

**Minutes of
The University Interscholastic League
Legislative Council Meeting
June 14, 2016**

Business Meeting (A - E)

The summer meeting of the Legislative Council of the University Interscholastic League convened at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, at the Austin Marriott North Hotel, Round Rock, Texas. The following were present:

Council Members: Johnny Pineda, Raymondville ISD, Chair; Jeff Adams, Farmersville ISD; JoAnn Bludau, Hallettsville ISD; Greg Enis, Slidell ISD; Shane Fields, Albany ISD; Mark Henry, Cypress Fairbanks ISD; Shannon Holmes, Hardin-Jefferson ISD; Aaron Hood, Robert Lee ISD; Mary Huckabay, Hull-Daisetta ISD; Robert Jaklich, Victoria ISD; Richard Kilgore, Bruceville-Eddy ISD; Trey Lawrence, Shiner ISD; Joey Light, Abilene Wylie ISD; Russell Marshall, Mabank ISD; Cody Moree, Apple Springs ISD; Todd Morrison, Honey Grove ISD; Greg Poole, Barbers Hill ISD; Alfred Ray, Duncanville ISD; Curtis Rhodes, Needville ISD; Berhl Robertson, Lubbock ISD; Gonzalo Salazar, Los Fresnos ISD; Jim Waller, Idalou ISD and Kevin Worthy, Royse City ISD.

UIL Staff: Charles Breithaupt, Executive Director; Leo Barnes, Darryl Beasley, Kim Carmichael, Mark Cousins, Bree Davis, Susan Doherty, Susan Elza, Arlo Flores, Amy Gilbert, Jamey Harrison, Kate Hector, Hannah Higgins, Kevin Jones, Brad Kent, Jessica Lane, Luis Muñoz, Traci Neely, Brian Polk, Rebecca Quinlan, Jana Riggins, Elisabeth Sikes, David Stevens, Ed Stidham, David Trussell, Caroline Walls and Eddie Wolski

Chair Pineda called the business meeting of the Legislative Council to order at 8:04 a.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2016. Mark Henry gave the invocation.

(A) Chair Pineda announced that a quorum of the Legislative Council was present.

(B) He announced that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with the UIL *2015-2016 Constitution and Contest Rules*. Jana Riggins was appointed parliamentarian.

(C) The printed agenda was adopted by consensus. (The lettering and numbering of the paragraphs of the minutes follow the order of the agenda.)

(D) The minutes of the October 18-19, 2015 meeting were approved by consensus.

At 8:10 a.m. the business meeting was recessed and the Legislative Council proceeded to its public hearing.

Public Hearing (AA - BB)

Chair Pineda welcomed everyone in attendance on behalf of the Legislative Council representatives, the UIL staff and the participant schools and member school districts. He then introduced the new members of the Legislative Council: Region II, Conference 1A, Aaron Hood, Robert Lee ISD; Region I, Conference 4A, Bobby Azam, Andrews ISD and Region IV, Conference 5A, Kevin Brown, Alamo Heights ISD. Chair Pineda asked the remaining Legislative Council members to introduce themselves to the audience.

AA. Scheduled Speakers

Chair Pineda asked speakers to limit their remarks to five minutes. He said the meeting was open, questions could be asked, and members of the Council or staff would be recognized to speak. He recognized the following people who made proposals (summarized from oral and written comments) to the Council.

D.W. Rutledge and Joe Martin, Texas High School Coaches Association, Mr. Rutledge introduced Joe Martin and Glen West, President of THSCA. Glen West presented a proposed verbiage change for first round home field advantage determination for 5A and 6A. He proposed the new verbiage read as follows: "For the first round of playoffs only, the higher district finish will determine whether the game is played on their actual field or mutually agree to play the game at a neutral site. If the opponents have the same district finish, resulting in a tie, the two teams will flip a coin or agree on a neutral site". The rationale for this change will keep first round play-off site determination from becoming a key distractor for coaches across the state and keep play-off sites from becoming more difficult to secure in the first round. This language would also clarify confusion in the event of a tie.

Sam Tipton, Texas Girls' Coaches Association, Mr. Tipton introduced his Board: Lee Grisham, Assistant to the Executive Director; Liana Gombert, President; Lloyd Morgan, 1st Vice President; Kriss Ethridge, 2nd Vice President and Mitch Williams, Past President. He thanked the council for the foresight of adding Conference A volleyball this past year. TGCA proposed the council add Conference A baseball and softball as a pilot program. TGCA also proposed the council add back the tournament/games in all UIL sanctioned sports that were taken away several years ago.

Rusty Dowling, Executive Director of Texas High School Athletic Directors Association, Mr. Dowling introduced his board and stated that THSAA has no proposals at this time. Mr. Dowling stated THSADA, in unanimous agreement, would like the 6th grade, three-day tryout pilot program, continued. Mr. Dowling congratulated Mr. Frailey on his retirement.

John Carter, Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association, thanked council for their time and applauded the Medical Advisory Committee on the action they are taking in baseball concerning pitch count. THSBCA would also like to see a 1A pilot program for softball and baseball giving all sports a level playing field. THSBCA would like the Legislative Council to consider giving back the games/tournament that were taken away, these games would be helpful in getting pitchers arms ready for district.

Ray Baca, Cross Country Coaches Association of Texas, stated he was honored to be in attendance. He thanked Dr. Elza and Traci Neely for making the sport of cross-country better. CCCAT supports the return of the games that were taken away years ago.

Eddie Hopkins, Texas High School Basketball Officials Association, stated he was honored to be in attendance. THSBO thanks and appreciates the pay increase for the upcoming school year.

Mike Fitch, Texas Association Sports Officials, Mr. Fitch stated 2015-116 was a very good year, the TASO and the UIL worked very well together. Mr. Fitch congratulated UIL on hiring Dr. Susan Elza, thanked the council for the officials pay increase and thanked the UIL for creating the Sports Officials Committee. He stated TASO is in favor of bring back the tournaments, additional games would help in the training of officials and give coaches the opportunity to see new officials.

Chris Cullen, TISCA Water Polo Chair, stated water polo has been present in Texas for 40 years and has the 2nd most high schools participating in the nation just behind California. TISCA proposed the UIL adopt water polo as a UIL sanctioned sport recommending the season immediately follow behind the swimming season.

Mike Pickell, Texas Theatre Adjudicators & Officials Association, has been a participant with UIL for 90 years. TTAO is a 401 c3 organization that trains adjudicators and certifies judges for UIL area, region and state contests. TTAO had no proposals.

Brett Dolan, Former Astros broadcaster, did not attend. His proposed was to limit pitch counts in high school.

Rod Sheffield, Magnolia HS and UIL Advisory Committee Chair, stated it has been a great year. The UIL theater department has One-Act-Play, Film and Theatrical Design Contest. He thanked the council for their support of the theatre and OAP. There are thousands of students in the state participating in theatre regardless of their gender, race or background; hundreds of these students are receiving scholarships allowing them to go to college. The Theatre Advisory Committee supports the upcoming comments that will be made by Travis Poe and Kim Bland who work year round for the good of students.

