



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 19, 2025

Erie 1 BOCES

Building B, Room B-1

9:30am

HIGHLIGHTS

3.1 **CARRIED:** Approval of the October 15, 2025 Section VI Athletic Executive Committee meeting minutes

AC ACTION ITEMS

3.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the September 17, 2025 Section VI Athletic Council meeting minutes

4.2 AC ACTION ITEM: 26-27 North & South Proposed Timelines for Schedules and Assignment of Officials (Appendix A)

5.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Combining of Schools Applications

5.2 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Outside Agency Applications

6.1.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval to keep Lake Shore/Silver Creek Boys Lacrosse in Class B for the 2026 spring season. (Previously approved to move from Class C to Class B for the 2025 season).

6.3.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Treasurer's report (Appendix B)

6.4.1 AC ACTION ITEM: To approve the Baseball, Boys Golf, and Unified Basketball reports spring 2025 post season reports (Appendix F)

6.14.2 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of D. Ljiljanich as Section VI President-Elect (Remaining term through June 2026)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Attendance (*indicates present)

*D. Lilleck, President

*B. Banker, President-Elect

*M. Donahue, Past President

*J. Sortisio, Superintendents' Representative

*C. Alvarez, Principals' Representative

*M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative

*J. Roth, Male Representative

*M. DiFilippo, Executive Director

*K. Schon, Associate Executive Director

**Agenda numbers coincide with the athletic council agenda*

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER** (D. Lilleck)

Commenced: 9:36am

3.0 **MINUTES** (D. Lilleck)

3.1 ***Motion to approve of the October 15, 2025 Section VI Athletic Executive Committee meeting minutes***

CARRIED

Fallacaro-Dougherty/Sortisio

4.0 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** (M. DiFilippo)

4.1 **AC ACTION ITEM: 26-27 North & South Proposed Timelines for Schedules and Assignment of Officials** (Appendix A)

4.2 **Mandatory AD Workshop – January 22, 2026 at Erie 1 BOCES, 8:30am**

This is informational. A reminder will be given at the following athletic council meeting.

4.3 **Officials Negotiations – identification of lead negotiators due 2/1/26, remaining team members due 3/1/26**

Nominations for the Section VI team were submitted to M. DiFilippo. The Executive Committee will review and determine the team at the December 17 meeting.

4.4 **NYSPPHSAA Summer Meeting / Foundation Golf Tournament July 27, 2026**

With Adam Stoltman assuming the role of NYSPPHSAA President, Section VI is scheduled to host the July 2025 state meeting.

4.5 **2026-2027 BEDS numbers and classification cut-offs**

Numbers that were submitted in June 2025 are the numbers that were approved in October 2025, and will be in effect for 26-27. BEDS are 9th, 10th and the average of 9th and 10th.

Schools may have their boys and girls teams of the same sport placed in different classifications. The cutoff numbers change based on the number of schools participating in a sport.

4.6 **McKinney Vento Transfers**

SED provided clarification that McKinney Vento transfers are not an automatic approval.

4.7 **NYSPPHSAA Private School Participation**

At the last NYSPPHSAA meeting, the schools without boundary proposal regarding how to classify schools without a boundary was approved. Section 1 is requesting reconsideration, wanting full removal of the private and charter schools. With that, R Zayas canvassed the section executive directors, requesting feedback

from superintendents to determine where the consensus falls.

Based on the approved proposal, Section 6 will have to present to NYSPHSAA at the February 2026 meeting placement of its charter schools for the fall 2026 season. By the January 14, 2026 athletic council meeting, the Charter School Classification Committee must have a recommendation for fall 2026 charter school teams.

5.0 COMMUNICATIONS (M. DiFilippo)

5.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Combining of Schools Applications 1- 35 [COS Status Chart](#)

WINTER APPLICATIONS

Informational Wrestling G, Existing, Chautauqua Lake, Panama, Clymer, Brocton, Westfield add Sherman back 11/6/25, 779, One Division, V, Informational (dropped Sherman – now adding Sherman back in) BEDS 779

- 1) Basketball G, NEW, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, 1427, AAA, V, Pending League Approval Date
- 2) Cheer Competitive , NEW, **Eden**, North Collins pending signature & app, 335, C, V, Pending League Approval Date
- 3) Swim B, Existing, **East Aurora**, Holland rcved application 11/6/25, 573, Pending League Approval Date
- 4) Wrestling G, New, **Orchard Park**, Frontier, Hamburg & East Aurora, 3058, One Division, V/ JV, Pending League Approval Date
- 5) Wrestling G, NEW , **Niagara-Wheatfield**, Niagara Falls add Newfane 11/6/25 NW & NF approved at June AC, Now 2622* One Division, Varsity
- 6) Wrestling G, New, **Sweet Home**, Amherst Need ECIC approval, 1455, Pending League approval date
- 7) Wrestling G, New, **Clarence**, Iroquois Need ECIC approval, 1406, Pending League approval date

