



***REPRESENTATIVE
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 7-8, 2017***

ATTENTION! Please make copies of this and share with your Board of Education and staff. These minutes will be published on MHSAA.com. Unless otherwise indicated, changes made by the Representative Council take effect on Aug. 1, 2017.

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Glen Arbor, May 7-8, 2017

Members Present:

Dave Derocher, Reese
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Vicky Groat, Battle Creek
Don Gustafson, St. Ignace
Courtney Hawkins, Mt. Morris
Kris Isom, Adrian
Sean Jacques, Calumet
Karen Leinaar, Bear Lake
Cheri Meier, Ionia
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Chris Miller, Gobles
Steve Newkirk, Clare
Pete Ryan, Saginaw
Fred Smith, Benton Harbor
John Thompson, Brighton
Al Unger, Kingsford
Alvin Ward, Detroit
Pat Watson, West Bloomfield

Member Absent:

Kyle Guerrant, Lansing

Staff Members Present:

Andy Frushour
Nate Hampton
Dan Hutcheson
Cody Inglis
John Johnson
Geoff Kimmerly
Andi Osters
Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)
Mark Uyl
Kathy Westdorp
Karen Yonkers

Presentations – Representing the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan were Jay Green, dean of students and girls basketball coach at Kingston Community Schools, regarding “equal divisions” for basketball and girls volleyball; Keith Guy, athletic director and basketball coach at Muskegon High School, with Kevin Pauga, assistant athletic director at Michigan State University, regarding basketball tournament seeding.

Accounts of Meetings – Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Steve Newkirk, to approve the minutes of the Representative Council meeting of March 24, 2017; and the Executive Committee meeting minutes of March 23 and April 26, 2017; and the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee meeting minutes of April 22, 2017. Adopted.

REPORTS

Administration – MHSAA membership during the 2016-17 school year was 750 high schools and 740 junior high/middle schools as of April 1, 2017. This compares to 755 and 705, respectively, as of April 1, 2016. In addition, there were 24 elementary schools with 6th-grader participation.

As of April 7, 2017, there were 279 **cooperative program agreements** for high schools for 476 teams (an increase of 19 programs and 26 teams over the previous year). There were 78 cooperative program agreements for 318 teams for junior high/middle schools (a decrease of 10 programs and 13 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 girls gymnastics. At the junior high/middle school level, the sports most frequently involved in cooperative programs are football, boys and girls track & field and boys and girls cross country.

Eligibility advancement applications were received and approved for 5 students during the 2016-17 school year, which was the second lowest number since the eligibility advancement provision was begun during the 1987-88 school year. This compares with 5 during 2015-16, 4 during 2014-15, 14 during 2013-14, 15 during 2012-13, 9 during 2011-12, 15 during 2010-11, 2009-10 and 2008-09, and 7 during 2007-08. The highest number of applications was 94 during the 1991-92 school year.

It was reported that 232 **Educational Transfer Forms** were processed for the 2016-17 school year through April 17, 2017, compared to 266 for the entire 2015-16 school year. Public to public school transfers continue to be the most common (169), and the divorce exception (#8) continues to be the most frequent reason (116) for the Educational Transfer Form to be used.

It was reported that there were 65 “**Travel Forms for Out-of-State Practice**” filed during 2016-17, compared to 71 the year before. The highest number filed was 113 during the 2007-08 school year. The lowest was 40 during the 2003-04 school year. The requirement began in 1994-95.

A listing of **violations** by schools and officials between April 8, 2016 and April 7, 2017 indicated that the total number of violations for the year was slightly higher than the previous year and significantly below the 13-year average for both schools and officials. Failure of head coaches to complete rules meetings is now the most frequent school violation. Failure to rate officials, always the most frequent violation in previous years, occurred much less often during 2016-17 – the likely result of the new interface on MHSAA.com that simplifies the rating task for schools utilizing the Arbiter suite of tools to schedule contests and officials. The MHSAA provides ArbiterGame free of charge to member high schools.

Associate Director Tom Rashid described the **Athletic Director In-Service** programs conducted by the MHSAA that attracted more than 880 attendees. The schedule for the fall of 2017 was presented. Topics for those meetings were identified throughout this meeting. For the seventh year, an in-service program for athletic department secretaries is being planned for September.