Darla Jones, Texas Thespians and Educational Theatre Association, EdTA is a non-profit national organization with approximately 90,000 students and professional members. EdTA mission is shaping the lives through theatre by honoring student achievement in theatre and by enriching their theatre experience. EdTA provides leadership for the thespian society. EdTA and the Thespian Society pride itself in the thousands of dollars in scholarships it offers to Texas seniors. Colleges are eager to recruit Texas students because of their caliber and poise. Texas is the go to state for educational theatre, no other state in the nation has so effectively executed such a massive case of theatrical talent in one location, as has the UIL OAP. UIL has outlined very successful policies and guidelines that promote challenging literature that prepares students for collegiate and professional success. Texas Thespian supports UIL guidelines that allow communities to establish their standard for what is appropriate for their students.

Axel Elias, did not attend. He proposed is to remove the transfer eligibility rule.

Rafael McDonnell, LGBT Dallas Resource Center, asked the council to take a time out in regard to their October decision in which UIL will determine gender by ones birth certificate. This is a challenging issue, wait until the Supreme Court hands down it's ruling. Mr. McDonnell would like the UIL to allow transgender students, those whose gender assigned at birth does not match how they identify their gender, inclusion in all school-sponsored activities.

Mathew Howard, did not attend. He proposed to allow softball coaches to provide lessons to their students during the school year.

Mano DeAyala, Parent, proposed the Legislative Council allow students attending non UIL member alternative schools the ability to participate in UIL sanctioned athletic events, football. Mr. Howard stated there are school districts that are unable to teach students due to processing issues; he feels these students should be able to participate in football at the public school in their attendance zone. Greg Poole, Athletic Standing Committee chair thanked Mr. DeAyala for pointing out this issue but stated this could result in unfair competition with home schooled students. Also, there is an underlining issue of Texas law regarding No Pass No Play.

Ben Riddle, did not attend. He proposed to include both men's and women's lacrosse into UIL sports.

Kent Willis, New Summerfield ISD, proposed amending the UIL rule to allow Class 2A schools to participate in UIL soccer. He expressed that this would be more than an athletic benefit for the students; it would be an academic benefit as well.

Lonnell Davis, did not attend. He proposed to change eligibility periods.

Jason Ceyanes, parent, proposed that UIL One-Act-Plays be prohibited from using inappropriate language, content, filth, obscene language, adults abusing children etc. in order to win a competition. He stated that directors and administrators judgment cannot be trusted under the current rule, which leaves discretion up to local administrators. He stated that all UIL One-Act plays should follow the provisions found in the local Student Code of Conduct and Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code. He proposed that all UIL One-Act Plays be appropriate for all school aged children and be rated PG. He also proposed that One-Act Play judges may not judge a contest where the judge is a current or former employee of a competing school. Cody Moree stated that he agreed with the speaker. He would like the council to take a look at this proposal. Dr. Harrison stated the Standing Committee on Academics would discuss this proposal.

Kim Bland, Texas Theatre Administrators Conference, Fine Arts Director at Keller ISD, commended UIL, Dr. Stevens and Luis Munoz for a fantastic OAP contest. This spring there were those who had strong opposition to plays they felt were inappropriate for high school students and audiences. Some have called for the League to step in policing and regulating; Ms. Bland stated theatre by its very nature is conflict, actors portray struggle against circumstances, nature and against themselves. Sometimes they are charming and delightful, as in *Midsummer's Night Dream*; sometimes they are terrible and tragic in the case of *Romeo and Juliet*, when mistakes leave to death. No one would suggest that street brawls, cursing and a marriage in secret or suicide are in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. *Romeo and Juliet* may not be appropriate for young children but it is a time honored play for high school OAP contest and many students have performed it. To suggest the production should be appropriate for all ages goes against the very description of the contest "The UIL High School OAP Contest". This isn't a theatre contest for young audiences or a children's' theatre festival nor was it intended to be. She stated

if we adhere to those calling for content restriction and regulation we would have to exclude most Shakespearean tragedies, almost all of Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams work. Theatre tells stories to help us understand the world we live in, it teaches students to be creative, to have empathy and to understand themselves and each other. Reality for students can differ drastically across the state from small rural communities to urban districts. To suggest that a committee knows better for students than local school administrators is offensive. She asked the council to leave these decisions up to the district and local control as to what is best for their students.

Travis Poe, Texas Education Theatre Association, CEO, longest serving member of TETA Advisory Committee, as well as completing his 31st year of directing OAPs, expressed his gratitude to UIL for their continued support of the worlds largest play festival of its kind. OAP has allowed tens of thousands of Texas students to showcase their talents since 1927. He has witnessed many changes in OAP rules which have permitted a greater freedom of directors in the development and design of their productions. One of the most profound changes involved placing the selection of play content and play choice directly in the hands of local school districts. He stated he doesn't believe in the staging of plays just for pure shock value, he does believe in the power of a great story. He believes putting play selection in the hands of the school administration and their district is where this rule comes into being. His administration and he have built a healthy relationship based on mutual respect and trust on what is best for his high school students and community. It's content, choice and control belong with the local administration. Local control is sacred.

Quoting his collegiate mentor, and former drama director, Lynn Murray, "Any play has the potential to be controversial from some view. Plays are about conflict. Conflict is about disagreement. Plays often evoke different views from audience members and a controversial high school play is potentially any play". Good theatre, like life itself, imitates and does not always transfer neatly.

Dr. Poole commented Travis is an exceptional theatre arts teacher, he agreed that local control is needed; they have had discussions over plays. He stated self-policing is needed, so we don't have those going for shock value. Travis stated that prior to going to contest he has to take a community standards form to his principal, the principal signs off that the script has his approval for producing the play in his community. Unfortunately this is where the link falls; probably 80-85% of administrators never witness the schools production, never meet with their director prior to signing off on it.

Dr. Marshall suggested producing the play that is appropriate for everyone at the OAP settings and produce the controversial plays for your local presentations. He agreed with Mr. Ceyanes, that language wasn't appropriate for a group setting. Mr. Poe said he doesn't use the language Mr. Ceyanes referred to; it would never fly at Barbers Hill High School. Sometimes he uses his fall productions to step outside of the boundaries, such as Lord of the Flies. He stated he can never make everyone happy no matter what time of year he does the shows. Mr. Poe said he saw the play Mr. Ceyanes referenced at a later stage and didn't hear the references he eluted to. The production he witnessed was great theatre.

Gary Speegle, Gorman ISD Superintendent, proposed the Legislative Council consider the same playoff format for Class A & AA baseball/softball that was implemented for Class A & AA volleyball. He asked the UIL to create a review of Class AA alignments in volleyball, softball and baseball to determine the feasibility of separate alignments. Todd Morrison stated he has heard complaints from 1A volleyball. Dr. Breithaupt asked if 1A would be opposed to 1 or 2 schools coming out to the playoffs. Superintendent Speegle responded that two teams would not be a problem. UIL will study the Class AA alignments.

Patrick Sluga, did not attend. He proposed to determine playoff seeding's for 1A and 2A.

Charles Williams, did not attend. He proposed to add a 35-second clock to boys and girls high school basketball.

Athena Williams, did not attend. She proposed to allow transgender athletes to play the sport they identify with.

Nathan Caruso, did not attend. His proposal to require TASO umpires to report all ejections directly to the UIL without

Bobby Kleinecke, President, Texas Tennis Coaches Association, thanked the council for adding the tiebreaker this past year. TTCA has no new proposals to present but is in favor of adding the tournament/games back that were taken away.

BB. Speakers Previously Unscheduled

Chair Pineda recognized the following unscheduled speakers.

Wendy Gumbert, proposed adding the 200-meter and the discus to the current three events UIL offers in track and field adapted sport program. Ms. Gumbert would like to see these athletes having the option to participate in five events and their points count to team totals at the state meet.

