

**JUNO Message Center**

From: Mike Colbrase  
To: Kent Hickey  
Cc: tom doyle, Maureen Reid, Brian Eisner

Sent: Thu, Apr 14, 2016 12:46 PM  
Subject: Re: Inquiry to WAA par 8.12.2

Good morning, all.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner.

I have reviewed all of the emails in this string to date. I truly appreciate the open, honest dialogue that I've been reading. I understand the concerns center around WAA Rules 8.12.2 and 28.2.1.

My review of the rules mentioned above reveal that a district director does not have a role in initiating or processing allegations, accusations, or investigations. I agree with your concern, Kent, when you stipulate... "To my mind, the district director cannot serve in a lead investigative role while possibly also serving later in a penalty phase and then later still in an appeals phase. That is too much mixing of roles and risks conflict of interest."

However, from a review of the email exchange, I do not believe that Mr. Doyle was "advancing false violations." As I said in my email to Brian Eisner earlier this week, "I've always felt that a district director is a facilitator of information to, from, and between schools. A district director could always take information they received over to another school that school could, in turn, give it to the alleged offending school. I guess I've always felt that a similar situation rests with this staff. If someone turns information over to us, we let the alleged offending school know as a courtesy: if it's anonymous, we do not expect a follow up. If someone's name is attached, we expect follow up. I think that's what Tom was doing--in addition to not having one school mad at another for passing it on--or mad at Tom for not going directly to the alleged offending school. (Sort of a "Well, why didn't you just tell us instead of having another school come to us.") I'm pretty certain that other district directors would have handled it the way Tom has."

In summary, you are correct. WAA rules do not specifically state that the district director has a role in reporting an initial accusation to a member school. However, in practice, there are times when because of their position, district directors receive information from non-school people that has to be shared with the accused school. It makes more sense that the director is able to go directly to the school. The given is that the district director acts simply as a facilitator-- not as an investigator unless directed by their WAA District board of directors. If a situation were to make its way up to the panel of district directors, the district director, who has been involved, is required to remove him or herself from the decision making.

To bring more clarity to the situation, I can take this concern to the WAA Executive Board and propose an editing of WAA Rule 28.2.1 to include district directors, and/or I can ask them for any interpretation of that rule. I prefer the former.

AAAAAAAAAA

Mike Colbrase | Executive Director | WAA  
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**ACTIVITIES MATTER!** THE CASE FOR SCHOOL PROGRAMS IN WASHINGTON

On Wed, Apr 13, 2016 at 8:08 PM, Kent Hickey wrote:  
Tom

Fortunately we have an email that preserves the record and in that email you clearly referenced Monte's involvement in the basketball matter. Whether that reference is accurate or not is something between you and Monte. Regarding your investigation of the January parent meeting at Prep - the reference you inexplicably decided to include in materials to district directors prior to the district director appeal hearing - that concern came from Monte as you acknowledge below. It was you who decided to make it a district matter.

To be abundantly clear, my inquiry isn't about Monte or Odea. We have a longstanding, positive relationship with Odea and Monte is a wonderful, cherished colleague. This will be worked out well between us. The question/concern I posed to Mike Colbrase relates to the role of the district director in initiating and processing accusations and investigations under WAA rules. To my mind, the district director cannot serve in a lead investigative role while possibly also serving later in a penalty phase and then later still in an appeals phase. That is too much mixing of roles and risks conflict of interest. I think the rule itself speaks to this in the process that is outlined. This is a legitimate inquiry on my part that I believe is worthy of consideration. I firmly believe there is a pattern of inconsistencies in the application of WAA rules, a pattern reflected by the recent actions referenced in my communication today as well as the actions taken against Aaron Maul and Seattle Prep by you and your district some months ago. All of this is cut from the same cloth and will be discussed at our June hearing.

It is indeed difficult to encounter challenging questions, but they can be a good way to reach clarity and understanding. I encourage you to not take such questions personally. They are certainly not intended as such.

Kent

Kent Hickey  
Theology Teacher & President  
Seattle Preparatory School

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

Jesuit education shouldn't be limited to those who can afford it. Go to "Give Now" at [seaprep.org](http://seaprep.org)

On Apr 13, 2016, at 4:55 PM, tom doyle <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Kent,

Just for clarification purposes.

