



MIAA Board of Directors Meeting Highlights May 10, 2021

The MIAA Board of Directors (BOD) held a virtual meeting on May 10, 2021. The meeting consisted of approximately 60 participants representing the BOD, MIAA staff, guests and media.

Educational Athletics: Peter Smith, Liaison, provided an overview of the continued programming, recognitions and opportunities for member schools. You may view the presentation [HERE](#).

Communications: Tara Bennett, Director of Communications reported on preparations for the MIAA Road to Recognition to honor the 2020-21 Student of the Month, Agganis Student-Athlete of the Year Scholarship, Spirit of Sport and Heart of the Arts recipients. Planning for new communication tools and ideas for the upcoming school year – please send suggestions to Tara.

Annual Meeting Follow-Up: Excellent turnout of over 335 attendees. The vote to add an additional School Committee and Superintendent member to the Board of Directors was ratified. Each will add one additional constituent to the Board as of July 1, 2021.

Tournament Management Committee (TMC): Pam Gould, Blue Ribbon Committee Chair, Jim O’Leary, TMC Chair, Sherry Bryant, Liaison, Tom Costello, Legal Council, and Erin Buzuvis, Title IX Council, presented reasoning behind recent TMC approval of Blue Ribbon Committee recommendation to establish Division 1A tournament criteria that pauses sport committee applications for Division 1A tournaments for four years (2025) in order to gather data. The Board has charged Blue Ribbon Committee and TMC to provide for consistency and equity among tournament offerings for all student athletes. The criteria presented was created with that charge in mind and an eye toward gender neutral language in an effort to serve all student athletes in all sports in a consistent and equitable manner.

Dan Shine, Ice Hockey Committee Chair, addressed the Board referencing a letter of appeal sent to the BOD on behalf of the Ice Hockey Committee. Dave Uminski, Principal Oakmont and John Macero, Superintendent Stoneham PS, spoke in more detail to the appeal.

Motion: The Board of Directors request TMC place on hold the vote/decision (pausing the opportunity for Division 1A Tournament applications until 2025) until baseball and ice hockey committee reps have an opportunity to be heard by TMC. TMC action will then be provided to the Board at a future meeting.

APPROVED 15-0

A timeframe for this meeting has not been established though the urgency of this matter is appreciated.

Margin of Victory: The Hockomock League is requesting TMC revisit its decision to include a margin of victory component in the seeding formula. The TMC has addressed this concern with the Hockomock League.

Motion: The Board of Directors request the TMC revisit margin of victory in seeding. **APPROVED 10-2**

Rules Packet Review: The Board of Directors reviewed the Rules Change Proposal Packet for 2021-2023 in similar fashion to how other MIAA Committees reviewed the proposals. You may view the updated Rules Change Packet [HERE](#).

The final step in this governance process is for the MIAC to address the proposals at the May meeting.

Motion: To accept the MIAA Rule 34 (pitching rule) for immediate implementation for the 2021 softball season. (M. Miville/D. Shine)

APPROVED 12-0-1

Motion: To create a sub-committee to review and discuss MIAA Rule 40 (Out-of-Season Coaching). (T. Arria/M. Miville) **APPROVED 13-0**

>>MASC request regarding virtual hearings was tabled.

MIAA Rule 59: Time Allowed for Participation After First Entering Grade Nine, as it relates to the MIAA Board of Directors interpretation of the rule and its relation to the ongoing pandemic communication will be sent to membership immediately. Read Rule 59 [HERE](#).

Sister Association Reports: All reports were tabled due to time constraint and lack of representation.

Other:

>>Recognition and appreciation of retiring Board members Wes Paul and Jeff Granatino took place. Position replacements will be forward to shortly.

>>Mark Miville suggested a policy and/or action to take place regarding requests from leagues for an extended season as the new statewide tournament structure is implemented in 2021-22.

>> The consideration of MSSADA Dues becoming part of MIAA Institutional Dues Form was addressed. A discussion about enhancing the partnership of the MIAA and MSSADDA ensued.

Motion: Include into the MIAA Institutional Dues Form the option to join MSSADA. **APPROVED 18-0-0**

The Board meeting moved to Executive Session.

Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting

The MIAA Finance and Personnel Committee (FinCom) voted to approve the FY2022 Budget. The budget increased by 3.1%, of which 2.3% is directly related the background CORI checks done for all game officials.

Access to the Paycheck Protection Program Loan (PPP), Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), and Employer Retention Credit (ERC) programs offered by the federal government as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, assisted the Association in maintaining our financial stability. In addition, the recently approved American Rescue Plan Grant will be utilized to offset the Spring 2021 tournament expenses.

The FinCom members commended Sherry Bryant and the Accounting Department staff for their work in securing the above mentioned financial support for the Association.

EDUCATIONAL ATHLETICS

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