



Executive Director's Update

Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

33 Forge Parkway Franklin, MA 02038 | 508-541-7997 | miaa.net

An Update from Executive Director Robert Baldwin

Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

September 29, 2022

Fall 2022 Power Rankings

The first Power Rankings for Fall 2022 sports will be released and published on the [Tournament Central section of the MIAA web site](#) on Friday, September 30. Athletic directors are asked to make sure their schedules and results are accurate and up to date on Arbiter by the end of the night Thursday, and on a nightly basis throughout the school year. The power rankings and tournament seedings depend on complete and accurate data from all MIAA schools. Beginning in October, the intention is to have updated power rankings on the MIAA web site every Tuesday and Friday throughout the remainder of the Fall 2022 regular season.

Board of Directors Actions

Welcome New Member – Liz Legault, Superintendent of East Bridgewater Public Schools

Endowment Fund Scholarships – The MIAA Board of Directors voted unanimously to set an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for the purposes of providing student scholarships for two students per month for a total of nine months at a figure of \$1,000.00 per student and for any special requests from member schools.

Online Ticketing - The Finance Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that for MIAA State Tournament contests, in order for an MIAA member school to host the event, they must implement on-line ticketing. This will become a part of the Intent to Enter Form for the MIAA State Tournament. Voted unanimously to approve.

Hockey Suspension Rule – The MIAA Board of Directors voted in favor suspend rule (72.12) for the 2022-2023 school year and allow the rule to proceed through the rule change process based on conflicting language in the MIAA Handbook Ice Hockey Rules.

Competitive Equity Tool – A discussion took place regarding the Competitive Equity Tool – [click here to view](#)

Alignments

Proposed Fall 2023-Fall 2024 alignments, along with the associated appeal process timeline, appeal request form, and additional information is to be released no later than October 3, 2022. Factors (including co-op and vocational) have been removed with the exception of private schools bumping up a division.

Cooperative Team/Middle Level Waivers

This fall, some schools applied for Coop's/ML waivers after the deadline of the first contest. The DAC's were forced to permit some flexibility for this fall but ask that schools are attentive to the new requirements and protocols. Coop's and ML waivers cannot be applied for after the first day of competition in each season. For this upcoming winter season that date is Dec. 8, 2022 and the spring date is March 30, 2023. Here is the [link](#) to the DAC communication from this summer. Links to the new guidelines and the maximum numbers can be found in the document link above.

MIAA Committee Highlights

Golf Committee – September 13, 2022

Members of the Golf Committee met to discuss a variety of topics including the 2022 Fall tournaments, live scoring, the possible use of GHIN for future tournament qualifying purposes, as well as a potential rule change proposal that requires all leagues to use stroke play for regular season matches. A sub-committee will be put together to explore most of these topics.

*2022 MIAA Fall Golf Tournament Entry Form - Qualifying school teams and individuals wishing to enter must [submit this form](#) no later than October 7, 2022. All match results must be in Arbiter. For more information regarding MIAA golf tournament dates, times and course locations, please visit the [MIAA Golf page](#).

TMC – September 14, 2022

2022 Winter Tournament Formats were approved by TMC. The committee voted to remove COVID-related language from all formats, including previously approved Fall 2022 formats.

The [Statewide Tournament FAQ 2022-2023](#) document was reviewed, discussed and revised for membership.

Upcoming Alignment Cycle - The committee was given an update on the upcoming alignment cycle (2023-25). Jared Shannon, Sean Mackin, Chicopee Athletic Director and Craig Antocci, Fitchburg Athletic Director presented to the MIAA Board of Directors regarding the new alignments, including removal of co-op and vocational school alignment factors (private school factor remains in place) and use of the Competitive Equity Tool (CET). The committee recognized there is still more to be done in the area of alignments but this recent work represents a positive step forward.

Statewide Tournament - Initial feedback on the first year of the tournament structure is being compiled. The committee discussed consideration of a Statewide Tournament survey to the membership later this fall.



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Soccer Committee – September 15, 2022

The Soccer Committee met and elected Bob Keuther, Principal of Marshfield High School as the Chairperson and Danny Erickson, Athletic Director at Canton High School, Vice Chairperson. Also, Mr. Jeff Newhall, Athletic Director at St. Mary's of Lynn, has been selected as the Boys and Girls Soccer Tournament Director.

Football Committee – September 15, 2022

Medical Personnel was updated in the 2022-2023 Format to reflect current requirements for each team at all games, home and away. Additionally it was also mentioned that a reminder be sent to schools if they wish to opt. out of the non-playoff scheduling/brackets.

Steve Dembowski presented a Coaches' Association proposal to alter the playoff format. That proposal will be linked from the MIAA Football page when finalized.

Swim Committee – September 16, 2022

Discussion on making sure times in the formats were up-to-date and ready for publication. All had been previously approved but some of the qualifying times were incorrect in the first published version. Current posted Fall 2022 format is correct. The dates for the Voluntary Dive Weeks submitted by coach's representative Mike Foley were approved. They will be posted on the Swimming and Diving page of the MIAA website.

2022-2023 Fall season - Venus and times:

- Sectionals - November 6, 2022 (WPI, 2 sessions)
- States - November 13, 2022 (MIT)

Ice Hockey Committee – September 21, 2022

2024 tournament cutoff dates. There had been discussion of moving the cutoff date to allow for power ranking or other planning. After some discussion the committee motioned to stay with the same, Thursday cutoff date. MSHCA wanted to make all member school teams aware of the various awards offered by MSHCA – academic awards and Mulloy Sportsmanship to name a few. Annual Ice Hockey Officials Summit is scheduled for October 11, 2022.

