

Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc.
CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK AND FIELD REGULATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2009, 9:30 a.m.

Members Present:

John Carlson, Belding
Chris Ceresa, Highland
Paul Christiansen, Maple City
Dan Ebright, Grand Rapids
Richard Franklin, Athens
Rudy Godefroidt, Hemlock
Kevin Guzzo, St Joseph
Antie Hardy, New Haven
Lorenda Jonas, Bath

Brian Macomber, Comstock Park
Randy Salisbury, Britton
Fred Smith, Buchanan
Kim Spalsbury, Grand Ledge
Mark Werley, Zeeland
Thomas Wilcher, Detroit
Lew Clingman, ATOM
Ray Antel, MITCA

Members Absent:

Robert Lynch, Detroit

Staff Members Present:

Nate Hampton, Recorder
Tricia Wieferich, Admin Asst.

The committee met for the purpose of reviewing specific National Federation sport rules and MHSAA tournament policies, and interpretations that are applicable to Track and Field and Cross Country during the regular season and MHSAA tournaments. The Following is a review of items discussed by the committee as well as recommendations to staff for inclusion in tournament information and recommendations that will advance for Representative Council consideration.

Following the welcome, introductions and statement of committee purpose, the committee reviewed the 2008 committee minutes including Representative Council recommendations.

Cross Country:

Cross Country Participating School Tournament Information:
Review 2009 Final Site: Michigan International Speedway
MHSAA Cross Country Regional dates: October 30-31, 2009
Provide a different color bib to distinguish between team and individual competitors.
Provided a second bib or identification tag on the back of either team or individual competitors for identification.
Consider reducing the number of allowed competitions during the season.

Track and Field 2009 Final Sites:

Division 1: East Kentwood High School
Division 2: Zeeland Community Schools
Division 3: Comstock Park High School
Division 4: Ada Forest Hills Eastern High School

The committee reviewed the work of the Regional Site Assignment Committee which met on January 21, 2009. The Regional Site Assignment Committee used the available mapping software to aid in assigning schools to Regionals based on the required criteria of geography.

The committee also reviewed the Final Meet Time Schedule.

2009 National Federation Rules and Editorial Changes:

3-9-2: Specifies that for gun starts only a closed barreled starter's pistol may be used by the starter.

3-9-6: When fully automatic timing (FAT) is used, timing shall be recorded in one one-hundredths of a second and all ties for place finishes and/or determining qualifiers for a

subsequent round shall be broken by using timing to one one-thousandths of a second if the system allows.

3-9-9 new: Indoor and outdoor meets using fully automatic timing (FAT) may be started by a .32 or .22 caliber starter's pistol (closed barrel) or electronic, gunless device for record purposes.

6-4-9c, 6-5-9c: A competitor in the throwing events may enter and exit the circle without a foul providing it occurs within the time allowed for the trial and before the competitor starts his/her attempt beginning with the pause.

7-4-11, 7-5-18: Deletes the option for the event judge to place a cloth marker on the crossbar for sighting purposes.

7-5-3 Note new: Visible etchings which appear on poles shall not meet the requirement of the manufacturer's pole rating appearing on the pole in a contrasting color.

7-5-29: Clarifies the original intent to permit a competitor in the pole vault to abort the approach and in stopping plant the pole and momentum causes his/her feet to leave the ground without being considered a foul. It is a foul if a vaulter leaves the ground in an attempt and fails to clear the crossbar.

2009 National Federation Editorial Changes

2-3-2; 4-3-1c2, 9-6-1b2; 4-3-2b; 4-5-8b; 4-5-10; 5-4 Note; 5-7-3; 6-4-5; 6-4-7; 6-5-5; 6-5-7; 6-6-2; 6-6-3; 6-6-6; 7-1-4; 7-5-4; 7-5-4 new Note; 7-5-13; 9-1-1; 9-6-4

2009 National Federation Rules Points of Emphasis

1. Electronic devices
2. Observed violation reporting procedures
3. Starters pistols
4. Equipment failure
5. Pole vault
6. Visible undergarments in Track and Field and Cross Country

2009 Michigan Points of Emphasis

1. Sixth graders may not compete with or against 7th and/or 8th graders, but may compete in separate races.
2. Shot put and discus: each attempt shall be measured before any other attempts are made.
3. Continue to impress on school administrators the MHSAA requirement that all referees and starters for Track and Field and Cross Country must be registered officials.

Discussion Items

1. 2009 Additional qualifier standards to Regional and from Regionals to Finals.
2. Weather delays at Regional/Final competition for Cross Country and Track and Field.
3. Calendar issues and required practice prior to first competition.
4. Summer Dead Period and Preseason Downtime.
5. Online Rules and Information for Cross Country.
6. Format requirement for entry times to Regionals.
7. Additional item that will be allowed as head attire for Cross Country and Track and Field. (Allow hood of a body suit or undergarment)
8. Season length.
9. Health and Risk Issues; Practice/competition heat and humidity.
10. Use of wind gage for all Track Final Sites.
11. MITCA Recommendations

Committee Recommendations to MHSAA Staff

1. Cross Country – Provide competitor identification to distinguish team competitors from individual competitors. (17-0)
2. Track – Require Regional Entry Times; to be handheld times to the hundreds (.00) or the (FAT) handheld equivalent posted to the hundredths (.00). Conversion factor is -.24 (17-0)

ATOM Recommendations to MHSAA Staff

1. Continue to impress on school administrators the MHSAA requirement that all referees and starters for Track and Field and Cross Country must be registered officials. (17-0)

Recommendations to the Representative Council

1. Add cross country to the schedule for coach required online rules meetings. (17-0)
2. When decisions are finalized on seasons calendar, track and field should not have fewer weeks of competition than is presently allowed (13 weeks). (17-0)
3. MITCA made a presentation to the committee seeking to advance a recommendation to the Representative Council a one year exemption for the coaches working with their students during specific school designated summer dead period, should that dead period be scheduled over the Fourth of July week. A United States Track and Field (USATF) Youth National Championship Track and Field Meet will be held at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan June 30-July 5, 2009.

RATIONALE: The meet is not a local affair or fundraiser road race but rather a National Championship Meet. With the scope of this meet, it is likely that many local high school coaches will be contacted to serve as event officials or volunteers. (11-6)