Jonathan Saenz, Texas Values, President, stated he is encouraged by the vote of Texas superintendents of 586-32 in favor of the longstanding policy for using original birth certificates for determining gender or sex in athletics. He expressed concern with adding gender identity policy to the Constitution and Contest Rules. It isn't fair or right for our female athletes and we have a responsibility to our girls who have worked very hard for scholarships to stand against this issue.

(E) Chair Pineda recessed the public hearing at 10:15 a.m.

Business Meeting (F - K) Continued

F. Standing Committee Meetings

The standing committees convened to take action on items presented to the Council. The business meeting of the Legislative Council reconvened at 2:10 p.m. Chair Pineda stated he appreciated being part of this organization; speaking for all council members, we have incredible respect for the UIL, what it stands for and what it does for students across the state. He acknowledged Dr. Breithaupt and his leadership and his unwavering commitment to this organization and to the UIL staff who work diligently on behalf of all students across the state. He thanked the council members in attendance, the speakers that have presented, and the athletic directors, teachers and coaches and what they believe in and do for our students.

G. Old Business

Chair Pineda recognized Jamey Harrison, UIL Deputy Director. Dr. Harrison stated there are four pilot programs that were approved for one to two years. These programs have been successful. If council wants to allow these pilots to continue, you need to approve them without year limits. This allows UIL to get better contracts for venues without waiting until after the June council meeting.

- Mary Huckabay moved and James Brewer seconded the motion to continue the Spirit Competition as a pilot program. **Motion Passed.**
- Berhl Robertson moved and Joey Light seconded the motion to continue Copy Editing as a pilot program. **Motion passed.**
- The pilot program for home field advantage was discussed later in the meeting.
- James Brewer moved and Alfred Ray seconded the motion to continue the pilot program allowing 5A and 6A ISD's, who choose, to host three-day tryouts for 6th graders. **Motion passed.**

H. New Business

Standing Committee Reports

1. Standing Committee Reports

(a). Chair Pineda recognized Greg Enis, Acting-Chair of the Academic Committee and Dr. David Stevens for presentation of the proposals. Superintendent Enis thanked the members of the Academic Committee: Johnny Pineda, Raymondville; Jeff Adams, Farmersville; Thomas Randle, Lamar Consolidated and Shane Fields, Albany for their work for the students of Texas. The Academic Committee met and acted on the following proposals:

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS
Referred the Following Proposals to the Standing Committee on Policy

- a. An amendment to add Congress as a sanctioned contest for high school.
- b. An amendment to add the Young Filmmakers Festival as a sanctioned contest for high school.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS
Authorized the Staff to Monitor The Following Proposals

- a. A proposal that a school district with split grade levels at middle schools (6-7 graders at one campus, 8th graders at another campus) combine the districts 6-8 graders for middle school one-act play.
- b. A proposal that a school district with split grade levels at middle schools (6-7 graders at one campus, 8th graders at another campus) combine 7th and 8th graders for one-act play.
- c. A proposal to hold state one-act play and academic contests the last couple of days of the week before the football state championships or the first couple of days the week that the football championships are played.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS
Authorized the Staff to Study The Following Proposals

- a. A proposal for One-Act Play that each school shall be allowed a maximum of four directors.
- b. A proposal that UIL One-Act Plays should be prohibited from using inappropriate language in performances.
- c. A proposal that UIL One-Act Plays shall follow all of the provisions found in the local Student Code of Conduct and Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.
- d. A proposal that all UIL One-Act Plays shall be appropriate for all school aged children.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS
Rejected or Took No Action on the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to hold district meets at a non-competing school facility.
- b. A proposal that a UIL One-Act Play judge may not judge a contest where the judge is a current or former employee of a competing school.
- c. A proposal to award bronze medals at the state academic meet for team events in Math, Number Sense, Calculator Applications, Science, Computer Science, Social Studies, Literary Criticism and Current Issues & Events.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUSIC

(b). Chair Pineda stated the Standing Committee on Music did not meet but will be meeting on Wednesday, September 7th at the UIL building, 1701 Manor Road.

(c). Chair Pineda recognized Dr. Greg Poole, Chair of the Standing Committee on Athletics and Dr. Susan Elza for presentation of the proposals. Dr. Poole introduced the Standing Committee on Athletic members: Alfred Ray, Duncanville; Jim Waller, Idalou; Curtis Rhodes, Needville; James Brewer, Longview; Mary Huckabay, Hull-Daisetta; Trey Lawrence, Shiner and Robin Ryan, Grapevine-Colleyville. The Standing Committee on Athletics met and acted on the following proposals:

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS

1. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and Alfred Ray seconded the motion to amend the language of Section 1206 (b)(3) of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules*. The recommendation for cross country contest dates, which have been scheduled on a Friday or a Saturday but are now being held on Mondays, would allow for travel and course inspection on a Sunday, prior to a contest.

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Amendment

The regional cross country contest date in previous years has been scheduled on a Friday or a Saturday. The allowance for course inspection prior to a contest has been allowed to occur on a Friday after 2:30pm prior to a Saturday contest.

The 2015 regional contest date has moved to a Monday for all regions and all conferences. The golf and tennis contests have policy language for schools regarding the Sunday allowances for practice in this situation. The change to the tennis policy language is identified to reflect the same definition and language as the proposed cross country description.

Section 1206 (b) (3) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1206 (b)(3): SUNDAY PROHIBITION

(B) *Tennis*. If the regional and/or state tennis meets are scheduled on a Monday, and if participants arrive at the site on the preceding Sunday because of travel distance, it will not be ~~construed as~~ a violation of this rule if school district personnel accompany or transport participants to the course site for the purpose of practicing on their own, if permitted by the regional or state director.

(C) *CROSS COUNTRY*. IF THE REGIONAL AND/OR STATE CROSS COUNTRY MEETS ARE SCHEDULED ON A MONDAY, AND IF PARTICIPANTS ARRIVE AT THE SITE ON THE PRECEDING SUNDAY BECAUSE OF TRAVEL DISTANCE, IT WILL NOT BE A VIOLATION OF THIS RULE IF SCHOOL DISTRICT PERSONNEL ACCOMPANY OR TRANSPORT PARTICIPANTS TO THE COURSE SITE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRACTICING ON THEIR OWN, IF PERMITTED BY THE REGIONAL OR STATE DIRECTOR.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

No additional fiscal impact to schools from previously expected regional travel expense

Motion passed.

2. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and Bobby Jaklich seconded the motion to amend the language of Section 1330 (7)(A) of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules*. The recommendation alters the volleyball language dates for practice, scrimmages and matches.

Section 1330 (7) (A) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

(7) Dates for Practice, Scrimmages and Matches.

(A) ~~Dates. Schools shall not practice until the Friday prior to the first Monday in August. Schools shall not scrimmage until the first Monday in August.~~ **SCHOOLS SHALL NOT PRACTICE UNTIL THE FIRST WEEK IN AUGUST AS DETERMINED BY THE UIL CALENDAR. SCHOOLS SHALL NOT SCRIMMAGE UNTIL THE FIRST DATE ALLOWED ON THE UIL CALENDAR.** Teams and schools may participate in an unlimited number of scrimmages prior to the first day of school. After the first match, scrimmages are not permitted. ~~Schools shall not participate in a match until the Thursday following the first Monday in August.~~ **SCHOOLS SHALL NOT PARTICIPATE IN A MATCH UNTIL THE FIRST DATE ALLOWED ON THE UIL CALENDAR.**

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

No additional fiscal impact to schools from previously expected regional travel expenses.

