

MIAA Unified Sports Committee Meeting
April 16, 2020 – 10:00am

1. Call to Order at 10:05 am

Attendance: Tom Angelo, Peter Boucher, John Breault, Joe Francis, Bill Garcia, Bill Martin, Melanie Martin, Sean Mackin, Kristin Nelson, Jim Scanlon, Jared Shannon, David Uminski, Jen Walsh, Jessica Winders

2. Minutes of the January 22, 2020 Meeting were approved unanimously.

3. Unified Track and Field Season Update

The committee reviewed subcommittee recommendations for an updated Unified Track and Field season schedule based upon a May 4 return to school date. The committee voted unanimously to approve the following:

Timeline of the season

Regular season will include 2 designated meets – 1 home meet, 1 away meet

The postseason will include Sectional Meets only.

5/4 – Practices begin

5/8 – Intent to Enter due for participation in Sectionals

5/11 – First meet week

5/18 – Second meet week

5/26-5/29 – Flex week for make-up meets

5/22 or 5/27 – TBD Deadline for Entry on Direct Athletics

6/1-6/5 – Sectional Meetings

Sectional Meets

All schools are invited to participate in Sectionals.

Each school must confirm their Intent to Enter by 5/8/20.

5/22-5/27 – TBD deadline for Sectionals

6/1-6/5 – Sectional Meets

The committee will revisit the season plan if a new date is established for return to school.

4. Unified Basketball

A review of the 2019 Unified Basketball season took place. The number of schools participating in Unified Basketball increased from 56 schools to 82 schools for the 2019 season. Nine regional jamborees were conducted across the state.

Volunteers for scheduling points of contact for sections:

West – Jared Shannon/Mel Martin

Hockomock – Tom Angelo

MVC – Bill Martin

The committee discussed the implementation of the Skills Competition for students that utilize assistive devices and the need for greater awareness of the rules regarding Player and Safety Equipment in the Unified Basketball Guidelines.

Motion – Recommend a skills competition be conducted during halftime for students that utilize assistive devices (Tom Angelo, seconded). MOTION PASSED 16-0.

Motion – Season Timeline as follows:

Week of 9/14 – Practices Start

Week of 9/28 – Games Begin

6 Week Regular Season

Week of 11/9 – Jamborees Begin

(Bill Martin, seconded). MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Motion – Approve the Unified Basketball Format with the updates discussed (Jared Shannon, seconded) MOTION PASSED 12-0.

5. Future Meeting Timeline

Committee members recommended continuing with the meeting timeline as previously established for the next school year.

6. Summer Conference with Other States

A summer meeting with state athletic association representatives and Special Olympics state office representatives is tentatively scheduled. Additional information will follow.

7. Other

A subcommittee will be formed to review MIAA Handbook Rules regarding Student Eligibility and the Bona Fide Team Rule in relation to Unified Sports. Subcommittee volunteers – David Uminski, Jessica Winders, Kristin Nelson, Sean Mackin, Bill Martin, Jared Shannon, Jim Scanlon.

Patti Doherty shared information about a pilot Unified Middle School Basketball program.

8. Next Meeting

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Fall 2020.

9. Meeting adjourned at 11:50am.