Assistant Director Kathy Westdorp reported on the MHSAA **Coaches Advancement Program (CAP)** during the 2016-17 school year. Level-by-level, site-by-site and instructor-by-instructor listings were provided. CAP programs offered by Michigan secondary schools, colleges and universities were identified. June 26 is the date for the annual review of curriculum and CAP trainers in-service. Ms. Westdorp outlined the procedures the MHSAA utilized to encourage, facilitate and track compliance with the requirement that all individuals hired after July 31, 2016 to be a high school varsity level head coach for the first time at an MHSAA member school complete CAP Level 1 or 2.

Attendance at CAP sessions during 2016-17 has easily surpassed the previous high of 2,055 during 2013-14 (2,552 for 2016-17, with approximately 22 more sessions still to occur). By the end of this year, individuals will have completed more than 25,000 CAP units since the start of the 2004-05 school year.

Assistant Director Mark Uyl reported that **officials' registrations** declined for the ninth consecutive year. The high number of registrants in 2007-08 and 2008-09 was caused in large part by two factors: (1) a poor economy, and (2) a temporary policy to allow registered officials in basketball or volleyball to add the other sport at no additional fee. Officials registration is down across most states in the Midwest.

Mr. Uyl described the staff's activities to recruit new officials, including attendance by MHSAA staff at seven college/university job fairs this school year. Recent MHSAA staffing changes will allow even more time and attention to recruiting, training and retaining officials; and the MHSAA's proposed 2017-18 budget reinforces the importance of this work.

The National Federation of State High School Associations launched a national initiative intended to promote interscholastic sports officiating and to steer candidates directly to member associations' websites. During the first four weeks of the campaign, 21 inquiries were made by candidates for MHSAA registrations.

MHSAA rules/risk management meeting attendance during 2016-17 was up 1.5 percent compared to the previous year, with more than 90 percent of coaches and nearly 93 percent of officials completing the requirement online. Beginning in 2014-15, in order to increase efficiency and communication, rule/risk management meetings had some content in common for both officials and coaches and other content that was provided separately to coaches and officials. The risk management component of the 2015-16 and 2016-17 meetings was sudden cardiac arrest and emergency action plans, after two consecutive years focusing on heat and humidity acclimatization and, before that, two consecutive years focusing on prevention, recognition and management of concussions. The health and safety focus for 2017-18 (and every other year) is concussion education, detection and after-care.

Officials Reports for the spring 2016, fall 2016 and winter 2016-17 seasons were reviewed. The reports were broken down not only by sport but also by level: varsity, junior varsity, and sometimes also 9th-, 8th- and 7th-grade levels. The frequency of sportsmanship problems is statistically rare in sports conducted by MHSAA member schools.

For spring 2016 compared to the previous spring, player ejections increased significantly in baseball. For fall 2016, player ejections were up significantly in football. For winter 2016-17, there was a significant increase in player ejections in girls basketball and ice hockey but decreases in boys basketball and wrestling.

Focus Topics – Staff provided brief updates related to two of the MHSAA's current focus topics:

- Define & Defend Educational Athletics – Update on the Task Force on Multi-Sport Participation.
- Promote & Protect Participant Health & Safety – Updates on Concussion Reports, Concussion Insurance and Concussion Detection Pilot Programs.

National Federation – Council members had been provided the agenda for the April meeting of the **NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee**. The MHSAA has not found it necessary to appoint and support a separate medical advisory committee because the NFHS committee is nationally constituted with representation from diverse medical disciplines and has direct input to NFHS playing rules committees. The agenda for the three-day meeting, its second such meeting this school year, demonstrates great breadth and depth of research, input and discussions. Copies of the committee's most recent position statements are provided to the Council as they are made available.

The MHSAA executive director, who serves as President of the **NFHS Network** Board of Directors, provided an update of network operations. Each of these key performance indicators was up at the end of March compared to one year earlier – traffic growth, conversion rate, new passes, new revenue and recurring revenue – and the Network ended March of 2017 with an all-time high in monthly subscriptions (78,152 . . . 212 percent above March 31, 2016).

The Network has proven its ability to produce events, and its focus is now on means to increase awareness of the Network and of specific Network events. Gathering, mining and exploiting data from subscribers with target emails and social media to inform them of Network events is a primary strategy. The Network is also implementing strategies for aggregating the digital ticketing rights of state high school associations and their member schools as a means to increase awareness of the Network on the part of potential subscribers and sponsors.

