



***REPRESENTATIVE
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 2-3, 2010***

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MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Gaylord, May 2-3, 2010

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Daveda Colbert, Detroit (May 3)
Ken Dietz, Watervliet
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Rudy Godefroidt, Hemlock
Kyle Guerrant, Lansing (May 3)
Kris Isom, Adrian
Karen Leinaar, Benzonia
Steve Newkirk, Clare
Pete Ryan, Saginaw
Fred Smith, Buchanan
Paula Steele, East Lansing
Arnetta Thompson, Grand Rapids
John Thompson, Brighton
Mark Woodson, Romulus
Wendy Zdeb, Rochester Hills

Staff Members Present:

Randy Allen
Nate Hampton
John Johnson
Gina Mazzolini
Tom Minter
Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)
Mark Uyl
Kathy Westdorp
Karen Yonkers

Member Absent:

Chip Hansen, East Jordan

Accounts of Meetings – Motion by Steve Newkirk, supported by Kris Isom, to approve the minutes of the Representative Council meeting of March 26, 2010; and the Executive Committee meeting minutes of March 25 and April 21, 2010; as well as the oral report of the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee meeting of April 23 presented by Dan Flynn and Jim Derocher. Adopted.

REPORTS

Administration – MHSAA membership during the 2009-10 school year was 767 high schools and 805 junior high/middle schools as of April 1, 2010. This compares to 770 and 820, respectively, as of April 1, 2009.

As of April 5, 2010, there were 232 **cooperative program agreements** for high schools for 389 teams (an increase of 12 programs and 14 teams over the previous year) and 60 cooperative program agreements for 224 teams for junior high/middle schools (an increase of three programs and two teams). The most frequent sports involved in cooperative programs at the high school level are (in order) ice hockey, girls swimming & diving, boys swimming & diving, and football. At the junior high/middle school level, the sports most frequently involved in cooperative programs are boys track & field, girls track & field, football and wrestling.

Eligibility advancement applications were received and approved for 15 students during the 2009-10 school year, the same as 2008-09, compared to seven during 2007-08 which was the lowest number since the eligibility advancement provision was begun during the 1987-88 school year. The highest number of applications was 94 during the 1991-92 school year.

It was reported that 263 **Educational Transfer Forms** were processed for the 2009-10 school year through April 1, 2010, compared to 312 to that date in the previous year and 305 to that date in 2007-08. Public to public school transfers continue to be the most common (166), and the divorce exception (#8) continues to be the most frequent reason (139) for the Educational Transfer Form to be used. Discussion ensued about possible reasons for the decreased use of the form.

A listing of **violations** by schools and officials between April 7, 2009 and April 6, 2010 indicated that the total number of violations for the year had decreased significantly from the record high of 2008-09.

Associate Director Tom Rashid described the **Athletic Director In-Service** programs conducted by the MHSAA during 2009-10. The schedule for the fall of 2010 was presented. (Topics for those meetings were identified throughout this meeting.)

Assistant Director Kathy Westdorp reported a near record number of sessions and attendees for the MHSAA **Coaches Advancement Program (CAP)** during the 2009-10 school year. Of special note was the increasing number of CAP participants through colleges and universities in Michigan. It was also noted that there was greater participation than in previous years in the higher levels of CAP, demonstrating that advancement of coaches through the six-level program.

Assistant Director Mark Uyl reported that **officials' registrations** for 2009-10 may be at a record number of individuals but slightly fewer sport registrations.

Rules meeting attendance was down slightly for school representatives but up significantly for officials. More than 94 percent of all attendance was online as opposed to in-person meetings during 2009-10.

Officials Reports for the spring 2009, fall 2009 and winter 2009-10 seasons were reviewed, revealing no particular trends or increases in ejections. Discussion ensued about policies and procedures for dealing with officials who fail to properly communicate player ejections.

Mr. Uyl noted that changes in fee structures (registrations, late fees and tournament pay) will result in net revenue approximately \$12,000 greater than projected. He reported that the first year's experience with revised tournament assignment procedures received mixed reactions, with some of the negative experiences resulting from problems during the MHSAA's website and database transitions. A more thorough evaluation will occur following year two of these procedures.

Mr. Uyl reported that **online video training** for officials launches on MHSAA.com in early May. Additional **camps** for basketball officials will be conducted by the MHSAA in 2010, with the strong possibility for even more in 2011.

