th game in football.
- Negotiation meetings have been ongoing with the Suffolk County Officials Association. A new contract is nearing ratification. The biggest change appears to be using a five man crew for football.

CHSAA (Bob McLaughlin for Don Scarola)

- No report submitted.



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS & PHOTOS



of the 26TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 12-15, 2008



IDEAS THAT WORK

(Ideas taken and reproduced monthly
from the NIAAA Website)

"Student Sports Information Director"

(Michael Williams, CAA, Athletic Director, Glenelg High School, Glenelg, Maryland) - Athletic directors wear many hats throughout the school year. One is that of a sports information director. This includes promoting and publicizing the athletic program through various media sources that seek information regarding the athletes, coaches, teams and their achievements and accomplishments. This task is one of the most rapidly expanding jobs that we face and can be extremely time-consuming. We recently created, through a mentorship program, a student sports information director mentorship to assist us with many facets of promoting and publicizing the athletic program at Glenelg High School. The goals of the mentorship are two-fold:

- Offer a hands-on learning experience in sports public relations and sports information. This experience will include the integration of technology, journalism, mass media and communications in athletics.
- Promote the athletic program at Glenelg High School.

Some of the many objectives that the student sports information director assists me with are the collection, organization and dissemination of data regarding individual/team records and awards. They can help organize a group of athletes to update the trophy and display cases. The student sports information directors assist on some level with the creation and production of our media guide, game schedules and team posters. They order team banners for our gym and organize team picture day. These students are a great liaison to the school newspaper, yearbook or even our booster clubs. We will even have them write articles on athletes, coaches and teams for our Web site.

The benefits of this student-centered position have been awesome. Accomplishments and successes are publicized in a timely and accurate manner. Record-keeping and archiving in general have been enhanced. Game schedules are updated as postseason playoffs begin and progress. The school and community are informed while sportsmanship, integrity and character are promoted. I now have more time and energy for other daily, short- and long-term, tasks that define my position as athletic director.

The NYSAAA welcomes ideas submitted by its members. Email to nysaaa@yahoo.com

RECOMMENDED BOOKS, PERIODICALS & WEBSITES

Websites Worth Checking

www.cortland.edu/physed - NYS Coaching Certification Courses
www.allegromediakc.com - Hazing DVD Orders
www.keeptyourheadinthegame.org - Source for all information, checklists, etc., for Impact Concussion Management Programs
www.niaaa.org - The Role of the Principal in Interscholastic Athletics DVD - downloadable free to members

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS

"The Sport Parents Manual" What Young Athletes Really Want Their Parents to Know! by Tom Doyle
2006 San Juan Publishing, PO Box 923, Woodinville, WA 98072
www.sanjuanbooks.com (425-485-2813)

The author, Tom Doyle, shares the lessons he learned as a teacher, coach, athletic director and parent of young athletes. His humble approach and personable writing style will allow parents to better understand the impact they have on the athletic careers of their children.

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MRSA: How does it relate to athletics? (Fall 2007 NFHS Coaches' Quarterly)

By Linda E. Stanton, ATC

What is MRSA?

Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) is an advanced strain of a "staph" infection that is resistant to antibiotics such as methicillin, penicillin, amoxicillin and oxacillin. Some people refer to it as the "Super Bug."

There are two types of MRSA:

1. HA-MRSA, which is hospital associated, usually affects individuals with a compromised immune system.
2. CA-MRSA is community associated and can affect healthy individuals. Athletes, coaches and athletic trainers can become infected and, therefore, prevention should be a key focus.

How Do You Get it and What is the Treatment?

Common bacteria live on our skin. In fact, many people are carriers of "staph" but don't know it because they never have a staph infection. The problem starts when this "staph" bacteria find their way into the body through an open wound. This occurs either through direct contact of a person who is a carrier or by touching an object that has the bacteria.

The site of the wound becomes infected, showing signs of swelling, warmth, redness, puss-like pimple or boil. This time, immediate referral to your doctor is vital. Here, the infected area may be drained, a sample will be taken to be cultured and further evaluated. The doctor then may prescribe a course of antibiotics such as bactrim and vancocin. As with all antibiotics, it is important that individuals complete all medications prescribed by their doctor and also should not resume practice/competition until the lesions are adequately healed.

"Prevention" - What Steps Can I Take Now?

- Wash your hands often using an antimicrobial, antiseptic skin cleanser such as Hibiclens® (sing "Happy Birthday twice" or the CDC recommends saying the alphabet once).
- Shower immediately after every practice and game.
- Wash athletic clothes daily in hot water and dry on a hot setting.
- Cover all open cuts prior to practice and game activity.
- Do not share items such as clothing, towels, soap, razors, water bottles.

