

MIAA Football Committee Meeting

March 6, 2019

- 1) Meeting called to order at 9:00am by Chair Jim Pignataro
- 2) Motion to approve Minutes from sept 27, 2019 Bill Fonesca (msca) 2nd by Don Heres - approved – Unanimous
- 3) Tournament review Packet
Football Sports Special – 5 sheets of numbers and finances broken down comparison of fall 18 and previous 2 years - glaring difference for fall 18 was the numbers were drastically down at Gillette approx. 7-8,000 people

All 4 tournament Directors reported on how the tournaments went. All spoke about the challenge the snowstorm brought about and thanked individual schools for stepping up and offering their facilities and or being cooperative. **Central and West both discussed moving away from Neutral sites and going to pre-determined sites.**

Richard Pearson thanked all four-tournament directors for doing such a great job especially because of the weather that made scheduling and relocating games a big challenge.

Richard Pearson Thanked Balfour for donating the cost for our Championship breakfast at Gillette. The event is incredibly expensive north of \$5,000- great to have partnerships with groups and or companies who step up and take it on. Thanks to Balfour!

- 4) 2019 Football tournament format was reviewed

Extra week in the 2019 season was asked to discuss after format, - so moved

2019 format packet

Pg. 7 - edit value - 12 points remove highlighted yellow (2018 only)

Pg. 9 - Attention to decisions already made by TMC – NFHS rules. Also, predetermined sites being used now so rotation not needed only need home teams for game jerseys, sidelines

Predetermined sites will be determined and published before the seeding and tournament begins.

Jim O’Leary – Pre determined sites do NOT mean neutral site TMC is reviewing all reports to try and improve

Pg. 10 - Strike Tied games over time procedures. Conversation began with Dennis Donovan about importance to have more time to review so we do not publish a format that has conflicting rules. Rich Pearson and Dennis will double check on wording

Pg. 13 – take out Neutral site from Central and west

Pg. 15 – remove neutral site – Central

Jared Shannon motion to adjust power ranking system for West 1.2 point value changed to 1.5 (west only) 2nd by Jim O’Leary

Discussion - Will this change increase the chances of a team in the west getting into tourney with zero wins? NO, west only has 4 teams qualify so very unlikely

Jim O’Leary comments on in 1 year we will all be moving toward a consistent power rating system so modifying the west for 1 year makes sense

Vote - Unanimously approved

Motion by Jared Shannon approve 2019 format with the OT piece to still be reviewed alter but except all other changes 2nd by William Bryce

Vote - Unanimously accepted

5) EXTRA Week - 3 documents provided for explanation with suggestions Week 1A

Motion by Jim O’Leary adopt from document **“Extra Week” Request and Possibilities 2019,** Numbers 1,2,3,4,5, and 6

2nd by Jared Shannon

Vote- unanimously accepted for 1 year

6) NFHS rules update:

- Blue sheet in packet review what subcommittee has done and is planning
- Expert Bill Riccio has been consulting (CT rep)
- Future planning discussed as bulleted in the packet regional meetings are being organized for both coaches and officials
- Updates are also on the MIAA web site (football section)

Chair Jim P excused himself at 11:00am and Jim O’Leary took lead on meeting

7) TMC updates - new alignments starting to be developed beginning October 1 2019.

- Will now use combined male and female in school and no single gender based on the sport. All single gender schools will double their enrollment for equity.
- Equal geographical divisions will be developed for new alignment cycle, North, South, Central and West - to have similar numbers in division therefore similar paths to get to state finals; unequal now.

Seeding the tournament, TMC has been reviewing many options. Walker system, MIAA football system, RPI system and Max preps. TMC believes MaxPreps offers the best for what we are looking for and will be used. MaxPreps system goes 6 levels deep on the formula – (credit for opponents, opponents & opponents etc. - Strength of schedule) This system will still allow

automatic qualifiers such as league champs, 2nd place in league, Sullivan rule and 50 % winning percentage.

- Begins fall 2020

Statewide Tournament - TMC reviewed for committee what is coming down the line or what they have been asked to enquire about. This would do away with regional championships

- Teams would be power ranked state wide and all put into the same bracket (travel would increase)
- Formula for putting together divisions would be based on how many teams play that sport and then divided as equally as possible.
- Home team is higher seed up until the elite 8.
- No Sullivan rule, no league champion automatic qualifiers or no 50% winning percentage - all will be based on power ranking and drawing the line at the number of teams they allow in

Next meeting will be May 14th 2019 - 10:00 am

Meeting ended 12:30