One of the key challenges of the Network and its participating state high school associations is to protect the rights for which the Network has paid from encroachment by live streaming on other platforms, especially social media. A package of notices and advisories prepared by the MHSAA and the NFHS Network to protect the exclusive streaming rights of the MHSAA's broadcast partners was presented to Council members in advance of the meeting and again at the meeting.

Litigation – The executive director reported that the April 18-19, 2017 Summit and Legal meeting of the National Federation of State High School Associations demonstrates the MHSAA is avoiding a host of public, legislative and judicial challenges that are visiting similar organizations in other states. It is important that the association examine those situations and consider proactive measures that might serve to avoid or minimize some of the problems that have occurred elsewhere.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Eight-Player Football – At its previous meeting the Representative Council approved a motion to conduct the 2017 MHSAA 8-Player Football Tournament in two divisions of 16 teams each. The Council now discussed several implementation questions.

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Don Gustafson, to follow the pattern of the 11-player tournament when determining the two divisions of the 8-player tournament. After the ninth week of regular season games, determine the 32 teams with the highest playoff point average, list them by enrollment largest to smallest, and place the 16 larger in Division 1 and the 16 smaller in Division 2 of the 8-player tournament. Adopted.

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Alvin Ward, to host both divisions of the 2017 8-Player Football Finals at the Superior Dome in Marquette. Adopted.

The Council deferred action on the following questions to its December meeting:

1. Should the maximum enrollment for the 8-player tournament be the moving target of the Class D maximum (203 in 2017) or a fixed number – for example, 215, as it was in 2011 when the 8-player tournament began for Class D schools?
2. Should there be a grace period for schools that are eligible for the 8-player tournament one year but have enrollment that exceeds the 8-player limit the next year – for example, eligible only the following year and only if the enrollment does not exceed the 8-player enrollment limit by more than 12 students?

Wrestling Venues – MHSAA staff provided updated information about options for the MHSAA Team and Individual Wrestling Finals in 2018 and beyond.

Motion by Steve Newkirk, supported by Kris Isom, to conduct the 2018 Individual Wrestling Finals in a two-day format (not three) at Ford Field in Detroit. Admission prices will be \$30 for the advance sale participant package, \$36 for the public sale all-session ticket, and \$15 for the public individual session ticket (compared to \$50, \$55 and \$12, respectively, in 2017). Adopted.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Chris Miller, to conduct the 2018 through 2021 Team Wrestling Finals (Quarterfinals through Finals) at Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo. Adopted.

Basketball – The Council reviewed the factors that threaten the March traditions that the MHSAA has established over many years at Michigan State University, including the three-day girls Semifinals and Finals, the three-day boys Semifinals and Finals, “Hoopfest,” the BCAM reception and the girls and boys “top shooter challenges” and sponsor engagement, as well as many conveniences of having these events in the hometown of the MHSAA. Due to NCAA scheduling conflicts, the Breslin Student Events Center is not being made available to the MHSAA for the girls tournament in 2018 and 2020 or the boys tournament in 2019; and when it is available, the facility is being made available at costs that exceed revenue for the girls tournament.

Motion by Steve Newkirk, supported by Don Gustafson, to conduct the 2018 MHSAA Girls Basketball Semifinals and Finals at Van Noord Arena at Calvin College, and the Boys Basketball Semifinals and Finals at the Breslin Center, both on the weeks now published in the *MHSAA Handbook* (March 15-17 for girls; March 22-24 for boys). Decisions regarding future venue changes as well as potential schedule changes for 2019 and beyond will be made during the remainder of 2017 by the Executive Committee, based on input from other facilities regarding availabilities and costs and with input from the membership regarding potential changes in regular season and MHSAA tournament schedules that could reduce or eliminate future conflicts with NCAA Division I institutions. Adopted.

Schools will be alerted promptly that changes will be considered in the ending dates of the girls volleyball season and the starting and/or ending dates of some winter sports, beginning with the 2018-19 school year.

REGULATIONS

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

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Pat Watson, 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.

