

**Twin State League**  
**Meeting Minutes of 5/10/2023**

**I. The meeting was Called to Order by Ryan Lemley @ 11:08 a.m. @ Western Sizzlin’.**

**II. Roll Call – All present**

- Fort Frye ..... Matt Tullius, Trey Engle (Baseball), Brian Duskey (Softball)
- Marietta ..... Cody Venderlic, Josh McKitrick (Baseball), Robert Goodwin (Softball)
- Point Pleasant ..... Kent Price, Andrew Blain (Baseball), James Higginbotham (Softball)
- Warren .... Steve Harold, Chad Porter (Baseball), Katie Dickson-Wells (Softball)
- Commissioner ..... Jim Hamric
- Others .... Chris Way (Parkersburg HS AD)

**III. Approval of Minutes from 10.05.2022 Meeting**

- **MOTION to approve (Cody Venderlic-Marietta), seconded (Kent Price-Point Pleasant). Approved unanimously.**
- Commissioner Hamric made specific reference to All-Conference Awards for Baseball/Softball prior to coaches meeting separately for All-Conference voting.

**IV. Revision to Bylaws (By Sport)**

**A MOTION was made by Steve Harold and seconded by Cody Venderlic (unanimously approved) to amend the current bylaws to adequately represent the current membership.**

Bylaws were read and amended line by line, as necessary. After sharing entire document with Athletic Directors, a vote for approval of the changes will be necessary before publishing.

**V. Feedback from Spring Coaches**

The only feedback from Spring Coaches dealt with the “pitch count” in baseball. It was agreed that it would be determined by each members’ State rules, as outlined by the NFHS.

Plaques were distributed to Baseball and Softball coaches for All-Conference honors for athletes and coaches. Awards will be released at conclusion of tournament season.

**VI. Discussion on Expansion**

Parkersburg High School Athletic Director Chris Way was introduced by Ryan Lemley and welcomed to the meeting by the group. He was invited to attend today’s meeting to explore Parkersburg High School joining the Twin State League as a full member. He expressed the following:

- They are a current member of the Mountain State Athletic Conference. They have a league meeting tomorrow, with an important vote on a 6-game league schedule on the table.

- They are interested in the TSL and the local rivalries that would develop in sports. They are currently exploring joining the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference (OVAC), and would petition this Fall.
- Biggest concern in joining the TSL is football. They will be a Class 4A school in West Virginia under the new alignment and would not be able to play our member schools without penalty. (It was suggested by the TSL that they could be admitted with league approval as full members with an “administrative exemption” in Football).

Twin State League Athletic Directors offered up some advantages to joining the TSL, including:

- Gate receipts have increased significantly in games involving TSL members.
- Media coverage on WTAP, on WMOA, and in the newspapers has been tremendous.
- The competitiveness during the Winter and Spring seasons in basketball, wrestling, baseball, softball, and track & field has been balanced.
- Travel is minimal in the TSL.
- Eight games in team sports allows for plenty of flexibility in scheduling with non-league opponents.
- Dual membership in the OVAC brings many advantages, namely more scheduling opportunities and increased awards opportunities. Not to mention, we can meet OVAC scheduling minimums in our TSL league play, which can lead to “final four” possibilities in championship events. This year alone, 3 girls’ basketball teams from the TSL qualified for the OVAC post-season tournament.

Cody Venderlic shared the membership document, sports offered, and fees involved with Chris Way during the meeting. In addition, future schedules were shared with him.

Parkersburg will get back with the TSL members following their MSAC meeting with their plans moving forward. The league’s Athletic Directors expressed an interest in discussing with their coaches the possibility of admitting PHS prior to a formal vote.

In other expansion news, Morgan is no longer under consideration for expansion. In addition, the league’s Athletic Directors expressed an interest in presenting Associate Membership opportunities beginning in 2024 with schools participating in the Mid-Ohio Valley Soccer League (i.e. Alexander, Athens). The Tri-Valley Conference does not currently offer soccer as a championship sport.

## VII. Adjourn

- **Motion was made to adjourn (Cody Venderlic) & seconded (Steve Harold); Motion passed unanimously**
- Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: To Be Determined amongst the Athletic Directors