SPRING APPLICATIONS

- 8) Baseball, Existing, **Olmsted**, Cul Arts, Emerson, 1021, AA, V
- 9) Baseball, Existing, **I-Prep**, LDaVinci, 818, A, V
- 10) Baseball, Existing, **Burgard**, Performing Arts, 661, A, V
- 11) Baseball, Existing, **MST**, East, 562, A, V
- 12) Baseball, Existing, **MEC**, LJBennett, Res Lab, 536, A, V
- 13) Baseball, Existing, Silver Creek, Forestville, 246, B, V, JV, 789
- 14) Unified Basketball B/G, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V . 1427 Pending League approval
- 15) Unified Basketball B/G, New, **Medina**, Roy-Hart, 600, , V
- 16) Unified Basketball B/G, Existing, **Silver Creek**, Forestville, 243, , V
- 17) Flag Football, Existing, **Hutch Tech**, all BPS Schools, 7615, A, V
- 18) Flag Football, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 1074
- 19) Flag Football, New, **Silver Creek**, Forestville & Lake Shore, 616, B, V
- 20) Flag Football, New, **Akron**, Alden, 497, C, V
- 21) Flag Football, Existing, **Southwestern**, Frewsburg, 348, C, V
- 22) Flag Football, Existing, **Maritime Charter**, Tapestry Charter, 346, C, V
- 23) Lax B, Existing, **City Honors**, All BPS school, 7615, A, V
- 24) Lax B, Existing, **Lewiston-Porter**, Niagara Falls, 1963, A, V, JV
- 25) Lax G, Existing, **City Honors**, All BPS school, 7615, AAA, V
- 26) Softball, Existing, **Culinary Arts**, Emerson, 679, AA, V
- 27) Softball, New, **MEC**, LJBennett, Res Lab, 550, A, V
- 28) Softball, Existing, **Sherman**, Clymer, 170, C, V, JV, 78
- 29) Tennis B, Existing, **West Seneca West**, West Seneca East, V, 1133 Pending League approval
- 30) Tennis B, Existing, **Culinary Arts**, Emerson, 514, Small , V
- 31) Tennis B, New, **Southwestern**, Frewsburg, 365, Small , V
- 32) Track & Field BG, Existing, **Culinary Arts**, Emerson, 481, B, V
- 33) Track & Field BG, Existing, **LJBennett**, Alt Ed, 403, B, V
- 34) Track & Field BG, New, **Eden**, North Collins, 335, C, V/78/9
- 35) Track & Field BG, Existing, **Silver Creek**, Forestville, 243, C, V/78/9

- 5.2 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Outside Agency Applications – [Outside Agency Status chart](#)
- 1) Basketball-Boys, Jolly Boys , 12/12/25, Amherst High School, Amherst High School & Jolly Boys of Wmslv
 - 2) Wrestling, Holiday Classic Wrestling Tournament, 12/12-13, JCC, Randolph & STOWA State Sanctioned
 - 3) Cheerleading, Fredonia Blue Devils Cheer Competition, 1/25/26, SUNY Fredonia , Dunkirk HS and SUNY Fredonia

6.0 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Combining of Schools Committee (J. Sortisio)

- 6.1.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval to keep Lake Shore/Silver Creek Boys Lacrosse in Class B for the 2026 spring season. (Previously approved to move from Class C to Class B for the 2025 season).

It was noted the committee discussed the combination of Lake Shore/Silver Creek in the sport of Girls Lacrosse. The committee was unanimous in placing them in the higher class. The Lake Shore athletic director shared that Lake Shore/Silver Creek is not combining in the sport of Girls Lacrosse for the 2026 season. Therefore, the committee's recommendation is moot and will not be moved forward for action.

- 6.1.2 Combining of Schools Deadline Proposal (Appendix B)
Charged with discussing deadline for clearing a combined team.

It is the COS's recommendation that the deadlines should be adjusted by 30 days for any schools who have consistently combined. The specific recommendation is that schools must declare their intent to continue to combine as follows:

Fall February 1st

Winter June 1st

Spring October 1st.

In addition, it is imperative that communication with the League, Sport Chair and the Section be completed by the due dates listed above.

New combined teams would be granted an additional 60 days to complete the necessary paperwork and approvals. However, communication as stated should occur at the earliest date possible.

The COS further recommends that the opportunity to combine ceases when teams become eligible to compete in games. For example, if a sport requires six practices prior to the first contest, eligibility to combine ends on that sixth practice day. The COS recognizes that in some instances the need to combine is unknown until the first practices of a season. This adjustment will allow for the continuation of emergency mergers and prevent mergers once seasons are underway.

Stemming from the league heads meeting, M. DiFilippo recommended adding language for clarity specific to Golf and Bowling as they do not have practice requirements.

Concern was expressed with the Fall February 1 date would mean action for approval is not taken until the March athletic council meeting and thus, a football schedule cannot be generated and distributed until sometime afterward.

The athletic council will be notified that feedback regarding recommendations for adjustment is due to J. Sortisio no later than the December 15, 2025. Recommendations for adjustment will be reviewed at the December 17, 2025 executive committee meeting and the final proposal moved to action at the January 14, 2025 meeting.