Litigation – The Representative Council was informed that no new litigation has been initiated involving the MHSAA for a second consecutive school year, and that two old cases have been concluded except for payment by one party or the other of attorneys fees and expenses, while that phase has recently been completed in a third case.

National Federation – Karen Leinaar reported on several topics being addressed by the National Federation Board of Directors on which she serves as a representative of National Federation Sections 1 and 4.

MIAAA – The position statements of the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association were provided for the Council's review.

MHSCA – A presentation was made by Kim Spalsbury, representing the Michigan High School Athletic Coaches Association.

OLD BUSINESS

MHSAA Constitution – The Representative Council received the results of the membership's vote during April regarding the package of editorial and procedural amendments to the MHSAA Constitution which the Council had previewed in December and approved for distribution in March. Approximately 99.6 percent of responding schools approved the changes, which take effect Aug. 1, 2010.

Concussion Protocols - In October 2009, the National Federation Board of Directors adopted a policy that all National Federation rules codes would include the following language beginning in the 2010-11 school year: "Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional." Absent is who may clear the athlete, how and when. At its March meeting, the MHSAA Representative Council approved the following:

1. The medical personnel clearing an individual having a concussion will be only an MD or DO.
2. A written release from that MD/DO is required before the athlete may return to competition/practice for the team. School personnel are responsible for this compliance.
3. No return to play on the date of the concussion.
4. The officials will have no role in determining concussion other than the obvious one where a player is either unconscious or apparently unconscious as is provided for under the current rule. Officials will merely point out to a coach that a player is injured and advise that the player should be examined by a health care provider for an exact determination of the extent of injury.

At its April meeting, the NF Sports Medicine Advisory Committee adopted a model "Protocol for Sports Officials' Mechanics in Implementation of National Federation Sports Playing Rules for Concussions," for state high school associations' consideration. The proposal required modifications for Michigan's purposes, first by MHSAA staff and then by the Representative Council, to further clarify the limited role and responsibilities of contest officials. Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Scott Grimes, to approve this proposal as modified (see "A") and, in addition, to implement the following educational efforts:

1. Inclusion of this protocol in all MHSAA rules meetings.

2. Promotion during MHSAA online rules meetings of the course “Concussions in Sports” available for no charge at NFHSlearn.com.
3. Posting of “A Parent’s Guide to Concussion in Sports” on MHSAA.com.
4. Expanding links from MHSAA.com to additional resources, including the Centers for Disease Control, American College of Emergency Physicians, and National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Adopted.

Pre-Participation Physicals – For its December meeting the Representative Council was provided a draft recommendation developed by a consortium of individuals and organizations in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Community Health for a more thorough physical examination form for interscholastic athletics, as well as many letters of endorsement. A recommendation from the American Heart Association and a report from the American Academy of Pediatrics were also provided.

At the December meeting of the Council there was consensus that consideration needs to be given to an additional form that is more comprehensive and made available online, as well as to the dates and duration (frequency) of exams, in both cases promoting enhanced participant safety without establishing hurdles to participation by special populations of students or adding to administrative burdens of schools at a time when personnel and resources are being reduced.

The NF Sports Medicine Advisory Committee did not endorse in April the form developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics but does promote the use of any form that emphasizes the medical history of students, and especially cardiac health, and that permits the medical professional to retain the history while providing a “clearance form” for the use of students and their schools.

Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by Dan Flynn, to approve the following actions:

1. Approve “Long Form” Sample(s) – Authorize staff to finalize for Council approval in December 2010 one or more samples of a Health History and Clearance Form to post on MHSAA.com for schools to consider for their local programs. See “A,” “B” and “C” for starting points.
2. Tweak “Short Form” Card – Authorize MHSAA staff, in consultation with school personnel, to review the current physical examination/consent card which the MHSAA supplies upon request to schools and to prepare recommendations for any changes for the Council’s consideration in December 2010.
3. Review Timing Elements – Authorize MHSAA staff, in consultation with school personnel, to review the current requirements of Regulation I, Section 3 regarding the date (on or after April 15 for the following school year) and frequency (annual) and to prepare recommendations for the Council’s consideration in December 2010.

Adopted.

“Non-Traditional” Basketball & Volleyball District Draws – During 2009-10, the Representative Council allowed all district tournaments in basketball and volleyball to utilize “non-traditional” draws where all teams drawn to the top line of a bracket and called the home team actually host the game or match.

