

MIAA Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse Meeting
Virtual via RingCentral
February 2, 2022
Combined Meeting

1. Call to Order at 10 am.
 - a. Welcome remarks offered by L. von Holtz. D. O'Brien had another commitment, and was unavailable to attend.
 - b. Attendance was recorded from the RingCentral site (Attendance Attached)
2. Approval of the 14 September 2021 Minutes
 - a. L. von Holtz noted 7D – Assigners fall under the host schools
 - b. Girls' – T. Riggs, 2nd by ML Thimas. Motion to Approve - Unanimous
 - c. Boys' – D. Benson, 2nd by M. Granados. Motion to Approve - Unanimous
3. Review and Approval of Formats
 - a. Girls' Format: Format reviewed on screen with members for comment.
 - i. 7a. Length of Game returns to the pre-Covid rule of two 25 minute halves; remove quarter language
 - ii. Clarification: (Pg 30, Sec C. of Rulebook) The clock is stopped in the final two minutes of each half after each goal, official time outs and fouls occurring in the critical scoring area unless a team is leading by ten or more goals.
 - iii. 10. Tournament Game Officials Language throughout needs to replace "quarter", "semi-finals" "finals", etc. with "Round of" to be consistent. (ie. Preliminary, Round of 32, Round of 16, Round of 8, Round of 4, Round of 2)
 - iv. MOTION to Approve Girls' Format as amended C. Schmidt, 2nd by D. Lee – Unanimous
 - v. Following Boys' Format discussion, a motion to amend the previously approved Girls' Format was made by K. Guillemette, 2nd by J. Parcels to add a fourth official at the Round of 4 and Round of 2 (Prelim, Round of 32, Round of 16 = 2 officials; Round of 8 = 3 officials; Round of 4 and Round of 2 = one additional official) approved unanimously by Girls' Committee
 - b. Boys' Format: Format reviewed on screen with members for comment.
 - i. Similar changes to Girls' except length of game for Boys' is four 12 minute periods
 - ii. Clarification asked surrounding 2F ("Top 4 seeded teams placed in four brackets (1,2,3,4)") S. Bryant will see if the language can be clearer. It remains the Traditional Bracket (1 plays 32, etc.), but it may be confusing to refer to four brackets.
 - iii. D. Benson noted in 2019, the Boys' went from 3 enrolled MIAA Officials to one additional at the Round of 8. The Chief Bench Official position was discussed, and questions were raised about the cost and their role (at table or actively engaged in supporting good game management)
 - iv. Motion by D. Benson, 2nd by J. Domingos to retain 10 b and 10 c, but add fourth official at Round of 4 and Round of 2 (Prelim and Round of 32 = 2 officials; Round of 16 and Round of 8 = 3 officials; Round of 4 and Round of 2 = one additional official). Roll Call vote – 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions
 - v. Motion to Approve Boys' Format as amended - D. Benson, 2nd by M. Granados. Unanimous
4. Update on Statewide Tournament
 - a. TMC continuing to assess throughout each season of play this year the Power Rankings. The initial feedback from the fall season has been particularly good. Tournament competitions were described as well matched, well played and exciting games. S. Bryant raised a question to both Committees regarding the ten goal differential, specifically was ten too high. Members stated they could not recall any discussions about this at either Committee. Rather it seemed to "arrive" from the use of Lax Power. Following discussion, no motion was offered to change this.

5. Coaches' Representative Report – None Available to Report
6. Officials' Representative Report
 - a. Boys' – D. Benson highlighted rule changes. (He will provide a list for the meeting record.) Notable ones include:
 - i. Rule One Mandatory Piece of Equipment – Shoulder Pads
 - ii. A protective cup
 - iii. Coaches will provide officials with confirmation/certification that players are complying. The liability is with the coaches (or ADs) rather than the officials.
 - iv. Faceoff modifications put in place due to Covid will be adopted. (Players stand rather than kneel at face off; after the whistle, play ball prior to body check; Neutral Grip rather than the moto-grip providing safer and fair faceoff.
 - v. Have and properly wear mouthpiece
 - vi. J. Scanlon asked for clarifications regarding hard protector pads; was goalies, now all players? NFHS website will provide additional clarity and D. Benson will share notes, but the answer is "Yes." Players must have labeled "Lacrosse Shoulder Pads." Reiterated that coaches will provide certification of these equipment compliances to the Game Officials. Additional information should be shared with coaches, ADs regarding this.
 - b. T. Riggs noted Girls' Rule Changes were covered at our Fall meeting. She inquired if the Pre-game stick check (7 sticks) enacted during the Covid modifications would continue. L. von Holtz noted all of those modifications were removed for the upcoming season. Follow up question regarding process to return to seven checks as it helped to move the game ahead faster, etc. A rule change proposal would need to be submitted from the Committee for consideration.
 - c. ML Thimas provided additional clarification regarding clock stoppage in last two minutes of the game and overtime. (Page 30, Rule 4)
7. Handshake Rule Reinstatement

Members should have received notification from the Executive Director last week. This has already been reinstated as of Monday.
8. Board of Directors COVID Working Group
 - a. Group looks to complete their work shortly and report back to the Board. Hopeful the outdoor spring season will see another downturn in Covid's impact.
9. Other
 - a. Alignments – May be available in a couple of weeks
 - i. Phase One of appeals has occurred; Some schools will move to a Phase Two appeal
 - ii. Many late appeal requests
 1. Co-Ops being created and dissolved into the season caused some challenges with division placements during the season/tournament positioning impacted in fall season
 - b. Fall Tournaments
 - i. J. Parcels noted locations were great/Tournament awesome/Real High School feel of excitement with packed venues
 - c. TMC
 - i. D. Lee inquired as to the timeline for gathering feedback for TMC. Fall is in process and May/June should be when Winter is unpacked. Spring feedback would follow with a share out/discussion by District Workshops.
 - d. State Director
 - i. One State Director for both Boys' and Girls' lacrosse with four regional coordinators
 - ii. Suggestion to create a Tournament Host Packet

10. Adjournment – 11:48am

- a. Girls' Committee – G. McClay, 2nd by T. Riggs - Unanimous
- b. Boys' Committee – D. Benson, 2nd J. Scanlon – Unanimous

Next Meeting May 12, 2022 – Virtual

Attendees

Girls' Committee: L. von Holtz, E. Holmes, T. Riggs, ML Thimas, C. Schmidt, C. Germain, J. Scanlon, J. Magliozzi, D. Heres, G. McClay, J. Parcels, S. Martin, K. Guillemette, S. Freda

Boys' Committee: L. von Holtz, E. Holmes, J. Scanlon, D. Benson, D. Lee, J. Domingos, M. Granados, S. Martin, S. Ridolfi

MIAA Staff: R. Riley (Long-Term Sub, Lacrosse Liaison), N. Bonneau and S. Bryant
D. Ventura (Globe), H. Herman (Berkshire Eagle)