

# D.S.B.N. ELEMENTARY INTERSCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## B. STRUCTURE

### 1. **The D.S.B.N. Elementary Interschool Athletic Association (E.I.A.A.):**

The District School Board of Niagara Elementary Interschool Athletic Association is an organization of coaches, teachers, vice-principals, principals and board personnel. The responsibility of the association is to govern the interschool athletic program in the elementary schools in the D.S.B.N. The N.E.P.A. Athletic Council is composed of one administrator from each of the 4 Areas. Their responsibilities are: to act as a liason between the E.I.A.A. Executive and the Elementary Principals Association; to assist as a governing body of the E.I.A.A. in decision-making; and to annually review the E.I.A.A. Resource Manual.

### 2. **E.I.A.A. Executive:**

- a) The District School Board of Niagara is divided into four Areas. Each Area shall have three sectional chairs
- b) The 14 members of the E.I.A.A. Executive shall be as follows:
  - i) the three Chairs from each of the four Areas;
  - ii) the Elementary Interschool Athletic Association Co-ordinator
  - iii) the Curriculum Consultant for Health and Physical Education.
- c) The Elementary Interschool Athletic Association Co-ordinator shall set the agenda, chair the meetings, ensure minutes are taken, and provide general direction for the E.I.A.A. Executive.
- d) Each Sectional representative is responsible to their respective Area.
- e) A simple voting majority will be used to conduct business. Voting shall consist of one vote per member of the executive.
- f) The Executive shall meet periodically (at least four times) throughout the year. One meeting is designated solely for organizational purposes for the upcoming year.
- g) For each of the Areas where more than three members apply to act as Area Chairs, a draw will be held to select the three representatives. In those Areas where there were more than three applicants, an alternate will be named in case one of the three selected Chairs can not fulfill their executive duties.

### 3. E.I.A.A. Centrally-Organized Sports:

- a) The E.I.A.A. organizes four sports at both the Junior and Intermediate Levels: Cross-Country, Volleyball, Basketball, and Track & Field. The rules of play, age categories, dates of tournaments for these four sports are set by the E.I.A.A. Co-ordinator with the Executive. Any school wishing to participate in the Post-Area events must agree to follow the guidelines.
- b) **An Area or a group of schools are free to play by a different set of rules with the understanding that they must adhere to the centrally-organized set of rules in the Post-Area events.**
- c) The E.I.A.A. encourages Areas to supplement these four sports with activities that best suit the students' needs. This may include sports which already exist around the D.S.B.N, or new activities/programs for students to try.
- d) Included in this manual is a general overview of each of the four centrally-organized sports: Cross-Country, Volleyball, Basketball, and Track & Field. The overview includes scheduling, rules, age categories, coaching responsibilities, convenor responsibilities, and details regarding the Post-Area events.

### 4. Area Structure:

- a) It is expected that each Area have three sectional Chairs. This ensures appropriate representation on the E.I.A.A. Executive.
- b) Area structure is divided into three sections.
- c) Each Area structure shall consist of at least the following:
  - i) three sectional chairs;
  - ii) an administrative representative from the Area;
  - iii) school Athletic Representatives from each school in the Area (*one person may represent the school for both divisions*).
- d) Each Area shall meet at least once per year for organizational purposes for the upcoming year. Each Area is also encouraged to meet early in the school year as a group to introduce new members, and to review decisions made at the June meeting.
- e) Areas are also encouraged to meet in early January to review the first half of the year and to plan for the second half.
- f) If the Area is sub-divided, they should conduct joint meetings where possible.
- g) The Area Chairs shall set the agenda, chair the meetings, ensure minutes are taken and provide general direction for the Area.
- h) The Area is autonomous for all other decisions. However, if schools from the Area wish to participate in Post-Area tournaments/events, they must accept the rules, guidelines, and timelines set by the E.I.A.A. Co-ordinator and the Executive.

## 5. Area Responsibilities:

Each Area makes decisions best suited to their needs. However, the following expectations are made to aid in the system's organizational process:

- a) The Elementary Athletic Co-ordinator assisted by the Area Chairs shall hold an Area athletic meeting in June to organize the following school year. A sample agenda is listed:
  - i) create list of School Athletic Representatives;
  - ii) review list of sports offered in Area;
  - iii) set up a calendar (starting dates, game nights, etc.) for all sports;
  - iv) review major rules/issues sport-by-sport (*leave particulars to be discussed at coaches' meetings*);
  - v) discuss cost issues (awards, officials, transportation);
  - vi) select convenors for each sport;
  - vii) Area Chair elections (if necessary).
- b) Every school in the Area shall be responsible for convening at least one activity for the year per Level (Junior, Intermediate). If a school **does not fulfill** its convening responsibilities, they will be expected to pay for a **minimum** of one day of supply coverage (depending on the extent of the organization necessary) to the school(s) who fulfilled the convenor role. Area Chairs should make an effort to pair up those individuals who have convened a sport with someone who has not. In this manner, responsibility will be shared and more teacher-coaches will be knowledgeable about the organization of events.
- c) Area Chairs will hold an Area athletic meeting in September and January to review decisions made at the June organizational meeting and allow for personnel changes (teacher and principal movement). This meeting can also be an opportunity for Area Chairs to provide schools with new information.

## 6. Areas and Sectional Structure:

Each Area is divided into three sub-sections for easier scheduling.

- a) Areas may combine and/or blend sections as necessary.
- b) Separate divisions are defined for track and field (eight of them).
- c) For the End-Of-Season tournaments, schools participating at the Intermediate Level in volleyball and basketball are divided into four groups depending on the enrolments of Grades 7 & 8 students:
  - i) In volleyball the highest 14 schools will be considered to in group A. The rest of the schools with intermediate students will be divided equally into into 3 other groups ( B, C and D )
  - ii) efforts will be made to use accurate enrolment figures (i.e., September 30<sup>th</sup> for volleyball & November 30<sup>th</sup> for basketball);
  - iii) groups may be slightly altered by the E.I.A.A. Co-ordinator to provide a better balance of participants within the four groupings.