

**NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ON CLASSIFICATION**

Minutes of February 24, 2016

The Committee on Classification met on Wednesday February 24, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in Grand Island. Jay Bellar, NSAA District III Board of Director, chaired the meeting. Dr. Tenopir reported on the spinoff of a separate committee to look at public and non-public school issues; that this committee would be focusing on football issues first; discussion on whether classifications should be based on total student enrollment or separate boy-girl counts; one or two-year classification cycles; and enrollment ratios from the largest to smallest in each class.

Committee members present were Wendy Henrichs, Lincoln East; Dana Wiseman, Sutton; Dr. Dan Endorf, North Bend Central; Dr. Bob Reznicek, Boys Town; Jay Bellar, Battle Creek; Todd Strom, South Sioux City; Dave Barrett, Adams Central; Tracy Douglas, Hastings; Jon Davis, Alma; Dr. Troy Unzicker, Alliance; Gus Brown, Valentine; and Mike Brockhaus, Sidney. Committee members absent were Jeff Johnson, Papillion-LaVista South and Kyle Hemmerling, Elwood. Ex-officio members included NSAA Staff, Dr. Jim Tenopir, Debra Velder, Nate Neuhaus, and Dan Masters. Stu Pospisil from the Omaha World-Herald was also in attendance.

Committee members discussed possible options on football classifications which included looking at ratios in each class; the number of schools in each classification; whether a break-off number should be established for each classification (i.e. enrollment of 800 above Class A; etc.); if safety is an issue; what the cut-off number should be in 8-man football; number of classes; and 6-man football.

It was the consensus of the members present that Class B faces the biggest issue in regard to ratio disparity.

The committee showed support for future legislation to classify the 32 largest schools registered for football to be placed in Class A; the next 28 schools registered for football to be placed in Class B and that the remaining schools registered for football be classified as currently done. It was requested that a proposal be prepared for the committee to discuss as their next meeting.

With no further business, the committee adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Classification Committee will be scheduled in April.

Debra Velder, Associate Director