The Council requires that Districts 12A, 63B, 64B and 91C utilize the non-traditional draw. In addition, the non-traditional draw is an option (1) for any other district where all competing schools agree before the draw (schools may elect to conduct a non-traditional draw and tournament competition schedule); and (2) for any two competing teams following the draw and during tournament competition with the approval of the MHSAA and host manager (e.g., when travel mileage is a concern, schools may opt for a non-traditional competition venue).

While a significant departure from Michigan’s tradition and requiring numerous implementation policies and procedures, local concerns for raising revenues and reducing expenses are increasing interest in and support of non-traditional draws for basketball and volleyball district tournaments.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Ken Dietz, that:

1. In addition to the four previously designated districts, non-traditional draws be required for the first-round games of all seven- and eight-team districts and any other games where history or security is an issue and single games at multiple sites are preferred over multiple games at the same site. The District host site shall be placed on the top line of the bracket and a random draw take place for the bye of a seven-team District in 2011.
2. Before there is consideration of further expansion of non-traditional draws, a subcommittee of the Basketball and Volleyball Site Selection Committees meet in May 2010 to develop policies and procedures for discussion at Athletic Director In-Service meetings in August and October, followed by refinement of those policies and submission to the Council in December 2010.

Adopted.

REGULATIONS

Regulations I through V of the *MHSAA Handbook* and their interpretations were submitted for review by the Representative Council.

Motion by Steve Newkirk, supported by Kris Isom, to approve the consent package of miscellaneous changes for the purpose of organization, clarity or updating and to incorporate changes or interpretations previously adopted by the Representative Council. Adopted.

Reservation of Rights – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Kris Isom, to approve a statement clarifying the association’s rights with respect to MHSAA tournaments and intellectual property. Adopted.

Regulation I, Section 1 – Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Fred Smith, to remove the second sentence of 2009-10 *Handbook* Interpretation 9, thus treating as a clerical error the failure to identify on the Eligibility List a 7th or 8th grader who participates in the 9-12 grade program under Regulation I, Section 1(D) and is eligible in all other respects. Adopted.

Regulation I, Section 7 – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Arnetta Thompson, to eliminate in 2009-10 *Handbook* Interpretation 40 all references to a “full” day of classes (allow eligibility, insofar as the academic record regulation is concerned, to commence on the first scheduled day of classes for students, regardless of the length of that school day and even if that scheduled day is actually cancelled). Adopted.

Regulation I, Section 8 – Motion by Kris Isom, supported by Ken Dietz, to modify 2009-10 *Handbook* Interpretation 44 to read: “. . . is defined here and throughout these regulations as meeting requirements of courses for which credit toward graduation or a certificate of completion would be granted by the school.” Other Interpretations (e.g., 53) would have the same change, thus clarifying that there is no difference in treatment under MHSAA rules whether schools are granting credits that do or do not meet requirements for the State of Michigan diploma. Adopted.

Regulation I, Section 9(B) – Motion by Dan Flynn, supported by Mark Woodson, to allow the Executive Committee to consider waiver of the transfer regulation for non-scoring heats of at least some individual sports. Defeated.

Regulation II, Section 5 – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Rudy Godefroidt, to eliminate 2009-10 *Handbook* Interpretation 172 (limitations of Regulation II, Section 10 still apply during regular season tournaments). Adopted.

Regulation V, Section 4 – Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Kris Isom, to remove 2009-10 *Handbook* Interpretation 284. Defeated.

JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Motion by Steve Newkirk, supported by Ken Dietz, to approve the Junior High/Middle School Committee recommendation to allow MHSAA member junior high/middle school boys and girls basketball teams and individuals to play two games on a day not followed by school for either team. The two games must be on the same gender team and on the same level. The current maximum of five games played over a 14-day period for teams and individuals, and three games in a week with no more than two games of the three games on a night or day before a school day are eliminated, but the 13 consecutive week and 12 game season maximums remain. Adopted.

Motion by Scott Grimes, supported by Steve Newkirk, to approve the Junior High/Middle School Committee recommendation to maintain the maximum pitching distance at 40 feet for MHSAA member school fast pitch softball for 7th and 8th grade teams. Adopted.

The Council received but took no action on a recommendation from the Wolverine Conference to permit junior high/middle school students to practice with high school students. Additional clarification of the recommendation is required.

