## Games Committee Conference Call February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 9:00 pm

Mark Sherman (President) – Present Eric Briley (Men's Vice President) – Absent Becky Shaw (Women's Vice President) - Present Jennifer Holden (Secretary) – Present Sean Sims (Treasurer) - Present Rome Milan (Historian) – Absent C.J Jackson (Parliamentarian) - Absent Jared Whiles (Web Master) – Present Todd Vesely – Absent Kevin Muenz (Region 1) – Absent Stephanie Tyson (Region 1) – Present J.T. Fletcher (Region 2) – Present Cali Currie (Region 2) – Present Christopher Soto (Region 3) – Present Kristen Schumacher (Region 3) – Present Travis Coulbourne (Region 4) - Present Jeff Garmon (Region 4) – Present

On the agenda: State Meet Officials, National HS Meet, Hall of Honor, Scholarships, and a self-report from Jeff Garmon.

## UIL Eligibility Rule: Student becomes ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities if they make a grade below 70 (except identified advanced classes) and will lose eligibility for a three-week period.

Jeff Garmon: On February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 while double checking grades prior to attending the Mark Williams Invite, I discovered that I had inadvertently allowed an athlete to compete that was ineligible to compete at the CTHS Invite and the San Angelo Meet (both of which were 2 day meets). I noticed that Annalyn Linsenmann had failed the 3<sup>rd</sup> six weeks with a 66 in English 2. The reason I missed this is because Anna was a JV move up for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester and she was not on my "My Activities" list on Skyward, which has all my Varsity gymnast's names in order for me to do an instant eligibility check. I should have asked to add her to the list when I officially moved her to varsity, but I just didn't think about it (no excuses). I have contacted the Assistant Athletic Director, Stephen Griffin, who oversees all of the gymnastics programs for EMS-ISD. He told me to write up what happened and to have a plan to prevent this from happening in the future. In our conversation, it was determined that I should put all JV and all Varsity on my "My Activities" list so that I would not have another oversight in regards to eligibility in case of having "move-ups" in the future. As of 4pm today, I have contacted our lead counselor, Mark Hard, via phone and email and requested that all my JV kids be added to "My Activities" list, with my varsity team. I want to apologize to all the coaches and to the Board Members of THSGCA for my

oversight. I promise you this was an honest but unfortunate oversight. I can assure you that I check grades not only at the 3 and 6 week UIL dates but also prior to every meet. I always enforce a higher level of grade checks prior to all meets and have held kids out of meets in spite of being academically eligible per UIL rules. All my gymnasts and parents know that I do not allow kids to compete in meets, if they are failing classes regardless of their academic eligibility status, unless it is due to absences from being sick or circumstances beyond their control. It was actually this policy that led me to the discovery of my error. I have now been coaching in the THSGCA for 13 years and an active member of the board and/or games committee for the past 6 years. This was an honest mistake that I have self-reported. It is my hope that the committee will look at it, just as that, and not hold my team accountable for my mistake. I look forward to and will respectfully accept whatever the committee decides should be my consequences.

- The Chisholm Trail HS Gymnastics coach did not ensure compliance with UIL rules and violated Section 401 (a) (1), "no pass no play" as interpreted by TEA in the Side by Side page three.
- "A student who receives, at the end of any grading period (after the first six weeks of the school year), a grade below 70 in any class (other than an identified class eligible for exemption) or a student with disabilities who fails to meet the standards in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) may not participate in extracurricular activities for three school weeks."
- The scores of the individual should be forfeited and therefore cannot count as contests. The coach stated he will implement steps to ensure future compliance and apologized.
- Board:
  - Everyone agrees Coach Garmon handled the situation properly when he realized his mistake. He contacted all appropriate personal for the self-report.
  - THSGCA will remove the ineligible gymnast scores and will not count towards the mandatory minimum five meet competitions.

Jennifer Holden discussed State Meet

- Terry Williams came out last week and we measured everything. He put together a layout of the competition and warm up gyms. There will be two warm up gyms on either side of the competition gym. There will not be a full-size floor in the warm up gym. We will have a wide and long tumble strip in warm up gym due to the amount of space.
- Awards are being quoted and Sean has the medals.
- Donations from local companies and Hotel Occupancy Grant from the City of Rockwall
- Setting up Gym Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

Update on state meet officials

- Becky has list of girl's judges and will be sending to Jack Dunlop and Mark Sherman
- Becky will also be sending national information to Mark Sherman