

MIAA Sportsmanship Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2022

Attendance:

Derek Atherton, Kelly St. Coeur, Ric Beaudoin, Ryan Conway, Jared Scarpaci, Naomi Martin, Matt Biggs, Peter Serino, Jesse Carpenter, Wesley Jackson, David Johnson, Kevin May, John Moran, Joe Cusack, Peter Smith, Donna Harrington

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am.

Chairman Derek Atherton introduced Peter Smith as the new MIAA staff liaison for the Sportsmanship Committee and appreciation for Rob Pearl's previous work with the committee

Minutes of March 15, 2022 Meeting

The minutes from the March 15, 2022 meeting were approved.

Motion: Jesse Carpenter, 2nd Kelly St. Coeur: Passed 14-0

Sportsmanship Summit Review

Peter Smith reviewed the program from the Sportsmanship Summit that was conducted on March 25 at Gillette Stadium. A suggestion was made to look at dates earlier in the fall than the traditional Friday before Thanksgiving.

Sportsmanship Summit Planning

Essay Contest Theme:

The committee reviewed the themes utilized for previous years of the contest. A Google document will be shared with the committee to add suggestions for the 2022 contest.

Award Recommendations:

Recommendations are requested for potential nominees for the William N. Gaine, Jr. Sportsmanship Award and the MIAA/Ron Burton Community Service Award. A Google document will also be shared with the committee to add nominees for these awards.

Presenters:

Suggestions for workshop topics included Deb and Dana Hult, game officials, mental health/sports psychology, and the partnership with the Attorney General's Office/Sport in Society/ADL. The recent format for the event has included a keynote speaker, two additional workshops for students, and a workshop for adults at the Hall of Fame. A subcommittee will be formed to plan for the event including Derek Atherton, Kelly St. Coeur, Naomi Martin, and John Moran.

Game Disqualification Update

Peter Smith shared an overview with data for Winter 2022 student and coach game disqualifications. Complete data for the 2021-2022 school year will be shared with the committee upon completion of spring sports tournaments.

MIAA Handbook Rule Change Proposals

The committee reviewed the rule change proposals discussed at the March meeting. Three rule changes will be submitted by the committee regarding student disqualifications, coach disqualifications and one-year suspensions. Peter Smith and Derek Atherton will work together to submit the proposals on behalf of the committee.

The committee also reviewed a rule change proposal being submitted by the Ice Hockey Committee regarding rule 72.12 and the impact of game disqualifications that take place during the tournament.

Motion: To support the proposal submitted regarding Rule 72.12 on behalf of the Sportsmanship Committee (Naomi Martin, second Peter Serino) – APPROVED 10-0-1.

Addressing Hate in School Sports Partnership

Peter Smith provided an update about the new partnership which includes the Attorney General's Office, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education Commissioner, Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, the MIAA and MSAA. A conference is tentatively planned for late summer/early fall with regional trainings to take place throughout the school year.

Educational Athletics Initiatives

Nominations for the MIAA Coach of the Year Award and MIAA Official of the Year Award are due June 30, 2022. Nominations can be submitted online via the MIAA website.

Next Steps

A Google doc will be created for committee members to share ideas about the Sportsmanship Summit, award nominees and essay/multimedia contest themes. A subcommittee will also meet in August to begin next steps in the planning process.

Other

Peter Serino inquired about the status of the DEI pledge and pilot. Suggestions were made for MIAA to develop a course with current partners to replace the NFHS Implicit Bias course, as well as PSA's that could be utilized on the local level for game broadcasts and other events.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

The 2022-23 meeting schedule will be finalized during the summer and shared with committee members.

The meeting adjourned at 11:33 am. Motion by Naomi Martin, Second Ric Beaudoin - unanimous