

Lewis & Clark Conference Meeting
February 15, 2017 – 4:30 p.m.
Geno's Steakhouse
121 West 1st Street
Wayne, NE

I. Call Meeting to Order

II. Roll Call

Lewis Division

Allen
Emerson-Hubbard
Homer
Laurel-Concord-Coleridge
Ponca
Wakefield
Walthill
Winnebago

Clark Division

Bloomfield
Creighton
Hartington - Newcastle
Osmond
Plainview
Randolph
Wausa
Winside
Wynot

III. Approve February 15, 2017 Agenda – (Available Online)

IV. Approve November 30, 2016 Minutes – (Available Online)

V. Approve February 15, 2017 Treasurer's Report – (Available Online)

VI. Action Items

A.

VII. Discussion Items

A. Judging of the conference band clinic and the awarding of medals

B. Art Show dates for this year is Feb. 27, 28, Mar 1

C. Conference Basketball Tournament Change

I would like to see the conference tournament change for the teams that play the "play-in" game (16 vs. 17). Currently, the loser of that game plays 1 game in the tournament, yet has to dedicate about a week and a half for scheduling purposes. I would propose that the loser of the play-in game gets to play in the "consolation" round that follows for first round losers. The winner of the 16 vs. 17 game currently plays three games in the tournament, which is more than most of the field will play in the tournament. This will allow ALL teams to play a minimum of two games in the conference tournament.

D. Conference Basketball Tournament Seeding

Currently, our conference uses NSAA power points to seed the conference tournament. I would propose that the conference move away from this method to get a truer representation of how tournament seeding should look.

Currently, there are two conferences that border ours (GNAC & East Husker) that have teams in their conferences from multiple classes. In both of these conferences, teams are seeded based on a vote of the coaches/ADs at each school. When I inquired about why they use this method, the answer was the same. Each conference representative I spoke with said that it would not be fair to use power points because some teams get bonuses that others do not.

In the GNAC, the teams are split between Class A & Class B.

In the East Husker Conference, there are teams ranging in class from C1 to D1.

A third conference, the Mid-State Conference, also does not use power point seeding. They use winning percentage as their measure. Again, when I spoke with a conference representative, they indicated that power points are not used because they have teams ranging from C1 to D1, which gives the D1 team an advantage with bonus points.

Power points were designed to help compare apples to apples, not apples to oranges. We have a power point system to help determine how a D1 school in northeast Nebraska compares with a D1 team in southwest Nebraska when it comes to qualifying for the state tournament. On the state level, a team who plays a number of schools a class or two above them should be rewarded when they are compared to another team of the same class who may not do so. We have a number of teams in our conference who benefit on the state level from the schedule they play during the regular season.

When we compare teams across multiple classes for seeding in a conference tournament, we cannot use such a metric. A tournament that is seeded aims to get teams ranked in their order of ability and success, without regard to population factors such as how big the school is.

I would propose that we move to a system of having coaches/ADs vote for seeds in the tournament. Each team would submit a vote of 1 through 16 (do not vote for your own team), with 1 being the highest seeded team. That vote would be made public for all schools to see how everyone has voted. The team that has the lowest total in the vote would secure the #1 seed, the next lowest would be the #2 seed, and so on and so forth.

VIII. Reports

- A. Jim Winch Award Winners Report
- B. Conference wrestling tournament director
- C. Conference Instrumental Music Clinic by host school
- D. Conference Basketball Tournament Director
- E. Conference art show host director/host school
- F. Conference Speech contest by host school
- G. All Conference Basketball Selection

Reminder: Remind Superintendents and Principal award winners need to be given to the Conference President, Dennis Bazata by April 5th.

IX. Meeting Adjourned