



Barnstable Athletic Advisory Council – Meeting Minutes

Date: May 4, 2021

Location: Virtual Zoom Call

3:30 pm

Members Present:

Scott Thomas, Athletic Director
Katie Egan, Administrative Assistant, Barnstable Athletic Department
Keith Chagaris, Athletic Trainer, Barnstable High School
Meghan Fligg, English Teacher/Co-Head Girls Soccer Coach
Kristen Harmon, Principal in Charge, Barnstable High School
Rebecca Robke, Parent, Boys Basketball Booster Program and Quarterback Club
Bonnie Stanley, Parent
Jenn Swaylik, Parent
Will Robke, Student-Athlete
Brendan Dowling, Student-Athlete
Olivia Gourdine, Student-Athlete
Hannah Clark, Student-Athlete
Alivia Varetimos, Student-Athlete

Members Not Present:

Chris Ryan, Parent
Jason Gourdine, Parent
Renee Dowling, Parent
Greg Dowling, Parent
Scott Swaylick, Parent
Eugene Jordan, Student
Morgan Dardia, Student
Ashley Bishop, Administrative Assistant Operations/Head Field Hockey Coach
Ted Guazzaloca, Science Teacher, JV Girls Basketball Coach, Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach
Julia Ryan, Physical Education Teacher, Varsity Softball Head Coach, Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, Freshman Girls Soccer Coach

3:30 pm

- Introductions
- Fall 2 Sports Report – Fall 2 athletic programs included football (3-0), cheer, girls volleyball (Cape & Islands Champions over DY – Atlantic Division) and winter track. This four season modification to

account for COVID worked well for our athletes. Looking forward to the spring season, our numbers are down, but we have close to 250 athletes (usually we see closer to 400 participants)

- With decreased spring numbers, we will not be fielding a boys JV lacrosse team
- JV Softball is on a modified schedule only playing Monomoy and Nauset
- Being back 5 days a week has offered the opportunity to practice 2-3 days during the week, up from the 2 days a week we have done previously. Practices will also increase from 1.5 hours to 2 hours.
- Still no practice and/or games on Saturdays or Sundays (unless under special circumstances)
- Spring Sports Report – MIAA Regional Tournament
 - There will be a Cape and Islands Tournament as well as an MIAA Tournament for the spring season
 - We have been able to field a varsity and JV boy's volleyball team. The league the boys play in occurs off Cape and, in order to participate we needed to commit to the full game schedule of 16 games (which is why they have more games than the girls volleyball program, and why they are traveling off Cape)
 - There will not be a wrestling season – this was a decision made by the Cape & Islands League in collaboration with our local medical professionals
 - Scott – wants to commend athletes, coaches, parents, and administrations on committing and accepting the COVID protocols in a way where we were able to minimize team quarantines and allow our student-athletes to participate in some capacity
 - The stadium turf has passed the GMax testing process for this spring, which will allow both JV and varsity lacrosse to play their home games there. We will continue to not practice on the turf, in the hopes to lengthen the life span and minimize the impact
 - We are currently in the process of testing wells and the levels of PFos that may be impacting nearby watersheds near the new baseball stadium. We are hopeful this will pass as well, which would allow movement in a positive direction when it comes to looking at replacing the stadium turf within the next year
 - We are still only allowing two spectators at home events. Spectators must be in possession of a BHS lanyard. Other schools are changing course, but we have not done that as of this spring season. Jenn – can we go to the 50% spectator policy for outdoor sports as deemed safe by the State. Scott – we have had Katie Rudman, Pam Ciborowski, Alicia Bryant, and the BHS nursing staff, as well as Keith Chagaris meet and we have decided to remain ultra conservative on this measure. We have made some moves (i.e., 35 kids on a bus, allowing JV and varsity to practice together)
 - The BHS Football team is working with UKSD on May 16th to clean up Main Street in Hyannis, in an effort to form bonds with our youth community while positively impacting our environment
- Fall 2021 Sports Start Dates
 - Football – 8/20/2021
 - All other Fall sports – 8/23/2021
 - Fall Coaches Meeting – June 14, 2021 at 3:00 pm via Zoom – we most likely will not have an in-person meeting for families, instead we will wait for the fall to return to our in-person Sports Nights
 - As we head into the Fall 2021 season, we are looking to get back to the old “normal”
- National Letter of Intent & Commitment Ceremony – June 3, 2021 at 2:15 pm in the BHS gymnasium
 - Bonnie – can we have B2B film this to put up on our website? Scott – yes, we will coordinate with Jim Gilbert to see about his availability
- Mascot Change – Red Hawk
 - We are currently in the early stages of our logo change

- This will not happen overnight, as we work to overhaul our athletic department with the new Mascot design and implementation process
- Kristen – our graphics arts student are putting together three options to push out to our student body to decide on via a voting process
- Scott – this is an exciting time, and we look forward to collaborating with the community on this change
- Brendan – will seniors be able to vote on the mascot change? Kristen – due to timing, she does not believe that we will have anything definitive at the end of the academic year. She will share this with the sub-committee, and see if we are able to have alumni participation (including our current senior class)
- Concussion Testing/Sway (Keith Chagaris)
 - We used to use Impact, but are now using the Sway program, which uses the accelerometer in our student-athletes' cell phones in order to conduct baseline testing
 - This takes the balance and neuro-cognitive testing and combines it to give the best view of the athlete
 - Keith will obtain all of the results, which are used if and when an athlete sustains a concussion
 - ¾ of the teams have been tested so far, and we are looking to have all teams tested once we are back into school full time. Some COVID quarantine measures impacted the ability to get all athletes tested prior to the Spring season
 - Keith – the only issue that has come up has been from an athlete not having a phone, or with the program being app based, and requiring a username and password. Overall it has been a positive move in the right direction in concussion protocol.
- Stadium Update
 - Rebecca – how does the possible update of the stadium impact the fall athletic season? Scott – soccer has already moved to the new baseball stadium, as has field hockey. Project timeline is 6-8 weeks. We are looking at working with scheduling to start the home season possibly a little later than anticipated. The goal would be to have the stadium complete by early October 2021. The updated stadium and surrounding track is still in final approval process.
 - Olivia – what would happen if the new stadium testing does not produce positive results, would that cause all of our Fall teams to have to play their home games away? Scott – I don't know 100% the answer to that question, but my inclination would be that we would not move to a stadium turf, if the new stadium had negative testing results (PFos)
- Lettering Policy
 - Each varsity coach will be responsible for identifying the criteria for earning a varsity letter. Pre-season meetings will be the time to make sure the information is passed along to parents and athletes. This information will be placed on our website and in our student and athletic handbook. The policies will not be universal. Scott - Sports are unique and often require specific lettering criteria.

Conclusion – We hope to have one more June meeting and look forward to returning to the original schedule come Fall 2021. Scott – this year will be one we remember, and one that builds growth and character among our students, their families and our community.

NEXT MEETING: TBD (June 2021)
LOCATION: VIRTUAL MEETING