

Update on TUHSD Mountain-biking Clubs

May 25, 2021



Introductions

- Corbett Elsen - TUHSD CFO
 - Responsible for District's Risk Management program
 - TUHSD employee for 17 years
- Julia Violich - Redwood MTB Club Director
 - 20 years
- Matt Shelton - Tam High MTB Club Head Coach
 - 5 years
- Dylan Riley - Drake MTB Club Head Coach
 - 4 years



Agenda

- History & Context
- CIF-Sports, Sponsored-Clubs & 'Student-Initiated, Non-Sponsored' Clubs
- Risk Management
- Challenges
- Status Change for 2021-22
 - 'Sponsored' Club
- Questions & Comments



History & Context

- Marin is the birthplace of mountain-biking
- Long history of successful mountain-biking clubs (MTB) within TUHSD
- Provides community & connection for our students
- Mountain-biking is not a CIF (CA Interscholastic Federation) sanctioned sport
- In TUHSD, our mountain-biking clubs have operated as a 'Student-Initiated Non-Sponsored Club'
 - Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 6145.5 (later slide)

General Regulations of CIF-sanctioned Sports

Sample of General Regulations for CIF Sports:

- May not practice nor compete on Sundays
- Academic eligibility requirements
 - GPA
 - Progress towards graduation
- No advertising on uniforms
- Equal access to participation for all students free of cost to families
- Others...

TUHSD Non-Sponsored Clubs (BP/AR 6145.5)

Consistent with Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6145.5, the following criteria apply:

1. Student-initiated groups shall have equal access to school facilities during non-instructional time without regard to religious, political, philosophical, or other content based condition;
2. Student-initiated group meetings are voluntary, with no direction, control, or regular attendance by non-school individuals;
3. School staff shall not promote or participate in the meetings, but may volunteer to observe for purposes of maintaining order and protecting student safety;
4. Student-initiated group meetings shall not incur the expenditure of public funds beyond the incidental cost of providing the meeting space; and
5. All announcements of meetings shall specify that the student-initiated group is not sponsored by the School or District.

Risk Management

- Physical safety of the activity
- Transportation to & from events
 - (i.e.) Highway 101 to San Luis Obispo
- Supervision of coach/student relationship & interactions
 - District responsibility to perform statutory background checks on all District employees, coaches, contractors and volunteers who interact directly with our students

Note:

- Our mountain-biking clubs have taken appropriate steps to address these areas within their own national organization (NICA)
- And, the District must adhere to its own Board Policies and also has a responsibility to put in place appropriate safeguards and must utilize its own processes in these areas

Challenges

- Not all current MTB practices aligned to BP/AR 6145.5 as *'Student-initiated, Non-sponsored'* clubs
 - This has been the case for some time to no fault of anyone and misaligned over time
- Some inconsistent practices across TUHSD clubs
- As a result, District legal counsel has advised the District to adhere to compliance measures to manage potential risks. Otherwise, the potential liability is significant.
 - Particularly, coach & volunteer background checks and appropriate training

New 2021-22 Status - 'Sponsored Club'

- Changes for 2021-22:
 - MTB club status will change to 'Sponsored Clubs', per BP/AR 6145.5
 - School name may now be used in the official club name, mascot, logo and on the student uniforms
 - Receipt of Varsity letter
- Not Changed for 2021-22:
 - Operations of clubs will continue to function in a same manner as they have for previous years
 - (i.e.) competitions, staff advisors, same use of facilities as other clubs, presence in school yearbook, allowed to apply for foundation grants, field trip forms & warranted absences
- Additional District liability protection needed for 2021-22:
 1. Students: Waiver signed by each parent/guardian prior to commencement of season (same waiver used for athletics)
 2. Coaches: Background check (finger-printing & Dept of Justice) and mandatory online sexual harassment prevention training & mandated reporting (consistent with all other TUHSD athletic coaches and California public school employees)
- Written guidelines, procedures, protocols and agreements for the above for clarity and common understanding moving forward
 - Includes provision that District agrees to confer with the MTB clubs if new issues arise that may hinder our new agreement to resolve potential issues and in a jointly problem-solving, collaborative manner

Questions & Comments

