

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE
HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**



NEWS RELEASE

Indianapolis to Host National Athletic Directors Conference

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bruce Howard

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (December 9, 2011) — More than 1,300 high school athletic directors will be attending the 42nd annual National Athletic Directors Conference today through Tuesday at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis.

The largest gathering of high school athletic directors in the country is co-sponsored by the Indianapolis-based National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA).

After preliminary meetings today and Saturday, the conference officially gets underway Sunday with the first of 35 workshops and the Opening General

Session. Joe Theismann, former University of Notre Dame (Indiana) and Washington Redskins quarterback, will be the keynote speaker at the opening session, which begins at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Some of the key topics to be discussed at the 35 workshops include pay-to-play programs, maintaining programs despite budget cuts, parent relationships, Title IX, minimizing risk in athletic programs, sportsmanship, relationship with club sports, creating alternative revenues, preseason meetings, booster clubs and strength/conditioning programs.

Lee Green, a noted sports law attorney, professor and author from Baldwin City, Kansas, will deliver the Closing General Session speech at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Awards will be presented to 33 athletic directors, including three from Indiana. Geoff Penrod, athletic director at Columbia City High School, will be presented an NFHS Citation at the Conference Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Monday. Sam Rasmussen, recently retired athletic director at Valparaiso High School, will receive an NIAAA Distinguished Service Award at the Conference Banquet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, and Priscilla Dillow, former athletic director at Ben Davis High School, will be inducted into the NIAAA Hall of Fame at the same event.

The Luncheon and Banquet events will be held at the Indianapolis

Marriott Downtown.

#

About the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)

The NFHS, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the national leadership organization for high school sports and performing arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based interscholastic sports and performing arts activities that help students succeed in their lives. The NFHS sets direction for the future by building awareness and support, improving the participation experience, establishing consistent standards and rules for competition, and helping those who oversee high school sports and activities. The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level. Through its 50 member state associations and the District of Columbia, the NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 11 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.6 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; offers online publications and services for high school coaches and officials; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, speech and debate coaches, and music adjudicators; serves as the national source for interscholastic coach training; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information, visit the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.

MEDIA CONTACTS: Bruce Howard or John Gillis, 317-972-6900
National Federation of State High School Associations
PO Box 690, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206
bhoward@nfhs.org or jgillis@nfhs.org