

MIAA/Special Olympics MA
Unified Sports Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2020

Attendees: Joe Francis, Jessica Winders, Sean Mackin, David Uminski, Bill Garcia, Jim Scanlon, Todd Bazydlo, Brian Davis, Patti Doherty, Kathy Lutz, Peter Smith

Meeting called to order at 10:10am.

The minutes of the October 7, 2019 meeting were approved, 8-0 vote.

The Unified Sports Advisory Committee reviewed **recommendations from the Unified Track and Field Subcommittee** meeting that was conducted in November. The committee discussed equity in competition and methods to balance team participation per the Unified Sports philosophy. The following items were approved for the 2020 Unified Track and Field season:

- **Regular Season – Guidelines for Athlete/Partner Ratios (Approved 8-0)**

Athlete:Partner Ratio = 1:1

Athletes participate in 2 Field events and 2 Track events

Partners participate in 2 Field events and 2 Track events

Athlete:Partner Ratio = 1:2

Athletes participate in 2 Field events and 2 Track events

Partners participate in 1 Field event and 1 Track event

Athlete:Partner Ratio = 1:3

Athletes participate in 2 Field events and 2 Track events

Partners participate in 1 Field event OR 1 Track event

- **Sectional Meet – Entry Process for Athletes and Partners (Approved 8-0)**

The number of competition slots for partner entries will be based upon the number of athletes competing on a team multiplied by three. For example:

10 athletes on a team = 30 competition slots for partners (15 Field entries/15 Track entries)

6 athletes on a team = 18 competition slots for partners (9 Field entries/9 Track entries)

- The Committee voted 8-0 in favor of moving the start time of the Unified Track and Field State Championship Meet to 10:00am.
- The Committee voted 8-0 in favor of adding an exhibition competition for athletes that utilize wheelchairs or assistive devices that are not self-propelled.

Other discussion topics included:

- Divisions will continue to be developed based upon roster size of teams. An April 8 deadline was established for schools to submit roster numbers for the 2020 season.
- The same advancement process from the Sectional Meets to the State Meet will continue to be utilized.
- Points of contact were established for league scheduling of regular season meets.
- Event tiers will be evaluated through survey feedback following the season.

The committee **reviewed the Unified Basketball season**. 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 in November. Further review of the season will take place at the next committee meeting in April.

The next meeting of the Unified Sports Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, April 16 at 10:00am.

Meeting adjourned at 12:16pm.