

NYSAAA Leadership Luncheon
March 20, 2009

Goal

To learn about strategies that Athletic Administrators from across New York State are utilizing in dealing with the budget crisis that school districts are dealing with as it pertains to their athletic programs. Directors will walk away from this meeting with a laundry list of ideas of dealing with this budget crunch from the state, section, league and individual school perspective.

Agenda

Mike Giruzzi will do an Informal welcome and move people to their tables. We will have a cross representation at each table. No more than two people from each chapter at one table.

1. 12:00- 12:10 Introductions

- Opening welcome, President Elect- Harold Fried
- Mike Giruzzi, purpose of meeting and how it will function

2. 12:10-12:35 Lunch

3. 12:35-1:10 Round Table Discussion

- How has the impact of the budget crunch and the state cuts impacted how your section does business? What are some strategies that your section is utilizing to cope with those issues? (10 minutes)
 - One way reported out from each table
- How has the impact of the budget crunch and the state cuts impacted how your league does business? What are some strategies that your league is utilizing to cope with those issues? (10 minutes)
 - One way reported out from each table
- How has the impact of the budget crunch and the state cuts impacted your schools athletic program? What are some strategies that your school is utilizing to cope with those issues? (10 minutes)
 - One way reported out from each table
- Discuss the ramifications of the state wide cuts from the NYSPHAA. (5 minutes)

4. 1:10-1:15 Closure/ Next steps- documents will be collected and collated and sent out to chapter representatives to share back with the directors.

Question # 1

- How has the impact of the budget crunch and the state cuts impacted how your section does business? What are some strategies that your section is utilizing to cope with those issues? (10 minutes)
 - One way reported out from each table

Section 1- Realign conference from enrollment to geography based
- Meeting based on geography
- Reduce max # of contests for spring before State recommendations
- Cut back on “Perks” – officials in free, hospitality rooms
Section 2: -No dues increase, will look at facilities for sectional contests (rentals)
Section 3- Realign FB to geography
- Awards ceremony
- Have each sport coordinator be more aware of money being spent during tournaments/record specifics (i.e. paid workers, hospitality rooms, etc.)
Section 4: -Modified cuts, eliminate coach
-Co-coaching
Section 5: -Modified 1 team per sport 7 th /8 th
-Eliminated JV keep V
-Only compete with league schools (modified)
Section 6- Shared transportation
- Hospitality rooms
Sections 8,9 & 11
-Reduce # of games/scrimmages
-Reduce # of states qualifiers to reduce costs
-Reduce # of days for tournaments/ fix: 2 days to 1
-Cut back on # of stadium rentals and go back to local H.S. facilities (neutral sites)
Section 10: -Passes/travel/geography based scheduling
-B schools playing C’s & D’s
Sectional Level:

Elimination of Awards- different levels of awards
Eliminate or cut back- payments or feeding volunteers at sectional contests
Looking for sponsors to cover cost at sectional events- food, volunteers, and awards
Encourage the use of volunteers
Use facilities that are more fiscally responsible
Cut awards- runners up plaques
No open tournaments- have criteria/less numbers (tennis)
Rental Sites- get better rates
Eliminate 100 mile travel rule- generate more \$ at home games; instead of neutral site
Hold line on officials fees- contracts
Cut back on meals for section business meetings
Cut funding for regional competition
Conference calls instead of meetings
Cut game contests

Question # 2

- How has the impact of the budget crunch and the state cuts impacted how your league does business? What are some strategies that your league is utilizing to cope with those issues? (10 minutes)
 - One way reported out from each table

Sections: 2,4,5 and 10
➤ Geographic divisions within leagues (A can play B)
➤ Combined busses to play same school on same day
➤ Sending modified with varsity
➤ Play back to back to save on officials
➤ Looked at using certified PE teachers as officials at modified level
Section 3- C.SC.- geographic crossovers
- Don't fill league schedules so schools have room to pick up games

- Talk w/in league before they cut programs so league is consistent
Section 4- Cut all-star games/senior games
- V/JV championship at higher seed
- V championship at different venues
- Modified games- geographic
Section 6- Small leagues- elimination of non-league games
- Increase league games
Sections: 8, 9 and 11
➤ Realign leagues for geographical contests
➤ No cheerleading teams going to away contests
➤ Cut back travel for travel to State championships- combine schools to travel together
Section 10- crossover games geographic based
-Modified games- geographic
League Level:
➤ Realigned to serve geography
➤ No league cross-over's
➤ Balance trips to long away schools/switch next year
➤ Reduce league sponsored events (i.e. county basketball tourney)
➤ Pay official online- saves postage and printing checks
➤ Cut JV's- eliminate contests/just league schedule
➤ Restructure league- from size to geography
➤ Cut back game contests
➤ Reduce league playoffs- eliminate big rental sites- go local
➤ Creative schedule to eliminate travel costs
➤ Eliminating individual competitions
➤ 10% percent budget cut/travel restrictions

Question # 3

- How has the impact of the budget crunch and the state cuts impacted your schools athletic program? What are some strategies that your school is utilizing to cope with those issues? (10 minutes)
 - One way reported out from each table



Sections: 1,3,6
Morrisville- cut back modified games
-cut similar programs within league
Malone- reduction in games helped with P.R.
-athletic cuts looked like a lot and BOE
-tournament/modified cuts
JC- local with competition
-official bid for equipment/supplies
John Jay- tighten-up budget
-spent vs. budget
Sections: 2,4,5 and 10
➤ Cut 1090 across the board
➤ Waiting until 1 st budget vote
➤ Lost 1 game and lost 1090 suppliers
➤ Cut supervision (chaperones)
➤ Cut scrimmages and non-league games
➤ Roll over budget
➤ Cut from instructional salaries for coaches
Sections: 8,9, and 11
➤ Cap # of team budgets /no increase
➤ 7 th /8 th grade teams combine
➤ Eliminate JV and 9 th grade teams
➤ Restrictions in purchase of new uniforms
➤ In house laundry (purchase own washer/dryer)
Local School Level:
➤ Cut JV football (mod A. and varsity)
➤ Cut to 16 games across the board and 3 tournaments/invites only
➤ Eliminate away scrimmages
➤ Combine modified teams
➤ No new equipment- just replace
➤ Long distance transportation- students/boosters pay

➤ Athletes buy own uniforms
➤ Boys and girls travel together
➤ Create booster clubs
➤ Agreement between schools to cut tournaments
➤ Facility rentals- no travel outside section

Question #4

- Discuss the ramifications of the state wide cuts from the NYSPHAA. (5 minutes)
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Sections: 1,3,6
➤ Positive P.R. - good proactive move.
➤ Cuts were easy because it was across the board
➤ Conference calls- big saving
➤ Online reports vs. mailing out
➤ Athletics- most visible but usually less than 1% of budget
➤ Now we have room to change start dates because we don't have as many contests
Sections 2,4, 5 and 10
➤ Cuts leveled the playing field with regard to # of contests
➤ By being proactive, early cuts warded off bigger cuts
➤ Cuts came fast, no time to prepare
➤ Did we give too much too fast?
➤ Makes school athletics less significant by cutting the # of contests
➤ Cut a little from each sport- not eliminate a program
➤ Provide one way transportation
Reductions:
➤ More direction from "leaders" (reduction in game contests)
➤ List of concerns were for their budget