

MIAA Boys and Girls Lacrosse Committee Meeting
January 16, 2020
Minutes

Boys Lacrosse

1. Call to Order

Attendance: Dan O'Brien, Jeff Ogden, Mike Roy, Lindsey von Holtz, Dan Brothers, Rich Luongo, Wayne Puglisi, Darrell Benson, Sean Burke, Ernie DiFiore, Justin Domingos, Scott Paine & Keith Manville

Conflict of Interest – reminder to complete if you have not already.

2. Dan O'Brien took the time to thank John Pirani for his many years on the committee.

Due to his leaving, new leadership was necessary.

Chair: Motion and Second for Dan O'Brien to become Chair (**Approved 8-0**)

Vice Chair: Motion and Second for Lindsey von Holtz (**Approved 8-0**)

3. Minutes of September 25, 2019

Unavailable, Tabled until next meeting.

4. Boys Lacrosse Format

Format was approved in September by Committee, already approved by TMC.

Reminder: Tie Breaking Procedure will be the same as last year, though different from prior years (see format).

5. Cut Off Dates for 2021 & 2022

June 3, 2021 (Seeding June 4th, Start Date March 15)

June 4, 2020 (Seeding June 3, Start Date March 21)

Motion & Second, Approved 7-1-0.

Concerns/Comments: Students are out of school, difficult to find sites willing to host.

Last year seemed to have less playing school conflicts as all senior activities were done. The extra week is consistent across spring sports and allows teams more time to complete regular season especially in those areas with more weather concerns.

Officials are wondering if there is a way to make seniors that have already graduated accountable for actions on/off the field.

6. Coaches Association Concerns

Wayne (on behalf of coaches) expressed concern about moving to MaxPreps as a seeding process for accuracy reasons

Clarification: MaxPreps will be seeding method in Spring 2021. In Spring 2020 the process will be the same as Spring 2019 in which MaxPreps can be used as a guide during the coaches poll.

7. Officials/Rule Change Updates:

There will be large equipment changes in the coming years including the need for NOSCAE approved chest protectors and shoulder pads.

See the first page of the Rule Book (provided) for information about restarts (4-5, 4-22), illegal crosse (5-5) and throwing sticks (5-10, 6-5-2).

There is a point of emphasis on player safety.

Combined Meeting

8. Update from Tournament Directors:
Scheduling challenge b/c schools are closed, focus to avoid lower seed hosting though may not be possible.
Neutral site games are a challenge to staff as we can only provide one day notice.
The request for Spring 2020 pre-determined sites will be coming in early February.

State Finals will be June 20th at Boston University. There will be 5 games starting at 10AM. If there is no concession, food trucks may be brought in.
9. Arbiter will be the new scheduling/assignor platform. It will be linked with MaxPreps.
There is a concern that games will be changed by an Athletic Director without the knowledge of an assignor and officials may not be available.
There is no "go date" for the switch to Arbiter at this point.
10. Breakfast of Champions: June 18th at the MIAA (Kathleen verified)
11. Sportsmanship: Goal is to highlight the good moments. Please send them on to Kathleen.

Girls Meeting

12. Call to Order
Attendance: Victoria Stewart, Ashley Means, Stacey Freda, Karen Guillemette, Farah Lalli, Naomi Martin, Gordon McClay, Tim McDonald, Terri Riggs, Mary Lou Thimas, Lindsey von Holtz, Dan Brothers, Scott Paine and Dan O'Brien
Conflict of Interest: Reminder if you were not present in September, complete the Conflict of Interest.
13. Minutes of September 25, 2019
Unavailable, Tabled until next meeting.
14. Reviewed Spring Format (Already approved by committee and TMC)
Cut Off Dates for 2021 & 2022
June 3, 2021 (Seeding June 4th, Start Date March 15)
June 4, 2020 (Seeding June 3, Start Date March 21)
Motion & Second, Approved 8-1-1.
15. Coaches Report:
Coaches (those with coaches poll) are concerned about upcoming changes in seeding. With the goal of the best team to be in the finals, coaches are concerned with losing current seeding method. By going with 32 teams, we are losing the goal of shooting for league champion for some schools.
16. Officials/Rule Change Report:
Check out rule book (provided) with focus on free movement and clarification on 8m shots.
There will be three officials starting at the Quarter-Finals in the tournament, two prior.
Concern about the number of contests during the season was mentioned. With less games, availability of quality officials would be more consistent. There would be less need to fit in a lot of games back-to-back at the end of the season as well. At the same time, we need to be sensitive to the differences between the game (boys/girls).
17. Kathleen let the committee know that a newly formed league with three lacrosse schools (5 total schools) asked to have an automatic qualifier for the league champion. The league request was denied.