Motion Passed

3. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and Trey Lawrence seconded the motion to allow for a pilot program for 1A baseball and softball. This pilot program would create a separate state championship bracket for Conference 1A baseball and softball.

This amendment would add to the baseball and softball state championships, and would follow the format used for the current 1A volleyball pilot program. All schools in conference 1A would be grouped into districts with 2A schools but will advance toward a state championship in a separate playoff bracket.

This pilot program would be created and be effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

No additional fiscal impact to schools from previously expected regional travel expenses.

Motion passed.

4. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and Shane Fields seconded the motion to set the number of softball and baseball teams advancing to the playoffs at two (2) teams per district in specific circumstances. In softball and baseball where two complete conferences are combined for play during the regular season, but then those conferences are split back into separate conferences for the post season, this rule would set the number of teams advancing to the playoffs from each district for the smaller conference at two (2).

The Coaches Manuals would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

In some activities conferences are combined for regular season participation because of the reduced number of participating schools and travel concerns. However, for competitive balance purposes, those conferences prefer to be separated in the post season so schools are not participating for championships against schools that are much larger than they are. Due to the low number of participating schools with smaller enrollments in those activities where this occurs, advancing more than two (2) teams to the playoffs leads to brackets with too many empty slots, too many byes in playoff rounds and teams advancing deep into the playoffs without actually having to play any post season games.

C. Proposed Recommendation

The Coaches Manuals of applicable activities would be amended as noted below if approved by the Legislative Council and the Commissioner of Education:

-Teams Advancing to the Playoffs

Conference 1A: the top two teams, in softball and baseball, from each district advance to the playoffs*.

Conference 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A: the top four teams from each district advance to the playoffs.

*Applies only when 1A and 2A are combined in softball and baseball participation in the regular season, but separated for post season / playoff purposes.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

If additional teams advance to the playoffs, there could be expenses associated with that participation, however, these games could also generate revenue to offset those expenses.

Motion passed.

5. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and Shannon Holmes seconded the motion to amend Section 1208 of the Constitution and Contest Rules to allow schools in conference 3A to participate in 4A soccer.

Section 1208 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1208: ATHLETIC REGULATIONS

Schools shall abide by rules in the Constitution, by rules in the Contest Rules, by rules in the "Official Notices" column of the *Leaguer*, by regulations issued from the League office in the coaches and administrators' sports manuals, and other official notices from the League office. Where any term or section of the Contest Rules and/or the coaches and administrators' sports manuals is found to be inconsistent with the Constitution, the Constitution shall prevail and apply, and the remaining terms and sections of the Contest Rules and/or the coaches and administrators' sports manuals shall continue in effect.

(a) **ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS.** A school shall not participate in a sports activity unless its varsity acceptance for that sport, signed by the superintendent or designated administrator, is on file in the League office by January 15 of the preceding school year (September 1 for football). If a school wants to register for a sport after the filing deadline, it may do so if approved by a majority of the district executive committee.

- (1) A school, which does not participate in football the first year of a new alignment, may not participate the second year except by unanimous consent of the district executive committee.
- (2) Only schools in Conferences 4A, 5A and 6A are eligible to participate in UIL soccer. EXCEPTION, 3A SCHOOLS WHO SIGN UP AS NOTED ABOVE FOR PARTICIPATION IN SOCCER WILL BE PLACED IN A 4A DISTRICT FOR COMPETITION.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

There should be no fiscal impact to member schools unless they choose to participate in soccer and have not previously done so.

Motion passed.

6. The Legislative Council recommended no action, at his time, on the following proposal. They stated since the proposal wasn't posted 30 days out, it will be considered at the upcoming October council meeting.

This amendment would change verbiage for classification 5A and 6A football home field advantage pilot program. The current verbiage does not account for a scenario in which opposing teams are tied in their district finish. The recommendation is that the verbiage be adjusted to the suggested to account for tie scenarios in district

finish.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

First round play off determination has become a key distractor for coaches across the state and play-off sites have become difficult to secure in the first round. In addition, we currently do not have a system that rewards the district champion or the highest district finish. The suggested verbiage would clarify confusion in the event of a tie.

C. Proposed Recommendation

Current:

For the first round of the playoffs only, the higher seed will determine whether the game is played on their actual home field or mutually agree to play the game at a neutral site.

Proposed:

For the first round of playoffs only, the higher district finish will determine whether the game is played on their actual home field or mutually agree to play the game at a neutral site. If the opponents have the same district finish, resulting in a tie, the two teams will flip a coin or agree on a neutral site.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

There should be no fiscal impact to member schools unless they choose to participate in soccer and have not previously done so.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

Dr. Ray asked Dr. Breithaupt when this new rule would go into effect. Dr. Breithaupt responded the earliest date would be the fall of 2017.

**The Standing Committee on Athletics
Passed the Following Proposals**

- a. Sunday participation in Cross Country.
- b. Alter volleyball dates for practice, scrimmages and matches.
- c. Amendment to allow 1A separate softball and baseball state championship
- d. Amendment to allow two teams in the playoffs for 1A softball, baseball and volleyball playoffs.
- e. Allow 3A schools to participate in 4A soccer.
- f. Change language for 6A football home field advantage pilot program

**The Standing Committee on Athletics
Denied or Took No Action on the Following Proposals**

- a. Adding an area meet for golf
- b. Punishment for players who are ejected
- c. 35 second shot clock in girls and boys basketball
- d. Allow volleyball to participate on Wednesday
- e. Allow softball coaches to coach students in their attendance zone
- f. Mandatory weigh pole vaulters and pole at the beginning of district
- g. Regulations on basketball tryouts
- h. Allow parents to film games

**The Standing Committee on Athletics
Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposals with a Survey**

- a. Guidelines in how districts determine if they have an area meet.
- b. Area track meet options
- c. Give back games and tournaments

**The Standing Committee on Athletics
Referred These Items To The Medical Advisory Committee**

- a. Pitching limitations.

**The Standing Committee on Athletics
Authorized the Staff to Study/Monitor The Following Proposals With A Survey**

- a. Allow for a double elimination tournament for 5A and 6A baseball in the first and second round of the playoffs.
- b. Allow for a double elimination format for the 6A baseball state tournament.
- c. Allow for a Unified team participation at the state track and field meet.
- d. Pitching limitations
- e. Eliminate the third round match in the area meet for team tennis.
- f. Allow the top representatives of each district in football the right to host a first round playoff game in all conferences.
- g. One-game exception to the season limit for football teams in the first round of playoffs.
- h. Three additional events for the adaptive track and field meet.

**The Standing Committee on Athletics
Referred the Following to the Football Rules Committee**

- a. Eliminate the chop block.

**The Standing Committee on Athletics
Referred the Following to the Sports Officials Committee**

- a. Official's travel and mileage reimbursement in Section 1204.
- b. Require umpires to report directly to the UIL instead of chapter secretaries.