6.2 Charter Schools Classification Committee (J. Sortisio)

6.2.1 Classification of Fall Sports due February

6.3 Finance Committee (B. Fadeley)

6.3.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Treasurer's report (Appendix C)

6.3.2 26-27 Proposed Budget (Appendix D)

6.3.3 26-27 Proposed Coordination Fee Formula (Appendix E)

The base class fee is recommended to increase by \$500 and federated sport fee increase by \$10 in order to balance the budget.

6.4 Sectional/Intersectional (M. DiFilippo)

6.4.1 AC ACTION ITEM: To approve the Baseball, Boys Golf, and Unified Basketball reports spring 2025 post season reports (Appendix F)

6.4.2 At Large Proposal (*Action to be taken Jan 2026 AC) (Appendix G)

6.4.3 Split Classification Pilot (*Action to be taken Jan 2026 AC)

- Recommendation to make the split classifications after opt-out formal policy beginning with the 26-27 school year. Pilot was approved for a 1-year extension, through 25-26, at the May 2025 AC meeting.

6.7 State Executive Committee/Central Committee

a) Superintendent (J. Sortisio)

Nothing to report

b) Principal (C. Alvarez)

Nothing to report

c) Female Rep./Male Rep. (M. Fallacaro-Dougherty/J. Roth)

The following are discussion items for the November 19, 2025 Athletic Council meeting and action items at the January 14, 2026 Athletic Council meeting to provide direction for M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, and J. Roth, Male Representative, to vote at the February 2026 NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting. (Appendix I)

6.7c1 Handbook Committee – Addition to Representation Rule

6.7c2 Modified Committee – Flag Football Coordinator

6.7c3 Modified Committee - Ice Hockey Coordinator

6.7c4 Modified Committee – Revision to the NYSPHSAA Promotion Rule

6.7c5 Boys Basketball: Adopt new 5-second closely guarded NFHS rule (by State Association adoption)

6.7c6 Boys/Girls Bowling – Establish minimum roster size of five (50 bowlers on the school team at the State Tournament)

6.7c7 Girls Flag Football NFHS Rule Adoption

6.7c8 Girls Flag Football Rule Request: Dead Ball Flag Checks

6.7c9 Girls Flag Football Pilot: Onside Play

- 6.7c10 Outdoor Track – To utilize the super standard, an athlete must finish top five in the state qualifier meet, effective 2026
- 6.7c11 Outdoor Track – No Additional performances using the super standard (obtained after the state qualifier meet) will count toward entry into the state meet.
- 6.7c12 Outdoor Track – Utilize the three-year average for the formula for qualifying standards using the seed Performances
- 6.7c13 Baseball: Make it optional to utilize a double first base during the 2026 season (regular & postseason)

6.8 Extended Eligibility (M. DiFilippo)

Nothing to report

6.10 Transfer/Foreign Student (M. DiFilippo)

Nothing to report

6.13 Mixed Competition (C. Alvarez)

Nothing to report

6.14 Nominations (B. Banker)

6.14.1 Section VI Female Representative (M. Fallacaro-Dougherty) Term Expiration June 2026

- Incumbent wishes to renew term
- Challenger application posted on website, deadline March 1, 2026
- Action item May 13, 2026 athletic council meeting

6.14.2 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of D. Ljiljanich as Section VI President-Elect (Remaining term through June 2026)

If approved, D. Ljiljanich would be invited to attend executive committee meetings as a non-voting member for the remainder of the 25-26 year and continue to hold the NFL Superintendent's Representative position on the athletic council. If B. Banker steps down from the President-Elect position prior to the end of the 25-26 school, D. Ljiljanich would move into the president-elect position and the NFL Superintendent's Representative alternate would assume the role.

6.14.3 President-Elect Position, term July 2026 – June 2028 (Southerntier Region)

- Action item May 13, 2026 athletic council meeting
- The application will be posted on the Section VI website with a deadline of March 1, 2025 following this meeting.

6.15 Corporate Partners (K. Schon)

- The University of Wyoming was a successful partnership.
- K. Schon is investigating partnerships with local businesses regarding some of Section VI's larger psot season events.

6.17 Policy Committee (K. Schon)

The committee felt confident regarding the Combining of Schools Committee.

To confirm the understanding of the role of the committee, B. Banker reminded the Policy Committee they are not writing policy, but rather reviewing language

7.0 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 All WNY Scholar Athlete (J. Roth)

- Fall submission deadline is December 8th.

7.2 Schools Without Boundaries Ad Hoc Committee (M. Fallacaro-Dougherty)

10.0 OLD BUSINESS

Sportsmanship, specific to scoring, continues to be an issue. This will be a discussion item at the December 17, 2025 executive committee meeting. In addition, it was recommended to devote 15-20 minutes on sportsmanship at the January 2026 mandatory athletic director meeting.

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

11.1 The December 17, 2025 executive committee meeting will be held at Emerson High School, 70 West Chippewa St., Buffalo, NY 14202 at 10am.

12.0 GOOD OF THE ORDER/ADJOURNMENT

12.1 *Motion to adjourn*

CARRIED

Sortisio/Donahue