

I. **Call to Order** 6:09 PM
Greeting and introduction
Prayer

II. **Roll Call**
Not in attendance: St. Joseph

III. **Approval of 2025 Postseason Minutes**

Motion #1: (Bushe/Wagner) Motion to accept the meeting minutes from June 11, 2025. 22 in favor / 0 opposed. Motion Carries.

IV. **School and Team Updates**

- A. *League Withdrawal:* St. Cletus is temporarily withdrawing from the league due to low enrollment and team involvement. Per the by-laws, St. Cletus will pay a reduced fee for the year.
- B. *New Schools:* St. Luke (River Forest), represented by John Morrissey, requested to join the league. St. Luke is a longtime SPL Cross Country member in good standing. St. Luke participates in the IESA for track and field and is requesting to join the league in large part due to the changes to the league structure. **Motion #2:** (Busche/Darrow) Motion to approve St. Cletus' temporary withdrawal and St. Luke's membership in the league. 22 in favor / 0 opposed. Motion Carries.
- C. *School Probations:* St. Joseph is placed on probation for missing both the preseason meeting and its committee meeting. In addition, the Awards Chair (held by St. Joseph) did not fulfill its duties last season.
- D. *Universal List:* St. Andrew has been added to the Universal List.

V. **League Updates**

- A. *Amendments to the Constitution:* The Executive Board presented several amendments to the Constitution. This included: (i) removal of references to the Divisional Meet, (ii) removal of a clause requiring member schools to contact feeder schools to schedule track meets, (iii) removal of term limits for the Executive Board, (iv) removal of stipends for the webmaster and scorer, and (v) addition of the Safety Committee as a standing committee and removal of Technology, Awards, and Equipment Committees (replaced with chairs). **Motion #3:** Motion to approve all changes to the Constitution. 22 in favor / 0 opposed. Motion Carries.
- B. *Amendments to League By-Laws:* The Executive Board presented several amendments to the By-Laws. The majority of these amendments were made to reflect the new meet structure approved at the Post-Season meeting in June 2025. Changes unrelated to the new meet structure included: (i) removal of prohibition on 4th graders practicing with SPL teams, (ii) removal of restrictions on coaches entering the staging area, (iii) removal of allowance for plastic and ceramic spikes, and (iv) allowance for all athletes regardless of grade level to wear spikes. Several league members asked for clarification regarding 4th graders practicing with teams. The Executive Board stressed that member schools are subject to the rules of their dioceses and schools. **Motion #4:** Motion to approval all changes to the By-Laws. 20 in favor / 2 abstained. Motion Carries.
- C. *Implementation of Meet Structure Approved at Post-Season meeting:*
 - *Events:* The Executive Board introduced the new calling order of events. Reviewed allowable entries for each event at regular season meets as well as the League Finals meet.
 - *Rules:* The Rules Chair presented the new conflict rules and reviewed IESA rules. Note: it is the responsibility of schools to know and adhere to IESA rules, should they choose to participate in the state series.
 - *Meet Administration:* John Darrow (Notre Dame) reviewed how [Athletic.net](https://athletic.net) and Palatine Pack Fully Automated Timing (FAT) will work. Discussion covered

setting up team accounts, uploading rosters, registering athletes for meets, hip number distribution, field event sheets, and award distribution. New meet administration documents will be posted to the website in advance of the first meet.

VI. Committee Reports

- A. *Scheduling*: The 2026 meet schedule has been finalized and was distributed to league members in attendance. Concerns regarding meet hosting should be directed to the Scheduling Chair.
- Week 1: 4/18 (2 meets)
 - Week 2: 4/25 (2 meets)
 - Week 3: 5/2 (SPL Championship Meet)
 - Week 4: 5/9 (Relay Meet/IESA Sectionals 1A & 2A)
 - Week 5: 5/16 (IESA Sectionals 3A & 4A, IESA State 1A & 2A)
 - Week 6: 5/23 (IESA State 3A & 4A)
- B. *Treasurer*: The league currently has a \$4,000 balance due to the fee structure approved at the 2025 preseason meeting. Jason Woodbury (St. John the Baptist) raised concerns that the fee structure has historically been inequitable, as smaller schools are assessed the same fees as schools with significantly more athletes. Any changes to the existing fee structure will be presented and voted upon at the 2026 Postseason Meeting. Invoices will be sent at the end of March; checks should be made payable to SPL.

VII. Sub-committee Reports

- A. *Equipment*: The Equipment Chair will reevaluate required equipment under the new meet structure. Request to secure additional walkie talkies for each field event area.
- B. *Scoring*: The existing scoring database is being retired. The league will coordinate with Palatine Pack regarding scoring field events and entering results into [Athletic.net](https://athletic.net).
- C. *Awards*: The Awards Chair (St. Joseph) was not present. Discussion included concerns about St. Joseph's ability to fulfill the duties of the Awards Chair. St. Petronille, St. John of the Cross, and St. James have offered to procure awards for the 2026 season.
- D. *Safety*: Reminder that team tents are not permitted at SPL meets. The Safety Chair asked that the Meet Director adds a safety review to the coaches and volunteer meetings at all SPL meets. The NFSA is placing increased emphasis on safety for throwing events.

VIII. Open Forum

- A. Naperville Running Company: Reminder that Naperville Running Company provides discounts to SPL coaches and athletes.
- B. Cell Phone: Having cell phones in the competition area is a violation of IESA rules. Coaches and volunteers should reinforce the habit of no cell phones.
- C. Social Media: Send meet photos to John Darrow to post on Instagram. Member schools are also encouraged to post on the SPL Facebook page.

IX. Meeting Dismissal: Motion to Adjourn 7:57 p.m.