Additional steps that can and should be taken in the athletic setting:

- Use an antiseptic, antibacterial solution to routinely wipe down athletic equipment such as gymnastics and wrestling mats, and headgear of any type.
- Wipe down treatment tables and weight equipment between athletes.
- Wear barriers such as non-latex gloves when treating open wounds.

Conclusion

Germes are all around us and simply put "An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure." So, reinforce to your athletes and athletic department that everyone should practice good daily hygiene!

Resources:

Overview: HA-MRSA CDC Infection Control in Healthcare http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa.html.
Understanding MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus) <http://www.webmd.com/content/article/113/110688.htm>.
Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) http://www.health.state.ny.us/diseases/communicable/staphylococcus_aureus/methicillin_resistant/f...
Medline Plus Medical Encyclopedia: MRSA infection <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/007261.htm>.
Understanding MRSA — Prevention <http://www.webmd.com/content/article/113/110694.htm>.
Understanding MRSA — Detection and Treatment <http://www.webmd.com/content/article/113/110692.htm>.
MRSA: Protecting Yourself against Locker Room Infection <http://www.athleticperformance.com/spj/article.php?id=121>.
Hibiclens® www.hibigeebies.com/sports.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Linda Stanton, ATC, works for HealthSouth, coordinating sports medicine outreach programs in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She has been a certified athletic trainer for more than 20 years and coached field hockey for two years at Kean College in New Jersey.

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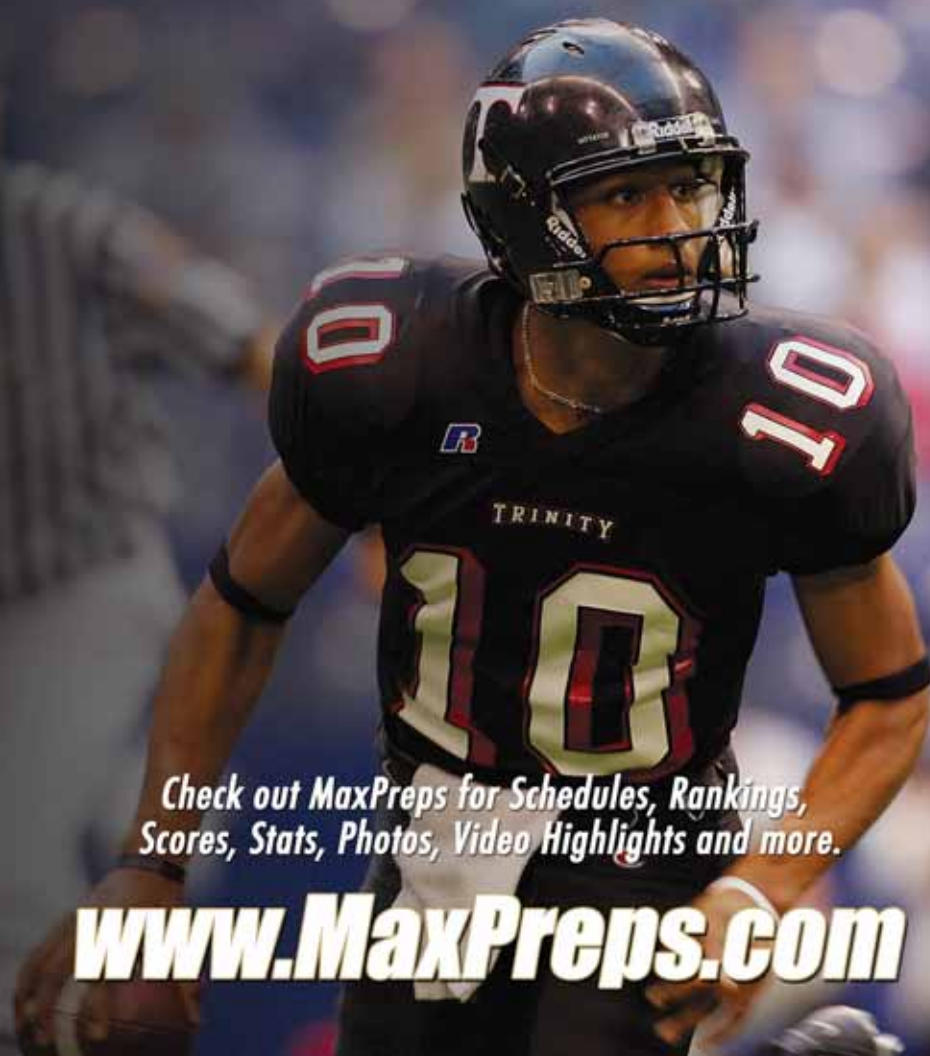


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- NIAAA Certification Program
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