



## MIAA Rugby Committee Highlights March 9, 2022

The MIAA Rugby Committee held its scheduled meeting on Wednesday, March 9, 2022. The following information is an effort to keep you updated on the meeting.

- The Rugby Committee had not previously taken the opportunity to address the rugby tournament qualifications and MOV with TMC last spring. **The following recommendations** will be sent to TMC for final approval.

*Motion:* The top 50% of power-ranked teams, plus those .500 or better will qualify for the postseason tournament. (T. Arria/R. Madden) **APPROVED 17-0**

Examples:

- If a division has 7 total teams, the top 4 power-ranked teams, plus those .500 or better will qualify.
- If a division has 12 total teams, the top 6 power-ranked teams, plus those .500 or better will qualify.

*Motion:* The committee recommended the Margin of Victory (MOV) for rugby is set at 10 points. (J. Nocon/R. Madden) **APPROVED 17-0**

- During the November meeting, the growth of rugby was a major topic of discussion. Below is an update on the steps the committee has taken:
  - In November, a **Formstack survey was sent to all Member Schools** to gauge those interested in rugby. The results of the survey were sent to committee members.
  - A **rugby specific session** is being offered on **March 31, 2022**, from 11:00-12:30p at the **MSSADA Conference**.
  - **Members of the committee** have reached out to schools in their area to advocate for the implementation of a rugby program. Additionally, schools with MIAA boys' rugby programs have been encouraged to start a girls' program.
  - Schools have been reminded to utilize the **cooperative team option** if two schools have interest but not enough students for a singular team.
  - **The New England Free Jacks** have offered to assist with coaching support for new and growing programs.
- The **2022 MIAA Rugby Format** was reviewed. The language around the field width of 55 yards was changed from required to **recommend**. The rationale was that a football field is 53.3 yards wide and the committee did not want that field requirement to prevent schools from starting a program.

**Next Meeting:** Fall 2022