**The Standing Committee on Athletics
Tabled, Rejected or Took No Action on the Following Proposals**

- c. Impose a penalty for football teams that enter the field while the band is still playing
- d. Ban streamers, glitter, etc. from football playoff games
- e. Allow cameras with long lenses in to stadium events
- f. Ban train whistles and horns at all games
- g. Limit off season participation in activities
- h. Allow coaches to appeal officials calls and overturn games
- i. Changes the one coach rule in golf
- j. Mandate golf monitors
- k. Increase soccer game limits for districts with more than 9 teams
- l. Mandate Area track meets instead of leaving up to districts
- m. Allow 6th grade participation in cross country and track and field
- n. Scheduling games during tests
- o. Nominating students for postseason awards such as all-district

Dr. Poole thanked Dr. Susan Elza and her leadership.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY

d. Chair Pineda recognized Dr. Shannon Holmes, Chair of the Standing Committee on Policy. Dr. Holmes began by thanking his fellow committee members: Mark Henry, Alton Frailey, Jo Ann Bludau, Berhl Robertson, Todd Morrison and Cody Moree. The Standing Committee on Policy met and acted on the following proposals:

1. The Standing Committee on Policy moved and Berhl Robertson seconded the motion to amend the language of Section 1204 of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules*, clarify what it means to be a “registered UIL official.”

Section 1204 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1204: SPORTS OFFICIALS

(c) **REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF SPORTS OFFICIALS.** In order to officiate a UIL varsity contest a sports official must:

- (1) be registered WITH THE UIL IN THE SPORT BEING OFFICIATED, and annually provide the UIL with directory information and submit to a criminal background check;
- (2) be a member in good standing of, and assigned to the contest IN A SPORT FOR WHICH THE OFFICIAL IS REGISTERED by, ~~a~~ THE local chapter or association of sports officials REGISTERED WITH AND recognized by the UIL for that purpose;
- (3) complete either an initial or a continuing education program regarding UIL rules as prescribed and made available by UIL (See (Q) (1) below); and
- (4) agree to abide by UIL rules, including fee schedules and travel reimbursement guidelines for payment by UIL member schools to sports officials.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This recommendation would not have a fiscal impact on member schools.

Motion Passed.

2. The Standing Committee on Policy moved and Kevin Worthy seconded the motion to amend the language of Section 441 of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules*, amending the Amateur Athletic Status.

Section 441 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

The amateur rule starts the first class day of a student’s 9th grade year, and is in continuous effect during the school year and summer months until all athletic competition is completed in the 12th grade. The student at all times (whether in school or outside school) shall abide by the letter and intent of amateurism AS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION. Schools are charged with the responsibility of informing students of all applicable subsections of this rule and enforcing this rule. Administrators and coaches must insure that athletes receive only services specifically permitted by written rule. Any breach of the rule undermines the educational goals of interscholastic athletics.

(a) **NOT AN AMATEUR.** For purposes of competing in an athletic contest, a student in grades 9-12 is not an amateur if that individual, within the preceding 12 months:

- (1) **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED OTHERWISE IN THIS SECTION,** received money or other valuable consideration for ~~teaching or~~ participating in a League sponsored school sport;

- (2) received valuable consideration for allowing his or her name to be used in promoting a product, plan or service related to a League SPORT OR contest; or
- (3) accepted money or other valuable consideration from school booster club funds for any non-school purpose.
- (4) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "PARTICIPATING" MEANS TAKING PART OR PLAYING ANY ROLE IN THE COVERED SPORT OR OTHERWISE BEING INVOLVED IN ANY PRACTICE, GAME OR CONTEST OF THE COVERED SPORT, AS A COACH, PLAYER, MANAGER, ASSISTANT, OR ANY OTHER INVOLVEMENT BESIDES THAT OF A SPECTATOR. A GAME OR ACTIVITY INVOLVING CHANCE NOT SPONSORED BY THE LEAGUE BUT THAT MAY ALSO INVOLVE A STUDENT USING SOME ATHLETIC SKILL OR ABILITY DOES NOT CONSTITUTE "PARTICIPATING" UNDER THIS SECTION. SUCH A GAME OR ACTIVITY WOULD BE A "HALF-COURT SHOT" CONTEST AS PART OF A MARKETING PROGRAM OR THROWING BALLS AT A TARGET FOR A PRIZE. "TEACHING" AND "COACHING" ARE SYNONYMOUS TERMS.
- (5) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION A "LEAGUE SPONSORED SCHOOL SPORT" IS ANY SPORT THAT IS SPONSORED BY THE LEAGUE AS EITHER A REGULAR APPROVED UIL ACTIVITY OR PILOT PROGRAM AND THAT IS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE SCHOOL THE STUDENT ATTENDS. FOR EXAMPLE, BASEBALL IS A LEAGUE SPONSORED SPORT AND IS COVERED BY THIS RULE, REGARDLESS OF THE LEVEL OF COMPETITION INVOLVED OR ORGANIZATION THAT IS ADMINISTERING THE GAME IN WHICH THE SPORT IS PLAYED.

(b) EXCEPTIONS:

- (1) Students may accept reasonable fees that do not exceed LOCAL prevailing rates for teaching or coaching activities ~~provided they confine the work to teaching or coaching skills.~~
- (2) Students may accept reasonable fees that do not exceed LOCAL prevailing rates for officiating athletic contests.
- (3) Seniors may sign a letter of intent or scholarship agreement, which contains the conditions of a scholarship with a postsecondary institution.
- (4) For purposes of competing in an athletic contest, the participant school, school district or a student's parent(s) may provide medical examination and services, athletic insurance, transportation and other travel expenses incurred in competing away from home, or supplies and services during and in connection with a game or practice period. Jerseys or game shirts may be worn on game day as well as during practice or competition, with school district approval.
- (5) Participant schools and member school districts may permit student athletes to attend contests by permit admission through a pass gate.
- (6) A student-athlete in grades 9-12 may accept funds that are administered by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) or other national governing body.
- (7) Student athletes may accept small "goodie bags" consisting of cookies, candy and symbolic gifts from their classmates, if allowed by local school policy.
- (8) Student athletes may accept travel expenses and attend free banquets in connection with an awards ceremony to accept a national and/or statewide award, after completing their eligibility in that sport.
- (9) Meals. The local school district determines when, how and from whom student athletes can receive meals and snacks.

(10) This rule is sport-specific. For example, if a student violates the rule in one sport, such as accepting a prize for winning a hole-in-one contest in golf, that student would be ineligible only for golf.

(c) STATUS REGAINED. If a student did not realize that accepting the valuable consideration was a violation of the amateur rule and returns the valuable consideration within 30 days after being informed of the violation, that student may regain athletic eligibility as of the date the valuable consideration is returned. If a student fails to return it within 30 days, that student remains ineligible for one year from when he or she accepted it. During the period of time a student is in possession of valuable consideration, he or she is ineligible for varsity athletic competition in the sport in which the violation occurred. Any games or contests in which the student participated during that time would be forfeited as the minimum penalty.

(d) TEAM VIOLATION. If the team violates this Section, the penalty shall be assessed against the team and not against each individual.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This recommendation would not have a fiscal impact on member schools.

Motion Passed.

3. The Standing Committee on Policy moved and Todd Morrison seconded the motion to create a pilot program for the 2016-2017 school year for an injury data collection program.

This pilot program will be created and become effective immediately, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

The results of the review of UIL conducted by the Texas Sunset Commission includes:

“As a management action, direct UIL to immediately take all proactive steps to commence establishing a collaborative relationship with UT Southwestern Medical Center’s Texas Institute for Brain Injury and Repair, a state-funded initiative to promote innovative research and education, with the goals of accelerating translation into better diagnosis and revolutionizing care for millions of people who suffer brain injuries each year. This includes collaboration on the part of UIL’s Medical Advisory Committee and UIL’s executive director, deputy executive director, and director of athletics” (Representative Four Price, Vice Chair – Sunset Advisory Commission).