OFFICIALS

Motion by Fred Smith, supported by Vic Michaels, to approve the Officials Review Committee recommendation that for an official to be eligible for selection at the Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final tournament rounds, that official must take and pass the 30-question rules test in those sports where it is offered with a minimum score of 80 percent. Adopted for the 2011-12 school year.

Motion by Fred Smith, supported by Rudy Godefroidt, to not approve the Officials Review Committee recommendation to require all member schools to provide officials ratings by the end of each sport's regular season, with a reminder provided to the coach and athletic director 25 percent into the season; and if no ratings have been received by the halfway point of the season, then the coach, athletic director and principal would receive another reminder email; and if no ratings have been received after 75 percent of the regular season, the coach, athletic director, principal and superintendent would receive a final email notice; and if no ratings were received by the deadline in each sport, then that head coach could not coach his or her team during the current year's MHSAA tournament in that sport. Adopted (no change).

Motion by John Thompson, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the Officials Review Committee recommendation to provide the Train-the-Trainer in-person meeting on a biannual basis. Adopted.

COMMITTEES

The Council was supplied with a description of MHSAA committees, a copy of the MHSAA Sport Committee Guide, a review of the committee appointment procedures adopted by the Representative Council in May of 1987 and modified in December 2007, a list of those who had identified themselves as candidates for committees in 2010-11, a list of schools not represented on any committees for the past five years, and a list of those who had declined committee appointments in 2009-10. Council members were encouraged to submit nominations for committees, making special efforts to provide nominations from principals, small schools, females and minorities, and any school which has not been represented in recent years. The staff will compile the suggestions and submit them to the Executive Committee for review and appointment. Names of committee members selected to serve during the 2010-11 school year will be published in the *benchmarks*. The only exceptions are those committees involving the selection of tournament officials and award recipients. Some committee were identified as having converted to online and email or conference call formats.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Baseball/Softball – Motion by Wendy Zdeb, supported by Steve Newkirk, to approve the Baseball/Softball Committee recommendation that beginning in 2011, all high school level softball (varsity, JV and freshman) utilize the 43-foot pitching distance. Adopted.

Basketball – Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Vic Michaels, to not approve the Basketball Committee recommendation to establish a committee to study the possibilities for expanding the Basketball Tournament to more than four classes. Adopted (no change).

Bowling – Motion by Rudy Godefroidt, supported by Scott Grimes, to approve two Bowling Committee recommendations: (1) to continue use of the Kegel “middle road” lane condition for the 2010-11 MHSAA tournament pattern at the Regional and Final bowling centers; and (2) to change the Finals team match game format from four Baker games and one regular game to two Baker games and one regular game for the Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final matches. Adopted.

Girls Competitive Cheer – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Dan Flynn, to approve the following:

1. Change the deadline for paperwork to be turned in prior to a meet to 2 p.m. the day before the meet (currently 4 p.m.).
2. Adopt the following technical recommendations from those screened by the Competitive Cheer Subcommittee:
 - (a) Increase the number of Round 2 skills for coaches and team by adding the following:
 - Front walkover (tumbling & flexibility) – 1.2 skill
 - Front handspring (tumbling) – 1.2 skill
 - Back extension rolls (tumbling) – 1.2 skill
 - Handstand forward roll (tumbling) – 1.0 skill
 - (b) Add a 7-point category for tumbling skills to add teams that are doing flairs on tumbling skills an adequate way for receiving extra points for their difficulty. A comprehensive list of included 7-point skills would be listed in the 2010-12 Competitive Cheer Manual.
 - (c) Allow hand-to-hand or arm-to-arm contact for forward suspended rolls to be provided by bases, back spots or bracers in pyramids as long as the bracers are held to all of the same rules as in any “release” pyramid. This would only be allowed to a cradle or sponge – not to the floor or a stunt.
3. Utilize five panel judges (currently three) and two safety judges at the Regional level (the District and Final levels would remain the same as currently designated – three and two at Districts; five and three at Finals).

Adopted.

Motion by Daveda Colbert, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the staff recommendation to revise the Finals schedule so that there is a single session for Division 1 beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday evening and then three separate sessions on Saturday, with Division 2 at 10 a.m., Division 4 at 2 p.m. and Division 3 at 6 p.m. Adopted.