Regulation I, Section 1(F) 2 & 3 – Motion by Don Gustafson, supported by Courtney Hawkins, to change the three-year period to four years to align with the two-year application and renewal cycles for the cooperative program opportunities described in these sections. Adopted.

Regulation I, Section 11 – Motion by Pat Watson, supported by Cheri Meier, to add the following part b to Interpretation 149: “Prizes or awards to members or contributions or donations to individuals, organizations, schools or causes based on the athletic performance of individual athletes or school teams in interscholastic athletic events are not permitted under amateur status regulations. This prohibition includes but is not limited to non-symbolic awards or valuable consideration given for victories, championships, scoring, or preventing scoring, margins of victory or defeat and similar incentives based on team or individual athletic performance.” Adopted.

Scrimmages - Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Dave Derocher, to approve numerous edits in the *MHSAA Handbook* to clarify the meaning of participation, eligibility, competition and scrimmages and to better standardize *Handbook* language with respect to those terms. Adopted.

Letters – The Council reviewed and discussed letters from two MHSAA member schools: from (1) Flint-Michigan School for the Deaf recommending *Handbook* changes that would allow the school to travel beyond the current exceptions that have been made for MSD to exceed mileage limitations for events involving only state schools for the deaf; and (2) Redford-Thurston High School recommending additional restrictions and/or periods of ineligibility on transfer students.

Motion by Don Gustafson, supported by Cheri Meier, to replace *Handbook* Interpretation 193-d with the following: “The Michigan School for the Deaf may compete in events limited to state residential schools for the deaf of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin, regardless of the travel distance of any of those participating schools.” Adopted.

The staff will prepare for the Executive Committee’s review in June strategies for an in-depth study of the MHSAA transfer regulation.

CLASSIFICATION

The Summary of MHSAA Tournament Classification for 2017-18 was provided to Council members.

At the Classification Committee’s request, MHSAA staff prepared for the Council’s consideration a review of how “equal divisions” would be affected if “opt-outs” from the most recent previous tournament for each sport were removed from the list of sponsoring schools prior to determining the division breaks in March. Material provided to the Council identified the six tournaments that would be most affected; but even then, the changes were very small.

Staff also reported that there are many schools which drop a sport early in the season that have not been recorded as tournament opt-outs; and while deleting both “drops” and “opt-outs” would have a greater effect, it may still not justify the effort and additional policy questions that would have to be addressed. Staff indicated that internal policies could be altered to consolidate recordkeeping of both drops and opt-outs, as well as schools that are “no-shows” and penalized under Interpretation 258, all of which could be tracked through the IT department; and when it is clearer that no schools are being missed, this effort will be repeated and the results reported to the Classification Committee.

Letters – The Council reviewed and discussed letters from three member schools: from Alba Public Schools recommending expansion to eight divisions in MHSAA Basketball Tournaments; and from Leroy-Pine River Area Schools and Frankfort-Elberta Area Schools requesting consideration of a tournament system that would lead to results that are more representative of the percentage of public and nonpublic schools in Michigan. No action was taken.

JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Kris Isom, to table the Junior High/Middle School Committee recommendation to revise Regulation III, Section 12(A) so that, during the junior high/middle school sport season in any MHSAA sport except football, a member of the school team in that sport is allowed to participate in a maximum of two (2) non-school meets or contests in that sport while not representing his or her school. An event held on not more than three (3) consecutive calendar days is considered a single meet. Adopted (no change). The Council would like more discussion by the membership before considering this recommendation again.

Motion by Don Gustafson, supported by Pete Ryan, to approve the Junior High/Middle School Committee recommendation to urge each MHSAA sport committee to examine an expanded number of middle school games and dates in that sport, without extending the length of the 13-week season. This would also include expanding the number of multi-game events allowed on the same day not followed by a day of school from two to four. Adopted.

Cody Inglis previewed plans for the MHSAA to serve as the “Presenting Sponsor” of five junior high/middle school conference track & field meets this month.