UIL is working collaboratively with representatives from UT Southwestern, along with the UIL Medical Advisory Committee, to develop a platform for reporting suspected concussions that occur during participation in UIL activities. The goal of this program is for UT Southwestern to collect and hold this data, ultimately reporting aggregated data back to the MAC and working to identify best practices in the area of brain injuries.

Similarly, the University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School is working with UIL staff to develop an injury data collection platform for major sports injuries. By their definition, they would collect data related to injuries that require admission to a hospital at the time of injury.

The pilot will include a select number of schools and will be voluntary in nature for the 2016-2017 school year. The pilot will only be conducted if the criteria identified collaboratively with the UIL Medical Advisory Committee are met.

C. Proposed Amendment

This proposal does not amend the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. This proposal, if approved, grants UIL staff, in collaboration with the UIL Medical Advisory Committee, the authority to conduct this injury data collection pilot program for the 2016-2017 school year.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

The fiscal impact for this proposal is difficult to predict. Schools are not required to enter into this program. For those who are selected and choose to participate, the costs will be associated with the time and effort of school personnel for entering the data.

Motion Passed.

4. The Standing Committee on Policy moved and JoAnn Bludau seconded the motion to add Congress as a sanctioned contest for high school.

Section 1008 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

SECTION 1008: CONGRESS:

- (a) **PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST.** THE PURPOSE OF THIS CONTEST IS TO ENCOURAGE THE STUDENT TO UNDERSTAND REAL-WORLD SOCIAL AND POLITICAL POLICIES DEBATED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A LEGISLATIVE BODY MODELED AFTER THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, WITH FORMAL DISCOURSE GUIDED BY PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE.
- (b) **NATURE OF THE CONTEST.** CONTESTANTS WILL FORMULATE LEGISLATIVE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS, DEBATE THEM, AND ADOPT OR REJECT THEM BY CASTING VOTES. SPEAKING IN LEGISLATIVE CONGRESS IS CONDUCTED WITHIN A STRUCTURED ENVIRONMENT OF SPECIFIC PROCEDURAL RULES.
- (c) **STRUCTURE.** CONGRESS WILL BE ORGANIZED INTO REGIONS ACCORDING TO THE TWENTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTERS (ESC) DESIGNATED BY THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY. ALL SCHOOLS, REGARDLESS OF UIL CONFERENCE, WILL COMPETE WITH EACH OTHER WITHIN THEIR SCHOOL'S REGION ESC UNLESS CONFERENCE ENTRY NUMBERS WARRANT SEPARATE CHAMBERS. REGARDLESS, EACH CONFERENCE COMPETING IN THE CONGRESSIONAL REGION WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO ADVANCE A MINIMUM OF THREE REPRESENTATIVES TO THE STATE CONGRESSIONAL COMPETITION.
- (d) **CONGRESSIONAL REGION CONTEST DIRECTORSHIP.** A DIRECTORSHIP OF FIVE FOR EACH CONGRESSIONAL REGION CONTEST WITHIN THEIR EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER REGION WILL CONDUCT THE REGION CONTEST. A CONGRESSIONAL REGION CLERK APPOINTED BY THE UIL STATE OFFICE WILL CHAIR THE DIRECTORSHIP. THE CONGRESSIONAL REGION CLERK SHALL BE THE FINAL AUTHORITY UNTIL THE CONGRESSIONAL REGION COMPETITION IS COMPLETED.
- (e) **ENTRIES:**
 - (1) **REPRESENTATION.** EACH SCHOOL DESIRING TO PARTICIPATE IN UIL CONGRESS SHOULD FILE AN INTENT TO PARTICIPATE FORM ON THE UIL WEBSITE NO LATER THAN DATE POSTED ON UIL CONGRESS WEBPAGE FOR THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR. FAILURE TO SUBMIT INTENT SHALL REQUIRE REGIONAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL IN ORDER FOR SCHOOL TO PARTICIPATE. EACH SCHOOL IN ALL CONFERENCES MAY ENTER THREE COMPETITORS IN THE CONGRESSIONAL REGION COMPETITION. TWO ALTERNATES MAY BE REGISTERED. ENTRIES SHALL BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST TEN CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE CONGRESSIONAL REGION COMPETITION VIA THE UIL WEBSITE. IN THE EVENT TEN OR LESS TOTAL CONTESTANTS PER CONFERENCE ARE COMPETING IN A CONGRESSIONAL REGION, BOTH ALTERNATES FROM EACH SCHOOL WITH A FULL ENTRY IN THAT CONFERENCE MAY BE SEATED. ONLY ONE ALTERNATE MAY BE SEATED IF THERE ARE 11-15 ENTRIES WITHIN THE CONFERENCE.
 - (2) **ENTRIES SUBMITTED AFTER THE 10-DAY DEADLINE,** REQUIRE MAJORITY CONSENT OF THE REGIONAL CONGRESS COMMITTEE.
 - (3) **ELIGIBILITY.** EACH CONTESTANT SHALL BE ELIGIBLE UNDER SUBCHAPTER M OF THE *UIL CONSTITUTION & CONTEST RULES*. ONLY STUDENTS IN GRADES 9 -12 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS CONTEST. SPEECH PLAN, SECTION 1000 OF THE *UIL CONSTITUTION & CONTEST RULES*, REGARDING SPECIFIC SPEECH ELIGIBILITY SHALL NOT APPLY TO THIS CONTEST. ENTERING THE CONGRESS COMPETITION DOES NOT IMPACT A STUDENT'S ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER ANY OTHER UIL HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC EVENT. (I.E., CX DEBATE, LD DEBATE)