Motion by Kris Isom, supported by Arnetta Thompson, to authorize the staff to work through the Cheerleading Coaches Association of Michigan and the MHSAA Competitive Cheer Committee to prepare additional policies to identify permissible involvement of schools and their personnel in out-of-season instruction (any proposals which are developed would be presented to the Representative Council for action). Adopted.

Cross Country/Track & Field – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Pete Ryan, to not approve the Cross Country/Track & Field Committee recommendation to set an official goal of having all Regional track & field competitions use fully automated timing by the year 2014 or earlier. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the Cross Country/Track & Field Committee recommendation to allow Regional hosts to use fully automated timing if it is available to them, provided there is no increase in management reimbursement fees; sites have proper equipment, experienced operators and hand-held backups; and MIT-CA's conversion tables are utilized. Adopted.

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Scott Grimes, to not approve the Cross Country/Track & Field Committee recommendation to sanction certified early qualifying invitationals where athletes can automatically qualify to the Track & Field Final Meet by meeting or exceeding pre-established performance standards during the specific events. Adopted (no change).

Football – Motion by Scott Grimes, supported by Daveda Colbert, to approve the Football Committee recommendation to maintain the current policy after a 35-point differential and establish a running clock any time in the second half; but additionally, should the point margin increase to a 50-point differential any time in the second half, then the clock would run continuously except for officials' timeouts for injured players. Adopted.

Motion by Steve Newkirk, supported by Dan Flynn, to approve the Football Committee recommendation to rewrite the current tournament manual language regarding end zone filming so that it is permitted by competing teams during the MHSAA tournament with equipment that is easily transported and specifically designed for end zone filming. Adopted.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Mark Woodson, to approve the Football Committee recommendation to retain the current language requiring written authorization by an MD or DO to authorize players to compete while wearing a legally padded cast. Adopted.

Motion by Kris Isom, supported by Vic Michaels, to approve the Football Committee recommendation to require teams to be on the field for the playing of the National Anthem before MHSAA tournament games and recommend a similar policy adoption for leagues and conferences, with the understanding that the National Anthem would be played when the pre-contest clock governing warm-ups shows no remaining time. Adopted.

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Dan Flynn, to approve the Football Committee recommendation to remove the current expectation for MHSAA designated sites at the Regional level of the MHSAA playoffs, regardless of the distance that a visiting team would be required to travel (i.e., schools that earn the hosting privilege may host at their facility if they wish to do so). Adopted.

Motion by Ken Dietz, supported by Rudy Godefroidt, to not approve the Football Committee recommendation to allow school coaches to work with school teams for one week during the spring with use of helmets, footballs, football shoes, hand shields and cones. Adopted (no change).

Golf – Motion by John Thompson, supported by Arnetta Thompson, to not approve the Golf Committee recommendation to allow the first contest for the fall Lower Peninsula girls golf season to take place on the Monday following the start of practice in August. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Kris Isom, supported by Steve Newkirk, to approve the Golf Committee recommendation to eliminate the requirement that coaches act as observers and to eliminate the procedure of having observers within each group of the MHSAA District, Regional and Final tournaments, while maintaining existing coaching privileges between green and tee, working with MIGCA to develop additional protocol for coaches' responsibilities and limits during MHSAA tournaments, and instituting the use of a three-player or four-player scorecard for tournament groups with each participant keeping the score of each member of the group and each player announcing his/her score to the group at the end of each hole. Adopted.

Girls Gymnastics – Motion by Dan Flynn, supported by Vic Michaels, to approve the Girls Gymnastics Committee recommendation to begin Friday's team competition at 2 p.m., starting with the 2010-11 Final tournament. Adopted.

Ice Hockey – Motion by Fred Smith, supported by Vic Michaels, to approve the Ice Hockey Committee recommendation to allow leagues and conferences to adopt for any regular season single game the MHSAA tournament overtime procedure, and to do so after either two or four regular eight-minute overtime periods, with such requests in writing and approved by the MHSAA. Adopted.

Boys Lacrosse – Motion by Dan Flynn, supported by Karen Leinaar, to not approve the Boys Lacrosse Committee recommendation to allow school-supported teams in any sport one educational travel allowance greater than the 600-mile round-trip limitation competition within the continental United States. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Kris Isom, to approve the Boys Lacrosse Committee recommendation so that, similar to soccer and girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse teams may have two other dates of competition in any week when a multi-team tournament is played. Adopted.

