



Alignment Committee Minutes January 14, 2014 – 10:00 a.m. Conference Call

Call to Order: 6A North, Matt Ragone, Langley High School; 5A North, Joe Pisani, Massaponax High School; 5A South, Dave Kannewurf, Atlee High School; 4A North, Ron Petrella, Heritage (LC) High School; 4A South, Randy Johnson, Dinwiddie High School; 3A East, Buddy Herndon, Spotsylvania High School; 3A West, Steve Leaman, Spotswood High School; 2A West, Ed Dike, Buckingham County High School; 1A East, Stan Latham, Sussex Central High School; 1A West Stan Dunham, Northwood High School; Ken Tilley and Tom Dolan, VHSL. Others: Lora Bickley, recording secretary.

Members absent: Dave Jeck, David Cassady and Dan Jones.

- I. **Minutes of April 30 Meeting:** For information purposes.
- II. **Agenda Approval:** By consensus, the agenda was approved as presented.
- III. **Purpose of Committee and Meeting:** To review and revise the 2011 R&R Survey Document to be sent to the membership. The document will be provided to the schools through Survey Monkey on January 21.
- IV. **Items included for Review:**
 - A. 2011 R&R Survey Document
 - B. April 30, 2013 Minutes
 - C. VHSL Multi-class Championships
 - D. VHSL By-Laws, Section 10: CLASSIFICATION
- V. **Review of the 2011 R&R Survey Document:** The committee thoroughly reviewed the 2011 R&R Survey Document and made necessary revisions applicable for the 2014 Alignment Survey Document (the name of the document was changed since the name of the R&R Committee was changed to the Alignment Committee).
- VI. **Recommendations to Executive Committee:** The following recommendations from the December Executive Committee were reviewed.
 - A. **Response from the Executive Committee for Multi-class tournaments (December meeting):**
 1. Multi-class tournaments: The Executive Committee voted 29-0 to approve beginning with the 2014-15 school year, where possible, leave schools in their existing conferences and regions structure whenever appropriate when creating new multi-class events.

2. Declaration for Combined Championship

PM 55-1-2 Combined Championship – Member schools wishing to be added to a combined championship must declare by May 1 of the year preceding their intent to compete. In situations in which schools cannot meet that deadline, the conference to which they are assigned (VHSL staff will assist in the assignment process) will determine eligibility for that school year.

VII. **Alignment Committee Proposed Timeline:** Provided for information.

- Survey monkey document would be sent to member schools in mid/late February (**changed send date to January 21 with returns due February 3**). Discussion is encouraged at region meetings.
- A breakout session will be scheduled for the March meeting to discuss alignment issues.
- Alignment Committee would probably meet in late March or April to decide on criteria, guidelines and parameters (**date will be April 8**).
- March 31 ADM figures will be used, but these numbers will likely not be available until mid or late May. The committee will meet once that data is available to determine initial alignment plan which will be posted. Appeals would then be requested and scheduled for review/decision by committee.
- A final recommended Alignment Plan as amended following appeals would then be presented to Executive Committee for approval at its September 2014 meeting.

VIII. **Initial Parameters Regarding Classification:** Provided for information.

A. Excerpts from Ad Hoc Task Force dealing with VHSL Classification meeting December 19, 2011 and subsequently endorsed by VHSL Executive Committee.

- Regarding the primary purpose of “Classification,” the Task Force agreed that it is to equalize competitive fairness and the respective size of schools in VHSL sports and activities.
- The ceiling for 1A be set at ADM of 475 rather than a designated number (e.g., 48) of schools.
- After designating the smallest class (1A), the remaining schools would be equally divided into fifths with any additional schools placed in the largest classification. In the case of ties, between 1A and 2A the schools would go down in classification; between classes 2A/3A and above through 5A/6A, the schools would go up in classification.
- Using March 31, 2012 figures would alter the timeline such that the R&R Committee would likely meet in August to determine the alignment plan, hear appeals in early September and present the final plan for approval to the Executive Committee later in September.

B. Excerpt from November 13, 2012 Alignment Committee and subsequently endorsed by VHSL Executive Committee.

- For the next cycle (2015-16 and 2016-17) adhere to conferences having between 5-8 members and region size being 24-28 members.

IX. **Business from the Floor:** The committee set the next meeting to be April 8 at 10:00 a.m. at the VHSL office.

X. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, the call concluded at 10:58 a.m.