- (4) SUBSTITUTIONS. AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR ANY NAME ON THE OFFICIAL REGION ENTRY FORM BY PROVIDING THE CONTEST DIRECTOR WITH A LETTER OR OFFICIAL SUBSTITUTION FORM SIGNED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OR DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATOR CERTIFYING THE STUDENT'S ELIGIBILITY. THE LETTER SHALL BE PRESENTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR BEFORE THE CONTEST BEGINS.
 - (5) LIMIT ON SUBSTITUTIONS. AFTER A GIVEN COMPETITION HAS BEGUN, NO SUBSTITUTIONS SHALL BE ALLOWED.
- (f) PLANNING THE REGIONAL CONTEST. IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE PARTICIPATION BY ALL SCHOOLS AND PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO ALL STUDENTS TO ENTER REGARDLESS OF THE EXISTING ACADEMIC CONFLICT PATTERN, THE CONGRESSIONAL COMPETITION WILL BE HELD DURING THE FALL/WINTER. THE CONGRESSIONAL REGIONAL DIRECTORSHIP, WITH INPUT FROM ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS, SHALL SCHEDULE CONGRESSIONAL REGION COMPETITION ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL UIL CALENDAR. LOCATION AND ENTRY FEES WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE DIRECTORSHIP.
- (1) LEGISLATION. PARTICIPATING REGIONAL SCHOOLS ARE ENCOURAGED TO AUTHOR AND SUBMIT BILLS, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, AND/OR RESOLUTIONS FOR DEBATE AND ARE ENCOURAGED TO AUTHOR LEGISLATION THAT HAS AN IMPACT ON THE STATE OF TEXAS. ALL LEGISLATION SUBMITTED SHALL MEET UIL FORMATTING AND SHALL BE THE ORIGINAL PRODUCT OF THE SCHOOL. PLAGIARISM INCLUDES: SUBMITTING LEGISLATION THAT WAS NOT AUTHORED BY THE STUDENT OR SCHOOL. DIRECT QUOTATION FROM A PUBLISHED SOURCE SHALL NOT BE ALLOWED IN SUBMITTED LEGISLATION. PLAGIARISM IS UNACCEPTABLE AND SHALL RESULT IN THE LEGISLATION BEING INELIGIBLE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA, AND THE SCHOOL SHALL LOSE AUTHORSHIP SPEECHES FOR ANY ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION THEY HAVE IN THE DOCKET. IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE COACH TO AFFIRM THAT THE LEGISLATION SUBMITTED IS ORIGINAL. LEGISLATION MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE REGIONAL CLERK BY THE DATE POSTED ON THE UIL CONGRESS WEBPAGE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR REVIEW BY THE CLERK AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL DETERMINE THE LEGISLATION.
 - (2) SCORING CHAMBERS. A PARLIAMENTARIAN AND A MINIMUM OF TWO SCORERS SHALL SCORE EACH CHAMBER, UNLESS A WAIVER IS GRANTED. IN REGIONS WITH FEWER THAN 24 COMPETITORS, THERE WILL BE TWO SESSIONS WITH A SINGLE CHAMBER. THE SCORERS SHALL RANK STUDENTS AT THE END OF EACH SESSION. THE PARLIAMENTARIAN SHALL RANK STUDENTS ONLY AT THE END OF THE SECOND SESSION, RANKING ALL CONTESTANTS FROM 1ST THROUGH THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN THE CHAMBER. IN REGIONS WITH MORE THAN 24 COMPETITORS, THERE WILL BE ONE PRELIMINARY SESSION WITH MULTIPLE CHAMBERS AND ONE FINAL SESSION.
 - (3) ADVANCEMENT. FROM THE FINAL REGIONAL CHAMBER, EACH CONGRESSIONAL REGION SHALL ADVANCE THE TOP THREE CANDIDATES FROM EACH CONFERENCE TO STATE. CONGRESSIONAL REGIONS WITH MORE THAN 40 ENTRIES WITHIN A CONFERENCE WILL ADVANCE THE TOP CANDIDATES FROM EACH CONFERENCE BASED ON A RATIO OF ONE STUDENT ADVANCING FOR EVERY 10 ENTRIES IN A GIVEN CONFERENCE (40 – 49 ENTRIES = 4 STUDENTS ADVANCING TO STATE; 50 – 59 ENTRIES = 5 STUDENTS ADVANCING TO STATE). THE RATIO APPLIES TO ALL STUDENTS ENTERED PER CONFERENCE AT THE CONGRESSIONAL REGIONAL TOURNAMENT. CONFERENCE ENTRIES SHALL NOT BE COMBINED FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING THE RATIO QUALIFYING FOR STATE.
 - (4) ALTERNATES. A FIRST AND SECOND ALTERNATE TO STATE SHOULD BE NAMED FROM EACH CONFERENCE IN EACH CONGRESSIONAL REGION, IF POSSIBLE.
- (g) THE STATE MEET. IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE, EACH CONGRESSIONAL REGION AND EACH SCHOOL QUALIFYING A CONTESTANT TO THE CONGRESSIONAL STATE MEET SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:
- (1) LEGISLATION. AT THE COMPLETION OF CONGRESSIONAL REGION COMPETITION, THOSE STUDENTS FOR EACH CONFERENCE ADVANCING TO STATE COMPETITION SHALL SELECT ONE RESOLUTION OR ONE BILL TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE STATE CLERK TO BE CONSIDERED AS LEGISLATION FOR THE STATE MEET.

- (2) STATE PARLIAMENTARIAN/CLERKS/SCORERS. EACH CONGRESSIONAL REGION (ESC) ADVANCING COMPETITORS TO STATE SHALL PROVIDE ONE QUALIFIED PARLIAMENTARIAN FOR THE DURATION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL STATE COMPETITION. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF STATE PARLIAMENTARIAN BY THE REGIONAL CLERK IS THE DEADLINE POSTED ON THE UIL CONGRESS WEBSITE. EACH SCHOOL QUALIFYING A LEGISLATOR SHALL PROVIDE ONE INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIED TO SERVE AS A SCORER/CLERK FOR THE DURATION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL STATE COMPETITION. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF STATE SCORER/CLERK BY EACH QUALIFYING SCHOOL IS THE DEADLINE ON THE UIL CONGRESS WEBSITE.
- (h) ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN CHAMBER: THE USE OF LAPTOP AND TABLET COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC RETRIEVAL DEVICES BY COMPETITORS IN UIL CONGRESS IS ALLOWED SO LONG AS WIRED OR WIRELESS CONNECTIONS ARE DISABLED AND REMAIN DISABLED THROUGHOUT THE CONTEST. RULES ARE SYNONYMOUS WITH THOSE IN UIL EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING. CELL PHONES AND SMART PHONES ARE PROHIBITED IN THE CHAMBER. TRADITIONAL TIMING DEVICES ARE PERMITTED.
- (i) VISUAL AIDS: IF ANY MEMBER USES VISUAL AIDS, THE VISUAL AIDS SHALL BE LEFT BEFORE THE CHAMBER AND SHALL BE AVAILABLE FOR USE BY ALL MEMBERS.
- (j) OPEN CHAMBER: UIL CONGRESS SHALL BE AN OPEN CHAMBER, BUT CONGRESS MEMBERS SHALL REQUEST AND MUST RECEIVE PERMISSION FROM THE PRESIDING OFFICER TO LEAVE THE CHAMBER. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO LIMIT TIME ABSENT TO A STRICT MINIMUM. (I.E. 5 MINUTE BREAK)
- (k) CONGRESS SHALL BE PUBLIC. CONGRESS IS PUBLIC DISCOURSE. THEREFORE, ALL CONGRESSIONAL CHAMBERS SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. NO COACHING OR CHEERING SHALL BE PERMITTED DURING THE CONTEST.
- (l) RECORDING: SCHOOLS AND/OR INDIVIDUALS ARE PROHIBITED FROM RECORDING (AUDIO AND/OR VIDEO) REGION OR STATE CONGRESS SESSIONS. THE UIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO RECORD FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.

A. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Amendment to Member Schools

This contest can be administered with minimal cost involved: limited facilities are required to conduct the assemblies, only 2 judges (scorers) plus a parliamentarian are required for each session.

Motion Passed.

5. The Standing Committee on Policy moved and Russell Marshall seconded the motion to add Film as a sanctioned contest for high school.

Section 1036 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be created as follows effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

SECTION 1036: FILM

- (a) PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST. THE PURPOSE OF THE UIL YOUNG FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL IS TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE ART OF CINEMATIC STORYTELLING.
- (b) NATURE OF THE CONTEST. THE FILMS SHALL FOCUS ON STORYTELLING USING THE TECHNIQUES AND TOOLS FOUND IN THE CINEMATIC ARTS.
- (c) PARTICIPANTS. THIS CONTEST IS OPEN TO STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12 ELIGIBLE UNDER SUBCHAPTER M.
- (d) FACULTY DIRECTOR
 - (1) DIRECTORS IN THE UIL STATE STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL SHALL BE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THE PLAYS REPRESENT.
 - (2) ADULT INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROJECT IS LIMITED TO ON-SCREEN TALENT AND/OR BEHIND THE SCENES IN A FACULTY ADVISOR CAPACITY.
- (e) ELIGIBLE MATERIAL. ONLY THOSE FILMS PRODUCED DURING THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR OR SPRING AND SUMMER MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE COMPETITION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR SUBMISSION INTO THE FESTIVAL.

