

MIAA Tournament Management Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2022

1. Call to Order – 10:00 AM by Sherry Bryant

Attendance – T. Bazydlo, J. Brown, J. DiCarlo, D. Early, J. Forrest, P. Funk, S. Hart, A. Linkenhoker, E. Maguire, D. Newton, S. Paine, D. Reid, M. Ryan, J. Shannon, K. Sheridan, T. Tarpey, S. Bryant (liaison), MIAA staff and members of the media

2. Approval of Minutes September 14, 2022 & October 25, 2022 Approved 16-0

3. Fall Tournament Overview

Sherry shared the Board of Director's Review in Summary and followed-up with the information via email. This information was also included in the "Executive Director's Update – December 15, 2022" recently emailed to member schools. Fall power rankings were consistently reported out, thanks to Jim Clark, MIAA's newly hired Tournament Technology & Media Liaison. Statistically, it's proven that the rankings worked, which was evidenced by top seeded teams making it to the playoffs with a very high percentage of accuracy. Scott Paine also recognized Jim Clark and remarked at how helpful he's been and wanted to thank him publicly.

4. Statewide Tournament Update/Timeline

A TMC subcommittee met with fall sport committee chairpersons and executive liaisons and determined what to look at. Some of the major subjects included assignments, Margin of Victory, sportsmanship language, and site protocol (ie: follow the Host Site policy, gate management), safety, communications, etc. Each of the chairpersons were able to discuss their sports and experiences.

The feedback received is beneficial and also reinforced all the hard work TMC has done. The timing for the remainder of this year is to meet with winter liaisons and chairpersons mid-January, and then spring soon after.

Feedback from members regarding tournaments should be shared with the Tournament Director and sport liaison, however, for specific details regarding a particular game or site, it may be best to email Sherry directly. There is the possibility that a survey may be created and sent to a select group after the full 2 years of the Statewide structure.

5. Wrestling Committee Request – Girls Wrestling

Wrestling Committee Chair, Brendan Kent made a presentation to TMC members to explain the nuances of the Girls Wrestling tournament structure currently is in. They are required to choose between: A) compete on a mixed gender team - which includes sectional, divisional states and the final All-State: or B) to compete in the Girls' Tournament which is the All-State tournament event only. They effectively miss out on the prior two weeks of competition and is "stunting the growth of the girls' program", Brendan commented.

The Wrestling Committee has reached out to the Blue Ribbon Committee, which is in support of this proposal.

Motion to Allow Girls into the MIAA Wrestling Tournament at the same level as boys. (J. Shannon, S. Paine) Approved 11-0

There is the possibility that a survey may be created and sent to a select group after the full 2 years of the Statewide structure.

6. Winter Gymnastics Format

Keith Brouillard, MIAA Executive liaison presented to the committee the concerns regarding Boys Gymnastics and the small number of participating member schools/athletes. He and the committee are discussing whether to make it an individual tournament rather than a team tournament, or perhaps it should be run by the Coaches Association.

Discussion included that perhaps boys from co-ed teams could compete to help grow the sport. Also, there needs to be more competition, yet at the same time, being mindful of health and safety concerns. May need language regarding the ability to compete in events at State Finals only if you have been competing in those particular events/apparatus during regular season. Other suggestions include using qualifying scores to indicate if an athlete should be participating in certain events.

Motion to separate Boys & Girls Formats and for the Gymnastics' Committee to submit an amendment for Boys Gymnastics. (J. Brown, S.Paine) Approved 15-0

Motion to Accept Girls' Gymnastics Format (J. Shannon, J. Brown) Approved 15-0

Gymnastics Committee to re-submit Boys' Gymnastics Format to TMC for the January committee meeting, which should include safety language.

Other

Sherry indicated that the Winter Sports Seeding Committee will be reviewing un-played games in January, including changes made after the commitment dates, adding games, mistakes by Assigners, etc. Closer to the end of the season, determining if there was an inability to complete games, if they are Forfeits or No Contests will be reviewed and action taken.

Sherry and Shaun Hart thanked those TMC members that were also on the Alignment Appeals Committee for their time and input during the very thorough process including several days' worth of hearing and making final decisions. We are continuing to make great strides, and the committee will look to improve on the process along the way.

Todd Bazydlo requested appeals data be shared with the committee at the January meeting.

Next Meeting – January 18, 2023 in person
Adjourned - 12:10 PM