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 2017-18, 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 2016-17. 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 that 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 2017-18 school year will be published in *benchmarks*. The only exceptions are those committees involving the selection of tournament officials and award recipients. Some committees were identified as having converted to online and email or conference call formats.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Baseball/Softball – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Dave Derocher, to table the following Baseball/Softball Committee recommendation while the effects of the new pitch count rule are being evaluated: For the Baseball Tournament only, begin the Regional round of play on Wednesday following the District with single games at 64 sites for all District champions (Regional Semifinal), followed by the Saturday Regional Final (10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.), followed immediately by the “Super Regional” (formerly the Quarterfinal) game at 3 p.m. to determine the four Semifinalists at each of the four sites. This would eliminate the traditional Tuesday Quarterfinal round for baseball and the four “Super Regional” champions would advance directly to the Semifinals with no change in the current number of awards. Softball would keep the current schedule with Saturday Regional play followed by the Tuesday Quarterfinal played at 16 sites. The net effect would be baseball playing on its own the Wednesday following Districts, baseball and softball being played concurrently at Saturday Regional sites, and softball playing on its own at Tuesday Quarterfinal sites before both sports come together at Michigan State University for all Semifinal and Final games. Adopted (no change).

Basketball – Motion by Don Gustafson, supported by Steve Newkirk, to conduct the MHSAA Basketball and Girls Volleyball Tournaments in four equal divisions beginning in the 2018-19 school year. Adopted.

Motion by Steve Newkirk, supported by Cheri Meier, to not approve the Basketball Committee recommendation to adopt the “KPI Flex Seeding Plan” for determining District and Regional brackets and pairings for the Boys and Girls Basketball Tournaments but to examine seeding options for the District level only. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Kris Isom, to approve the staff’s recommendation to advance the starting time of Semifinal sessions of the Boys and Girls Basketball Tournaments to 12 Noon and 5:30 p.m. Adopted.

Girls Competitive Cheer – Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by Kris Isom, to approve the Girls Competitive Cheer Committee recommendation to allow forward/backward suspended rolls, in a double-braced pyramid, to be transitioned directly to a stunt. The wording would be as follows:

- Hand-to-hand or arm-to-arm contact must be provided by bases, back-spots or bracer(s).
- A single-braced suspended forward/backward roll in a pyramid is only allowed to a cradle or sponge and not to the cheering surface or a stunt.
- A double-braced suspended forward/backward roll pyramid is allowed to a cradle, sponge or a stunt, and not the cheering surface.

Adopted.

Football – Motion by Chris Miller, supported by Cheri Meier, to approve the Football Committee recommendation to seek help from the Junior High/Middle School Committee to develop strategies in football to grow school programs, such as the season start date and number of games allowed. Adopted.

Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Kris Isom, to approve the Football Committee recommendation that, after the first regular season game, limit teams to no more than 90 total minutes of collision practice in any week, Monday through Sunday. During other practice sessions, players may wear helmets and other protective pads (neither is mandatory). Blocking and tackling technique may be taught and practiced. However, full-speed contact is limited to players' vs pads, shields, sleds or dummies. This would replace the rule limiting a team to two days of collision contact per week after the first game. Monitoring protocols will be determined by the local school, league or conference. Adopted.

Motion by Al Unger, supported by Don Gustafson, to approve the Football Committee recommendation that, for MHSAA Semifinals and Finals, Home and Visitor will be determined by playoff point averages as opposed to current Regional advancement. Adopted.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Dave Derocher, to approve the staff recommendation to state in 11-Player Football Playoff policies that Semifinal games may be scheduled by MHSAA staff for either Friday night or Saturday. Adopted.

Golf – Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by John Thompson, to not approve the Golf Committee recommendation to require observers in each group at all boys and girls Lower Peninsula Regionals and Finals. Each school assigned to the Regional and that qualifies for the Finals would be required to have an adult act as an observer in a group. This adult could be the coach, a prearranged volunteer from their program or school, or the school could pay a predetermined amount to the host school and course in order for them to secure an observer. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Kris Isom, supported by Chris Miller, to approve the Golf Committee recommendation to require Regional hosts to have a Golf Association of Michigan (GAM) rules official at each Lower Peninsula boys and girls Regional tournament to help with rules issues and challenges that commonly occur in these events. A fee would be set by the MHSAA Audit and Finance Committee commensurate with duties and responsibilities. (Staff recommends a \$75 fee for each of the 48 officials – 24 for girls, 24 for boys.) Adopted.

Ice Hockey – Motion by John Thompson, supported by Steve Newkirk, to approve the Ice Hockey Committee recommendation to adjust the current MHSAA adaptation for players in uniform rule from its current 22 active players to include a provision for a 23rd player to be dressed in uniform if that player is a goaltender. Adopted.