Soccer – Motion by Scott Grimes, supported by Mark Woodson, to approve the Soccer Committee recommendation to change the optional regular season and required MHSAA tournament overtime procedures from two 15-minute golden goal overtimes to two full ten-minute overtimes with no golden goal conclusion, and then if still tied, use the current shootout (penalty kick) process. During the regular season, leagues and conferences would be allowed to use any lesser combination of time or shootouts. Adopted.

Motion by Dan Flynn, supported by Steve Newkirk, to not approve the Soccer Committee recommendation to implement four equal divisions for the MHSAA tournament. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Ken Dietz, to not approve the Soccer Committee recommendation to seed MHSAA tournaments at the District level. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Fred Smith, supported by Karen Leinaar, to not approve the Soccer Committee recommendation to change the minimum requirement for an official MHSAA tournament game from 40 minutes (one-half) to 64 minutes (80 percent). Adopted (no change).

Motion by Dan Flynn, supported by Pete Ryan, to approve the Soccer Committee recommendation to delay the National Federation rule change for white jerseys and socks for host teams from 2012 until 2014. Adopted.

Swimming & Diving – Motion by Scott Grimes, supported by John Thompson, to not approve the Swimming & Diving Committee recommendation to change qualification from the Regional diving meet to the MHSAA Finals so that each Regional meet would send at least nine qualifiers to the Final meet and the other nine qualification spots would be determined by the previous year's results: the top nine returning (non-senior) divers from the previous year's Final meet would each earn an additional qualifier for their respective region. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Rudy Godefroidt, to approve for MHSAA tournaments in 2010-11 and all events in 2011-12 that the official's uniform be navy blue slacks (currently white slacks). Adopted.

Motion by Daveda Colbert, supported by Arnetta Thompson, to approve for Michigan a National Federation allowed experiment in 2010-11 to permit divers an adequate amount of warm-up time, not to exceed ten minutes, and not follow the National Federation limitation of one practice approach with or without water entry. Adopted.

Tennis – Motion by Kris Isom, supported by Mark Woodson, to not approve the Tennis Committee recommendation to exempt tennis from the summer dead period. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Kris Isom, to approve the Tennis Committee recommendation to modify the limited team membership rule so the player is limited to two outside competitions during that team's season commencing with the first day of allowed practice under MHSAA regulations, regardless of when the team begins practice or the player joins the team. Adopted.

Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by Fred Smith, to eliminate the following guideline in the Tournament Managers Manual under Additional Procedure for Drawing Brackets (Final Tournament): "Individuals who are winners must not play other winners in the first round matches. If an individual player is on the winning team but did not win his/her flight, no special consideration is to be given." Adopted.

Motion by Scott Grimes, supported by Arnetta Thompson, to not approve the Tennis Committee recommendation for the MHSAA to appoint an ethics committee to serve as a resource for dealing with allegations of stacking or rule violations. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Daveda Colbert, to approve the Tennis Committee recommendation to allow the four interscholastic scrimmages to happen any time during the season. Adopted.

Girls Volleyball – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Kris Isom, to not approve the Girls Volleyball Committee recommendation to adopt the gray, white and blue panel volleyball for all levels of the MHSAA volleyball tournament beginning in the fall of 2010, but to adopt this recommendation for all levels of the tournament in the fall of 2012. Adopted.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Wendy Zdeb, to approve the Girls Volleyball Committee recommendation to allow teams the option to use either the solid white volleyball or the gray, white and blue panel volleyball during regular season play beginning in the fall of 2010. Adopted.

Motion by Scott Grimes, supported by Vic Michaels, to not approve the Girls Volleyball Committee recommendation to allow seeding at the District tournament level. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Arnetta Thompson, to not approve the Girls Volleyball Committee recommendation to modify out-of-season coaching restrictions but to make this a study applicable to girls volleyball and other sports during the 2010-11 school year. Adopted.

Wrestling – Motion by Fred Smith, supported by Vic Michaels, to approve the Wrestling Committee recommendation to revise the current team final seeding procedures to allow the seeding committee to seed the top teams in each division, thus permitting seeding of more than four teams if there are additional teams that deserve seeding consideration. Adopted.

Motion by Dan Flynn, supported by Steve Newkirk, to not approve the Wrestling Committee recommendation to exempt wrestling from Regulation II, Section 10(C)'s restriction that a contestant in any sport shall not compete on two different teams on the same date in the same sport. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Kris Isom, to delay the start of the wrestling season beginning in 2011-12, to reduce the maximum days of competition from 16 to 14, and limit teams and individuals to seven events in which a wrestler may participate in more than two matches. Adopted.

