



**Board of Directors Meeting
August 18, 2021**

FULL BOARD MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order by President Lindsey von Holtz at 11:14am.
2. President von Holtz provided a welcome message to Board members.
3. Attendance: Members present: Nicole Bottomley, Pam Gould, Matt Trahan, Tom Arria, Lindsey von Holtz, Brian McCann, Stephanie Sibley, Charlie Conefrey, Ellen Holmes, Pat Mara, Mark Miville, Thomas Anderson, Christine Vigneaux, Peter Rittenburg, Jim Quatramoni, Brian Callaghan, Mike Schultz

Member regrets: Deb Davis, Dan Shine, Keith Crowley, Charlie Flahive, Gordon Smith, Mark Sullivan, Dan Bauer and Dave Bouchard.
4. President von Holtz welcomed new members to the Board: Nicole Bottomley, Principal, Holliston High School, District 7 b. Thomas Anderson, Superintendent, New Bedford Public Schools, M.A.S.S. c. Dave Bouchard, Athletic Director, Quaboag Reg. Middle/High School, District 2 d. Pam Gould, Superintendent, Sandwich Public Schools, M.A.S.S. e. Jim Quatromoni, Athletic Director, Hingham High School, District 9 f. Ellen Holmes, MASC, Ashburnham-Westminster, MASC
5. Housekeeping: Members received a Conflict of Interest statement to sign and return, a Governance Document for review as well as a summary of Board of Director responsibilities.
6. Minutes of May 10, 2021 board meeting approved 12-0-5.
7. Lindsey von Holtz provided a report on the Finance Committee meeting. May financials were reviewed by Controller Sherry Bryant. A \$25,000 loan was received from NFHS to support DEI initiatives. A Grant was received by the American Rescue plan to support spring tournaments in the amount of \$350,000. Finance Committee is recommending Tom Arria, Pam Gould and Deb Davis as new members of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting; Motion approved unanimously. Motion to approved Stephanie Sibley as the Vice President and Chair of the Finance Committee – approved unanimously.
8. Tara Bennett, Director of Communications provided a presentation/report on NCAA's NIL (Name, Image and Likeness) and the potential impact on high school student-athletes and schools. MIAA Rule 47, Amateurism, was emphasized.

9. Sister Association Communication Reports:
 - No reports were provided for MSSADA, MASC, M.A.S.S.
 - MSAA – Brian McCann reported that the 2021 Summer Institute was a great event with over 300 members present and the Convocation is scheduled for September 21 – both were/are in person meetings.
10. Associate Director Peter Smith provided an update on Educational Athletics including Student Advisory Committee NESLC, NFHS Student Leadership Summit, the Hub and upcoming events/initiatives for the 2021-2022 school year.
11. Executive Director Bill Gaine provided a summary of 2021 Spring Tournaments which included number of participants, number of games/events and number of teams.
12. A report on the DEI Committee – Discriminatory Incident Reporting Policies has been tabled to the September meeting.
13. Post season league/district tournaments – TMC provided a recommendation as well as the PVIAC (see attached). Motion: The post season league/district tournament championship game will be exempt from the maximum game limit number of each sport and allow executive staff to create and manage this process – approved 16-1-0.
14. MIAA Board meeting dates were provided to members. Every other Board meeting will take place in Franklin. Motion to approve Annual meeting on April 1, 2022 at the Doubletree Hotel in Westboro, MA – approved 17-0.
15. Board members received tentative District Workshop Dates. Bill Gaine reminded members the Board had previously voted 100% participation from member schools.
16. Associate Director Richard Pearson and Dr. John Jardine presented an update from the Sports Medical Committee on heat modifications – motion to accept changes to the attached edits and forward to MIAA membership – with a minor edit of *maximum practice time is one hour including breaks* - approved 16-0-1.
17. The SMC meet Monday and discussed masks for the upcoming season but did not provide a vote or recommendation at this time – motion to mandate masks required indoors and when social distancing cannot be maintained during indoor sport activities – defeated 2-15-0.
18. Bill Gaine provided an overview of the NFHS Summer meeting including congratulating Sherry Bryant on receiving the NFHS Citation award, as well as introducing a Title IX Pioneer who presented, Lesley Visser and the celebration of the Title IX 50 Year Anniversary Programing.
19. Members received as an agenda item a summary of rule changes for 2021-2023.
 - Bonafide Member Rule 45 (attached) – motion to have the penalty the next game available, regular season or tournament game – approved 17-0.
 - New Waiver Process – clarification that there is only one level appeal even to those leagues that approve waivers at the district level.

- Attorney Tom Costello joined the Board meeting to discuss the newly voted Volleyball Rule change (Rule 83.5) and legal concerns he has (see attached) – motion to except legal counsel advisement regarding eliminating rule 83.5 – defeated 5-10-2. Follow-up motion to revert to former Rule 83.5 and charge Volleyball Committee and Blue Ribbon Committee to develop an alternative proposal and such proposal be added to the December 8th meeting agenda – approved 13-1-1.
- Athletic Trainer Rule 69.2 – motion to delay implementation of rule 69.2 for one year – voted to approve 15-0.

20. New member school applications:

Boston Prep Charter Public School and Berkshire Waldorf High School – approved 15-0.

21. Tournament Management Committee provided two updates to the Board: Power Ratings: The Board charged TMC to review margin of victory (MOV) per the request of the Hockomock League’s concern related to MOV component to the power rating system. TMC representatives provided insight into the process and data utilized in the setting of the MOV. The committee worked to establish numbers low enough to help mitigate the expressed concern. Overall feedback from sport committees has been in support of the numbers presented. TMC emphasized that MOV is something they will assess as the new state tournament begins. If changes need to be made, they will be made. Sportsmanship is an important concept to the Committee.

Division IA Tournament: In June, the TMC sub-committee invited all sport committee chairs/designees and liaisons to discuss Division IA tournaments. At that meeting, the Baseball and Hockey Committee representatives presented their rationale regarding the reason the IA tournament should continue as they have in the past. A motion was approved (16-0) at the TMC meeting to have the established criteria remain in place for four years and to have TMC review data after two years to determine if there is enough data, at that point, to show dominance in any sport.

22. House of Representative Post Audit Committee Correspondence (see attached) was shared with the Board. A follow-up meeting will take place on August 24th. The Association does not know the motivation behind this letter. A conference call with TPG and their legal counsel will take place today at 3:00pm.