Motion by Sean Jacques, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the Ice Hockey Committee recommendation to add an MHSAA adaptation to the NFHS ice hockey rules to mandate that helmets must be worn at all times by players and officials while on the ice, except while standing for the National Anthem. Adopted, and the Council added postgame awards ceremonies as an exception.

It was reported that the MHSAA has extended its agreement to conduct the Ice Hockey Semifinals and Finals at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth through 2022.

Boys Lacrosse – Motion by Dave Derocher, supported by Pete Ryan, to approve the Boys Lacrosse Committee recommendation to revise Regulation II, Section 10 and Regulation IV, Section 10(D) to permit high school and junior high/middle school multi-team tournaments to also be played on days not followed by school (generally a Friday – currently allowed on only non-school days). Adopted.

Motion by Chris Miller, supported by Pete Ryan, to approve the Boys Lacrosse Committee recommendation to revise Regulation IV, Section 10(D)6 to (1) increase the junior high/middle school maximum dates from 12 to 15 over the same number of weeks (13); **and** (2) increase from two to four the allowed number of junior high/middle school multi-team tournaments; **and** increase the maximum running time minutes for a junior high/middle school multi-team event from 150 to 160 minutes, thus allowing four games with 20-minute running time halves, counted as one game against the season limitation of 12 (or 15) dates. Adopted.

Girls Lacrosse – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Dave Derocher, to approve the Girls Lacrosse Committee recommendation to revise Regulation II, Section 10 and Regulation IV, Section 10(D)6 as it pertains to girls lacrosse to also allow multi-team tournaments to be held on days not followed by school and non-school days (currently just on non-school days) for both the high school and junior high/middle school levels. Adopted.

Motion by Kris Isom, supported by John Thompson, to approve the Girls Lacrosse Committee recommendation to revise Regulation IV, Section 10(D)6 to increase the number of multi-team tournaments allowed by junior high/middle school teams from three to four in their regular season schedules with each tournament counting as one of the 12 games of allowed competition. Adopted.

Alpine Skiing – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Kris Isom, to not approve the Ski Committee recommendation to allow each team and individual a maximum of 15 meets or “starts.” The schedule may include school competition, CUSSA and other non-school meets. This change would allow each skier and/or school team to ski in school meets, CUSSA meets and any other non-school meets for a maximum of 15 total ski competitions for the team and the individual (minimum of four interscholastic meets still required). An MHSAA individual racer profile (which already exists) would need to be compiled and turned in to the school athletic director for each individual skier and be on file by MLK Jr. Day of each ski season. A team race profile would be developed and placed online to be submitted to the MHSAA by MLK Jr. Day of each ski season by the school athletic director. The MHSAA minimum four high school ski races would still apply to the team and the individual skier under this potential change. Adopted (no change).

Soccer – Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Kris Isom, to approve the Soccer Committee recommendation to eliminate overtime periods and shootouts in the regular season. Allow leagues and conferences to have an overtime option for end-of-season bracketed tournaments (overtime not to exceed two 10-minute periods plus shootout). Allow waivers for multi-team tournaments that use shootouts to determine a winner. Adopted.

Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by John Thompson, to not approve the Soccer Committee recommendation to schedule two days of rest in between the Regional semifinal and final round. Game schedule could be Tuesday/Friday, Tuesday/Saturday or Wednesday/Saturday. If weather forces deviation from the schedule, two days of rest would not be required. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Pat Watson, supported by Cheri Meier, to approve the staff recommendation to delay indefinitely implementation of the NFHS soccer rules change to require the exposed undergarments on arms to match the predominant uniform jersey color and the exposed leggings to match the predominant color of the uniform pants. Adopted (no change).

Swimming & Diving – Motion by Courtney Hawkins, supported by John Thompson, to approve the Swimming & Diving Committee recommendation to reduce the amount of regular season wins required by a diver to qualify for the Diving Qualification Meet from five to four. The portion of the requirement with amended language will read: “In order to qualify for the Diving Qualification Meet, a diver must have placed ahead of all divers from opposing schools in actual varsity competition in at least four meets.” Adopted.