Flexibility in Tournament Sites - Representative Council responses to the surveyed expense reduction ideas rated "increase staff flexibility to change tournament sites" as the best money-saving idea among those listed.

The thinking is that this would apply to dual competition, not multi-team events, where play down in the tournament has resulted in long travel for one or both of the participating teams, and where there is sufficient time between the qualifying contest and the next to allow arrangements to be changed for participating teams, venue workers, officials and media.

The tournaments that hold the most potential for increased MHSAA staff flexibility to change tournament sites are basketball, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer and volleyball.

MHSAA staff members responsible for each of these tournaments urge caution, noting that a one-size policy doesn't fit all sports tournaments well and, in fact, may create more problems and hard feelings than at present. Any policy may unrealistically raise expectations that venue changes must occur; and a policy that is too specific may hamstring more than help staff.

Therefore, staff recommended no new policies or procedures at this time during which expansion of the non-traditional draw is being considered in basketball and volleyball. No action was requested or taken.

Football Scheduling – Council member Dan Flynn asked that the December Council agenda once again include a discussion of ways the MHSAA can assist schools with scheduling problems without altering the Football Playoffs.

OPERATIONS

Calendar – Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Wendy Zdeb, to approve the seven-year calendar of MHSAA events, with the modifications required as a result of Council action earlier in these meetings. Adopted.

Meeting Expenses – Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Mark Woodson, to approve the expenses for this meeting as follows: the specified hotel rate, the IRS-stipulated amounts for meals, and a 30¢ per mile mileage allowance, round trip. Adopted.

Future Meetings – The next meeting of the Representative Council is Dec. 9, 2010, at the MHSAA office in East Lansing, with a full-day schedule anticipated. The March meeting of the Representative Council will be March 25, 2011 at the MHSAA office.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Vic Michaels, to conduct the spring meeting of the Representative Council on May 1-2, 2011 at Shanty Creek in Bellaire.

Allen W. Bush Award – Council members were invited to vote for up to three candidates from the eight presented. The one or more who receives the most votes will be notified in May and honored at events important to them during the fall of 2010 or early in 2011. The recipient(s) will be featured in the Fall issue of *benchmarks*.

2010-11 Membership Resolution – Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Fred Smith, to approve the 2010-11 MHSAA Membership Resolution for distribution to school districts with these meeting minutes during May. Adopted.

Finance – Motion by Steve Newkirk, supported by Dan Flynn, to approve the 2010-11 revenue and expense budgets, and a capital improvement budget that would result in additions to cash of \$25,280. Adopted.



MHSAA PROTOCOL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL FEDERATION SPORTS PLAYING RULES FOR CONCUSSIONS

“Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional.”

The language above, which will appear in all National Federation sports rule books for the 2010-11 school year, reflects a strengthening of rules regarding the safety of athletes suspected of having a concussion. For 2009-10, some sports rules required officials to remove from play any athlete who was “unconscious or apparently unconscious.” This new language reflects an increasing focus on safety, given that the vast majority of concussions do not involve a loss of consciousness.

This protocol is intended to provide the mechanics to follow during the course of contests when an athlete sustains an apparent concussion.

- 1) The officials will have no role in determining concussion other than the obvious one where a player is either unconscious or apparently unconscious as is provided for under the current rule. Officials will merely point out to a coach that a player is apparently injured and advise that the player should be examined by a health care provider for an exact determination of the extent of injury.
- 2) If it is confirmed by the school’s designated health care professional that the student did not sustain a concussion, the head coach may so advise the officials during an appropriate stoppage of play and the athlete may reenter competition pursuant to the contest rules.
- 3) Otherwise, if competition continues while the athlete is withheld for an apparent concussion, that athlete may not be returned to competition that day but is subject to the return to play protocol.
 - a) Only an MD or DO may clear the individual to return to competition.
 - b) The clearance must be in writing.
 - c) The clearance may not be on the same date on which the athlete was removed from play.
- 4) Following the contest, an Officials Report shall be filed with a removed player’s school and the MHSAA.
- 5) In cases where an assigned MHSAA tournament physician (MD/DO) is present, his or her decision to not allow an athlete to return to competition may not be overruled.