



MIAA Statement on Spring Sports and Sport-Specific Modifications

March 12, 2021

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) COVID-19 Task Force representatives presented today to the MIAA Board of Directors on spring sport modifications and recommendations for the 2020-2021 year.

This is the fourth presentation to the MIAA Board of Directors from the MIAA Task Force this school year. The presentation culminated the MIAA governance process, which included sport-specific sub-committee meetings where current Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) and Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary (DESE) guidelines were reviewed. Sport sub-committees created sport specific modifications, received sport committee approval and Sports Medicine Committee (SMC) approval. The MIAA Covid-19 Task force subsequently reviewed and approved the spring modifications before moving them to the Board of Directors for approval.

MIAA President Jeffrey Granatino commented, “Throughout the 2020-2021 school year the MIAA, it’s various sports specific committees, the Tournament Management Committee, the Sports Medicine Committee, the Covid-19 Task Force along with the Board of Directors have spent countless hours trying to find ways to once again provide athletic opportunities for the hundreds of thousands of high school students across the Commonwealth.”

The MIAA Board of Directors voted to approve sport-specific modifications for the following spring sports: Baseball, Golf, Lacrosse, Tennis, Rugby, Softball, Track and Field, Unified Track and Field and Volleyball (Boys). At this time, Wrestling awaits approval from the EEA for competition status, thus modifications were not presented. Sport modifications will continue to be reviewed as they relate to current regulations surrounding COVID-19 and, if necessary, may be modified. Additional modifications or the decision to participate in MIAA recognized spring sports is determined by local school districts and/or their local Boards of Health. **You may view the Task Force presentation [HERE](#) and MIAA sport modifications on the MIAA COVID-19 webpage [HERE](#).**

The MIAA Board of Directors approved a MIAA sponsored post season sectional tournament for the 2021 spring season with a caveat to send a survey to member schools to gather feedback on potential tournament expansion to state semi-final and final rounds. You may view the entire Sectional Tournament information [HERE](#).

“I am reminded that one year ago today, the MIAA Board of Directors took the undesirable action to cancel state tournament finals in Basketball and Ice Hockey,” stated MIAA Executive Director Bill Gaine. “I am thrilled that this day has come through a comprehensive effort of Tournament Management members, COVID Task Force members and Board members to reinstate the tournament structure for 35,000 MIAA Spring student-athletes in a safe and responsible structure. I salute all involved in this important effort.”

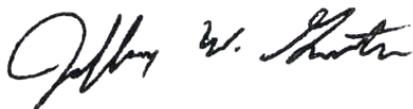
The Board of Directors approved the recommendation to discontinue out of season coaching in member schools for those sports in which they have completed an interscholastic season.

“I want to thank the members of those various committees who have spent so much time on bringing forth these proposals,” Granatino stated. “It’s been an arduous task for all involved but they’ve done it because they care about our student-athletes and everyone involved has worked to ensure our students have the ability to take part in the sports they love.”

The MIAA COVID-19 Task Force will conclude its work with the start of the spring season. The recommendation is for the MIAA to return to the typical three-season structure for the 2021-2022 school year with Sports Medicine Committee providing any COVID-19 modifications or adjustments to the Board of Directors.

The spring season timeframe is April 26 – July 3, 2021. Spring Town Hall Meetings will begin the week of March 22, 2021.

Respectfully,



Jeffrey Granatino
MIAA President



Bill Gaine
Executive Director

EDUCATIONAL ATHLETICS

MIAA | 33 Forge Pkwy | Franklin, MA 02038 | 508-541-7997

