



2016-17 TENNIS COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 17, 2017

Members Present

Jim Cummins; Battle Creek
Jim D'Angelo; Mason
Gary Ellis; Allegan
Shane Finney; Bloomfield Hills
Jeff Newingham; Essexville
Mark Randolph; Ann Arbor
Peter Riley; Pontiac
Mike Roy; Vicksburg (MIAAA)
Will Sophiea; Holly
Tiger Teusink; Holland (Advisory)
Scott Zerlaut; Grant

Members Absent

Samantha Brunnschweiler; Haslett
Casey Cullen; Birmingham
Maureen Klocke; Yale
Ron Landfair; Lansing (MHSTeCA)
Nancy Martin; Portage
Matt Pedlow; Chelsea

MHSAA Staff

Dan Hutcheson (Recorder)

INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE

The MHSAA Tennis Committee met on Jan. 17, 2017 in the MHSAA Office. The committee was reminded of its responsibility and the process for rule changes. The following items were discussed and action was taken.

MHSTeCA PROPOSALS ACCEPTED BY COMMITTEE

The name of the individual who will be running the MHSAA regional tournament should appear on the MHSAA website as tournament manager, along with the host AD. This will aid in the distribution of tournament information, and allow better communication between participating schools and host locations.

Teams that do not finish first or second at the regional tournament should qualify to the State Final tournament if they earn at least 17 points in a 16-player draw or at least 9 points in an 8-player draw. This would allow top level teams the opportunity to qualify for the MHSAA tennis finals, even though they may be in a region with potentially the top two teams in the state.

The Limited Team Membership Regulation should go into effect on the first allowable date of competition for tennis as opposed to the first allowed practice (this is seven days later than what is currently utilized). The committee realizes that the current "tougher" rule was originally suggested and desired by the MHSTeCA. This change would allow for some increased non-school participation, but not unlimited possibilities that existed prior to the current rule being enacted.

Under the Limited Team Membership Regulation, any tournament, regardless of length, should 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 single meet. This would allow athletes to compete at desired USTA events without jeopardizing current MHSAA eligibility.

MHSTeCA PROPOSAL NOT ADOPTED BY COMMITTEE

On the first full day of the State Final tournament schools may use up to three coaches. The goal was to bring consistency between the four tournament locations. Among the reasons for limited support were: More coaches' badges to keep track of with even more "sharing". It would also help the "have's"

more than the “have nots”. This would require more coaches to complete a rules meeting, concussion certification, CPR & AED certification, and most likely CAP 1 or CAP 2 in the future.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Concerns with costs associated with the Midland Tennis Center, and the potential to explore other MHSAA Finals locations.

Institute school reporting of scores using “TennisReporting.com”. This system which may include an on-line “challenge match”, may assist with “stacking” issues as well as improve the seeding process for the MHSAA tournament by also including individual player season summaries. Full support was expressed by the committee to move in this direction.

Proposed awards protocol for presentation of final trophies and medals. While the idea is supported and welcomed, it was expressed that more work is needed to explore logistical hurdles before implementation.

The committee asked for clarification from the MHSTeCA in regards to USTA rules that pertain to “lets”, and more specifically, who can call them and where it can be called?

2017-18 FINALS TOURNAMENT SITES (TENTATIVE)

Division 1 – Midland Community Tennis Center

Division 2 – Kalamazoo College

Division 3 – Holly Area

Division 4 – Holland

REGIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

The committee reviewed the Regional assignments for spring 2017. The assignments were approved for posting on the MHSAA Website.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Stipulate that the name of the individual who will be running the MHSAA regional tournament (often a coach or person other than the school AD) appear on the MHSAA website as tournament manager, along with the host AD. (11-0)
2. Allow teams that do not finish first or second at the regional tournament to qualify for the State Final tournament if they earn at least 17 points in a 16-player draw or at least 9 points in an 8-player draw. (7-4)
3. Modify the Limited Team Membership Regulation as it applies to tennis to go into effect on the first allowable date of competition as opposed to the current rule which is the first allowable day of practice (seven-day difference). (11-0)
4. Modify the Limited Team Membership Regulation 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 single meet. (10-0-1)
5. Adopt TennisReporting.com and require use for all regular season scores, to assist with post season seeding as well as in season “stacking”. (10-0-1)