Lacrosse Committee – September 21, 2022

A major change for the upcoming season is that it will be mandatory that your center line must be a full line across the field. This means that if you have a center logo and your centerline is not constant through the logo, you will need to ensure you have a line that goes from sideline to sideline. You can do this with a chalk line that goes away in a few days or you can fully paint a line through your logo. If this is not done, the visiting team will start with possession.

Track & Field Committee - September 21, 2022.

Indoor track format was reviewed and an updated schedule/formatting was approved. During the discussion, two motions were made and approved, which will be in effect this season: The 300m dash will be run in lanes and late entries will no longer be accepted for indoor and outdoor tournaments.

The committee took advisory votes on cross country, indoor and outdoor track 2023-25 alignments – all voted to approve.

Educational Athletics

Student Advisory Committee – September 21, 2022

The MIAA Student Advisory Committee met in Franklin to set goals for the year and participate in facilitator training. They also met with Fabiola Brunache who talked with them about financial literacy and challenged them to think of ways to incorporate this topic in future student workshops. Finally, the students elected their committee leadership team, Story Goldman (Smith Academy), Madison Carini (Abington) and Jake Barlow (Minnechaug). To view a list of all MIAA Student Advisory Committee Members, [click here](#).

Sportsmanship Committee – September 21, 2022

The Sportsmanship Committee reviewed plans for the annual Sportsmanship Summit that is scheduled on Thursday, November 10 at Gillette Stadium. A subcommittee will be meeting on Friday, October 14 to select the winning entries for the Student Sportsmanship Essay/Multimedia Contest. The committee also reviewed the annual contest disqualification data for the 2021-22 school year and will continue to monitor trends across each sport.

Student Ambassador Information - Registration for the 2022-2023 MIAA Student Ambassador Program is now open! Principals and Athletic Directors can register students by [clicking here](#). More information about the MIAA Student Ambassador Program can be found on the [Student Ambassador Program Page](#).

Student Athlete of the Month Award - The MIAA Student-Athlete of the Month Award will now be presented through the month of May. In addition, all monthly award recipients will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. This award recognizes two student-athletes on a monthly basis who display excellence in the areas of academics, athletics and community service. Students in grades 9-12 who attend MIAA member schools are eligible to receive the award. To submit a nomination for the award, please [click here](#).



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Sportsmanship Essay/Multimedia Contest - The entry deadline for the Student Sportsmanship Essay/Multimedia Contest is Tuesday, October 11 at 12:00pm. Entries must be submitted as an essay of no more than 500 words or as a public service announcement of 30 or 60 seconds in duration and must address the theme, "How do courageous leaders demonstrate sportsmanship?" First place (\$400) and Runner-Up (\$200) prizes will be presented in both contest categories at the annual Sportsmanship Summit on November 10. For additional contest information, please [click here](#).

Educational Athletics Summit – 10/21/22 - The MIAA Educational Athletics Summit is scheduled for Friday, October 21 at the Doubletree Hotel in Westborough. This program is designed for Student Ambassadors, student leaders and adult leaders. The registration fee is \$60 per person and registered MIAA Student Ambassadors can attend for free. The program will feature a keynote presentation entitled "#DoTheImpossible: Resilience" by magician and motivational speaker Jason Michaels, as well as a variety of concurrent workshop sessions. The registration deadline is Tuesday, October 18. To register a group from your school, please [click here](#).

Community Service - The MIAA is excited to partner with Team Up 4 Community to present the [2022-23 MIAA Community Service Challenge](#). The goal of this program is to promote the positive impact that students at MIAA member schools are making by giving back to their communities. Through an online platform, school administrators, coaches and students can submit information about specific community service projects completed between August 1, 2022 and May 1, 2023 to be considered in this challenge. More information can be found on the [MIAA Community Service Page](#).

NFHS #BenchBadBehavior Campaign - The NFHS recently launched a national campaign to address bad behavior by fans and the national shortage of high school officials. A toolkit is available to download and features resources that member schools can use to proactively address bad behavior at high school athletic events. The toolkit includes a parent-player contract, printable flyers, program ads and more. To download the toolkit, please [click here](#).

Calendar

Start time 10:00am unless otherwise noted:

- September 29 Ski Committee
- October 5 Gymnastics Committee
- October 6 TMC
- October 6 Unified Sports Committee
- October 12 Basketball Committee
- October 12 Game Officials Committee
- October 13 Soccer Committee
- October 13 Wrestling Committee
- October 17 Sports Medicine Committee (4:00pm)
- October 18 Tennis Committee
- October 26 Board of Directors (11:00am)
- October 27 Baseball Committee

In case you missed it...

[Executive Director's Update September 8, 2022](#)

- Supreme Judicial Court Decision
- Board of Directors Actions
- District Athletic Committees
- Measure to Eradicate Hate and Bias Through the Platform of Sports
- NFHS Launches Free National Book Study Supporting DEI Initiatives
- Student-Athlete of the Month Award
- Principals Needed for Unified Sports Advisory Committee
- Fall Game Officials Newsletter
- Student and Coach Disqualification Forms
- Soccer Infraction Reporting

Thanks for your continued support.

Robert Baldwin



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