O'Dea and Monte Kohler did not contact me at any time and ask me to initiate contact with Seattle Prep or anyone else about either of the concerns presented below. As I understand it, Monte did contact you directly about the first incident after he had received several phone calls about the meeting. He went directly to the source so that you knew about the rumors and could address them as agreed to in the Private School agreement that you co-authored and signed. I was also contacted by several people about the meeting at about that same time. None of them included O'Dea or Monte prior to when he spoke with you.

Monte's only involvement in the second incident you cite was that the person who sent the pictures to me also included Monte on the email list. Monte made no accusations nor sought out any information. The only reason he is mentioned at all is that when Brian questioned what school he should respond to, I told him he could send it to O'Dea since Monte was cc'd on the email and knew about it already. Other than that, Monte had nothing to do with the situation.

If you would like to be upset with me, that is OK. Please do not accuse O'Dea or Monte of joining in a conspiracy with me to go after Seattle Prep or its coaches. That would be simply false.

tom

On Wed, 13 Apr 2016 19:10:53 +0000 Kent Hickey <[REDACTED]> writes:

Dear Mike:

I am not sure if the question I ask here and the concern I express would be best addressed by you as the WAA Director or the WAA Board. I leave that to your discretion.

Within the past few months we have been subjected to two accusations, both initiated by Monte Kohler at Oâ€™Dea and processed through District 2 Director, Tom Doyle. A full description of both accusations is not necessary, but the context for each is as follows:

Per the email I had sent to you and Jim Piccolo below, Oâ€™Dea had accused Seattle Prep and our Head Football Coach, Aaron Maul, of hosting a meeting on our campus in January in which we tried to recruit middle school football players to our school. This accusation was false and Oâ€™Dea was advised of this and provided with an explanation and documentation. The meeting invite had been sent to current Prep football parents (which was documented) and a small number of those current parents did attend the meeting. Thatâ€™s it. Yet, this matter, again per the email below, was brought to the attention of District Director Doyle by Oâ€™Dea and, per his communication with our AD, Brian Elsner, Mr. Doyle then decided to communicate the groundless accusation to District Directors prior to the District Appeal Hearing regarding Aaron Maul. This action, in turn, required us to submit results from our investigation of the groundless accusation. Tom Doyle did not assert upon what authority he was acting under WAA rules, but I believe this is answered in the second accusation he required us to investigate.

The second accusation, one that was brought by Oâ€™Dea to Tom Doyle this week, is described in the email that I asked Brian Elsner to send to you earlier today. This was another completely false accusation. The target for this accusation shifted from Aaron Maul to our head basketball coach, Mike Kelly. Oâ€™Dea asserted that a video showed Mike Kelly passing basketballs to one of our players, a violation of the out of season coaching rule. This was also a baseless accusation (the passer was the player's father who, though balding, was certainly not Mike Kelly). Tom Doyle directed Prep to respond to the allegation. He asserted authority in the matter by virtue of WAA rule 28.2.

Which brings me to my question and then my concern:

Question: Does 28.2 give a District Director the authority to initiate an investigation against a member school? It seems to me that under 28.2.1 that it does not because the District Director is not a school nor do the matters referenced here pertain to eligibility. It seems under 28.2 that the process is school to school (principal to principal) with the reporting then going to the District Director and League in a subsequent stage. This process seems to be a reasonable one and, more importantly, is the process actually described in the rule. But what we have seen in these two accusations is that the process is initiated by a school (Oâ€™Dea) to the District Director (Tom Doyle) who then assumes responsibility for addressing the accusation. This appears to be outside the scope of the rule. Your assistance in providing clarity is appreciated.

Concern: The two examples cited here indicate that the investigative process in this District is grounded in the personalities involved and not the actual rules. Monte Kohler has a complaint and Tom Doyle processes the complaint for him. I recall a constitutional law professor once asking, "Are we a nation of laws or a nation of men?" It does not escape my notice that Seattle Prep has been subjected to two investigations by District 2 in the months after we appealed the District's decision to impose additional sanctions on Aaron Maul. That's a fact, not speculation (and I will keep my speculations to myself). It appears that the rules unfortunately do allow a member school to allege false violations against another member school without consequences, so Oâ€™Dea can apparently act with impunity in this regard. However, I do not believe there is language in the rules that would allow the District Director to use his authority to advance false violations on behalf of a member school.