- (1) SUBMITTED FILMS MUST BE ORIGINAL WORKS AND ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE CLEARANCES FOR MUSIC OR OTHER COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL USED IN THE PROJECT. FILMS CONTAINING COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL USED WITHOUT PERMISSION WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR SCREENING.
- (2) THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PRODUCING SCHOOL SHALL ASSURE THAT THE PRODUCTION DOES NOT OFFEND THE MORAL STANDARDS OF THE COMMUNITY. WHEN THE FINAL EDITED PRODUCT IS EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PRODUCING SCHOOL, THE PRODUCTION IS ELIGIBLE FOR PRESENTATION AT ANY CONTEST SITE. A "COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE FORM" SIGNED BY THE SCHOOL'S PRINCIPAL SERVES TO CERTIFY THAT THE PRODUCTION HAS BEEN CAREFULLY EXAMINED AND APPROVED FOR PRESENTATION.
- (f) ENTRY PROCEDURES. THE ENTRY PROCEDURES, DEADLINES AND CATEGORIES SHALL BE POSTED ON THE UIL WEBSITE.
- (g) EVALUATION. FILMS SUBMITTED TO THE FESTIVAL SHALL BE PREVIEWED AND SCORED BY ADJUDICATORS. THE TOP ENTRIES IN EACH CATEGORY WILL BE SCREENED AND AWARDED AT THE STATE FESTIVAL.

B. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Amendment to Member Schools

Films and the software and hardware to produce them are found in most laptops. High definition films can be shot with anything from phones to flip cameras. Sound and film editing software is easily downloaded as shareware and animation apps can be as inexpensive as 99 cents. Travel is limited to the state festival.

Motion Passed.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY

Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposals with a Survey.

- a. Proposals to create split divisions in 5A and 6A.
- b. A proposal to allow 2A schools to participate in soccer.
- c. A proposal to add water polo as a UIL sanctioned sport for 5A and 6A.
- d. A proposal to add lacrosse as a UIL sanctioned sport for 5A and 6A.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY

Authorized the Staff to Study/Monitor the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to give each student who places a medal.
- b. A proposal to award all cross country state qualifiers with a medal or plaques/trophies.
- c. A proposal to create a split conference format for baseball.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY

Referred the Following Proposals to the Sports Officials Committee.

- a. A proposal to create more requirements for officials.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY

Tabled, Rejected or Took No Action on the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to create a 1A conference in softball and baseball.
- b. A proposal to allow home school students to participate in public school sports.

- c. A proposal to create a 7A conference.
- d. A proposal to add gymnastics as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- e. A proposal to allow live games to be telecast.
- f. A proposal to create a policy that provided restrictions on the length of time a student can be away from school while participating in a UIL activity.
- g. A proposal to add powerlifting as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- h. A proposal to change UIL internal procedures to no longer identify a campus by school name and city.
- i. A proposal to allow transgender athletes to play the sport they identify with.
- j. A proposal to have medals at the regional meet for the wheelchair division.
- k. A proposal to require all member schools to report all concussions sustained during all athletic events and practices.
- l. A proposal to remove the transfer eligibility rule.
- m. A proposal to revise Subchapter J, Section 360.
- n. A proposal to allow students enrolled in a non-participant school to compete at a participant school.
- o. A proposal to reduce the eligibility period

2. Dr. Harrison presented the following 2016-2017 Proposed UIL Membership Fees that were approved by the UIL Standing Committee on Finance in March and was presented to the Legislative Council for approval at the June meeting.

Conference	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
6A	\$1,700.00	\$1,750.00
5A	\$1,600.00	\$1,650.00
4A	\$1,500.00	\$1,550.00
3A	\$1,400.00	\$1,450.00
2A	\$1,300.00	\$1,350.00
1A	\$1,200.00	\$1,250.00
K-8	\$500.00	\$550.00

Dr. Harrison presented the 2016-2017 proposed UIL Budget, which was approved by the UIL Standing Committee on Finance in March and was presented to the Legislative Council for approval at the June meeting.

Dr. Harrison presented the 2016-2017 Proposed UIL Ticket Price, which was approved by the UIL Standing Committee on Finance in March and was presented to the Legislative Council for approval at the June meeting.

Mark Henry moved and Alton Frailey 2nd the motion to approve the 2016-2017 UIL budget, fees and ticket prices. Chair Pineda asked for discussion.

Motion Passed.

Dr. Harrison then turned to Dr. Marshall and Dr. Kent to discuss the 25,000 students who participate in solo and ensemble each year. UIL is currently using an entry and scheduling system that resides on the UT mainframe, this option is going away. The new system that is being looked at is already being used at the area and regional level, people like this system. This will be a five-year licensing fee, the first year will be free, years 2 and 3 there will be a \$25.00 charge, in years 4 and 5 there will be a \$10.00 charge, after the five years. These charges will be per program, per school. Dr. Marshall stated they wanted the committee to be aware of it, as there is some fiscal impact and the need to begin the system this year prior to the old system going away.

Leo Barnes reported on the football incident that was reported last September in the John Jay vs. Marble Falls game. UIL received a follow up letter from the Burnett County Attorney, from the criminal side of the issues. In December, Coach Mack Breed, pleaded guilty before the Burnett County Court of Law. He was sentenced to one year in the Burnett County jail, the sentence was suspended and he was placed on probation for 18 months and fined \$2,000.00, required to pay restitution, and ordered to permanently relinquish his teaching certificate. Two players also received consequences for their actions. An adjudication involving the juvenile is protected but terms and conditions have been imposed upon them although they are confidential but action was taken. The 18 year old, Michael Moreno, pleaded guilty in front of the Burnett County Court of Law, he was placed under deferred adjudication probation for one year, and he admitted his guilt the deferral allows the opportunity to avoid a final

convection. He must apply with all the terms of the deferred adjudication. If he doesn't, that would result in the final convection for the crime he committed against Mr. Watts, the sports official. Mr. Moreno was ordered to pay a \$1,500.00 fee in addition to restitution. There will be no further action by the office of the prosecutor in Burnett County, where the game took place.

I. Announcements

Dr. Breithaupt thanked Johnny Pineda, chair, for orchestrating this event, doing an outstanding job. He thanked each of the committee members and staff for a very successful meeting.

Dr. Breithaupt recognized and thanked Joey Light, Abilene Wylie ISD and Robert Jaklich, Victoria ISD for their service on the Legislative Council and presented them with a memento for their time on the Legislative Council.

Dr. Breithaupt asked Dr. Mark Henry to present the final award. Dr. Henry stated that Alton Frailey is retiring and this very well might be his last official act as superintendent. Dr. Henry stated he and Alton Frailey have been on council for a long time together. Alton is not just a great superintendent; he has done a wonderful job for UIL, a many great things for children. Dr. Henry said this is especially difficult, as he has seen friends come and go off the council in the past 16 years. Loosing Alton will be very difficult. He stated that we are truly going to miss Alton Frailey as a colleague and friend.

J. Executive Session

Chair Pineda announced the Executive Session at 2:48 p.m. and asked everyone but the Legislative Council and UIL Executive staff members to leave the room.

K. Adjournment

The Legislative Council was reconvened at 3:16 and was recessed at 3:17 p.m.