

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Gaylord, May 2, 2010

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Ken Dietz, Watervliet

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

Executive Committee Authority and Responsibility - The Executive Committee reviewed its authority under Article VII of the MHSAA Constitution and specifically its responsibility to consider each application for waiver of an eligibility requirement on its individual merits, determining if the regulation serves the purpose for which it was intended in each case or if the regulation works an undue hardship on any student who is the subject of a request for waiver. (These underlying criteria may not be restated for every subject of these minutes.)

The Executive Committee was reminded that it was the responsibility of each member school involved to provide sufficient factual information about the specific request for the Executive Committee to reach a decision without further investigation. If information is incomplete, contradictory or otherwise unclear or has been received too late to be studied completely, the Executive Committee may deny the request for waiver or delay action. Such requests may be resubmitted to the Executive Committee with additional information at a subsequent meeting or appealed to the full Representative Council.

It is possible that some of the information presented as facts to the Executive Committee by school personnel and others may be inaccurate. However, to avoid constant repetition in this report of phrases such as "it was alleged" or "it was reported," no attempt is made in the introduction of each waiver request to distinguish between truth, allegation, hearsay, opinion, summary or conclusion. If any information provided to the Executive Committee is inaccurate, any decision of the Executive Committee to grant waiver of a regulation shall be null and void.

The Executive Committee is not authorized to approve waiver based on alleged or actual differences between schools based on "environment," demographics, curriculum or extracurricular offerings. A determination of undue hardship is a matter addressed to the discretion of the Executive Committee within the educational philosophy and secondary role of voluntary extracurricular competitive athletics in the academic environment. The Executive Committee will avoid making exceptions that would create precedent that effectively changes a rule without Representative Council action or local board of education adoption, which would exceed Executive Committee authority. The contract the MHSAA has with member schools obligates the MHSAA to not change rules during the school year.

Students for whom waiver of a particular regulation is approved must be eligible in all other respects under all sections and interpretations of the regulations prior to their participation.

Adoption of these regulations, as well as policies, procedures and schedules of MHSAA tournaments, is a choice schools make locally when they consider their option of MHSAA membership. Consistent with rulings of the Attorney General and Michigan Supreme Court, schools are not bound by the decisions of the Executive Committee, but the association may limit participation in the post-season tournaments it sponsors to those schools which choose to apply rules and penalties as promulgated by the MHSAA and adopted by each member school's board of education. The MHSAA exercises no independent authority over schools or students.

Hancock, Chassell, Dollar Bay and Painesdale-Jeffers High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E])

– The Executive Committee approved the addition of Dollar Bay to a cooperative agreement in football which has existed between Hancock, Chassell and Painesdale-Jeffers since 1994. The combined 2010-11 enrollment will be 530 students. Hancock will be the primary school. Support from several future opponents was submitted.

Cooperative Program Renewals (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) –

a. Pursuant to instructions revised by the Representative Council in December 2006, the MHSAA staff identified Cooperative Team Renewal Forms that required Executive Committee review, including those involving Class A or B schools or three or more schools of any size which indicate large numbers of students trying out or being cut, or a significant win/loss record. All agreements include conference approvals. The Executive Committee approved the following renewal:

- Farmington Hills-North Farmington and Farmington Hills-Harrison High Schools in ice hockey.

b. Pursuant to instructions of the Representative Council in 1997, the Executive Committee must review Cooperative Team Renewal Forms for cooperative agreements in boys bowling, girls bowling, girls golf and girls competitive cheer where the combined enrollment exceeds the maximum for Class B and which were approved before the sport reached 250 schools sponsoring. The Executive Committee approved the following renewals, with instructions to the executive director to communicate to participating schools that the number of students involved justifies the establishment of a second team in each sport during the next two years:

- Farmington and Farmington Hills-Harrison High Schools in girls and boys bowling.
- Farmington Hills-North Farmington and Farmington Hills-Harrison High Schools in girls golf.

Saugatuck High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and competition portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who began the 9th grade at East Kentwood High School in 2006-07 and attended there through the 2007-08 school year before enrolling in Crossroads Alternative High School for the 2008-09 school year. The student has struggled academically and in other ways since beginning high school. The student is currently completing his seventh semester overall since first enrolling in the 9th grade and was expelled for a second semester. The request was to participate in a fifth first semester in the fall of 2010-11.

The request for waiver was not approved.

Carleton-Airport High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student. The student previously attended Inkster High School and moved with his family to the residence of an aunt in the Airport School District because their home was without electricity. The student enrolled at Airport on March 3, 2010.

The request for waiver was approved effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Carleton-Airport High School beginning March 3, 2010.

Gaylord High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Onaway High School and enrolled at Gaylord High School on March 29, 2010, for educational reasons.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Holton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically the language of Exception 2 (returning to live with parents, single parent if divorced, or only living parent). The student previously attended Holton High School for the 9th grade and the fall of his 10th grade year before enrolling and residing in the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy. Upon completion of the program, the student will return to the residence of his grandparents with whom he has lived most of his life and reenroll at Holton High School to begin the 2010-11 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Parma-Western High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who moved with her family from Kentucky to the Hanover-Horton School District and attended Hanover-Horton High School from Jan. 11-March 2, 2010. The student had contacted Western High School on Feb. 19, 2010, and was scheduled to enroll before the fourth Friday of February. The student's paperwork was not completed in a timely manner and the student did not enroll at Western until March 2, 2010. If eligibility was not granted on Aug. 1, 2010, the school requested eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment at Western High School.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Parma-Western High School beginning March 2, 2010.

Hartland High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 224, a request to waive the three-/four-player rule for the 2010-11 school year was made on behalf of the girls swimming & diving coach who is also a full-time employee of the Hurricane Swim Club which has approximately 100-150 participants annually, ages 5-18, from six different school districts including Hartland (Brighton, Linden, Milford, Howell and Fenton). It is expected that 20-25 students in grades 7-12 from Hartland will be participating in the program. The same request for this coach and program was granted by the Executive Committee for the previous school year (2009-10).

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for the girls swimming & diving coach for the 2010-11 school year.

Regulation III, Section 1(C) – Pursuant to Interpretation 249, the Executive Committee approved the following junior high/middle school requests for waiver of the enrollment regulation to permit 6th-grade students to participate with and against 7th and/or 8th graders for the sports listed in the **2010-11** school year only:

Junior High/ Middle School	Sport(s)	High School Enrollment	Middle School Enrollment
DeTour	Boys & girls basketball, volleyball	73	17 7 th graders 14 8 th graders

Hartland Middle School-Ore Creek (Regulation IV, Section 10) – Pursuant to Interpretation 224, a request to waive the three-/four-player rule for the 2010-11 school year was made on behalf of the middle school boys & girls swimming & diving coach who is also a full-time employee of the Hurricane Swim Club which has approximately 100-150 participants annually, ages 5-18, from six different school districts including Hartland (Brighton, Linden, Milford, Howell and Fenton). It is expected that 20-25 students in grades 7-12 from Hartland will be participating in the program.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for the boys and girls swimming & diving coach for the 2010-11 school year.

Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee – The Executive Committee considered correspondence from the Upper Peninsula Athletic Directors Association requesting a modification of makeup of the UP Athletic Committee to include an appointed member from an area of the UP geographically lacking on the elected committee. The matter will be referred next to the UP Athletic Committee’s September meeting and the UP Athletic Directors Association’s October meeting which the executive director will attend.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Wednesday, June 16, 2010, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2010, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Thursday, Sept. 9, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Monday, Oct. 4, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; and Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. in East Lansing (with Representative Council meeting Dec. 9).