

MIAA Tournament Management Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2022

1. Call to order – 10:05 am by Jim O’Leary

Attendance –Virtual Meeting – J. Brown, M. Devoll, J. DiCarlo, J. Forest, P. Funk, A.Gagne, S. Hart, J. Newhall, E. Maguire, R. Newton, J. O’Leary, D. Reid, M. Ryan, J.Shannon, T. Tarpey, S. Bryant (liaison), media, MIAA staff.

2. Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2022

Motion to approve minutes from February 3, 2022

(M. Ryan, T. Tarpey) **Approved 13-0-1**

3. Spring 2022 Formats:

- **Motion to approve Boys Lacrosse format (J. Newhall, M. Devoll)**
Approved 14-0-0
- **Motion to approve Girls Lacrosse format (J. Newhall, T. Tarpey)**
Approved 14-0-0
- **Motion to approve Volleyball format (J. Newhall, P. Funk)**
Approved 14-0-0

Next meeting the following sport will be reviewed – Rugby

4. Winter Tournament Update

Swimming & Diving - Tournament Director, Pete Foley provided the following: The swim community appreciated the opportunity to participate! Thank you to Rick Kates for his support with Direct Athletics. All went well at Milford High School, Springfield College, and Dedham Community Center. Much appreciation to all facilities and their staff for hosting the diving and divisional meets. State Championships will be at Boston University the weekend of February 26-27th.

Nordic Ski – The State competition was moved by one day to February 16th due to concerns about very frigid temps on the original date. Thank you to Prospect Mountain in Vermont for hosting. The meet went well. Alpine State Championships are scheduled for March 1st at Wachusett Mountain.

Indoor Track – events underway beginning today at Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center (RLTAC) with the proof of vaccination requirement currently in place for spectators, however this is not required for student-athletes or coaches.

Basketball & Ice Hockey –Weekly meetings have been in place with Tournament Directors to collect scores and clean up schedules to assist with power rankings. Seeding committees have been established and will meet to prep for bracket release. Scott Paine, Ice Hockey Tournament Director, and Jim Quatromoni, Basketball Tournament Director are in lockstep regarding consistent communication about un-played games.

Misc Tournament Items – Sherry mentioned supply chain issues with Lacrosse pads – the delay may be pose a problem for spring season. A letter has been sent to the NFHS regarding this delay and potential related issues.

Trophies – we were without quite a few trophies a few days ago. Began researching other vendors but no luck. If trophies are delayed for any tournament, some may receive them post-tournament due to the supply chain issue.

5. Alignments – An increase in appeal volume is contributed to the automatic bump up of co-ops. MIAA liaison and TMC sub-committee will review the data to assist in conversations regarding next alignment cycle structure and process. There has been discussion about incorporating a competitive equity tool, which has been looked at previously, and a new timeline for co-op submission.

Host facilities from the Round of 16 and forward need to have a gate. There will be proactive conversations about any alternative considerations related to some spring sports and this requirement.

6. Other – Fall Tournament Report to Board of Directors: Feedback on the fall tournament was positive. TMC will have session at MSSADA conference and Annual meeting to continue to report to members. TMC committee members are charged to gather feedback from leagues, and districts for review going forward. Once data is gathered from Spring championships the committee will discuss any possible changes to tournaments. Any recommendations from membership should be forwarded to TMC committee members or liaison.

During the most recent MIAA Board of Director meeting, Dr. Baldwin shared information regarding communication from The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) regarding a “no-finding” in response to a division 1A complaint that had been filed. This finding is in large part due to the positive efforts of the Blue Ribbon Committee and Tournament Management Committees recent work to restructure tournaments and improve equity of tournament offerings. Relevant to the issues raised in this complaint, the report noted the MIAA’s Board of Directors approved policy governing Division 1A tournaments. Under the policy, there will be no Division 1A tournaments before July 1, 2025. After that date, MIAA may establish a Division 1A tournament in any sport if specified criteria are met, including a pattern of dominance by a specific group of schools that necessitates a 1A tournament to bring competitive equity to all divisions. Any approved 1A tournament will be administered as other tournaments using single elimination format and the same power rating system as other tournaments for selection and seeding.

Annual Meeting date will be April 8, 2022 – there will be a planning committee set up. Not certain if TMC will be presenting. More to come.

7. Next Meeting March 17, 2022 @ 10AM – Virtual Meeting (Sub-Committee will be in touch.)

Adjourned 10:50 AM