Tennis – Motion by Dave Derocher, supported by Kris Isom, to not approve the Tennis Committee recommendation to allow teams that do not finish first or second at the Regional tournament to qualify for the Final tournament if they earn at least 17 points in a 16-player draw or at least 9 points in an 8-player draw. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by John Thompson, to approve the Tennis Committee recommendation to modify Regulation I, Section 12(A)2b (Limited Team Membership) as it applies to tennis to go into effect on the first allowable date of competition for any student, as opposed to the current rule which is the first allowable day of practice (seven-day difference). Adopted.

Motion by John Thompson, supported by Pete Ryan, to not approve the Tennis Committee recommendation to modify Regulation I, Section 12(A)2b (Limited Team Membership) so that any tournament, regardless of length, will count as just one of the allowable outside competitions. Currently the regulation states that an event held on not more than three consecutive calendar days is considered a meet. Adopted (no change).

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Sean Jacques, to approve with staff’s modifications the recommendation of the Tennis Committee that, if a contract can be finalized that provides TennisReporting.com at no charge to the MHSAA and member schools for multiple years and this system’s technology matches that of the MHSAA and will provide team scores seamlessly to MHSAA.com, then use of TennisReporting.com should be encouraged for all regular season meets and the required means of submitting players’ season records for seeding MHSAA Regional and Final meets, beginning in the fall of 2018. Adopted.

Girls Volleyball – Motion by Vicky Groat, supported by Sean Jacques, to approve the Girls Volleyball Committee recommendation to edit Regulation II, Section 13, Interpretation 248, to include girls volleyball (currently baseball and softball only): Permit graduating 12th-graders with no remaining interscholastic eligibility in any sport to wear school uniforms in one all-star game sponsored and conducted in the summer by the Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association. Adopted, effective immediately.

Motion by Al Unger, supported by Vicky Groat, to approve the Girls Volleyball Committee recommendation to modify the published game schedule for the Semifinal round of the MHSAA Girls Volleyball Tournament as follows:

Both Thursday and Friday: Semifinal 1 – 12 Noon (previously 2 p.m.)
 Semifinal 2 – 2 p.m. (previously 3:45 p.m.)
 Semifinal 3 – 4:30 p.m. (previously 5:30 p.m.)
 Semifinal 4 – 6:30 p.m. (previously 7:15 p.m.)

Adopted.

Wrestling – Motion by Fred Smith, supported by Chris Miller, to approve with staff modifications the Wrestling Committee recommendation to adopt a Team Regional hosting format where the host is selected from among the four teams that qualify for that Team Regional using a yearly rotation from the Districts. Adopted.

Motion by Al Unger, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the Wrestling Committee recommendation to revise the Weigh-In Form/Process to include a section for inspection, where all participating wrestlers would be subject to inspection by officials. Adopted.

OPERATIONS

Calendar – Motion by Dave Derocher, supported by Cheri Meier, to approve the seven-year calendar of MHSAA events reflecting changes required by other Representative Council action. Adopted.

Allen W. Bush Award – Council members were invited to vote for up to three candidates from the seven 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 2017 or early in 2018. The recipients will be featured in the fall issue of *benchmarks*.

Meeting Expenses – Motion by Steve Newkirk, supported by Al Unger, to approve the expenses for this meeting as follows: the specified hotel rate, the IRS-stipulated amounts for meals, and a 40¢ per mile mileage allowance, round trip. Adopted.

Future Meetings – The next meeting of the Representative Council is Dec. 1, 2017, at the MHSAA office in East Lansing, with a full-day schedule anticipated. The March meeting of the Representative Council will be the morning of Friday, March 23, 2018 at the MHSAA office.

Motion by John Thompson, supported by Al Unger, to conduct the spring meeting of the Representative Council on May 6-7, 2018 at Treetops Resort in Gaylord. Adopted.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Pete Ryan, to approve the 2017-18 revenue and expense budgets, and a capital improvement budget that would result in reductions in cash of \$64,712. Adopted.

The approved budget is “mission driven” more than “bottom line driven.” It continues increased levels of spending for participant health and safety initiatives as well as initiatives to help the MHSAA define and defend educational athletics, increase service and support to the junior high/middle school level and earlier, and increase efforts to recruit, train and retain officials; and it increases expenses for tournament trophies and medals and increased accident medical insurance coverage for students and officials. The approved budget includes increases in some final round ticket prices for basketball and wrestling.