Let me add a final thought please: Reputations matter. It is not right that attempts to damage Aaron Maul's reputation continue and that Mike Kelly has now been targeted. These are two outstanding, ethical people. I hope that those who have so enthusiastically attempted to tear down their reputations will now expend equal effort to build them back up.

Sincerely,

Kent

Kent P. Hickey  
President  
Seattle Preparatory School  
Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
<image004.jpg>

Secure a Prep education for future Panthers.  
[www.seaprep.org](http://www.seaprep.org)

From: Kent Hickey <[REDACTED]>  
Date: March 17, 2016 at 2:23:06 PM PDT

**Hume, Lauren B.**

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**From:** Cindy Adsit <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 05, 2014 4:20 PM  
**To:** Hume, Lauren B  
**Cc:** Mike Colbresi  
**Subject:** Out-of-season allegations

Lauren,

This email is being sent as a follow-up to the phone conversation we had a few minutes ago regarding an anonymous letter claiming out-of-season allegations by Bellevue baseball coaches Peter Wilkinson and Tate Seefried.

While the anonymous letter writer believes a high school coach can not coach both a high school team and a Connie Mack team with the same players, there are no WIAA rules to prevent it, provided the coaching takes place between the first day of the high school baseball season (which this year was March 3) and July 31.

The anonymous letter writer also believes a high school coach could not form a corporation for the Connie Mack team, but there are no WIAA rules to prevent it.

While the anonymous letter writer alleges that coaching took place during 2013 winter training and conditioning, without proof including names of the students involved, dates, sites, names of the coaches involved and what specific coaching took place, there is nothing to investigate. The writer merely states that "it has been relayed" that the coaches were coaching during the winter training and conditioning. Without knowing relayed by whom and to whom, there is nothing to investigate.

And since this person did not include his/her name or contact information, there is no way for me to provide him/her with this information.

Since several people were cc'd on this letter, feel free to forward this email to any and all of them.

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Cindy Adsit | Assistant Executive Director | WIAA  
435 Main Avenue South, Renton, WA 98057  
office: [REDACTED] | fax: [REDACTED]

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May 1, 2014

WIAA

Attn: Cindy Adsit

RE: Bellevue High School, Peter Wilkinson & Tate Seefried

Dear Cindy Adsit,

This letter is to inform the WIAA of Coaches Peter Wilkinson's and Tate Seefried's violation of WIAA rules; specific rules against "out of season involvement". (Section 17.5.0 page 20 in the WIAA handbook)

The research on Wilkinson Baseball Club has revealed Bellevue High School players are on the 2014 roster, the enclosed roster also list Coach Wilkinson and Seefried. It has been relayed that Coach Wilkinson believes he is exempt from this specific rule. It has been also relayed they have been coaching during 2013 winter training and conditioning session.

Coach Wilkinson has been aggressively recruiting Bellevue High School Baseball players since the end of the 2012-2013 baseball seasons for his Wilkinson Baseball Club. There are now Bellevue High School Baseball players on the 2014 Wilkinson Baseball Club roster. As Mr. Wilkinson's recruiting process continues he will have many more Bellevue High School players on his Wilkinson Baseball Club. Majority of his effectors are with the incoming freshman players. It also has been evident that the Wilkinson Baseball Club players have had preferential play time and team assignments on the Bellevue High School Baseball team roster.

In conclusion Pete Wilkinson and his Wilkinson Baseball Club need to be investigate to ensure he and his coaching staff is following the WIAA rules and regulations.

Enclosed are: 2014 Wilkinson Baseball Club Roster  
Section 17.5.0 of the WIAA handbook  
Washington State Business License for Wilkinson Baseball Club  
Washington Secretary of State Corporate for Wilkinson Baseball Club

Please review, investigate and advise Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Seefried.

cc: Lauren Hume, Bellevue High School Athletic Director  
J. Tim Mills, Bellevue School District Superintendent  
Jeff Neely, Bellevue Baseball Booster Club President  
Steve Savard, Bellevue Baseball Booster Club V-President  
Jeff Pratt, Bellevue Baseball Booster Club Treasurer