

MIAA Tournament Management Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2021

1. Call to order – 9:30 am by Jim O’Leary

A. Governance – Sherry welcomed new member Tom Tarpey.

Review the governance document with all members.

B. Attendance – John Brown, Michael Devoll, Johanna DiCarlo, Dwayne Early, Pam Gould, Shaun Hart, Jeff Newhall, Richard Newton, Jim O’Leary, Scott Paine, David Reid, Mary Ryan, Jared Shannon, Kara Sheridan, Thomas Tarpey, Desi Vega, and Sherry Bryant.

C. Election of Officers – Mary Ryan stepping down as Vice Chairperson. Pam Gould motioned to nominate Johanna DiCarlo as her replacement, and keep Jim O’Leary as Chairperson of the committee. Mary Ryan seconded. Dave Reid motioned to close nominations. Pam Gould seconded. **Approved 13-0-2**

2. Approval of Minutes – Mary Ryan motioned to approve June 3, 2021 & June 24, 2021 minutes. Jeff Newhall seconded - **Approved 15-0-0**

3. Fall Formats – All fall formats provided and reviewed. Cross Country, Field Hockey, Soccer, Swimming & Diving, Golf, Volleyball, Gymnastics, and Football. Changes discussed as follows:

Soccer – remove language referencing sectionals;

Football – updates will be forthcoming;

Golf – hybrid sectional structure; questioned if they remove 50% qualifying or propose a revision;

Volleyball – rule change proposal did not meet the needs of Title IX. Recommended the Volleyball Committee bring forward their changes to the December 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

Football not yet updated – changes to site policy and revenue section (remove or update).

Motion to approve Fall Formats with changes discussed by Richard Newton, seconded by David Reid. **Approved 14-0-0**

John Brown made a motion to have Fall Golf remove language about league champions / runners-up to make wording consistent with other hybrid sports. Scott Paine seconded. **Approved 14-0-0**

Additionally, the discussions regarding formats led to a change to the Tie Breaking Procedure (Seeding), which is included in formats approved above. The previous wording found in the section SEEDING / PAIRING ANNOUNCEMENT Item 3.b. **“Winning Percentage against Common Opponent”** will be changed to **“Average of Opponent Rating”**.

Motion to approve by Johanna DiCarlo, seconded by Jeff Newhall. **Approved 13-0-0**

Noted that consistency is needed for Statewide tournaments for season limits – make minimum 50% of number games for all sports rather than specifying the number of games.

Suggested it be shown as 50% with the numeric equivalent of games in parentheses, if necessary. No vote is needed for this change.

4. Statewide Tournament – updates/next steps

Next meeting date of September 15, 2021 will be dedicated to this item. Concerns heard regarding Arbiter, and the enforcing of September 10, 2021 deadline. Sherry thanked members for their feedback and encouraged athletic directors to communicate with the MIAA office staff. Training opportunities, videos, quick user guide, etc. are available if needed.

4. A. **Alignments** – Fall – OK, these are posted (Johanna noted approximate 83% approval from appeals committee). Institutional registration forms for new school year may affect the Fall (5 schools still needed) – but they can appeal at first level even if fall ones are done.

An email will be sent requesting TMC members to establish a winter appeals committee.

4. B. Protocol for Un-played games due to COVID –

The discussion first addressed “regular” (non-COVID) forfeits for the rating system, and how they work. If a team forfeits a game, that team enters a loss with a score of 0 – XX (XX is the Margin of Victory previously determined). The opposing teams enters the game as a win with XX – 0 (XX is the Margin of Victory). Jeff Newhall motioned to accept the forfeit margin as the Margin of Victory established by TMC policy. Mary Ryan seconded.

Approved 13-0-0

COVID-related forfeits were discussed as potentially recording as a No-Contest (entered as 0-0 for both teams). After discussing different scenarios, Johanna DiCarlo motioned to make COVID-related games not played/made-up as “No Contest” for all sports. This vote was **Defeated 3-8-1**

Additional discussion continued. John Brown motioned to propose if both teams would record as No-Contest (entered as 0-0 for both teams) but that if the No-Contest affects a team’s ranking for qualifying in tournament play, then they may appeal the 50% qualifying rule. Desi Vega seconded. **Approved 14-0-0**

Agreed that this vote would supersede any league policy which may already be in place.

4. C. **Statewide Sub-Committee** – Requested interested TMC members send an email to Sherry. Would like to come up with FAQ list and send to full committee for review. This document could be updated with any questions from leagues/admins/coaches/etc.

5. Other

5. A. **Post Season League/District Tournaments** – reviewed info provided from Board of Directors August 18, 2021 meeting as shown on agenda.

5. B. **Hybrid Sports Sub-Committee** – this will be discussed at future TMC meeting.

5. C. **NFHS Title IX @ 50** - Sherry mentioned the initiatives from NFHS – Massachusetts will be in highlighted in October. NIAAA also doing something. Sherry suggested doing our own local version – “Moments of Magnitude” perhaps have a round table discussion to consider people, records, events, sports, coaches, etc. that should be included in the initiative.

Meeting Adjourned 11:18 AM